



## Weekly Newsletter

4—September —2024

### Principal's Message

Hello DMS Families,

Welcome to the start of the 2024-2025 school year. It has been a fantastic two days having kids in the building and welcoming new and returning staff and students to our wonderful school.

Students have now all met their new homeroom teachers and have met with their new classmates. Some were ecstatic while others were apprehensive, but overall we were extremely pleased with the optimism and open-mindedness that our students displayed in stepping into new classes and new groupings of learners.

Our entire staff was on hand on both days to help guide students to their classes, support with attendance and connect with students during recess and before and after school to assess how everyone was feeling about their placements.

While we have received several requests for class switches, please know that due to our high enrolment numbers this year we will not be able to make any additional changes except for very unique circumstances. Rest-assured that all children will be supported and that our entire school team is here to help your child with their transition to the new school year.

Thank you all for supporting your child and for being partners in learning with us.  
With immense gratitude,

Lisa Leclerc

#### **Emergency Contact Information on MyEd BC**

Please ensure that your contact information in the Parent Portal of MyEd BC is up-to-date once you have received your account access. We use this information to contact families in the event of an emergency at school. Please also ensure that the information that you provide on your green Emergency Release form matches the information that we have on file in our MyEd database. Any changes to your contact information can be emailed to:

**Email** Dunsmuir at [dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca)

### Upcoming Events

Sept. 13h—Whole School BBQ

Sept. 11th—Photo Day

Sept. 19th—Teacher/Parent Orientation night

Sept. 23rd — Non-Instructional Day

Sept. 27th—Pizza day

Sept. 30th—National Day for truth and Reconciliation

October 24th—Photo Retake day



### Student Attendance

Is your child is going to be absent, late, or signing out early?

**Email** Dunsmuir at [dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca) as well as your student's teacher(s).

Please put on the subject line, your students' legal last name.

**Please do not call in your attendance.**

Please include your child's first and last name, teacher's name, date and reason for absence.

**Please do not call in your attendance.**



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### **Dunsmuir Student Handbook and Code of Conduct**

Please review the Dunsmuir Student Handbook and Middle School Code of conduct with your student. It can be found on the Dunsmuir website under Students > Code of Conduct or by clicking this link: [Student Handbook](#).

### **1st Pizza day –September 27th**

Stay tuned...Will be set up soon to pay online and to pay for future Pizza days

### **Hot Lunch Program and Vending Machines**

Dunsmuir Middle School provides food and snacks through the Feeding Futures fund in partnership with Flourish! School Food Society who provide fresh and healthy lunches to students who need it. Students can receive a lunch from the school meal coordinator in a barrier and stigma free manner any day at lunch recess. Please contact Alexis McKean ([amckean@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:amckean@sd62.bc.ca)) if you have any questions related to our hot lunch program.

All other food sold at Dunsmuir meets the standards outlined in the "Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in BC Schools" creating a healthier eating environment. Healthy Choice Vending machines are in the front foyer and are accessible during morning recess and before and after school.

### **Lifetouch Photo day—September 11th**

Students are permitted to wear hats, but are not permitted to wear hoodies or sunglasses for their pictures.

### **Children with Health Conditions**

Please see attached; Parents page; [Community](#) page

### **School Cash Online**

Not set up yet? Click the link [School Cash Online](#)

## Upcoming Events

- Sept. 3rd—Welcome back Grade 6 students
- Sept. 13h—Whole School BBQ
- Sept. 11th—Photo Day
- Sept. 19th—Teacher/Parent Orientation night
- Sept. 23rd — Non-Instructional Day
- Sept. 30th—National Day for truth and Reconciliation
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**Thank you!**



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### Student Use of Personal Digital Device at Dunsmuir Middle School

As per the SD62 [Middle School Code of Conduct](#), students may use personal mobile devices during instructional time for educational purposes as directed by the teacher, for health or medical purposes or as assistive technology for the purpose of inclusive education as informed by the Inclusive Education Teacher.

At all other times, personal mobile devices, inclusive of laptops and Chromebooks shall **remain in student lockers** for the duration of the school day, this includes recess and lunch. This policy applies to ear buds/headphones as well. Smartwatches must be in airplane mode if they are to be worn throughout the school day.

If a student contravenes these expectations:

Step 1: Device returned to the student to be put in a locker with warning by a staff member.

Step 2: Device sent to the office for student to pick up at end of day. Contact with parent/guardian is made by teacher and/or administrator.

Step 3: Device sent to the office. Admin to discuss next steps with parent/guardian.

We will be encouraging students to keep their devices away in their lockers and in airplane mode or off while inside the school.

### **Parent Portal—Is your information updated??**

Parents, please review your contact information. Please make sure your address, phone number and emergency contact information is current. Any changes, please email the Dunsmuir email account [dunsmuir@sd62.bc.c](mailto:dunsmuir@sd62.bc.c)

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To access Parent Portal, please go to <https://www.sd62.bc.ca/parents-students/myed-bc-portal>