

TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter # 8

March 31, 2023.

Telephone: 604-668-6444
Student Absences: 604-668-6444
Website address: tait.sd38.bc.ca
Email: tait@sd38.bc.ca



Principal: Mr. Rusty Mason
Admin. Assistant: Ms. L. Rutsch
Area Superintendent: Ms. J. Macmillan
School Trustee: Ms. H. Larson

From the Office

CLASS ORGANIZATION AND STUDENT PLACEMENT 2023-24 PARENT INPUT OPPORTUNITY

June is the month when the staff spends considerable time discussing possible classroom placements of students for the next school year. Although we do not finalize classes until the first week in September, we do a great amount of preliminary thinking in June. There are many factors that are important considerations for placing students into appropriate classes for the next school year:

A. Student considerations such as:

- learning styles and strengths
- what a child can do in relation to the goals of the program
- degree of independence in work habits
- social and personal characteristics
- age and physical maturity
- previous year's placement
- male/female balance
- students with special learning needs
- when they have been the youngest or the oldest in a combined classroom. Please note: Over their 8 years in elementary, a student should experience a variety of settings, sometimes as the older grade in a class and other times the younger grade in a class.



B. Staff considerations such as:

- equitable teaching assignments in terms of class size and composition
- matching as closely as possible teaching style and student academic and social emotional needs

If you have information, based on the factors listed above, that you would like us to consider when placing your child in a class for next year, please take this opportunity to submit this information to Mr. Mason **in writing (email or letter) by Friday, May 26th at 4:00 p.m.**



This information will be shared with teachers during the meetings that will be held to make up classes for next year.

Please Note:

- **It will not be possible to consider information or requests submitted by parents in September once classes have been established.**
- Please **do not request specific teachers** – at this time we do not know which teachers will be teaching which grades next year.

We do our best to form the best learning environments for all students.

Parental requests are considered but not guaranteed.

We Are Planning For September 2023

Kindergarten Registrations. If you have a child turning five in 2023, please register them for kindergarten at the Board Office as soon as possible. We are now into the Priority 2 Round of registration. Any students living in the Tait neighbourhood can still apply for a place at Tait Elementary, but as we move further towards next September space could become very limited and chances of having a place at our school decrease. If you have a neighbour with a Kindergarten aged child, please encourage them to register now.



Student Learning Survey

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

In April **2023** the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7. Parents/guardians/caregivers of students in any grade can voluntarily complete the Student Learning Survey. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until April 29th. Please consider making your voice heard.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mason by phone (604) 668-6444 or email at rmason@sd38.bc.ca

Health Protocols and Sickness



We can work together to minimize the number of students and staff who are ill if we remember some very simple guidelines and strategies.

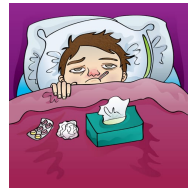
- If you believe your child is coming down with a cold or the flu, keep them home until they have recovered. Your child will recover more quickly at home and we will not have others in the school also becoming ill.*
- DO NOT send students to school who have a constant cough or runny nose, who have a fever, or who have vomited in the last 24 hours.*

Hand Washing

• *Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly, especially before eating, after using the washroom, and after blowing their nose. At the school, we will continue to have children wash their hands multiple times each day.*

Get the Proper Amount of Sleep and Rest

• *Have your child go to sleep at a time that gives them at least 10 hours of sleep. When our bodies are tired and 'run down' we are far more susceptible to illness.*



Thank-you for your help to keep everyone at Tait Elementary safe and healthy.

Student Absences

If your child will be absent from school, please call the school directly at 604-668-6444 to speak to our office staff or leave a message. Please do not rely on an email to your child's classroom teacher telling them about your child's absence. Classroom teachers may not have the chance to access their email before school, and may mark your child as absent with an unknown reason as to why they are missing from school. If classroom teachers enter a child as absent without a reason, our office staff will make a phone call home to parents to find out the whereabouts of a child. This procedure can be aggravating for parents, and takes valuable time from our office staff that could be better used.



Thank-you for your understanding. Please call 604-668-6444 if your child will be absent from school.

Parking Lot and Surrounding Neighborhood



Parents, please help us make the parking lot and streets near the school safe for all members of our school community during student pick-up at the end of the day. If you are picking up your child at the end of the school day, please keep these thoughts in mind:

- stop and wait for your child only in the drop-off/pick-up area
- if you need to go into the school, use available parking spaces or park in the neighbourhood
- do not double-park your car in the driveway entering the school parking lot
- drive slowly in the parking lot and when exiting the parking lot
- in the neighborhood, please do not block the driveways of our neighbors
- be careful where you park in the neighbourhood, some areas have no parking signs, and you could be ticketed

Around the School

PICTURE DAY – MAY 18TH

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17TH, 2023 IS CLASS PICTURE DAY AT ROBERT J. TAIT. EACH CLASS WILL HAVE THEIR CLASS PICTURE TAKEN. SMILE!



Professional Development Day: Friday May 19th



On Friday May 19th, there is a Professional Development Day at Tait Elementary. Students at Robert J. Tait will not be in session on this day. Teachers at Tait and in many schools in Richmond will be meeting to learn together and bring some amazing new ideas to your child's classroom.

PAC (Parent Advisory Council) updates



The Robert J. Tait Parent Advisory Council is always looking for parent volunteers to help the PAC support students at Tait School. If you have an idea for the Tait P.A.C. please come to the next meeting. All Tait parents are part of the Tait PAC. We encourage you to come to our PAC Meetings to find out more about the school.

The next Robert J. Tait PAC Meeting is on Monday, April 3rd at 6:30pm on Zoom. The Robert J. Tait PAC is looking for Tait parents to be part of the PAC Executive for the 2023-24 school year. The following Executive positions are available for the 2023-24 school year:

- PAC President
- PAC Vice-President
- PAC Hot Lunch Coordinator
- PAC Secretary

If you are interested in learning about each PAC Executive Member's role and how the Robert J. Tait PAC supports the students and staff at Tait, please attend our next meeting. All parents of students at Robert J. Tait are members of the PAC and are welcome to attend any PAC Meeting. We hope you will be able to join us for our next meeting on April 3rd, 2023.

Next PAC Meeting is Monday, April 3rd at 6:30pm on Zoom

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| Monday, April 3 rd | - PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm on Zoom |
| Friday, April 7 th | - Good Friday Holiday (School is Closed) |
| Monday, April 10 th | - Easter Monday Holiday (School is Closed) |
| Friday, April 14 th | - Cambie Secondary Band Plays at Tait @ 11am |
| Thursday, April 27 th | - Earthquake Drill at 11:45am |
| Tuesday, May 2 nd | - National Teacher's Day |
| Wednesday May 17 th | - Class Photo Day |
| Friday May 19 th | - Professional Development Day (no school for students) |
| Monday May 22 nd | - Victoria Day Holiday (School is Closed) |
| Monday June 5 th | - Welcome to Kindergarten (for 2023/2024 kindergarten students) |

Friday, June 16th

Tuesday, June 20th

Friday, June 23rd

Thursday, June 29th

Thursday, June 29th

- Fit and Fun Day at Tait

- Tait Family BBQ (evening)

- Grade 7 Farewell Assembly

- Recognition and Appreciation Assembly

- Last Day of School for Students