

TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter # 5

January 12th, 2024.

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. S. Ruan
Area Superintendent: Ms. J. Macmillan

From the Office

Kindergarten Registration for Next Year - 2024-25

Richmond School District 38 is excited to welcome kindergarten registration applications for children born in 2019, turning 5 in 2024. These children will begin kindergarten in September 2024. Online registration opened November 1, 2023. Please visit the Richmond School District website at <http://www.sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten> for more information about our online registration process, required documents, important dates and FAQs.



Families are encouraged to register any time during the Priority 1 registration period (November 1st, 2023 – January 19th, 2024) for the best chance at attending their catchment school. All registration applications completed by parents and received by Central Registration any time during the Priority 1 registration period will receive placement decisions via emails by February 2nd, 2024.

As per district policy, a student will normally attend the school located in their catchment area in which their parents or legal guardians reside unless there is no physical, resource or program space available. This provision may need to be applied more frequently, potentially resulting in more students needing placement outside their catchment school. Please share this information with your friends and family who have Kindergarten aged children!

Notice of Intent to Attend Forms For the 2023/2024 School Year



Parents of Kindergarten to Grade 6 students, please complete and return to RJ Tait School the "Notice of Intent to Attend Form" for the 2024-25 School Year. This form will be given out to students to bring home to you this week (by Friday, Jan. 12th). Please ensure your current address is entered on the form as this information is very important. **This form tells your intention for your child to attend RJ Tait Elementary school next school year in September 2024.**

This is the first step in beginning to plan for the size of our classes next school year. **The Notice of Intent to Attend Form should be completed and sent back to the school by Friday, January 26th, 2024.**

Note: For Grade 7 students moving to Secondary School, it is not necessary to complete this form. Grade 7 students will be automatically placed at their neighbourhood secondary school – for most of our Grade 7 students, their neighbourhood secondary school is Cambie Secondary.

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.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER:

It is important that students are dressed for the weather. During these colder damp days, students need to have a warm jacket, proper footwear for the weather, a hat and perhaps gloves. If they dress appropriately for the weather, they can enjoy playing outside. We will continue as a school to go outside on days that include rain and snow. This week we have noticed many students without a winter coat when outside at recess and lunch, some in only a thin sweatshirt.



SNOW DAYS - WHAT TO EXPECT:

Snow days cause an inconvenience for all of us. Closing schools is a difficult decision for the school district – trying to weigh the safety of everyone, with the repercussions for working families. To help assist families, we would like to outline what you can expect from us on a snow day. The following things will happen:

Schools will be OPEN unless conditions reach unsafe or emergency proportions. **Radio announcements will only announce those schools that are CLOSED.** Most of these schools will be private schools. Listen to radio: CBC 690AM; CKNW 980AM; NEWS 1130AM; QM 103.5FM or watch on television: CBC; Global; CTV; CityTV.

As well, you can get information other ways:

- the Richmond School District website (www.sd38.bc.ca), look under the 'OUR DISTRICT' tab at the top of the Home Page, then click on the EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURES heading.
- all elementary school websites will have a scrolling message along the top as necessary (i.e. on days which are questionable due to weather).
- Twitter at **RichmondSD38**

Please do not phone the school. The administration will be too busy planning the day and will not be able to answer the phone.

- ❖ It may not be a regular school day as many students and teachers may be absent. If children do come to school, we will ensure the children are cared for and are safe. Many alternate activities may be planned so that students who are absent will not miss any work.
- ❖ School will remain open until 2:45pm. In the event that we have to close early, students will not be sent home without contacting parents first.

You have some choices:

1. Students are not required to attend school on a snow day if you feel their safety or your own safety may be at risk (you may keep them home)
2. Make plans in advance for what you and your family will do on a snow day
3. Children who come to school may be taking part in alternate activities

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the school before a snow day.

Around the School

Professional Development Days at Tait



On Professional Development Days, students do not attend school. Staff at British Columbia schools use ProD Days to learn new instructional strategies and curriculum. Educators apply what they learn during ProD Days to their instructional practice in the classroom, so they can help your child learn better. Thank-you for supporting these learning days for educators.

Next ProD Day: Friday February 16th, 2024.

PAC News



The Robert J. Tait Parent Advisory Council is always looking for school fundraising ideas. 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 and how you can help support the learning and well-being of all students.

Stay tuned for the date of our next PAC meeting this month:

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dates to Remember

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| • Tuesday, Jan. 16 th | Cambie Secondary Gr. 7 Parent Welcome + Info Session @ 6:00pm |
| • Friday, Jan. 19 th | Last Day for Kindergarten 2024/25 Registration |
| • Monday, Jan. 22 nd | Cambie High School Counsellors Visit Grade 7 students |
| • Thursday, Feb. 8 th | Kindergarten Hearing Testing |
| • Feb. 12 th -15 th | Scholastic Book Fair |
| • Monday, Feb. 16 th | ProD Day – No School for Students |
| • Monday, Feb. 19 th | Family Day Holiday |
| • Wednesday, Feb. 28 th | Pink Shirt Day |
| • Wednesday, March 13 th | Grade 7 Girls and Boys Cambie Basketball Tournament |
| • March 15 th – 29 th | Spring Break |
| • Monday April 1 st | Easter Monday Holiday |
| • Tuesday April 2 nd | First Day Back after Spring Break |
| • Fri. April 19 th | ProD Day |
| • Thursday April 25 th | Term 2 Student Progress Reports Home |