

TAIT TIGER NEWS

Newsletter #8

April 9th, 2025.

Telephone: 604-668-6444
Student Absences: 604-668-6444
Website address: tait.sd38.bc.ca
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Principal: Mr. Rusty Mason
Admin. Assistant: Ms. S. Ruan
Area Superintendent: Ms. M. Naser
Trustee: Ms. A. Wong

From the Office

CLASS ORGANIZATION AND STUDENT PLACEMENT 2025-26 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:

- a student's learning styles and strengths
- a student's degree of independence and their work habits
- a student's age and physical maturity
- a student's previous year's placement
- what the student can do in relation to the goals of the program
- when a child has been the youngest or the oldest in a combined classroom
- the social and personal characteristics in a class cohort
- the male/female balance in a classroom
- the number of students with diverse learning needs

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 with student academic and social emotional needs

Parents, if you have information you would like us to consider when placing your child in a class for next year, please take this opportunity to submit your information to Mr. Mason **in writing (email or letter) by Friday, May 30th 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 work very hard to form the best learning environments for all students.

Parental requests are considered but not guaranteed.

We Are Planning For September 2025



Kindergarten Registrations: If you have a child turning five in 2025, please register them at the Board Office right away for Kindergarten. 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 September 2025, 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 today.

Student Learning Survey

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians, 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 **2025** the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7 at school.



Parents/guardians are Invited to Complete the Student Learning Survey

Parents of students in any grade can voluntarily complete the Student Learning Survey. We encourage parents/guardians 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 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 May 2nd. 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

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.

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:

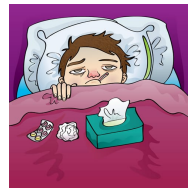
- If you believe your child is coming down with a cold or the flu, keep them home until they have recovered. Your child will recover more quickly at home, and we will not have others in the school also becoming ill.*
- DO NOT send students to school who have a fever, or who have vomited in the last 24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

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 your car is in the drop-off/pick-up area, do not leave your car unattended
- if you need to go into the school, use available parking spaces in our parking lot or park in the neighbourhood
- do not double-park your car in the school parking lot – other cars cannot move easily around double-parked cars and students walking are at risk because they cannot easily see moving cars
- do not park where there are no parking spots – our parking lot has two tight corners closest to the school and parking at these corners makes it hard for other parents to maneuver around your car
- drive slowly in the parking lot and when exiting the parking lot – students do not always look before they cross the parking lot
- in the neighborhood, please do not block the driveways of our neighbors

Around the School

Track Attack Begins Next Tuesday



Track Attack begins next week for students in Grades 4 to 7. In Track Attack, students will practice the following events:

- Sprints
- Relays
- Long Distance Running
- Long Jump.
- Softball Throw
- High Jump
- Discus
- Shot Put

Track Attack will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in April (Weather Permitting). Our Zone Track Meet is on Tuesday, May 20th this year, and will take place at the Minoru Oval Track. Permission Forms will be sent home in late April. We will need a lot of Parent Drivers for Tuesday, May 20th, so please reserve this date if you can.



Student Learning Updates: Go Home April 30th

2nd Term Student Learning Reports (Report Cards) will be sent home to parents on Wednesday, April 30th. Please keep your child's Student Learning Report and send the envelope the student learning report came home in back to your child's Classroom Teacher.

TAIT'S GOT TALENT – FRIDAY, MAY 23RD

TAIT WILL BE HOLDING A TALENT SHOW ON FRIDAY, MAY 23RD IN THE AFTERNOON (EXACT TIME TO BE DECIDED). PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO COME AND WATCH THE TALENT SHOW. EXAMPLES OF STUDENT TALENT ARE: DANCING, KARATE, GYMNASTTICS, SINGING, PLAYING AN INSTRUMENT, TELLING JOKES, MAGIC ETC

WE WILL BE HAVING AUDITIONS THROUGHOUT APRIL AND AT THE BEGINNING OF MAY. PLEASE HELP YOUR CHILD REFINE AND PRACTICE THEIR ACT FOR THEIR AUDITION TIME, AND OF COURSE, FOR THE TALENT SHOW ITSELF.



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. Some RJ Tait PAC Executive positions may be available for the 2025-26 school year.

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 PAC Meeting. Watch school emails in the coming weeks for the date and time of the meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| Tuesday, April 15th | - Track Attack Begins |
| Friday April 18th | - Good Friday Holiday |
| Monday April 21st | - Easter Monday Holiday |
| Thursday April 24th | - Earthquake Drill at 11:35am |
| Friday April 25th | - Squash BC visits Divisions 1 to 5 |
| Monday April 28th | - Federal Election Poll Station in the Tait Gym |
| Wednesday April 30th | - Student Learning Updates Go Home |
| Thursday May 1st | - Rocks n’ Rings (Curling) in the Gym |
| Friday May 2nd | - Rocks n’ Rings (Curling) in the Gym |
| Tuesday, May 6th | - National Teacher’s Day |
| Friday, May 16th | - ProD Day (no school for students) |
| Monday, May 19th | - Victoria Day Holiday |
| Tuesday, May 20th | - Track Meet at Minoru Track (Grades 4-7) |
| Friday, May 23rd | - Tait’s Got Talent Show |
| Thursday, May 29th | - Grade 7 Tour at Cambie Secondary |
| Friday, May 30th | - Class Photo Day |
| Tuesday, June 31rd | - Welcome to Kindergarten for 2025/2026 Kindergarten Families @ 1:00pm |
| Friday, June 13th | - Fit and Fun Day at Tait |
| Monday, June 16th | - Spanish Banks School Trip for Divisions 3 to 10 |
| Tuesday, June 17th | - Kindergarten and Grade 6 Immunizations |
| Tuesday, June 17th | - Tait Family BBQ |
| Friday, June 20th | - Grade 7 Farewell |
| Thursday, June 26th | - Recognition Assembly |
| Thursday, June 26th | - Last Day of School for Students |
| Friday, June 27th | - Administrative Day |