

THE WESTWIND WAVES NEWSLETTER

January 16, 2026

<https://westwind.sd38.bc.ca/>

@westwindwaves

WELCOME BACK AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

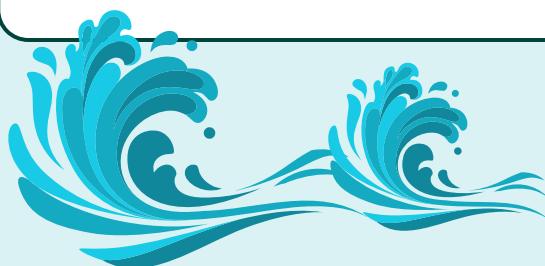
2026

Happy New Year to all Westwind families! We hope you all had a wonderful and restful winter break, filled with joy and relaxation. It was lovely to see many of you at our K-Pop Showcase in December. Congratulations to all students and staff for a fantastic performance!

As we settle back into our routines, we're looking forward to all the new opportunities to learn, grow, and explore. We will be continuing to work on our theme of kindness, finding ways to be inclusive, being accepting of all, and expanding on our skills and strategies to resolve conflicts in kind and peaceful ways when they arise.

Westwind will be participating in the "Kind Mind" program in February, with a focus to reduce stigma, build resilience, ignite conversations and amplify mental health awareness for both parents and children. Keep an eye out for more information and resources that will be sent home to families!

As a school, we are also continuing our work on building numeracy skills across all grade levels. As a staff, we have aligned our professional learning and planning to support the development of numeracy competencies throughout the school. Teachers are continuing to collaborate with our teacher consultants to ensure effective planning and instruction that supports numeracy development and success. Check in with your children to see what they are learning! We are looking forward to growth and learning for all in the coming months.



**WE GO OUTSIDE
RAIN, SHINE
OR SNOW!**

Let's talk about spare clothes...

With the soggy season upon us; it is more important than ever that students have a spare change of clothes at school. Especially the little ones! Please make sure to include pants, socks, shoes and shirts!

THANK YOU!





IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Notice of Intent to Attend form was due at school **today!** Please have your children bring the form to school as soon as possible if you haven't done so already.

Updated Volunteer Driver Form & Safety Protocols

To align with our district policy and to ensure the highest standard of safety for our students, all schools in the district are implementing updated protocols for volunteer drivers, effective immediately. Moving forward, all volunteer drivers are required to complete a Criminal Record Check (CRC) before transporting students. This is a mandatory step for any situation where volunteers may be alone with students or where direct staff supervision is minimal.

If you wish to volunteer as a driver for an upcoming field trip, please submit the following items to the school office (copies can be made at the office):

- A completed Volunteer Driver Authorization Form (new version - available on school website)
- Confirmation of CRC Submission (see instructions below)
- A copy of your current Driver's License
- A copy of your Vehicle Insurance

The great news is that there is no cost for school volunteers to obtain a CRC, and the process is online and efficient. Please visit

<https://justice.gov.bc.ca/screening/crrpa/org-access> or use the QR code below. Print or email a copy of the submission confirmation and provide it to the school office along with the other required documents.

CRCs are valid for two years.



Enter the Access Code:
U4T1JJQ370

SchoolMessenger Text Alerts (Opt-In)

Our District uses SchoolMessenger to share important school and district updates, including weather closures, emergency notifications, reminders, and time-sensitive announcements. All families with a current cell phone number in our MyEd student database will receive a text message from SchoolMessenger in February. How to opt-in:

1. Watch for a text from SchoolMessenger (Text #: 978338).
2. Reply with "Y" to 978338.
3. You will receive a confirmation message letting you know you're successfully subscribed.

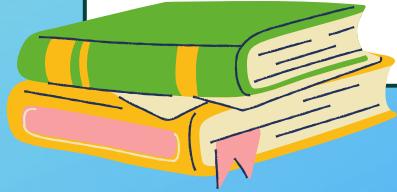


Want alerts on more than one device? To receive text alerts on multiple phones, each phone number must opt in separately by replying "Y" to 978338.

GRADE 7 PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS FOR 2026-27

It's hard to believe that it's already time to think about transitioning our Grade 7 students to high school! There will be visits from high school counsellors and information about registering for courses in the coming weeks. Please see the list of Parent Information Evenings below. You and your child are encouraged to attend. Bring your questions!

| <u>School Name</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Hugh Boyd Secondary | January 22, 2026, at 6:30 pm |
| JN Burnett Secondary | February 12, 2026, at 6:30 pm |
| Cambie Secondary | January 20, 2026, at 6:00 pm |
| MacNeill Secondary | January 22, 2026, at 6:00 pm |
| McMath Secondary | February 12, 2026, at 5:30 pm |
| McRoberts Secondary | January 29, 2026, at 6:00 pm |
| McNair Secondary | February 12, 2026, at 6:00 pm |
| Palmer Secondary | February 5, 2026, at 6:30 pm |
| Richmond Secondary | February 4, 2026, at 6:00 pm |
| Steveston London Secondary | January 21, 2026, at 6:00 pm |
| Richmond Virtual School (BL, RAIL) | January 29, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Palmer Secondary School, Room 131 |



NEW!

CHANGE OF DATE FOR GRADE 7 FAREWELL

Planning has already begun for the Grade 7 Farewell celebration **on June 23rd, 2026!** **Please note that the date has changed from previous communications.** The Grade 7 Parent Committee is working hard to organize fundraisers in order to purchase decorations and organize some fun activities for the Grade 7 students at their year-end celebration. Keep your eyes open for fundraising initiatives that will help make this a memorable day for the Grade 7 students. Thank you in advance for your support!

VOLUNTEER INTERPRETERS NEEDED



The Richmond School District is seeking individuals who are fluent in English and other languages to join our Volunteer Interpreter Team.

Help strengthen communication between schools and families by providing language support during parent teacher conferences. Your involvement helps ensure every family feels welcomed and informed.

Training is provided.
All languages welcome.

To express your interest, please email your CV before January 16, 2026 to:
culturalinterpreters@sd38.bc.ca



Important Dates 2025-2026

JANUARY

- 21: Spirit Day: Creative Hair Day
- 23: PAC Family Movie Night
- 26: Pro-D Day - School not in Session
- 31: PAC Parent Pub Night

FEBRUARY

- 3: Band Concert for Div. 1-6 Parents @ 1:15pm
- 11: Early Dismissal @ 1:45pm for Conferences
- 12: Early Dismissal @ 1:45pm for Conferences
- 13: Pro-D Day - School not in Session
- 16: Family Day Holiday
- 20: Spirit Day: Dress Like a Teacher Day
- 23: PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm
- 25: Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying Day)

MARCH

- 8: Daylight Savings - Move clocks forward an hour!
- 13: Spirit Day: Tropical Day
- 13: Last Day before Spring Break
- 16-27: Spring Break
- 30: Back to School



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At Westwind, we show kindness to self, others and place.