

# École Heather Park Elementary

WEB: [hpar.sd57.bc.ca](http://hpar.sd57.bc.ca)

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7151 Heather Park Rd

## NEWSLETTER

September 9, 2010

### THANK YOU

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We appreciate the enthusiasm and patience of parents and students on our opening day. For the most part, things went quite smoothly. It was great to see everyone together in the hallways, classrooms and around the grounds.

### OUR WEBSITE

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We cannot stress enough how important it is for parents to make a habit of regularly visiting our school website. It is your best and most easily accessible source of information. We have already posted some of our school policies and procedures and will continue to add all new developments on a weekly basis.

Please bookmark our site: [hpar.sd57.bc.ca](http://hpar.sd57.bc.ca)

### STUDENT CLASS PLACEMENTS

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Our school population grew from 688 to over 710 today. We are excited that so many families have moved into our area or chosen to bring their children to our school. This change in school population means we will need to add another classroom and teacher to accommodate all the new students.

However, it will take up to a week to decide how to best organize the school into new class groupings. Until we make this change, students will remain in the classrooms assigned on the first day.

We understand that some parents have concerns about the placement of their children in certain classrooms. Mr. Fleck has arranged meetings to discuss these concerns with individual parents. These concerns will be considered when changes are made.

Parents and students are asked to appreciate that it may not be possible to grant all requests. In such cases we ask for your patience and promise to do our best in each classroom to meet the needs of every child regardless of the situation.

### PARENT MEET AND GREET

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If you are interested in finding out more about helping out at school in any way, or would like a chance to meet other parents, this would be a great opportunity to find out more about the parent role at the school. Childcare will be available in the gym, but if we have too many children attend, you may need to keep your child with you. Parents are encouraged to bring a snack to share if possible.

**Date and Time:** Tuesday, Sept. 14th, 7 8:15 pm,  
Multi-Purpose Room.

**Note:** This is not a school open house for parents to tour classrooms and meet teachers. This is intended as a parent-only social event.

### PAC ELECTIONS DATE CHANGE

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There is a conflict in PAC meetings between Heather Park and Kelly Road on September 21. As a result, we are changing the Parent Advisory Council executive elections from the Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> to Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM.

### PARENT – TEACHER NIGHT

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Heather Park will have its first Open House on Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 PM.

## **BUSES AND TRAFFIC**

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As mentioned in yesterday's newsletter, Heather Park has a lot of bus traffic. With this in mind, we need staff, parents, students and visitors to remain out of the bus lane before and after school. It is especially important for ALL adults to remind students to use the cross walks when crossing the streets and bus lane.

We will make sure there are numerous supervision assistants on the property directing traffic and keeping students safe. It is very important for parents in cars to move slowly and remain patient until we can organize a traffic plan for picking up and dropping off students each day. Please feel free to email suggestions to Mr. Fleck at [sfleck@sd57.bc.ca](mailto:sfleck@sd57.bc.ca).

## **STUDENT EXPECTATIONS**

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Today students will be taught some of the basic expectations for behaviour at Heather Park. The heart of our plan is to model and expect RESPECT. This means that everyone at our school will work toward treating others the way they would like to be treated themselves. In particular, we will be stressing that everyone keep their hands and feet and unkind words to themselves.

In the coming weeks we will involve staff, students and parents in developing a detailed Code of Conduct.

## **LOCKERS**

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Students in Houses C, D and E (upstairs) will be given lockers. Grade 6 and 7 students will secure their locker doors with combination locks. Locks are either supplied by the parent or purchased at school. Locker combinations should not be shared. Students in Grades 3-5 using lockers will be provided with a carabiner (spring-loaded metal clip) with an attached name tag to keep their lockers closed. Carabiners will be supplied by the school and included as part of our school fees. Student lockers remain the property of the school and are subject to search by school staff.

## **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

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While students are on school grounds, all electronic communications devices and games (cell phones, cameras, pagers and game consoles) as well as personal music devices are to be turned off and kept out of sight at all times.

## **HATS AND COATS**

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In order to maintain our focus on learning and as a safety measure to help us easily identify École Heather Park Elementary School students, we require students to remove their jackets and hats, storing them in lockers or on coat racks during the day. Students are expected to remove hats and hoods when they reach their lockers or coat racks after coming inside. Students leaving the building at recess and lunch may wear their hats once they are outside.

## **ABSENCES**

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Parents of absent student are asked to phone the school before 8:30 am, leave a message on our voicemail or email Mrs. Goldie in our office at [lgoldie@sd57.bc.ca](mailto:lgoldie@sd57.bc.ca). On the first day of an absence we encourage students to contact another student in their class for homework. Students who are absent for more than two days should contact teachers to find out about missed assignments.

## **CLOSED CAMPUS**

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To ensure students' safety, École Heather Park Elementary School will operate a closed campus at all times. Students are permitted off the grounds at lunch only with written permission from a parent or guardian.

## **DRESS CODE**

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Students should be considerate of others by wearing clothing and accessories that are appropriate to a school setting. Clothing that displays references to drugs and alcohol are examples of inappropriate dress.