



Garibaldi Secondary School Newsletter

Sept 2022

[https://
gss.sd42.
ca/](https://gss.sd42.ca/)

A Welcome Message.

I hope you are enjoying your summer and looking forward to school start-up. This has been another significant summer.

Our main communication platform is the school website. Please find it at gss.sd42.ca and make this your first point of contact with the school. The GAZETTE can be viewed on the main page and is updated daily. All teacher email addresses, and additional school contact information is posted. We take pride in updating the website frequently and take great pride in its accuracy.

This year will be a year of adjustments. It's important to recognize many students have not been in a "normal secondary experience" for 18 months. Our school is growing in capacity and diversity.

I'm honoured to work with a school community that offers a first quality education experience. Our 2022 graduates have progressed to schools around the world to pursue wide ranging goals. Over the summer I had communication from graduates registered in Europe, United States, and schools across Canada. Additionally I see students in the community working in trades after they've received certification at GSS or other SD 42 programs.

Please make sure you connect meaningfully with your student asking good questions about each class, every day. Good things are happening here.

Respectfully,

Ian Liversidge
Principal

Sept - Nov 2022 Dates

Sept 14 PAC Meeting 7 Pm - Library
Sept 15 School Photo
Sept 20 Collab Day - Early Dismissal
Sept 21 GR 8 Parent Evening 6 - 8 PM
Sept 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - No School
Oct 3 Pro D Day - No Students
Oct 7 Collab Day - Late Start
Oct 10 Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct 18 Photo Retakes
Oct 18 Honours Dinner
Oct 19 Fund Night
Oct 20 Student Led Conferences
Oct 21 Pro D Day
Oct 25 Halloween Dance
Oct 26 Collab Day - Late Start
Nov 1 - 5 Provincial Assessment Week
Nov 4 Collab Day - Late Start
Nov 9 Remembrance Day Assemblies
Nov 10 Pro D Day
Nov 11 Remembrance Day
Nov 15 - 18 Grad Photos
Nov 21 Collab Day - Early Dismissal
Nov 23 Collab Day - Late Start
Nov 29 Grease - School Musical
Opening Night runs until Dec 9



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Grade 8 Parent Information Night

Grade 8 Parent Night

This year we will be returning to a grade 8 parent evening. Grade 8 parents / guardians and students are invited to join us **September 21 between 6 and 8 PM.**

Our plan for the evening is to host an open house walk-about between 6PM and 7PM. At 7PM we will do a presentation in the school theatre outlining our school and highlight the many positive aspects of our school community.

I hope you join us.

School Lockers

Lockers will be assigned for the school year as usual. This year we will again ask students only to take a locker if necessary. This was a plan to support reduced congestion in the hall during class changes. Students have followed this initiative. Lockers can also be reassigned in semester 2 as necessary.



School Planner Garibaldi Secondary uses a school APP - planning tool called My School Day. This is the 2021 version of the school planner. It is a digital planner. It is recommended that parents also download the App as this gives the school the ability to send direct notifications. We have found this useful in situations such as snow days, power outages, as well as positive school cultural events. The App can be found at: <https://myschoolday.app/download> or in the App Store or Google Play. Generic paper planners can be purchased at the Rebel Mart.

Honours Dinner

Pre-Covid we started a new tradition having an Honours dinner. This was a dinner where eligible students could come to the school and hear about the work and accomplishments of other students. There is no awards presentation only the opportunity for parents to share, meet other parents, to meet to greet, and listen to some past graduate speak about their success and progression from GSS to other post secondary experiences. More information will follow in the coming weeks and portal message invitations will be sent to students. Invitations are based on students who achieved Honour Roll status in the previous year.



Student Led Conferences

Garibaldi will be returning to regular student conferences for the 2022 - 2023 school year. These are 5 minutes appointments booked with individual teachers using the parent portal. Conferences are an excellent opportunity to get early feedback and confirm pathways of communications with teachers. The sign up process and additional information will be released closer to the date event dates. This year the SLC days are October 20 and March 30. Students are expected to attend with parents.



About School Health COVID 19 Update:

School District 42 is compliant with the BC Ministry of Education Guidelines. Significant documents are posted to both the school district and Ministry of Education website.

Here are a few key links:

[BC Ministry Health Check](#)
[Fraser Health - About Schools](#)
[SD42.ca coronavirus response](#)
[SD42.ca communicable diseases prevention](#)



Ventilation and enhanced cleaning and disinfection routines

Ventilation systems in all school district facilities will meet WorkSafeBC

requirements, and all air filters will be replaced on a regular basis. All schools will be cleaned in accordance with the Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings. General cleaning (including single-use surfaces like student desks) will occur once every 24 hours. SD 42 meets or exceeds the current requirements for school ventilation.

Daily Self Assessment

Everyone entering the school environment is expected to do a Daily Health Assessment. This is a personal review of the signs and symptoms of Covid - 19. It is not necessary to print or submit. Please review the form in the attached link: [BC Ministry Health Check](#)

What if you feel ill? The BCCDC guidelines for schools are firm. Stay home until symptoms clear.



School Athletics

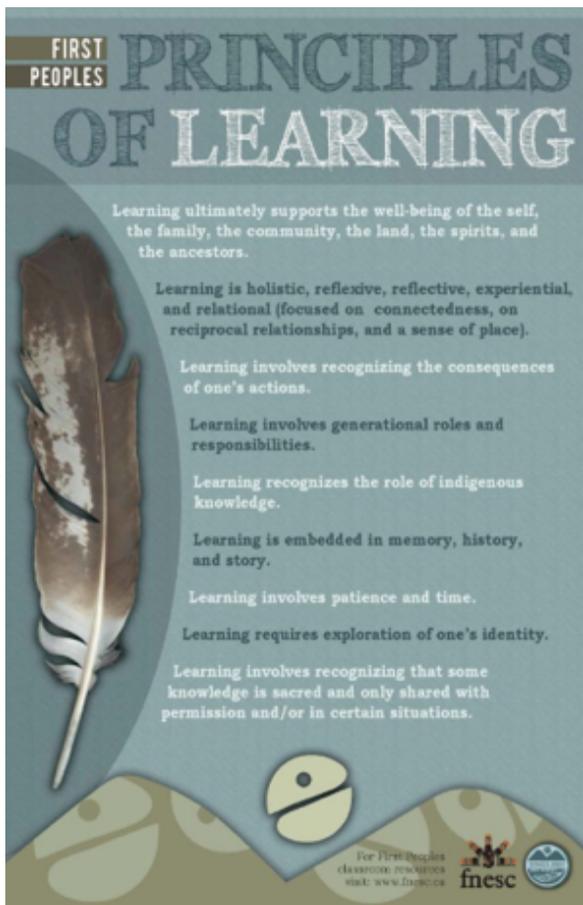
School athletics will be returning to normal in the 2022 - 2023 school year. The school athletics seasons are identified as fall, winter and spring. Sign up for fall sports will begin promptly in September. The fall athletic season is highlighted by all volleyball teams, boys soccer, and cross country. More at: <https://secondary.sd42.ca/gss/sports-clubs>



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First Peoples Principles of Learning. In the last decade, the British Columbia Ministry of Education has indicated an increasing commitment to including the First Peoples (or Aboriginal) perspectives of teaching and learning in British Columbia schools (British Columbia Ministry of Education, 2013-2014). Initial integration of First Peoples' content into various curricula was initially intended to support the success of Aboriginal learners; however the principles that govern traditional First Peoples' perspectives of teaching and learning have gained a more prominent place in the BC education system as educators are recognizing that they promote educational practice that is also effective for non-Aboriginal learners.

From: <https://firstpeoplesprinciplesoflearning.wordpress.com/>

Collaboration Days

Collaboration days allow teachers to meet, and collaborate in support of students and improved teacher planning. For the 2022 - 2023 academic year these collaborations sessions will create early dismissals or late starts for students. While students can remain in the building, teachers and EAs are otherwise engaged.





SD42 PARENT PORTAL

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Student sign out, and sign in. If a student arrives after 9 am they are expected to sign in at the office. A sign-in book is located outside the main office. Students leaving early for the day do so with parent permission. Typically a prior phone message, portal message or parent note is supplied. Text messages are not accepted as parent permission.

Communication - Gazette , Parent Portal. The Parent Portal is a SD 42 developed software that supports parental permissions, field trips and credit card payments. It is an important communication platform that we use in many situations. Please ensure that you are connected. In the event you are not receiving notifications through the Parent Portal please contact our Admin Coordinator Ms. Montgomery at: Jacqueline_Montgomery@sd42.ca and ask for a “Linking Letter”.

Maintaining contact with parents and students is important to us. We rely upon email, the parent portal, Facebook, Twitter and the planner app to keep families abreast of what’s going on. You can follow us on Facebook or Twitter. The Gazette on the school website is updated daily. If you haven’t been receiving emails this year, you’ll need to resubscribe. We strongly encourage parents to do this by logging onto the parent portal and subscribing on the login page.

A Student fees notification will be sent the first week of school. A 28\$ mandatory fee is common in SD 42. Student fees are used to support non-curricular student activities. These are the elements of a school community that bring us connection and greater community. Elements that are more important than ever such as FUND Nights, Dances, and Leadership Events.. Although we can take cash payments at the main office, **online payment with the parent portal is preferred.**



Parent Advisory Committee

The BC School Act gives parents the right to belong to a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) in their school, and through it to advise the board, principal, and staff on any matters relating to the school. It is a place for positive communication and an effective place to learn about the school and school community. Meetings are open for all parents to attend. Past minutes, agendas and upcoming meeting dates are posted to: <https://secondary.sd42.ca/gss/parent-advisory-council/>



**VISITORS
MUST
SIGN IN**

Parent Access to the school is by appointment only, as per guidelines established to support safety. Please use staff emails to book appointments, and always report to the office as a visitor and sign in.



New Grade 8 School Email Login In an effort to assist the current grade 8 students (staying in district) with a smoother transition to grade 8, the MyEd team has reset all of their MyClass passwords (elementary students don't use MyClass passwords). Incoming grade 8 students have been emailed the link to the MyClass login page, along with their user name and newly generated password student#@me.sd42.ca email account.

Access to the district student email accounts is important. Every Grade 8 is encouraged to log in to MyClass to re-enable all of their accounts.

Attendance Notification: If your student is ill or if you are planning a holiday, attendance notification can be added to the parent portal. <https://parents.sd42.ca/Parents/ParentLoginPage.aspx> . Failing that, you can contact the office.

Absence reports are collected every morning and added to the daily attendance data. Once the absence is recorded by the office, all the teachers will see the "excused absence".

Grade 12 attendance matters. **Excessive absences can interfere with participation in the graduation ceremonies.** Every school in the district maintains guidelines that limits absences to the equivalent of 15 days per year or 60 periods. Students who exceed this limit may not be allowed to participate in the grad ceremony.

In school, vacations are a great challenge in the semester system. Missing a week is equivalent to missing a month in the linear (year-long courses). Teachers cannot be expected to offer separate learning accommodations for a student who chooses to miss an extraordinary amount of time. Please look to support positive choices around schooling at this difficult and atypical time.

MicroSoft Teams will be the primary software for the digital learning support. In the first section of the school year, we will be working to ensure every student is logged in and proficient with this tool.

GSS Counsellors are here and happy to assist you. T Walk-ins to the Career Counselling Centre are again accepted. Appointments can be books during the process outlined at the counselling office.

Lindsey Hine (Gr 8,10,12)

Rani Parmar (Gr 9, 11, 12)

Pauline Lemieux (Gd 12 Academic)

Take a look at our websites for links to resources:

<https://gss.sd42.libguides.com/c.php?g=715795&p=5103795>

<https://gsscareercentre.wordpress.com/>

Student Information Update. Please log in to MyClass to view the PDF "BC Student Information Verification Form" showing on the front page under "Published Reports".

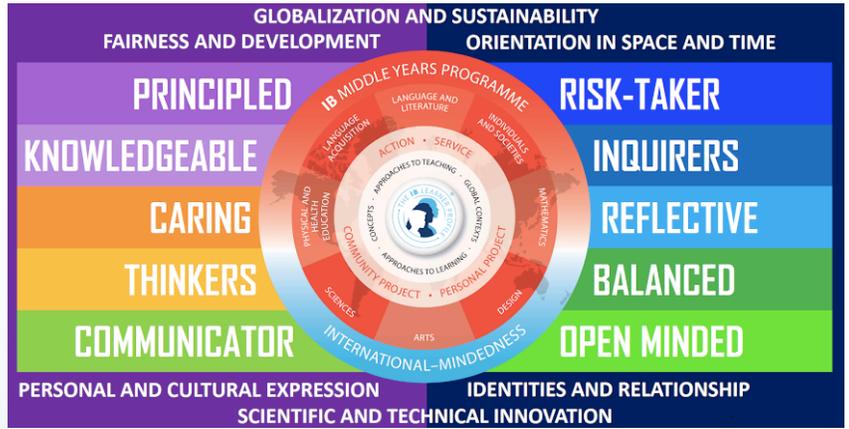
This document contains the information we currently have on file for your student, including Parent Contacts, Emergency Contacts, any medical information, etc. If any of this information is incorrect, please print the form, handwrite the changes and sign and date the form. Please return the corrected, signed form to the school office so that changes can be made to your student's record.

Here is the link to the MyClass Information Page: <https://myedbc.sd42.ca/MyClass> If you have any questions, or wish a printed hard copy, please feel free to contact: gssreception@sd42.ca





IB Middle Year Programme. Garibaldi is continuing with our growth in the MYP programme specifically for grade 8 - 10 students. The MYP is an internationally recognized program for ALL students entering grade 8 in September. The Middle Years Programme is an INCLUSIVE, WHOLE SCHOOL programme that is offered to more than 1 million students in over 3,700 schools in 147 countries. The Middle Years Programme focuses on developing critical, creative, and reflective thinkers within a global perspective. It encourages students to make connections between their studies and the real world. The new provincial curriculum for grades 8 and 9 is being fully aligned with the IB Middle Years Programme. The new curriculum places emphasis on student inquiry, big ideas, competencies, and global awareness, which is all part of the IB Middle Years Programme.



Yearbooks

will be sold in a separate Portal Message Starting In October. Complete the online form for \$65. This year's Yearbook will be one that you truly want to have. Last year there were many disappointed students as we sold out.

Cash payment must be made to the office within a week of the portal message.

GARIBALDI SEC

Sign up open
Microsoft Teams
GSS Grad 2023

GRAD NEWSLETTER Supporting Parents and Students of the

GSS 2023 Graduating Class

Grade 12's

Please be sure to get your copy of the Grad Newsletter at the Gr 12 assembly.

Mark your calendar for the mandatory monthly assembly dates.

Excessive absences can interfere with participation in the graduation ceremonies. Every school in the district maintains guidelines that limit absences to the equivalent of 15 days per year. Students who exceed this limit may not be allowed to participate in the grad ceremony. If you have any questions or want to review your students attendance records, please contact the office.



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Inclement Weather:

The decision whether or not to close schools due to inclement weather conditions is the responsibility of the Superintendent who must balance safety with the need to provide learning. The Superintendent will use their best judgement to make a school closure decision. The decision making process is complicated by the fact that weather conditions can vary significantly between neighbouring communities, may change and may differ from original forecasts. A final decision is made by 6:00am so that a timely communications process can be initiated.

The decision is posted on the district website <https://www.sd42.ca> and sent to major radio and television outlets such as All News 1130 and CKNW 980.



SCHOOL SAFETY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM MAPLE RIDGE - PITT MEADOWS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 42

School Safety Notification System Updated 2019:

The Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows School District has updated its *School Safety Notification System* in collaboration with the Ridge Meadows RCMP. The revised notification system follows provincial recommendations and covers the six following scenarios:

Drop, Cover, and Hold – Used in the event of an earthquake, explosion, or any event that shakes the school.

Hold and Secure – Used when there is a security concern, such as a police incident, in the neighbourhood of the school.

Lockdown – Used to prevent intruders from entering occupied areas of the school, or in times when it is necessary to isolate students and staff from a danger outside or within the building.

Shelter in Place – Used as a short-term measure to protect students and staff from potential dangers outside the school (e.g. environmental weather-related emergencies, dangerous wild animals on school grounds, or a missing child).

Room Clear – Used to move people away from a hazard contained in one room/area.

You can find more information about the revised *School Safety Notification System* on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/school-safety-notification/>



Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows School District No. 42 has developed a School Safety Notification System in collaboration with Ridge Meadows RCMP to keep students, staff and volunteers safe. While it is impossible to anticipate all eventualities, the notifications below are used as a guide to conduct these procedures effectively.

 <p>DROP, COVER, AND HOLD</p> <p>Used in the event of an earthquake, explosion, or any event that shakes the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quickly move away from obvious hazards DROP low to the ground COVER - take cover under a sturdy table, desks, furniture, or other large sturdy items HOLD ON - to the furniture you are under and stay there until the shaking stops Once shaking stops, wait 60 seconds and then evacuate via the shortest safe route Assemble outside at the designated assembly site 	 <p>LOCKDOWN</p> <p>Used to prevent intruders from entering occupied areas of the school, or in times when it is necessary to isolate students and staff from a danger outside or within the building.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal/designate will announce "lockdown now," repeating several times Principal/designate will call 911 and the District Education Office (604.463.4200) - only when/it is safe to do so Students and staff gather in the nearest secure room Close and secure doors Turn off lights, close windows and blinds, get down behind heavy furniture or out of sight, stay quiet All students must turn off cellphones Do not respond to anyone at the door, and ignore disruptive bells Remain in lockdown until the room is cleared by authorities
 <p>HOLD AND SECURE</p> <p>Used when there is a security concern, such as a police incident, in the neighbourhood of the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal/designate to announce "hold and secure," repeating several times Principal/designate to call District Education Office (604.463.4200) to inform of Hold and Secure Lock exterior doors and exterior window blinds, minimize activity in hallway Put sign on front door advising visitors that school is in a Hold and Secure Normal duties may continue within the school Hold and secure will be lifted by an announcement from the principal/designate under direction of RCMP 	 <p>SHELTER IN PLACE</p> <p>Used as a short-term measure to protect students and staff from potential dangers outside the school (e.g. environmental weather-related emergencies, dangerous wild animals on school grounds, or a missing child).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring everyone into school and remain indoors Secure exterior doors and windows Close exterior window blinds (if available) Turn off all ventilation systems (if available/appropriate) Staff designates will monitor access to school via main entrance Access may be denied if a risk exists that jeopardizes safety of occupants
 <p>EVACUATE</p> <p>Used to move people out of the school when a hazard exists inside. May include floods, potential fire, or a bomb threat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students and staff directed to exit school using the safest route Students and staff to assemble outside at a designated assembly site 	 <p>ROOM CLEAR</p> <p>Used to move people away from a hazard contained in one room/area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students directed to leave the room/area and report to designated area Principal/designate to call for assistance as needed (e.g. principal/rep, custodian, 911, first aid attendant)



Are you interested in welcoming an International Student into your home and sharing the experience of being part of a Canadian family?

We are always looking for great host families!

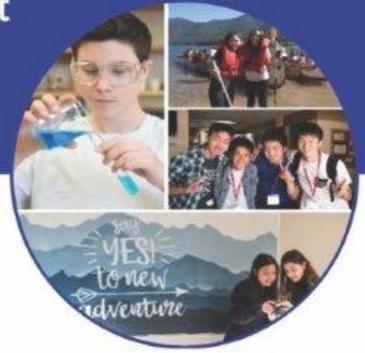


**MAPLE RIDGE
PITT MEADOWS**
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

www.inted.sd42.ca @intedsd42 www.facebook.com/IntEd.SD42

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:**

International Education
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District
20575 Thorne Ave., Maple Ridge,
BC, V2X 9A6, Canada
604-466-6555
<https://inted.sd42.ca/homestay>



Please Join us for

**GREASE
the Musical**

**GSS Theatre
Academy**

**Nov 29 - Dec 9
2022**

**Tickets on sale
soon**



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