

next week at colquitz

friday, september 8, 2023

THIS WEEK'S REFLECTIONS

Hello Colquitz Families, and welcome back to school!

I cannot believe our first week is done. It has been a whirlwind for all of us, I'm sure, and I have been no exception as the newbie principal. It has been such a joy meeting and getting to know students, parents, and our AMAZING staff. Let me tell you, people – this is a special group of educators. I feel blessed, excited, and grateful to be working alongside them. We spoke on the first day about being the “rocks” of Colquitz – the foundation on which our community rests. This year, it will be a goal for us to grow that community culture through more activities to strengthen all of our feelings of connectedness and belonging.

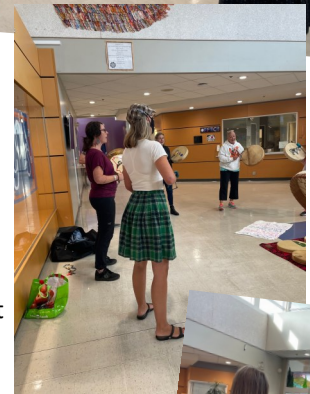
Much of this week has focused on re-adjusting to being back at school and getting to know new teachers and classmates. I have enjoyed chatting with students in the halls and at breaks. Thursday morning, Ms. Spies, Ms. James, Mr. Wilson, Ms. Elford, and I drummed a few songs with students in the front foyer. We'd like to thank Elena Luna, our Indigenous Family Advocate, for joining us, and Kolette Cristante, the Middle School Indigenous Education Teacher from the district, for leading us in singing. We do this every Thursday, so please encourage your children to join us starting at about 8:20am on those days – and feel free to join in as well!

We appreciate that some students feel disappointment with their class placements. We do our best with a complex process, and wish we could accommodate every request. Due to classes having to be balanced to meet class size and composition language, any move is not simple, because it can put us out of compliance. At this time, there are no moves possible. We will keep requests in mind if things change with student transfers, however, it is unlikely. We would like to emphasize once again that it is your modelling and support in being positive with your child's placement, no matter what they may feel initially, that is the greatest predictor of their happiness and success long term. In our experience, with staff and family support to accept the way things are, students adjust and make new friends quickly.

I tend to arrive to school early in the morning, as I enjoy centering myself prior to the busy-ness of the day. It also doesn't hurt to be able to get some work done uninterrupted. ;) Please enjoy this photo I took of our incredible school in the sunrise the other day. I feel it symbolizes well all of the beauty and promise of this coming year.

Enjoy the weekend with your families, and I look forward to meeting more of you in person soon.

Carrie Schlappner — Principal



next week at a glance

Monday, Sept 11 *Please return Forms ASAP ;)*

Tuesday, Sept 12

Wednesday, Sept 13

Thursday, Sept 14

Friday, Sept 15 *Rosh Hashana begins*

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upcoming important dates—*mark your calendars!*

Tuesday, Sept 19	PAC Meeting—6:30pm in Colquitz Library
Thursday, Sept 21	Welcome Back Open House for Families— Pizza Dinner available for order (Details TBA)
Friday, Sept 22	ProD Day—NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
Saturday, Sept 23	<i>Bi Visibility Day</i>
Monday, Sept 24	<i>Yom Kippur</i>
Friday, Sept 29	Orange Shirt Day (for National Day for Truth & Reconciliation)
Saturday, Sept 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
Monday, October 2	<i>NO SCHOOL in observance of National Day for Truth & Reconciliation</i>
Thursday, Oct 5	<i>International Teacher's Day</i>

Grade 7/8 Fall Play—AUDITIONS



**Auditions for the Fall
Grade 7/8 Play take place
next week!**

Auditions are very relaxed and every student has the opportunity to audition several times so they feel confident about their performance.

Audition forms are available outside the drama room and as a downloadable pdf on the Colquitz Fine Arts website.

Every student who auditions will be able to participate!

Production dates are November 27th- December 1st.

***Please contact cmackenzie@sd61.bc.ca
if you have any questions.***

It was our Instrument Zoo today! Ms Montgomery showed grade 6s the different instruments they can try in band classes and students tried out the different wind instrument mouth pieces. *It was a Hoot! :)*

Basketball and Rugby Opportunities

Please see the attachments to this email for information on the U13 Girls Night Basketball League, Thunder Nation Basketball Night League, and the James Bay Association Rugby Youth League



PAC MEETING

Tues, September 19th
6:30pm-7:30pm
Colquitz Library

Hope to see you there!

