



Palmer Secondary
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Palmer News ~ FALL 2017

We are well in to the first term at Palmer and have had a busy September and October. We have welcomed some new teaching staff members this year: Ms. Chan (Music), Mr. Davis (Resource and Social Studies), Ms. Komad (Maternity Leave for Ms. Watson), Mr. Liang (Maths and Science), Mr. Mezzarobba (ELL), Mr. Thomas (Resource), Mr. Winkelman (Tech Ed), and Ms. Wolbers (ELL) and the following new Education Assistants: Ms. Adams, Ms. Au-Yeung, Ms. Vath and Ms. Wong. Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher Night. Please continue to use the school calendar and our website to stay informed on events happening at Palmer.

All students should have brought home an interim report on October 27th. This report and the conferences on November 1st and 2nd are intended to give parents an update early in the year on general progress and work habits in the classroom.

PLEASE NOTE: Parents are encouraged to attend our Remembrance Day Assembly on Friday, November 10th at 9:25am in the large gym.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

All parents are invited to our next PAC meeting on Tuesday, November 14th at 7:00pm in the school library. Minutes of PAC meetings are posted on the Palmer website. [Parent Advisory Council | Palmer Secondary School](#)

Griffins That Give

Looking for a club that helps others? Want to be involved in your local community? Then join Griffins that Give! This club provides opportunities for students to volunteer in their local community. It fosters a sense of belonging and a desire to look beyond and lend a helping hand. The Griffins that Give club members will be busy once again this season volunteering in our local community. During this season, club members will be volunteering at events such as the Halloween activities at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery, the Wild Things event at the Richmond Nature Park, and Fireworks at Minoru parks. Some dedicated students even take the initiative to give up their time during winter and spring break to volunteer at community center day camps. The student executives also maintain public relations, so community groups know that Griffins that Give is available to support them. Griffins that Give members believe in always helping out, all the while representing Palmer by showing Palmer Pride. The club meets every Wednesday at lunch in Mrs. Calaciura's room. New members are always welcome!

Dry Grad 2017 Needs Parent Volunteers

Our Dry Grad Committee is up and running. Please contact the committee at drygrad2018@hotmail.com for further information. The Dry Grad event immediately follows the graduation dinner dance at the end of June. This is a parent organized and run celebration, first implemented several years ago in Richmond, and is designed to keep all of our graduates celebrating in a safe and fun environment. Grade 12 parents, please continue to check our website and your emails for future details regarding Dry Grad. If you do not have the time to commit to being on the committee, we encourage you to help out in any way you can.

Dates to Remember

Please check out our WAAG (Week at a Glance): [Week At A Glance | Palmer Secondary School](#)

Grad 2017-2018 Palmer Winter Formal



Grads of 2018 are invited to our first major celebration of the school year! This year's winter formal will be held in the Greenside Room at Mayfair Lakes Golf and Country Club on November 23rd from 6:30 to 10:30. Grads, join us for an evening of dinner, dessert, and dancing! Grads who wish to bring a guest must complete and submit a request form before November 8th. Ticket sales will run from November 1st to November 9th.

Athletics Fall Update

This fall the Griffins have been competing in girls' volleyball and boys' soccer. We have grade 8, grade 9, and senior girls' volleyball teams as well as a senior boys' soccer team. Students Isabelle Chung and Joey Wong coach our grade 8 girls' volleyball team and they have a small but committed group who have shown improvement every game this year culminating with a big win recently over MacNeill. Ex-student, Megan Tolentino, coaches our grade 9 girls' volleyball team. The grade 9's have had some great results this year including a 2 to 0 win over MacNeill. The senior girls' team is once again being coached by ex-student Connie Chan and with only three grade 12's on the team the girls are showing great improvement every game. The girls are hoping to peak at the right time when they start their playoffs. Lastly, for the first time in 4 years Palmer has fielded a senior boys' soccer team. The team is very young with only 2 grade 12's and have had some positive results this year losing a close 3 to 2 decision to MacNeill and beating Cambie 1 to 0. Big thanks to Mr. Dhari for coaching the team and to ex-student Pavel Yim for helping out. We would also like to thank our teacher sponsors who have helped out at various games: Ms. Epp, Mr. Strachan, Mr. Mezzarobba, and Ms. Brach

PALMER GRIFFINS ATHLETES OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER

Sage Bell	Sr. Boys Soccer
Isabelle Chung	Sr. Girls Volleyball
Haruhi Asada	Gr. 9 Girls Volleyball
Tala Seydoun	G r. 8 Girls Volleyball

Palmer 2017-2018 YEARBOOK

Best price of the year! Buy your yearbook before November 11th and save \$5 because the price will then go up to \$50! On December 22nd, the price goes up AGAIN to \$55- and will remain at that price until we sell out, and we always sell out! Don't be the only one without one in June when we celebrate the year in events and pictures! Purchase your yearbook NOW! Visit Jostens.com or Ms. Misyankin to get your copy today!

Leadership students attend workshop series - Showing Success: Titans of Business, Pillars Of the Community.

The Palmer leadership 11 class participated in a business networking event organized by Richmond Chamber of Commerce that hosted many entrepreneurs, multiple business representatives and students from other Richmond schools. This event gave a chance for young entrepreneurs to socialize with over 200 other attendees. Please see the article written by one of the leadership students on our [website](#) for more information on this interesting event.

Walk for Reconciliation

Please see our [website](#) for a firsthand account describing the impact of attending this event from one of Palmer's students.

Richmond Autism Resource Fair

The Richmond Autism Resource Fair is being held at McMath Secondary School on November 18th from 9am to 1pm – this is a free event but registration is required – please see further details on our [website](#).

New York New York

The New York trip has been moved to the May long weekend. This gives us more time for fundraising and better weather once we get there. It also means we get to go to the Met's annual fashion exhibit!



We still have room on this amazing trip for **three more boys** and **three more girls**, so please get in touch with Ms. Hay ASAP if you want to be part of the NYC2018 experience!

Grade 8 Day/PRIDE Rally

On September 15th 2017, Palmer held its Grade 8 Day – a day dedicated to welcoming the newest members of the Palmer community, setting the stage for the succeeding year. The leadership class recognizes that the change to high school can oftentimes hold apprehension, fear, and uncertainty. Accompanying these conflicting emotions is silent curiosity and excitement for what high school means and will encompass. Grade 8 Day seeks to nurture the interests of our youngest population and help to illustrate all aspects of Palmer life. Please see the [website](#) for more information and photos.

Student Medical Verification Forms

All students should have returned their student medical verification form after it has been reviewed, completed, and signed. It is very important that this information be accurate and up to date in case of an emergency. If this has not been handed in, please forward to the office as a matter of urgency.

Extended Winter Holiday?

Are you wondering if it is a good idea to take a vacation around the Christmas Holidays? It is **not** advisable to take extended vacations around the Christmas/Winter break. It is difficult for students to make up missed assignments, and most times teachers are not able to provide instruction for students to take and work on during their absence.

Student Drop-Off & Pick-Up

The Palmer parking lot is very busy before and after school with parents dropping off/picking up their children.

Parents are reminded that the student drop off location is in the front round-about in the school. Parents should not be entering the north parking lot or driving down the south side of the school, as many students are walking in these areas. Parents are also strongly encouraged to drop their kids off at an alternate location away from the school and have their children walk to the school to avoid the congestion.

Collaboration Time and Professional Development

Our Collaboration and Professional Development days this year have continued to focus on the new curriculum and assessment. Teachers have met together in departments and in large groups to work together to implement the new grade 8 & 9 curriculum that began last year. As well, staff is currently investigating the draft curriculum for grade 10 to 12. For more information on these topics see: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>

The goal in all of these teacher collaborative discussions is effective instruction and stimulating and engaging all learners in the classroom. Our September 22nd Pro-D day focused on the “Big Ideas” of the new curriculum, as well as “empathy” at it applies the core competency of Social Responsibility and our Palmer’s school focus.

School Focus

Using an Inquiry process, our staff has identified an area of focus for this school year: “Students will become more empathetic and socially responsible students”. Please visit our website (*Our School Story* tab) to share our journey of inquiry which had us gathering information from staff, our PAC and our students in a variety of forums throughout the 2017-2018 school year.

Request for Parent Email Addresses

We would like to request that parents provide their email addresses to the school if they have not already done so. We use email to send home important notices and to notify you if your child was absent from school. Also, if parents have changed their email addresses recently, please make sure you notify the school. You can send your email addresses to us at: palmer@sd38.bc.ca

Helpful Websites

Palmer Web Site	http://palmer.sd38.bc.ca/
Career Centre	http://public.sd38.bc.ca/~ccnews/
R.C. Palmer Library	http://public.sd38.bc.ca/~palmerlib/
Richmond School District	www.sd38.bc.ca/
Ministry of Education	www.gov.bc.ca/bced/
BC Coalition of PACS	www.bccpac.bc.ca/
R.C. Palmer Email:	palmer@sd38.bc.ca

Palmer November 2017 Career Centre Newsletter

Grade 10-12 students and their parents, please visit the Career Centre District Website for post-secondary updates, events, volunteer opportunities and scholarship information: <http://sd38careercentre.weebly.com/calendar.html> and Ms. Mayer's Career Centre facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ms-Mayer-Career-Centre/333673583360594>

Students are encouraged to visit the Career Centre Bulletin Boards to see the latest information regarding scholarships, post-secondary events and interesting opportunities and volunteering.

Deadlines:

Dec. 1/17 – UBC Early admission deadline and Centennial Scholars

Jan 15/18 - UBC final application deadline

Jan 15/18 - Emily Carr applications + documents deadline

Grade 12 Information:

NEW:

*Grade 12 students should check now that they have the **NEW BCeID BC Government Account set up in order to fill in the Student Transcript Service Permission Form (STS)** to give permission to the Ministry of Education to release your marks to the post-secondary institutions you are applying to! You need your PEN and your legal name. Go to: <http://www.StudentTranscripts.gov.bc.ca> to initiate your new account. From the Student's STS Dashboard, students can make post-secondary institution selections, view transcripts, view assessment results, and send transcripts immediately, or in the future.

*Application to BC public universities and colleges has also been updated, so students can now apply to all institutions via: <http://www.educationplannerBC.ca> On this site students can search, plan and apply.

Finalize your BC university applications. Complete **application packages to out-of-province universities.**

Many **university scholarship deadlines** are fast approaching.

A reminder for grade twelve students to be sure to visit post-secondary email accounts and websites for application details, updates and deadlines.

See Ms. Mayer in the Career Centre if you have any questions.

Upcoming Events:

NOV 1/17 - KPU Applications Open – Many programs are first come first served for course registration.

NOV 7/17 – PALMER POST-SECONDARY DAY MINI FAIR– 1:40 – 3:15

Grade 11 and 12 students will be called down to attend a Post-secondary Mini Fair in the Lounge to interact with 14 BC post-secondary schools, to pick up information, and to have questions answered. Don't miss this valuable opportunity to help plan for life after high school.

NOV 15/17 - BCIT BIG INFO NIGHT! OPEN HOUSE 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm Learn about BCIT's 300 + programs - from Engineering to Computer Studies to Trades to Nursing and more.

<https://commons.bcit.ca/biginfo/>

Nov 17/17 – (Sat 10-4pm) UBC Applied Science Open House

Students and families are invited to meet with professors, staff, and students who can help you decide whether UBC Applied Science (Engineering) is right for you. There'll be demonstrations, lab tours, and informative presentations. Talk to advisors, professors and current students about all your options. Details and to register: <https://apsc.ubc.ca/openhouse>

NOV 18/17- McGill Prospective Student ~ Vancouver Information Session 2017

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. York House School, 4176 Alexandra St., Vancouver

To register: <https://mcgillinmind.mcgill.ca/mcgill/events/eventRegistration.do?eventRegistrationAction=view>

NOV 24/17 Discovery Day - KPU Richmond

Spend your Pro-D Day (from 10am until 2pm) at KPU Richmond, engaging in interactive activities designed to help you find the educational path that's right for you. Attend a mock class, take a campus tour, and speak with current students, faculty, and advisors for inside tips. <http://www.kpu.ca/discovery-day-2017>

NOV 25/17 - BOSA CENTRE FOR FILM & ANIMATION OPEN HOUSE AT CAPILANO UNIVERSITY, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Bosa Centre for Film & Animation, Capilano University
For more information...email: film@capilanou.ca phone: 604.990.7868 <http://www.capilanou.ca/smpa/>

DEC 2/17 - National Portfolio Day hosted at Emily Carr University. 11am – 3 pm.

For students who wish to pursue an education in the visual and related arts can meet with representatives from Canadian colleges accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. Representatives will be available to review artwork, discuss programs. For details see:

<http://www.portfolioday.net/portfolio-day-faqs/2-portfolio-day-faqs>

<http://www.ecuad.ca/calendar/national-portfolio-day-vancouver-bc-saturday-december-2nd-2017>

Grade 10 – 12 Information:

Nov 9/17 – application deadline for - NOV 16/17 or FEB 21/18 **Youth Train in Trades Workshops (Plumbing or Professional Cook)**

The Career Programs Office is offering the 'Education on Action' series in 2017/18. Experience a morning in the SD38 'Youth Train in Trades' Professional Cook Program or the Plumbing Program. Acquire practical hands-on skills. These workshops are open to Grade 8 - 12 students. Limited seats ...available. To register for one of the workshops, contact Ms. Mah at: sumah@sd38.bc.ca or 604-668-6000 ext 3766.

<http://careerprograms.sd38.bc.ca/.../education-action-ace-it-...>

<http://careerprograms.sd38.bc.ca/about-us/forms-flyers>

Interested in exploring Careers? The Richmond School District offers students free access to the internet-based career exploration & education planning **Career Cruising** website. Students can use the career matching assessment tools for career option ideas. Career Cruising will help you build self-awareness, explore career options, create a plan and make it real. You need to set up an account. See Ms. Mayer in the Career Centre with questions and for the school password. <https://public.careercruising.com/en/>

Marika Mayer

Career Information Advisor

AR MacNeill Secondary School,

6611 No. 4 Rd. Richmond BC V6Y 2T2 604 668-6212(Tues, alt. Wed & Fri)

RC Palmer Secondary School,

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Visit me on FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ms-Mayer-Career-Centre/333673583360594>