



Palmer Secondary
8160 St. Albans Rd. Richmond, BC V6Y 2K9
Ph. 604.668.6288 Fax 604.668.6488 Email: palmer@sd38.bc.ca
School Homepage: <http://palmer.sd38.bc.ca/> Twitter: @PalmerSecondary

Palmer News ~ December 2017



Happy Holidays!

The staff at Palmer wish you all a wonderful Winter holiday. We hope you find time to relax and enjoy time spent with your family and friends. We will see our students back at Palmer on Monday, January 8th.

Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

All parents are invited to our next PAC meeting on Tuesday, January 9th 2018 at 7:00pm in the staff room. Minutes of PAC meetings are posted on the Palmer website. [Parent Advisory Council | Palmer Secondary School](#)

Yearbook 2017-2018

Looking for the perfect Christmas Present for your favorite Griffin? Fabulous pictures and priceless memories. Don't miss out, we sell out every year! Please see the Business Assistant!

Open House: Spotlight on Palmer January 18th



The staff and students of Palmer invite you to sample a bit of why we love to work and learn here. This special evening has been designed to give you a small taste of some of the wonderful things that are happening at our school. So take some time and see the displays, presentations, and entertainment. Feel free to ask questions and participate. Above all, enjoy sharing in our Palmer Pride!

The time line for the evening is:

6:30pm	Grade 7 Parent information Session
7:00pm	Spotlight Begins
7:30pm	Incentive/Pre-Advanced Placement Information Session

Palmer Library

The winter holiday is a perfect time to catch up on some reading! To learn about some of the new and upcoming arrivals and to plan your next pick, remember to visit the Palmer Library [website](#). It is a fantastic resource for information about digital and media literacy (among other topics) and make sure you check out the Book Review page (<https://palmerlibraryreviews.edublogs.org>) where we have book reviews by, and for, staff and students.

Griffins That Give

The hard working volunteers of Griffins that Give have been busy this season helping out in the local community, once again. The club members have assisted at various venues and some of their favourite opportunities, this season, are being highlighted in our newsletter. Palmer students volunteered as waiters and cooks at various Breakfast with Santa events all over Richmond. Griffins that Give members also participated in the Christmas Craft Fair held at the Steveston Community Centre. Students were also able to help organize the Winter Hayrides, which were also held at the Steveston Community Centre. Some of our more dedicated volunteers have willingly signed up to help out at Winter day camps during the break. Griffins that Give members believe in volunteering even when school is out! What a wonderful way to show Palmer Pride! In addition to providing volunteer opportunities within the local community, Griffins that Give is now also providing members with long term volunteer opportunities, which can be used to expand students' resumes. The wide variety of such opportunities include youth leadership groups that seeks to solve widespread problems in the community, positions at community centers, and many more. These are powerful opportunities for your son/daughter to make connections in the community, which will help develop workplace skills. The club meets every Wednesday in Mrs. Calaciura's room. New students are always encouraged to attend.

Dates to Remember

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

Winter Music Concert

The students gave a wonderful performance on Wednesday, November 29th. They performed for their peers in the afternoon and for family and friends in the evening. It is clear the students have been working hard at developing their skills! Thank you to the parents for supporting this at home.

Germany Spring 2019

Mr. Ferguson is again planning a trip for students to visit Germany in the Spring of 2019. This trip is open for students currently in Grades 9, 10 and 11. This is an excellent opportunity for students to visit locations which figure predominantly in Social Studies 11 and History 12. For more information, please contact Mr. Ferguson at the school.

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. Many students are having to sign in late because they are caught in a traffic jam trying to get into our parking lot. Thank you with your help with this.

Collaboration Time and Professional Development

Our teacher Collaboration and Professional Development days this year have included topics connected to the new curriculum. Teachers have met together in departments and in large groups to continue investigating and planning for the new grade 10-12 curriculum that will begin implementation in September 2018. The goal in all of these teacher collaborative discussions is effective instruction and stimulating and engaging all learners in the classroom. The assessment of the Core Competencies (Communication, Creative Thinking and Personal & Social) and student self-assessment are a new collaboration topic for this year.

For more information of these topics see: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>

Grad News

The grads had a very successful Winter Formal this past November. In early February we will be asking all grads attending the commencement ceremony for their approximate height to facilitate us in the ordering of the grad gowns for Valedictory. Our ceremony is not until June but our planning starts early! The grad committee will shortly be working on a Spring Grad Event so stay tuned for updates!

Dry Grad Committee

Our parent committee would love to have more parents join them. Please email drygrad2018@hotmail.com if you are interested in helping out in any way. Also, check our web site for updates.

We hope you all have some wonderful time with family and friends over the Winter Break. We will see all of our students again on Monday January 8th 2018.

Helpful Websites

Palmer Web Site	http://palmer.sd38.bc.ca/
Career Centre	http://public.sd38.bc.ca/~ccnews/
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 Career Centre Newsletter – Dec. 2017

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 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 what the latest with scholarships, post-secondary events and interesting opportunities and volunteering.

Deadlines:

Jan 15/18 – UBC final application deadline

Jan 15/18 - Emily Carr applications and documents deadline

Jan 12/18 – UToronto early application deadline

Feb 28/17 – SFU Application deadline

Feb 28/17 – UVic Application Deadline

Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines: –see the Career Centre Website for more opportunities! For scholarships requiring in-school nomination see your in-school Scholarship Representative well in advance of the in-school deadline.

Dec 22/17 - French for the Future National Essay Contest <https://www.french-future.org/programs/essay-contest/>

Jan 5/18- BCIT Entrance Awards 2017-2018 www.bcit.ca/finaid/awards/entranceawards.shtm

Jan 12/18 - BC Excellence Scholarships **in-school deadline** for nomination consideration

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/provincial-scholarships/bc-excellence-scholarships>

Jan 15/18 - Langara Social Service Worker Info Session <https://langara.ca/programs-and-courses/programs/social-service/information-sessions.html>

Jan 16/18 - KPU Tech Campus Tour. Info: 604.598.6011 Register at: <http://www.kpu.ca/trades/program-expo>

Jan 18/18 – Port of Vancouver Leadership Opportunity Presentation for Gr. 10 & 11's.

Jan 19/18 - Cmolik Foundation Scholarship In-School Deadline <http://www.thecmolikfoundation.com/scholarship-criteria-policies>

Jan 31/18 - The David C. Lam/BC TEAL ELL Scholarship deadline <https://www.bctéal.org/tcf/awards-scholarships/david-c-lam-bc-teal-esl-scholarships/>

Feb 17/18 Explore UVic for Students (and parents) in grade 11 and 12 <https://www.uvic.ca/future-students/undergraduate/events/explore/index.php>

Feb 25/18 Study and Go Abroad Fair Spring 2018 Vancouver <http://www.studyandgoabroad.com/vancouver/>

Grade 12 Information:

NEW! Students Transcripts Service (STS). Please note that the PSI "Choices" form is no longer available and has been replaced by the Students Transcripts Service (STS). Students need their PEN number to register.

The Ministry of Education has just launched the *Student Transcripts Service* (STS), a new online application for students to view their marks, scholarships and transcripts, and send transcripts to post-secondary institutions and third parties. To access the service, visit the Ministry of Education's *Order Transcripts and Certificates* website at www.StudentTranscripts.gov.bc.ca and follow the instructions found there.

To Do:

- Finalize your BC university applications.

- Complete application packages to out-of-province universities.

- 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.

Grade 10 – 12 Information:

Are you 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/>