



## Palmer Secondary

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## Palmer News ~ Spring 2018

It has been very busy at Palmer since Winter Break. Our open house, "Spotlight" was a great success. It was wonderful to see our future grade 8s and their families out for the evening. The leadership and energy of our student leaders was wonderful to see. Please remember to check our website to stay current on the various events happening at Palmer. As well, check out the stories and links below to discover what has been keeping your kids busy this term!

We are very excited to announce that after Spring Break Anne Gillre-Carre will be joining our administrative team as Vice Principal. She has been an administrator in our district for many years and brings a wealth of experience to the role.

We hope all of our students and families have a relaxing and enjoyable Spring Break. See you on Tuesday April 3rd!



### Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)

All parents are invited to our next PAC meeting on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the staff room. Minutes of PAC meetings are posted on the Palmer website. [2017-2018 PAC Minutes | Palmer Secondary School](#)

### Grad News

Our next grad event is the Boat Cruise on April 26<sup>th</sup>. More information about ticket sales will be announced at school, as we get closer to the event date. We have started to get organized for our Valedictory Ceremony which is at the Bethany Church on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Our gown orders for students will be placed by the end of March. Students should have emailed the school their returned forms (with height for gown order) or dropped them off at the office. Each student will receive 2 tickets to Valedictory (students do not need one) with extra tickets going on sale in late May. Again, more information will be shared in May. Make sure your son or daughter has given the office their email address as we have been using email, announcements and assemblies to update Grads on important deadlines.

Hopefully you also received the Grad Survey that went out in February via email. While this is for your son/daughter to complete, it will provide you with some information about grad events occurring between now and the end of June.

### Palmer Scholarships

Applications for Palmer Scholarships will be posted on our website on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please complete the application and submit it by Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### Numeracy Assessment

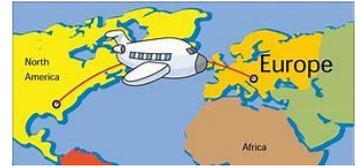
As you may be aware, students no longer write a provincial exam for Math. Beginning this year, Palmer students in grade 10 and 11 will complete a *Graduation Numeracy Assessment*. Unlike previous provincial exams, the Numeracy Assessment is not linked to a specific course. Its intent is to evaluate numeracy skills developed over the span of a student's education. Results will be based on a four-point proficiency scale and appear on a students' transcripts. For more information, view the Ministry of education's web site at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>

### Student Learning Surveys 2017

The Provincial Student Learning Survey, formerly call the Satisfaction Survey, is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. The survey will be administered to students in grades 10 and 12, and offered to their parents, and school staff. We encourage parents to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. Logon numbers are not necessary for accessing the survey this year. Parents can complete the survey by going to the website: [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey/access.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm). In the electronic survey system, forms for parents are available in English, French and 16 other languages. The survey closes this year on April 27, 2018.

### **2019 Europe Trip**

The organizers of the RC Palmer Educational visit to Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic in March of 2019 are still looking to fill a couple of spots. The trip is open to any Palmer student currently in Grades 10 and 11 and will last twelve days. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to travel and learn about other cultures. If you would like more information, or would like to join the students already committed to going, please contact Mrs. Hay or Mr. Ferguson at the school.



### **Footloose 2018!**

Friday, February 16 marked the day commemorating months and months of hardwork entwined with blood, sweat, tears and injuries. RC Palmer Dance Squad hosted its 12th Annual Hip Hop Dance Competition, FOOTLOOSE. This year's competition featured 33 dance teams from all over BC (we even had a team all the way from Armstrong!), 4 showcase performances, 6 professional industry judges, a freestyle competition and a packed gym! The energy and buzz that was in the air was nothing short of electrifying. As each dance team took to the stage, the audience was left mesmerized by the amount of hard work, talent and passion that flowed. Many Palmer Alumni were present to volunteer in the form of emcees, hype crew, sound technicians, photographers, etc. A huge thank you to all the Palmer Staff, Alumni, judges (Angela Lowndes, Toni Shenfield, Cezar Tantoco, Jeremy Delos Santos, Roberta Bierman and Jane Marlinga), First Aid attendants from St. John Ambulance and showcase performers (A3 District Ryderz, DIME from Fresh Grove studios and UBC's Project U&G) for their time and dedication to the success of this event and Trustee Ken Hamaguchi, Eric Yung and Debbie Tablotney and Assistant Superintendent Wendy Lim for representing the Richmond Board of Education. And last, but not least, a huge thank you to all the competing teams, their sponsor teachers, friends and families for attending. We look forward to having you at Footloose 2019 on February 22! For more information, check out our Facebook group page: RC Palmer Footloose.

### **Grade 8 Day Part II**

See how the Leadership Palmer students worked with our Grade 8's – click on the link to our [website](#)!

### **Palmer success at MathChallengers 2018 Competition at SFU**

On February 17th, Palmer's Junior Math teams competed at the 2018 Lower Mainland Regional MathChallengers tournament at Simon Fraser University atop snowy Burnaby Mountain. It was a very successful day, as our Grade 9 team came in first, and our Grade 10 team came in second in their respective pools. Thus, both teams qualify for the provincial finals at UBC in April. Meanwhile, our Grade 8 team is waiting to hear if it will qualify for a wildcard spot. Please visit our [website](#) for more details!

### **Athletics Update**

Click on the [link](#) to get an update on our Basketball Team's progress!

### **Griffins that Give**

The hardworking 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. Many Palmer students are volunteering at the annual Children's Festival on Granville Island as well as at Richmond Nature Park as Nature Detectives. Griffins that Give members are also participating in the Easter Eggstravaganza held at the Thompson Community Center. Members also participate in fundraising for Jeans Day to provide critical support to the programs and services provided by BC Children's Hospital benefiting children all across the province. Some of our more dedicated volunteers have willingly signed up to help out at spring break day camps at various community centers. 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 such as the Port of Vancouver and the Richmond Youth Foundation. 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.

### **Dry Grad Fundraising**

Dry Grad will be holding a number of fundraisers – One of our major fundraisers is a 'Dueck on Marine' UDrive on April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2:30-6:30pm from which the school makes \$20 per test drive! Please keep checking the school website for further information and registration details! Sign up and support this fantastic cause!

### **Palmer's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Fair**

Richmond District's longest running and largest Science Fair highlighted an amazing number of experiments and innovations. The fair is designed to get students doing hands-on experimental science and research as well as set their imagination loose. This year featured quite a large number of innovation and products. Please see the [website](#) for much more information and photographs.

### **Program Planning**

During the month of February, counsellors are meeting with students regarding course selections for next year. Students in grades 9 and 10 have attended an assembly designed by our counselling team and have had an opportunity to ask questions about program planning. Grade 11 students will meet with counsellors in smaller groups to allow for more questions and answers regarding their grade 12 year. All students from grade 9-11 are also able to book an appointment with their counsellor for individual help with this process. By the time you receive this newsletter you should have seen and signed your child's form.

## **Collaboration Time and Professional Development**

Our teacher Collaboration and Professional Development days this year have included topics connected to the new curriculum and to our school focus, "Students will become more empathetic and socially responsible citizens". Teachers have met together in departments and in small groups to continue investigating the integration of core competencies into their curricular areas. 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 continue to be a main collaboration topic for this year. Our Professional development in January and February focused on the core competencies of Social Responsibility and Positive Personal and Cultural Identity.

## **Dates to Remember**

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

## **Helpful Websites**

Palmer Web Site	<a href="http://palmer.sd38.bc.ca/">http://palmer.sd38.bc.ca/</a>
Career Centre	<a href="http://sd38careercentre.weebly.com">http://sd38careercentre.weebly.com</a>
Richmond School District	<a href="http://www.sd38.bc.ca/">www.sd38.bc.ca/</a>
Ministry of Education	<a href="http://www.gov.bc.ca/bced/">www.gov.bc.ca/bced/</a>
BC Coalition of PACS	<a href="http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/">www.bccpac.bc.ca/</a>
R.C. Palmer Email:	<a href="mailto:palmer@sd38.bc.ca">palmer@sd38.bc.ca</a>

## **CAREER CENTRE NEWSLETTER**

**District Career Centre Website** - provides weekly updates on post-secondary, career and scholarship information:

<http://sd38careercentre.weebly.com> See the calendar tab for an overview of events, scholarship and university deadlines.

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

**For details of other upcoming events including scholarship opportunities visit Ms. Mayer Career Centre Facebook**

**Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ms-Mayer-Career-Centre/333673583360594>

**Career Cruising Website:** <http://www.careercruising.com>

Visit the Career Cruising website to take an 'interest test' (Matchmaker section). Career Cruising provides detailed information on a variety of occupations and will link these occupations to training or educational facilities in Canada and the USA. See your Career Advisor for the username and password.

**Post Secondary Planning:** [www.educationplanner.ca](http://www.educationplanner.ca)

## **GRADE 12's:**

**Students should be in the process of finalizing their Post-Secondary applications as many deadlines are fast approaching:**

**UBC** - Although UBC's **deadline to apply** was Jan 15/18, they are still accepting applications for certain programs. However, they could close at any time so apply as soon as possible. Visit website for details: [https://account.you.ubc.ca/ubc/apply/apply\\_now.ez](https://account.you.ubc.ca/ubc/apply/apply_now.ez)

-**Deadline to submit IELTS or TOEFL** scores, March 15

-**Self-reporting** - Mid March – April. March 5 – April 13 (extended for those who receive an April report card.)

-**Deadline to complete on-line courses** to be used in the calculation of admission, Feb 1

## **Emily Carr - Closed**

**SFU deadline to apply** - Feb 28

-**Self-reporting**, Dec 15 – Apr 30

-**Deadline to complete on-line courses** to be used in the calculation of admission, April 30

**UVIC deadline to apply** - Feb 28

-**Self-reporting**, Feb 15 - Mar 31

-**Deadline to complete on-line courses** to be used in the calculation of admission, May 1

**Kwantlen** early application deadline - March 1/18

**Capilano** Arts/Science/Business application deadline – March 1/18

**Douglas, Langara, Kwantlen, BCIT and VCC** are **still accepting** applications but many programs fill-up on a first-come first-serve basis so the earlier you apply the better.

**BC students applying to out-of-province, out-of-country universities** should be **completing or have completed** their application, as many deadlines have already passed.

**Document Deadlines:** Many universities and colleges require additional information such as transcripts or supplemental applications or profiles. This is called "Document Deadline". This is separate from the application deadline and varies depending on the institution. Note – in many cases these deadlines are final.

**Offers of Admission:**

Grade 12 students who have applied to a university/college for entry in Sept. are reminded to regularly check the institution's secured student service (student account) website/portal for new messages. Many sites require students to use the Identification Number that was noted on their confirmation letter along with a password. These sites contain important details regarding: transcript submission, self-reporting, admission offers, course pre-requisites, registration, deadline dates, contact information, grades, etc.

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

The Ministry of Education has just launched the *StudentTranscripts 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](http://www.StudentTranscripts.gov.bc.ca) and follow the instructions found there.

1. Register for a BCeID (a BC Government account that provides you with access to B.C. Government online services)
2. Register for the StudentTranscript Service using your BCeID
3. Log in to your StudentTranscripts Service using your BCeID.
4. Follow the steps in order to have transcripts sent electronically to post-secondary institutions.

\*Note: Some Post-Secondary institutions may require your grade information earlier than available through this process. Ensure you are familiar with each institution's requirements regarding grade submission. **Questions/concerns regarding ordering your official documents** - mail: [studenttranscripts@gov.bc.ca](mailto:studenttranscripts@gov.bc.ca)

Be sure to include your name, birth date, Personal Education Number (PEN).

**Register to write the TOEFL/IELTS and/or the LPI** if you are required to do so. Contact the Career Centre or the individual post-secondary institutions you are applying to for requirements and exemptions. *Note many institutions have specific deadlines for these test results to be received.*

The Richmond Community Foundation Scholarships for Richmond Students

**MAR 12/18** – The Richmond Community Foundation Scholarships for Richmond Students – Application Deadline. These funds are from donations that members of our community have given to ensure that young people age 16 to 21 are supported as they pursue their post-secondary education. Scholarships are available to students who are entering any accredited post-secondary institution (trades and private institutions included), after high school, as well as those who have taken a year off before beginning their post-secondary studies.

*Derek Dang and Dr. Margaret Leung Scholarship* – Any Post-Secondary pursuit, including Academic, Vocational, and Apprenticeship Programs

*Etta Demerse Scholarship* – UBC, SFU, or Kwantlen – – this funder often gives preference to those who indicate they are entering nursing or other medical support careers

*Kronier Family Scholarship* – Community Involvement, any Post-Secondary pursuit, including Vocational and Apprenticeship Programs – this funder gives preference to students who demonstrate financial need

*Richmond Community Foundation Scholarship* – Community Involvement

*Richmond Sunset Rotary Art Scholarship* – Visual or Performing Arts

*Michael Diston Memorial Scholarship* – Fine Arts, General Arts (History, Social Sciences, Humanities), Apprenticeship Programs; Steveston-London Students Given Preference. Fine Arts, General Arts (History, Social Sciences, Humanities), Trades Apprenticeship Programs

*RichCity Idol Scholarship* – Performing Arts

*Phyllis Taylor Scholarship* – Students of British, Scottish or Irish Descent and who have musical and performing arts talent; these two determinants must be demonstrated by an additional reference letter for each attribute

*Thompson Community Association Phil Brown Memorial Scholarships*-The Thompson Community Association provides annual Phil Brown Memorial scholarship(s) to one or two students who demonstrate leadership and a commitment to volunteerism by service to the community. Watch for upcoming 2018 details and the application procedure specific to this award.

**One application to fill in for several scholarships. Applications available online at:** <http://www.rcrg.org/GrantsScholarships>

(Students must register with RCRG in order to fill out an application.)

**Reminders to Grade 11 Students:**

If you are planning to attend a USA post-secondary institution after graduation, it is a good idea to register for and to write your SAT admission exam during your Grade 11 year! This allows enough time to have your SAT scores ready for your Fall application. See the College Board website for registration details: <http://student.collegeboard.org/>

**Up-Coming Events:**

**Langara College Course Planning Sessions** - For new Arts and Science Transfer Applicants. Designed to help students understand university entrance requirements, as well as the requirements for faculties and majors. The Langara Counselling Department requires that new Arts and Science students attend a Course Planning Session before receiving individual assistance. See website for the next available session: <http://www.langara.bc.ca/student-services/counselling/workshops-info-sessions/course-planning-sessions.html>

## 2018-2019 Richmond School District Youth Train in Trades Program.

### Application Deadlines.

**First Deadline:** March 7/18 (application for Baking must meet this deadline)

**Second Deadline:** April 11/18.

The Career Programs Office offers students in Richmond School District with opportunities to explore a variety of career options while still in high school. Whether students decide to pursue college, university or work after high school, these options open doors and allow students to:

- move ahead in a chosen career path
- acquire skills relevant to today's labour market needs
- have flexibility and choice with respect to how, when and where learning takes place.

Students are invited to explore the Careers Program website to learn more about the various career development resources available to help determine "Your Future without Limits"!! <http://careerprograms.sd38.bc.ca/>. Questions about how to apply - see your Counsellor or Career Advisor now!

**MAR 1/18:** Explore Capilano Information Night: <https://www.capilano.ca/future/visit-cap/Explore-Capilano/>

**MAR 3/18** - UBC Engineering Outreach: Engineering Explorations 8 - Engineering Explorations events are an exciting opportunity for girls across BC to visit UBC Engineering and learn about engineering. Enjoy fun, hands-on activities led by current university students and meet inspiring mentors.

**MAR 8/18:** Langara Bachelor of Science in Nursing Information Session: <https://langara.ca/programs-and-courses/programs/nursing/information-sessions.html>

**MAR 19/18:** Langara **Social Service Worker Information Session:** <https://langara.ca/programs-and-courses/programs/social-service/information-sessions.html>

**MAR 8/18** - JIBC Law Enforcement Studies Information Session (New Westminster Campus: 7pm-8:30pm). Interested in a career in law enforcement and public safety? Make sure to attend the upcoming information session for the Law Enforcement Studies Diploma and the Bachelor of Law Enforcement Studies Programs at JIBC. Learn about the education, applied skills and specialized knowledge required to become a superior candidate in the recruiting process. Learn more and register at [www.jibc.ca/lesd](http://www.jibc.ca/lesd) Questions? Email [lesd@jibc.ca](mailto:lesd@jibc.ca)

**APR 20/18** - (Sunday) **US College Expo** 4-7 PM. Sheraton Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver. RSVP at: [uscollegeexpo.com](http://uscollegeexpo.com)

**UBC Sauder Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) Information Sessions and Building Tours** Designed to help prospective students, in grades 8-12, find the information they need about the UBC Bachelor of Commerce Program.

**MAR 20** 1:00pm – 2:30pm

**MAR 29:** 1:00pm – 2:30pm

**APR 27:** 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Find more information and register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/ubc-sauder-undergraduate-office-8557797163>

Marika Mayer

Career Information Advisor

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