



**SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT:**

‘Our classroom is the world...our students are world-class’

**September 29, 2009**

**PRINCIPAL**

Mr. D Michel

**VICE PRINCIPALS**

Mr. S. Oliver Mr. M. Palichuk

**SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMIN ASSISTANT**

Ms. D. Mason

**SECONDARY SCHOOL OFFICE ASSISTANTS**

Mrs. C. Gray Ms. J. May Ms. A. Tollefsen

**EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE SYSTEM COORDINATOR**

Mrs. D. Wolff

**COUNSELLORS**

Mrs. C. Pickering Mrs. S. Docherty

**IB COORDINATOR**

Miss L. Gibson

**ISP COORDINATOR**

Mrs. M. Hu

**ON THE HORIZON**

Sept 28-Oct 2 Grad Photos (grads make appt. at office)

Oct 9 **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY**

*(students do not attend)*

Oct 12 **THANKSGIVING DAY HOLIDAY**

Oct 14 Student Photo Retakes

PSAT 5 – 8 pm

Oct 16 Interim Report home with students

Thanksgiving Dinner for  
International Students

Oct 21 Parent/Teacher Interviews

*(Early Dismissal 12:40 pm)*

Oct 22 Grade 8 Wakeover

Oct 26 Student Council Spirit

Week begins

Oct 27 PAC Meeting 7 pm

October newsletter on website

Oct 28 Hallowe'en Dance 6-9:30 pm

Oct 29 ♪ Fall Music ♪ Concert 7 pm

Oct 30 ☆ Hallowe'en Drama Showcase ☆

Oct 31 Hallowe'en

**PRINCIPAL'S REMARKS**

**19 Provincial  
Scholarship Winners!**

Mountain Secondary students continue to be recognized for their academic achievement by earning \$1000 provincial scholarships – once again, the highest number ever at REMSS! Our congratulations are extended to the following students:

**Evan Birch, Vincent Clements, Ai Nie Gan,  
Brandon Gill, Michelle Holmes, Philip Koo,**

**Chloe Lawson, Grace Lee, Jinny Lee, Jun Lee, Jessica Mann, Alex Micu, Jessica Fricker, Narae Park, Tracy Pham, Gurinder Saroya, Joo Young Seo, Mary Shen and Hye Rim Shin**

**WELCOME BACK TO STAFF MEMBERS**

We are pleased to welcome back the following staff members from being on leave the previous year: **Carolyn Wust-Kenney** (PE/Careers), **Kirk Weiss** (En/SS/PE) and **Ben Li Cheng** (Custodian)

## **WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS**

It's with great pleasure that we welcome the following new staff members to R.E. Mountain Secondary School:

**Mike Palichuk** (VP), **Sue Docherty** (Counselor) **Zorka Kovacevic** (French/English), **Val Robinson** (English/ESL), **Jennifer Cornelson** (Math), **Barbara Cress** (Math), **Neena Bauck** (Science), **Lisa Lu** (Mandarin) **Dena Rodland** (Art), **Michelle Garland** (Interpreter/TA), **Carli Van Rossum** (Interpreter/TA)

## **MOUNTAIN CONTINUES TO GROW**

I'm pleased to report that our enrolment has grown again this year. We have registered almost 70 more students compared to last year. For the first time ever, our enrolment is coming very close to surpassing 1000 students. We currently have over 970 students registered at our school. We welcome our new students and the families that are now part of the school community.

## **NEW EVENTS CENTRE**

The Langley School District has partnered with the Township of Langley by providing dedicated gym and other recreational facilities for use by our school. The new facility is now available for our use. More information will be shared as we continue to discuss the need for future expansion of R.E. Mountain Secondary School.

## **CONGRATUATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS**

Congratulations to our students who have been recognized for outstanding achievement:

**Caitlin Mayo** competed in the World Skills Competition earlier this month. The event was held in Calgary and Caitlin came 6<sup>th</sup> in the Baking Competition. She also received a Medallion of Excellence award for this competition. **Julie Choi** and **Linh Phan** will continue being our school representatives on the Langley Youth Advisory Committee. Please let us know if your child has been recognized for outstanding achievement in the community.

## **SCHOOL PLAN**

All schools in the District participate in a school improvement process that involves developing a School Growth Plan. Our goals for the coming year are as follows:

### **Goal #1 Transitions – Grade to Grade**

To improve the pass rates and A/B rates in all courses and grades.

### **Goal #2 Transitions – Students to Post-Secondary (Planning Year)**

To improve the rate of students transitioning to Post-Secondary

Our School Planning Council will be meeting over the next few months to review the progress of these goals and to begin planning for next year's Growth Plan.

## **EARLY DISMISSAL ON FRIDAY**

Please note that the early dismissals at 2:00 p.m. on Friday do not mean less instructional time for students. Time has been added to our weekly schedule to accommodate the loss of time on Friday. The students are also becoming used to the weekly routine and the initial feedback from staff and students has been positive, as we have established a fixed timetable.

## **INTERIM REPORTS**

All Interim Reports will be sent home on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Interim reports are considered informal reports and teachers may or may not use this means of communicating academic progress to parents. However, parents should expect all Grade 8 students will receive interim reports in all subjects sent home on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. and from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please call the school to arrange for interviews between October 16<sup>th</sup> and before October 20<sup>th</sup>. Parents are reminded that students will be dismissed at 12:40 p.m. on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **TAKE YOUR KIDS TO WORK for GRADE 9 STUDENTS**

Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> is the date for the 2009 "Take our Kids to Work" program. On this day, grade 9 students across Canada will go to work with a parent, relative, or adult friend. Learning first-hand about work and career opportunities is an integral part of the curriculum. "Take Our Kids to Work" provides opportunities for our grade 9 students to:

- see their parents in a different role and understand what they do to support the family;
- enhance their understanding of specific jobs within a company-make links between school and work;

- see the realities and demands of the work place;
  - understand the importance of staying in school.
- Please speak to your employer now, and ask about taking your child to work on November 4<sup>th</sup>. If you cannot take your child, please try to make arrangements for him/her to go with a relative or an adult friend. It will be a great experience for both parties, parent and child. Details and "paperwork" will follow with your grade nine child. Students who are unable to participate will be expected to attend school that day unless the office has been notified of their absence.

Once again, these are exciting days at Mountain and we look forward to working with all members of the community as we strive to provide the best educational experiences for our students.

Sincerely,

Dave Michel  
Principal

### **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK-Grade 9's**

The annual Take Our Kids to Work day takes place on *Wednesday, November 4, 2009*. The objective of this day is to link classroom learning with the workplace and allow Grade 9's to see their parents/other adults in a workplace role. This job shadowing initiative allows the entire community to participate in the career development of Grade 9 students and supports the learning outcomes found in Health and Career Education 9. Grade 9 students are expected to participate. Consent forms will be sent home within the next 2 weeks.



### **Ultimate Dream Job Contest**

Public Grade 9 students are eligible to enter this contest. Grade 9 students must submit a photo representing their dream job along with a 25 word paragraph describing their dream job to the contest website. Great prizes! Contest ends Oct. 11/09. Contest information is found on the Take Our Kids to Work website [www.takeourkidstowork.ca/](http://www.takeourkidstowork.ca/)

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA YOUTH PARLIAMENT, 81<sup>ST</sup> PARLIAMENT**

The British Columbia Youth Parliament's 81st Parliament will be held in Victoria at the Provincial Legislative Chambers from December 27 to 31, 2009. The Youth Parliament is a province-wide non-partisan organization for young people ages 16 to 21. It teaches citizenship skills through participation in the parliamentary session in December and continuing involvement in community service activities throughout the year. **Youth Parliament is a one year commitment.**

Information is available from the Social Studies Department – application form, brochures and view a poster. More info can be found by visiting [www.bcyp.org/session](http://www.bcyp.org/session)

As the Youth Parliament is non-partisan, applicants need only be interested in learning more about the parliamentary process and in serving their community upon return from the Parliament. **Each school may nominate two applicants.**

**All application forms must be received by October 21, 2009.** Applicants will be notified whether they have been selected in early November.

### **SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER**

Cst. Vonna Fitzgerald is our School Liaison Officer. She is available to parents, staff and students on a drop-in or appointment basis.

### **STUDENT ABSENCE**

Parents can now take advantage of our 'absence line'. You can call in any time and leave the information on the absence line. Please call if your child is going to be away for the day, part of the day or tardy. 604-888-3033. Choose option 1. Please leave the date, name of student and reason for being absent.

### **HOMEWORK REQUESTS FOR STUDENTS ABSENCE**

School procedure is if a student is absent for 3 days or more, a homework request maybe put in to Student Services. Homework may then be picked up the *next day* at the office. If absent less than 3 days, the student should use the Homework Buddy List on page 12 of their Student Agenda to contact a fellow classmate.

## PARENT CONNECT

“Parent Connect” is R.E. Mountain’s web service that allows parents direct access to the information about their children’s course work, assignments, attendance and other information. If you are interested in accessing your child’s school information on-line, please contact Mr. Frank Flanagan by email at: [fflanagan@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:fflanagan@sd35.bc.ca)

## ATTENDANCE

### Student cannot attend the day?

Students are expected to be in attendance and on time for every scheduled class. If it is impossible to be in attendance due to illness, for example, the office must be informed by either a phone call or note from the parent or legal guardian first thing in the morning. Parents can also notify us by calling the school and leaving a message on the ‘absence line’.

### Student needs to leave school during the day?

Students leaving the school during the day should *bring a note to their teacher* to get out of class and then *bring the note to the office* to sign out before leaving the school.

### Students are late in the morning?

Students who are late should report directly to class, *unless* they have a note in which case they should report to the office to excuse their tardiness before going to their classroom

## REMINDER

If parents drop off a lunch or item for their student at the office counter, please make sure it has a name on it so we can ensure it is picked up.



## CALENDAR

Please refer to your ‘Home & School’ Calendar which was sent to each home in August, for important dates during the school year. You will notice a RED ZONE from January 18-22, 2010 and June 14-18, 2010. Red Zone weeks happen prior to final exams in January and June. The school makes a conscious effort not to schedule school events during this week to encourage students to prepare for final exams.

## SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to all parents who have paid their school fees. We remind students who have not paid yet to bring their school fees as soon as possible.

\$25 – student fee – this money assists the student’s council, supports sports and field trip transportation, as well as cultural presentations.  
\$5 – PAC fee – is used to support PAC activities such as booking guest speakers for PAC meetings, purchasing materials useful for parents, PAC sponsored scholarships for a R.E. Mountain Grad  
\$75 – GRAD FEE – for grade 12 students only. The grad fee helps with rental of the cap and gown, the convocation folder and other related grad activities.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO REMSS

### GRAD – Caitlin Mayo

The 40th annual World Skills competition, which this year was held in Calgary, hosted more than 900 competitors from 51 countries and regions competing in 45 skills that ranged from landscape design to fashion technology to aircraft mechanics. Competing with other young professionals from around the world, Caitlin Mayo (REMSS graduate) was awarded a Medallion of Excellence and the People's Choice Award in the Confectioner/Pastry Cook



category. Mayo earned a point score of more than 500 (out of a total possible 600).

Mayo, age 19, was required to create four types of hand-molded marzipan forms, a plated dessert from a mystery basket of ingredients, four varieties (40 pieces) of small cakes, and two small desserts from another mystery basket – one which had to be coated and decorated with sugar and the second which had to be a chocolate centerpiece. Mayo worked for about 22 hours over four days (in early September) on her culinary creations (pieces) of small cakes, and two small desserts from another mystery basket – one which had to be coated and decorated with sugar and the She was the first British Columbian to ever compete in her category...and it all started at REMSS followed by participation in the Langley School Districts Baking and Pastry Arts dual credit program based at VCC. Congratulations Caitlin!

# COMMUNITY

## TRANSLINK - COAST MOUNTAIN BUS

**Northbound** – Leaves Langley Centre (Liquidation World) approximately 7:34 a.m.  
Leaves Willowbrook Mall

approximately 7:39 am

Travels up 200<sup>th</sup> Street

approximately 7:40 am

Arrival time at school

approximately 7:49 am

**Southbound**- leaves Mountain Secondary

approximately 3:10 pm

Continues south on 202A and down 200<sup>th</sup> Street to Willowbrook Drive

Phone numbers for customer service

604-953-3333 604-953-3040

**Fares** – students are issued GO CARDS, which allows them a student fare on the bus.

## TUNING INTO YOUR TEENS

Soroptomist of the Langley's presents: Tuning Into Your Teens "Be Yourself, Everyone Else is Taken"

**WHEN:** Sat. Oct. 17, 9:00am - 3:30pm

**WHERE:** HD Stafford Middle School,  
20441 Grade Crescent, Langley

Pre-register online at: [tiotlangley@hotmail.com](mailto:tiotlangley@hotmail.com)  
or call Denise at 604-534-8644

Parents: \$10.00

Teens: Priceless!

Sessions include Meditation, Yoga, Belly Dancing, Finances, Career Choices, Eating Disorders, Fashion and Body Issues, Making Sense of Adolescence, Teen Dating Violence, Uniquely You, Parenting Your Teen Without Duct Tape



### Keep Active and Keep Strong

Back to school also means the start of organized activities and sports for many young people. Children and youth need to take care of their bodies in order for them to have fun and perform optimally physically and in school.

To help your child be at their best, provide support to:

- Keep well hydrated throughout the day - water is needed for many basic functions in our bodies
- Follow a healthy diet - Eat 3 meals and snacks every day, choosing

**N E W S**

foods from each of the 4 food groups

- For most children, there is no need to supplement any nutrients if a balanced diet is followed
- Make sure they get adequate sleep - school age kids need 8 – 10 hours per night
- Be smoke-free, talk to your children about the dangers of smoking and ensure their environment is smoke-free.
- Be active – it is recommended that children have at least 30 minutes of activity everyday
- Role model healthy behaviours – after all, you have the most influence over your child's health choices.

**Eat Well...Be Active...Live Tobacco Free.**



## 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL LANGLEY/ROTARY RUN

The Langley Rotary/Times Run is coming up fast - Sunday, September 27 at McLeod Park by LSS. The run or walk starts at 9 am. The Rotary and Times are raising money for our meal programs in the schools. We are hoping to get students and staff to participate. Lots of prizes. To register to run go to: [www.peninsularunners.com](http://www.peninsularunners.com) or get more info at school office.

## CARPOOL NEEDED

Parent of Grade 11 student interested in carpooling. Share ride/expense. From Yorkson area - 208 Street and 84 Avenue. If you would like to carpool call 604-513-9846 or 778-683-7257





Children's  
Health  
Information  
Learning and  
Development  
DAY

What is  
CHILD DAY?



A REGIONAL SERVICE TO PARENTS

Tuesday, October 6, 2009

9:00 am to 11:00 am

At Douglas Park Elementary School 5409 206 Street, Langley

All babies and pre-school children from Langley are invited.

Parents often have questions about their child's health, behaviour and development. **CHILD DAY enables families to drop-in during a morning and talk to community agency representatives. These are professionals who can help parents to answer important questions.** The event offers families an opportunity to gather information and resources that can help to support their child's early learning.

Young children from birth to Kindergarten learn and grow at their own pace. Children's early learning covers a wide range of skills in areas such as: speech and language, large and small muscle movement, problem solving, self-help and social and emotional development. At **CHILD DAY** you can find lots of information about all of these areas.

**No appointments are needed. Child minding, snacks, little toys are provided free.**

**Resource tables have information about children's:**

Emotions, feelings and behaviour  
Development  
Safety  
Speech and Language  
Kindergarten entry

Health  
Dental Health  
Nutrition  
Literacy  
Langley School's Ready Set Learn and PALS programs

**An Immunization Clinic is also provided; to book an appointment for this call Langley Public Health Unit 604-539-2900**

