



# Ranchero Elementary School



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August 28, 2019

Newsletter # 1

*Respect, Responsibility, Compassion, Honesty & Fun*

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## Principal's Message

Welcome back to another school year! We hope all have had a restful and relaxing summer break. We are looking forward to seeing all grade 1 – 8 students this Tuesday, September 3 at 8:05 am. A reminder that school will be dismissed at 11:00 am on this day and the buses will run 3 hours early. We welcome to Ranchero our Kindergarten students beginning Wednesday, September 4. If you are the parent or guardian of a Kindergarten student, you should have received a phone call or email or had a meeting with Ms. Cooper detailing the gradual entry schedule. All Kindergarten parents and guardians are invited to complete a short survey on Wednesday, September 4 at 8:10 am after dropping off their child.

We welcome to Ranchero new staff members Ms. Allen, Mrs. Skibbe, Mr. Kroeker and Mel Janzen. All three new teaching staff come with years' experience teaching. Mrs. Skibbe will be our new music teacher. She has previously taught music for many years in the Surry School District. Ms. Allen will be teaching Mrs. Seed's class on Monday and Wednesday and Mr. Kroeker will be teaching the division one grade 7/8 class with Mr. Cumming. Mel Janzen is our new Indigenous Support Worker. We welcome all of our new staff to Ranchero!

The first day of school is an exciting day for students, parents and staff and we want the year to get off to a great start. At this point, we do not have our classes finalized for this school year. We have had 21 new students register each class is at capacity. Current enrolment is 134 students. We have started a wait list for any new students.

On the first day of school, students will be returning to their classroom from the previous year. Students will line up out front of the school when the welcoming bell goes and staff will lead students to their last year classroom. New students to Ranchero will meet in the office. We hope to have all classes finalized on Tuesday, September 3 and all students in their 2019- 2020 classes after morning recess on Wednesday, September 4. For those parents and guardians who want to be at school on the first day, coffee and snacks will be available in the Library.

Thank you to all parents who provided input into their child's placement, we will take the information you have provided into account when finalizing our classes. A reminder that several factors are considered when class building and we appreciate your support from home with our final decisions.

Please remember, if you ever have any questions, concerns or just want to chat, feel free to give me a call, stop by the school or e-mail me at [dcumming@sd83.bc.ca](mailto:dcumming@sd83.bc.ca).

Sincerely,

*Doug Cumming*  
Principal

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## Staffing at Ranchero Elementary

The following is a list of current staff members who will be working with your children during the school year:

### Office Staff

Secretary  
Principal

Mrs. Kathy Schmidt  
Mr. Doug Cumming

### Teaching Staff

Grade 7/8 (Div. 1)	Mr. Kroeker & Mr. Doug Cumming
Grade 5/6 (Div. 2)	Mr. Barry MacKay
Grade 3/4/5 (Div. 3)	Mrs. Shannon Seed & Ms. Allen
Grade 2/3 (Div. 4)	Mr. Joel Mueller
Grade 1/2 (Div. 5)	Mrs. Jennifer Blair
Kindergarten / Grade 1 (Div. 6)	Ms. Teresa Cooper
Learning Resource Teacher	Mrs. Heather Montgomery
Teacher-Librarian	Mrs. Carole Fleetham
Speech Language Pathologist	Mrs. Megan Brooke
Music Teachers	Mrs. Skibbe

### Support Staff

Certified Education Assistant	Mrs. Donna Wray
Certified Education Assistant	Mrs. Janice Ross
Certified Education Assistant	Mrs. Jennifer Harper
Certified Education Assistant	Ms. Alyson Coubrough
Certified Education Assistant	Mrs. Morgan Wilson
Lunch Hour Supervisor	Mrs. Janice Ross
Lunch Hour Supervisor	Mrs. Donna Wray
Custodian	Ms. Mary-Lou Decelle
Area Counselor	Ms. Helen French
Indigenous Education Worker	Mel Janzen

## Regular School Hours

As required by the Ministry of Education grade eight students must receive a minimum of 318 minutes of instruction per day and students in grades K – 7 must receive a minimum of 293 minutes of instruction each day. The schedule below meets the minimum requirements.

We have adjusted our lunchtime this year to bring a greater balance to our morning and afternoon instructional minutes.

### Grade K – 6 Classes

8:02	Welcoming Bell
8:05	Classes Begin
9:34	Recess
9:49	Classes Resume
11:17	Eating Time, followed by Lunch Recess
12:02	Classes Resume
2:00	Dismissal

### Grade 7 and 8 class

8:02	Welcoming Bell
8:05	Classes Begin
9:30	Nutrition break in class
11:25	Eating time, followed by Lunch Recess
12:02	Classes Resume
2:05	Dismissal

## Email Communication with Families and School Webpage

As in past years, in an effort to increase communication between school and homes and reduce paper we will be emailing newsletters home to parents and guardians. **Please ensure that the office has an email address for your home and that your email address on file at the school is current.** If you do not have an email address, please let the office know and we will send home a paper copy with your child. The next newsletter will be emailed to all homes on Friday, September 6. Regular newsletters will be emailed home the first Monday of each month.

School events and activities will be posted to our school webpage. Please take time to save the website address in your favorites!

<https://ran.sd83.bc.ca/>

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### Important Dates

September 3 First day of school for grade 1 – 8 students -dismissal at 11:00 am  
September 4 First full day of school, Kindergarten students begin gradual entry  
September 4 CHEQ survey for Kindergarten parents at 8:10 am  
September 4 -13 Kindergarten students attend part days  
September 16 Kindergarten Students attend full day  
September 20 Non-Instructional Day - Students do not attend  
September 26 *Welcome Back BBQ – 5 pm*  
September 26 Terry Fox Run, more information home to follow on this  
September 30 Orange Shirt Day, more information home to follow on this

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### **Kindergarten Gradual Entry for September 2019**

Date	Start Time	End Time
Wednesday, September 4	8:05	9:55
Parent / Guardian CHEQ Survey	8:10	9:00
Thursday, September 5	8:05	9:55
Friday, September 6	8:05	9:55
Monday, September 9	8:05	11:35
Tuesday, September 10	8:05	11:35
Wednesday, September 11	8:05	11:35
Thursday, September 12	8:05	11:35
Friday, September 13	8:05	11:35
Monday, September 16	8:05	2:00

All parents and guardians are invited to complete a quick survey in the computer lab after dropping off their children for Kindergarten on Wednesday, September 4.

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