New Principal’s Message

During these difficult times, I extend my warmest greetings to all RHS students, families, alumni and members of our extended community. With the normal patterns of our world turned upside down by COVID-19, our teachers and staff have been working very hard to reconnect with students in new ways. All of our students are adjusting to changed daily rhythms, including communicating and learning online. Our teachers and staff are meeting digitally multiple times every week to ensure that we are supporting one another and, most importantly, are checking in with our students to see how they are doing. Our goal is to re-engage students with meaningful learning in this final term of the school year. Distance or online learning will never fully replicate the sense of community that comes from going to school, seeing friends, classmates and teachers, and we are sensitive to the upheaval that has occurred for parents and families during this pandemic. We believe our students and parents want learning to continue, but we do not want students to feel overwhelmed. If this is happening, we urge students and parents to reach out to their teachers, their counsellor, or to any member of our administrative team. We care and we are here to help.

On a personal note, it is an honour to serve this wonderful school as principal and I look forward to working closely with our students, staff, and parents now, and in the better times to come in the years ahead. I thank Mr. Allison for all he did to support the ongoing growth of Richmond Secondary School and share that he will remain connected to our school until July 1. I am also pleased to announce that Mr. Winograd has joined Mr. Blair and myself on our administrative team as acting vice principal until June 30.

Please continue to wash your hands regularly, practice physical distancing, stay home as much as possible, and as Dr. Bonnie Henry reminds us every day, be kind, be calm and stay safe.

Anita Kwon
Staying Connected with the Richmond Secondary School Community

Richmond Secondary School remains committed to communicating information to students and parents regularly during these challenging times. We are using email, the RHS website, and the school Twitter account to post regular messages from the school and from the Richmond School District. We are also aware that inboxes are fuller than ever, as teachers are also communicating regularly by email, the Scholantis Portal, Moodle, and other platforms. We appreciate your patience, but also encourage you to stay connected to the school. All teachers’ and administrators’ email addresses are posted on our school website under ABOUT US > Our Staff. We recommend that students and parents “subscribe” to our website by clicking on the subscribe link on the homepage as this ensures that every major news item posted is emailed directly to your inbox. The school also uses Twitter and Instagram regularly - see the links on our website home page and join over 2000 others and follow us! Finally, to keep our sense of RHS community strong, our school will create video messages from time to time to connect with our students and families. Please check out the first two entertaining RHS videos here:

Greetings from our principals: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58T8jziOx3E&feature=youtu.be

Greetings from RHS staff: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcsXHKSjcbw&feature=youtu.be

Helpful Links for Students and Parents
As students and parents are learning how to learn from home, we have created a new section on our RHS website where we have posted helpful information, tips, and links. The section is located on the top tab of our homepage entitled LEARNING AT HOME HELP. Under this main menu item are two sub-sections, one for parents and one for students. We will update these pages in the weeks ahead - and encourage students and parents to check it out.

Digital Student Leadership Conference
As our students explore a variety of new ways to learn and get connected with online communities, some may be interested in participating in an online student leadership conference. The Global Student Leadership Day conference planned for April has been adapted to an online conference. The event will be held on May 6-7 and will offer many excellent speakers and presenters, and best of all, it is free - students just need to register. Check it out at:

https://www.globalstudentleadershipday.com

Grad 2020 News
We are very aware that the disruption of school has been especially difficult for our Grade 12 students. All ten of the secondary schools in Richmond are working together with provincial health authorities and the District to discuss alternate graduation event plans. If any events need to be cancelled due to public health and physical distancing requirements, Grade 12s will be notified and families will receive refunds. We are going ahead with the selection of Valedictorian, Historian and all of our scholarships, and if we are able to organize adapted ceremonies, we will explore all options. In the meantime, we encourage our RHS grads of 2020 to complete their course work to the best of their ability and move forward with all of their post-secondary, and scholarship plans and applications. If grads have questions, they are encouraged to contact their teachers, their counsellor, or Ms. Jones at the school.

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Welcome Grade 7s – RHS Grads of 2025

We are looking forward to being able to meet and welcome next year’s Grade 8 students as soon as we are allowed to meet again! In the meantime, we will mail every Grade 7 student registered to attend RHS next year a welcome letter and a 17-page “Welcome to Richmond Secondary School” booklet. This little book will include a ton of helpful information about Richmond Secondary School, including a school map, and FAQs commonly asked by Grade 7s as well as information about Grade 8 Camp. Please be on the look-out for this in the mail arriving by the middle of May. If any Grade 7 family does not receive this by May 15, please phone the school office and we will get one to you.

RSS Alumni Association

All Richmond Secondary School graduates, former and current staff are invited to be active members of the RSS Alumni Association. To find out more about the Richmond High Alumni, Contact Alumni President

Beth McKenzie (Class of 1972) at rss.alumniassoc@gmail.com All RHS alumni can also stay in touch at: http://rhsalumni.weebly.com

The Alumni Association also publishes a newsletter once a year and you can read the April 2020 version online by clicking here.

Feeding SD38 Students in Need

The Richmond School District is continuing to support 250 students who were receiving breakfast or lunch support at school. Every Wednesday, these students are receiving a grocery bag of nutritious food support for them and their families. Anyone willing and able to support this program, are invited to donate money to buy food. Online donations can be made at:

https://www.sd38.bc.ca/Pages/feed-u-cate.aspx#/

Upcoming School Dates

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<th>Ramadan</th>
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<td>May 10</td>
<td>Mother’s Day</td>
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“Home of the Colts”
RHS CARES - We’re in this together

Stay Strong

Colts Stay Calm, Stay Safe, Stay Inspired

“Home of the Colts”