



RICHMOND SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HOME OF THE COLTS - ESTABLISHED IN 1927

Principal:	Ms. Anita Kwon	Address:	7171 Minoru Blvd, Richmond, BC, Canada V6Y 1Z3	
Vice Principals:	Mr. John Blair & Mr. Matt Winograd	Phone:	604-668-6400	Fax: 604-278-4734
PAC:	2 nd Wednesday at 6:30PM	Early Warning:	604-247-2658	
Trustee Liaison:	Mr. Norm Goldstein	Twitter & Instagram:	@richmondcolts	
		Website:	http://rhs.sd38.bc.ca	

Principal's Message

Welcome to 2020-2021 Colts!

I hope students found creative and safe ways to have some fun this summer and are looking forward to coming back to RHS. On behalf of all staff, I want to welcome our students and families to what will be a different year at Richmond Secondary. Although the pandemic continues to interrupt the normal patterns of our world including school as we know it, I am hopeful that it will be another very positive and rewarding year for all Colts students at Richmond Secondary School. In these challenging pandemic conditions, we will do all we can to support our students as we strive to develop responsible, caring, reflective, and resilient young people who are able to think and communicate effectively. Students remain the key partners in their learning and we encourage our pupils to look ahead and set realistic, specific goals, and develop an action plan to make their year successful – goals that include learning success and maintaining life balance. We urge all RHS families to stay connected to the school via our website and social media. This short, [back-to-school newsletter](#) contains key information to help our students get off to a great start to the school year. We remind students and parents to follow us on Twitter and Instagram and to bookmark and subscribe to the school website! We look forward to welcoming students on Thursday, September 10 and on Friday, September 11 at our Orientation Days - read details below.

Anita Kwon

Orientation Days – September 10 and September 11

All students will attend school for orientation on either September 10 or 11. (Note, Grade 8s will attend both days.). Students will receive their quarter schedule, learn more about our health and safety expectations for the year, as well as receive more information about this unique school year. Please bring a pen and maintain physical distancing!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:30 - 10:00 AM - Grade 9 Homeroom
 10:30 - 12:00 PM - Grade 10 Homeroom
 12:30 - 3:00 PM - Grade 8 Homeroom & Connections

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

8:30 - 10:00 AM - Grade 11 Homeroom
 10:00 AM - IB 11 Diploma & Course Student Meeting
 10:30 - 12:00 PM - Grade 12 Homeroom
 12:30 - 3:00 PM - Grade 8 Homeroom & Connections

HOMEROOM LISTS ARE POSTED ON THE SCHOOL WINDOWS BY THE ART ROOM OR CAN BE FOUND AT:

<https://rhs.sd38.bc.ca/sites/rhs.sd38.bc.ca/files/attachments/Sun%2C%202020-09-06%2020%3A23/Homeroom%20Assignments.pdf>

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RHS RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN – Quarter Term Dates & Bell Schedule

Richmond Secondary's *Return to School Plan* was sent to families last week. Click [here](#) to read the full plan in detail. We will be operating on a Quarter system where students will take 2 classes at any one time, in four 10-week terms.

Quarter 1 (Q1): September 14 – November 18

Quarter 3 (Q3): February 4 – April 23

Quarter 2 (Q2): November 19 – February 3

Quarter 4 (Q4): April 26 – June 28

Grade 8-9 students will attend every day for full days in cohorts of 120 or less, and follow this schedule:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:25 am	Welcome Bell				
9:30 - 11:40 am	A	A	A	A	A
11:40 - 12:35 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:35 - 2:45 pm	B	B	B	B	B

Grade 10-12 students will attend half time, attending either the morning or afternoon session of their class, for only one class per day. Here is the schedule:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:10 am	Welcome Bell				
9:15 - 11:40 am	A1	A2	A1	A2	A1
11:40 - 12:35 pm	Not in School*				
12:35 - 3:00 pm	B2	B1	B2	B1	B2

*Some IB 12 classes are scheduled into this block of time.

Student Timetables

Despite the switch to the Quarter schedule and maintaining cohorts of 120 students in Grades 8-9, timetables will mostly stay the same as they were when students selected their courses last spring. A reminder that current Grades 9-12 students had 2 opportunities to confirm their course requests and timetable in the spring. If students believe there is a mistake on their timetable, please attend the class printed on your schedule for attendance purposes and request a review of your schedule by completing the course error form provided in homeroom. Counsellors will see students by appointment; however, September is a very busy time and they may be unable to see you immediately – please be patient. Please note, due to a very full timetable and new class size rules, not all changes are possible. We will not make timetable changes to switch teachers or for the same classes in a different block order; however, if students have a significant problem such as a missing course or they are placed in the wrong level of a course, changes will be made. We will strive to create balanced quarters, but this may not be possible - please note that a great strength of the quarter system is that students will only have to focus on, study for and complete homework in two courses at a time.

Returning Late in September?

If you will NOT return to Richmond Secondary School in 2020-2021, please be sure our office staff is aware. Also, if you are returning to RHS but will arrive later than the first day on September 10, but on or before September 25, you must let the office know and complete a [NOTICE OF LATE RETURN](#) form or you risk losing your space at our school. **This is important** to ensure that we have a timetable for your child. Please note, we currently have a waiting list and current students arriving after September 10 may not have a place in our school. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to create a smooth start to the school year for all students and families.

Stay Connected to RHS

This year more than ever before, it is important to stay connected to Richmond Secondary School. We will keep our students and parents informed via our website, Twitter and Instagram accounts, and via direct emails to students and parents. Please follow us on social media, subscribe to our website and be sure we have your accurate email address. All links can be found on our website: <https://rhs.sd38.bc.ca>

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2020-2021 Student Fees

At this time, only IB Fee invoices will be issued to students. All other students will receive their Student Fee Invoice statement in October.

RHS Student Agenda Books

Students will also receive a custom Richmond Secondary agenda booklet in homeroom in the first week of school. The RHS agenda contains daily and monthly calendars and the first 32 pages describe all of the important Richmond Secondary School expectations, our Code of Conduct, our RHS Learner Profile as well as descriptions of activities, events and opportunities. In the age of cell phones, apps and digital calendars, we believe all students still benefit from using a hard copy journal or planner to write lists, notes, reminders and important due dates. We encourage students and parents to read the opening 32 pages and for students to use their RHS agenda booklet daily. Successful students are well organized!

Grade 8 Mini-Camp & Sleepover Update

We have had to re-imagine our annual Grade 8 Mini-Camp & Sleepover as a result of the pandemic. While the event has been cancelled the way we have known it with out-of-school excursions and a sleepover, we are committed to bringing our youngest RHS students together, help them learn tips for "success in high school", and to engage them in team-building and fun activities. We are looking forward to hosting an adapted version of our Grade 8 Mini-Camp beginning on the Orientation Days. Scheduled over many days, and in cohort groupings, all Grade 8s will participate in many learning and fun activities at school, enjoy separately packaged snacks and meals together while making some new friends and getting off to a great start at Richmond Secondary School. More details will be shared with Grade 8 students in the days ahead. Please contact Ms. Chan or Mr. Winograd at the school if you have any questions. Welcome Grads of 2025!

Note, there is no longer a need to register for the mini-camp. Students should see the Business Assistant for return of their payment in the same form that it was paid. (Original cheque payments will be shredded if they haven't been picked up by September 30.).



GRAD 2021

At RHS, we are very aware of how important Grade 12 is for our students' future goals and plans, as well as the lasting impact graduation activities have on each member of our 94th grad class. Working within the Ministry of Health's guidelines, we will do all we can to organize adapted celebrations for our class of 2021. Stay tuned for more information in the weeks ahead.

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Student Information & Responsible Use of Technology Forms & Digital Citizenship at RHS

Please read and complete the **student information verification** and the **Use of Personal Information/Responsible Technology Use (SA-53)** forms that will be sent home on September 10 or 11. Please complete the forms in full and return them to the office. If your child has a serious allergy or medical condition, please contact the appropriate RHS counsellor to confidentially discuss the situation. Parents are invited to contact the school if they do not want their child's name or image included in the school media. Parents are also encouraged to read and discuss our "Digital Citizenship Expectations" with their teen: <http://rhs.sd38.bc.ca/school-information/about-us/digital-citizenship-expectations>

Parking and Driving Reminders

If parents will drop-off or pick-up students, please drive carefully near the school. Do not park in staff parking areas and do not stop on Moffatt or Minoru as this causes traffic problems, is illegal and dangerous. If you must drive your teen to school, avoid the traffic jam and drop them off before peak times and consider a pre-arranged area near the school and have them walk the rest of the way – the exercise is good for them! Students who have their new driver or "N" license are to park in the designated student parking area – turn left into the first lot as you enter off of Minoru Boulevard. New drivers must follow N driving laws.



VISITING THE SCHOOL?

Access to Richmond Secondary will be limited to staff and students. Other visitors such as parents and guardians can request an appointment through the school office. All visitors must enter through the main entrance and sign in and out at the school office.

Are We Covered?

We do all we can to provide safe, supervised and structured learning experiences for students. However, accidents do happen and this can include incidents at school. The Richmond School District recommends that families understand their work and personal insurance coverage and, if necessary, consider additional, optional student accident insurance through an outside provider. Previously offered *KidsPlus* insurance was replaced by other optional family plans. To find out more, check out:

<https://ia.ca/individuals/insurance/accifamily>



Safe and Healthy Teens

We encourage RHS students to live healthy lives, especially during COVID times. All students (and staff) will participate in health and safety training on our Orientation Days on September 10-11. This year more than ever, staying home if you feel unwell, washing your hands well and regularly, and wearing a mask when you cannot safely maintain physical distancing are crucial for all of us. Mask wearing will be welcomed and encouraged at RHS. Additionally, being organized and doing your best in your studies are important for your future, but so is maintaining life balance. Teen mental health is equally important. Staying connected with, sharing and listening to friends, members of a positive club or group, trusted adults and family are essential for mental well-being. Getting to bed at a reasonable hour is key as *sleep hygiene* is important. "All-nighters" are unhealthy and rarely necessary in a balanced life. Using a refillable water bottle and taking time to pack nutritious snacks are good ideas. Walking, boarding or cycling to school and exercising regularly are also keys to a healthier life. Maintaining personal hygiene as well as positive mental wellness, sleep, exercise and nutritional habits are the foundations to a balanced and healthy life – despite our global challenges, why not set some small, personal wellness goals for yourself this year? **Go Colts!**

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Upcoming School Dates

September 7
September 8-9
September 10-11
September 14

Labour Day
School Planning Days for Staff
Orientation Days for Students
First Day of Quarter 1(A1+B2,C)

September 16
September 16
September 25
September 30

School Photo Day
PAC Meeting at 6:30 PM
Pro-D Day
Orange Shirt Day

September						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 <i>Labour Day Holiday</i>	8 <i>International Literacy Day</i>	9	10 Homeroom & Grade Assemblies 8:30 – Grade 9s 10:30 – Grade 10s 12:30 – Grade 8s	11 Homeroom & Grade Assemblies 8:30 – Grade 11s 10:30 – Grade 12s 12:30 – Grade 8s	12
13	14 Quarter 1 Begins <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	15 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	16 Photo Day BCIT at 3 PM PAC at 6:30 PM <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	17 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	18 <i>Rosh Hashanah Begins (September 18-20)</i> Grade 11 IB Orientation <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	19
20	21 GR 9 Yearbook Photos <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	22 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	23 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	24 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	25 Pro-D Day	26
27 <i>Yom Kippur Begins (September 27-29)</i>	28 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	29 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	30 <i>Orange Shirt Day</i> RHS Terry Fox Run Grad 2021 Group Photo <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>			

2020

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Web: <http://rhs.sd38.bc.ca> **GO COLTS!**

October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Clubs' Day at Lunch <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	2 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	3
4	5 <i>World Teachers' Day</i> <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	6 GR 10 Yearbook Photos <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	7 Grade 12 Parent Info 6:30 PM <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	8 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	9 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	10
11	12 <i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i>	13 Kwanliten at Lunch <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	14 UVic at 3 PM PAC at 6:30 PM <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	15 Photo Retake Day <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	16 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	17
18	19 GR 11 Yearbook Photos <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	20 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	21 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	22 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	23 Pro-D Day	24
25 <i>Dussehra</i>	26 PSIBC Virtual Fair, 2-6 <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	27 PSIBC Virtual Fair, 3-7 UBC at 3 PM <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	28 <i>Mawlid al-Nabi (Oct 18-29)</i> <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	29 <small>Quarter 1- A1+B2, C</small>	30 GR 12 Yearbook Photos <small>Quarter 1- A2+B1, D</small>	31 <i>Halloween!</i>

2020

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RHS LEARNERS ARE

RESILIENT

We have a growth mindset and accept that learning may involve set-backs and adversity. We are resourceful in the face of challenges and change. We approach uncertainty with determination. We are courageous and willing to be *risk-takers* and pursue new challenges.



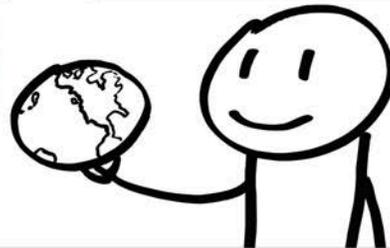
THINKERS

We use critical and creative thinking skills to consider and analyze problems and formulate responses. We are *knowledgeable, open-minded* and curious *inquirers* and able to research and consider different points of view. We evaluate information to make thoughtful decisions. We are innovative and can generate and develop ideas to change, adapt or create new solutions or interpretations.



RESPONSIBLE

We take responsibility for our choices, words and actions. We are *principled* and act with integrity and honesty. We have personal values and a sense of fairness and justice. We are members of local and global communities and have a widening sense of social and environmental responsibility.



CARING

As members of a diverse community, we demonstrate kindness, care and respect toward all others. We show empathy and compassion and respect the dignity and rights of all people. We strive to understand, welcome and include others.



REFLECTIVE

We are self-aware and understand our personal strengths and areas for growth. We are able to regulate our emotions and behaviour and strive to be *balanced, healthy* people. We are able to think about our learning and create plans for improvement.



COMMUNICATORS

We can collaborate, connect and engage with others to share and develop ideas. We listen actively to the perspectives of others. We are able to exchange information, experiences and ideas confidently. We can present information clearly and communicate effectively using a wide range of verbal, non-verbal and visual formats, including technologies.



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