



# RICHMOND SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

HOME OF THE COLTS - ESTABLISHED IN 1927

Principal:	Ms. Anita Kwon	Address:	7171 Minoru Blvd, Richmond, BC, V6Y 1Z3
Vice Principals:	Ms. Adrienne Goulas & Mr. Lester Leung	Phone:	604-668-6400
PAC:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 6:30PM	Early Warning:	604-247-2658
Deputy Superintendent:	Mr. Rick Ryan	Twitter & Instagram:	@richmondcolts
Trustee Liaison:	Ms. Donna Sargent	Website:	<a href="http://rhs.sd38.bc.ca">http://rhs.sd38.bc.ca</a>

## Principal's Message

We are 3 months into the school year and the pace of school is moving quickly with students managing multiple projects, assignments, and assessments. Our teachers are committed to making sure students are well prepared to do their best and are mindful of other expectations and deadlines students have. Parents/Caregivers can support their teen by helping them stay organized and checking in regularly to see if they are on top of their schoolwork, yet also maintaining reasonable life balance. When in doubt or you have concerns, talk to your teen and communicate with teachers as necessary. We have also arrived at the colder, rainy season and this can have an impact on health. Encourage your teen to wash their hands regularly, eat well, get regular exercise, and go to bed early enough to get the necessary sleep they need. Good nutrition, exercise, and rest will bolster their immune system and this helps teens manage the many challenges they face. We want our students to be balanced, healthy, and resilient young people and this requires a supportive partnership and ongoing communication between students, parents/caregivers, and the school. Thank you, *Anita Kwon*

## Health and Safety Reminders as Illnesses on the Rise



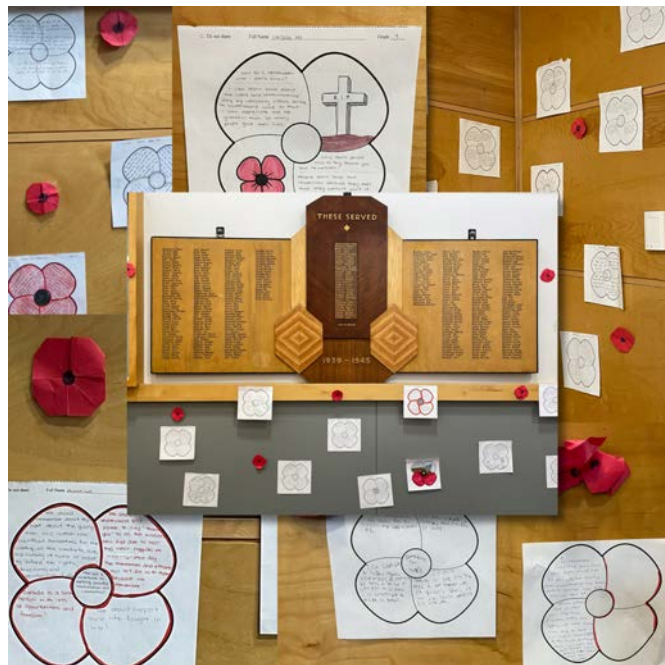
With the flu season in full swing, and influenza activity and respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19 and RSV on the rise, students and families are reminded to perform a general health check before coming to school each day. **If you are sick and unable to participate fully in routine activities, do NOT come to school.** The BC Provincial Health Officer and the BC Health Minister are urging the public to stay home if they are sick, regardless of what kind of illness it is, and are encouraging people to wear masks when in crowded places and indoors. Additional basic measures for protecting students, staff, and families include: staying up to date with vaccines, practicing health awareness, washing/sanitizing hands regularly, and practicing good respiratory hygiene (cough or sneeze into your sleeve, not your hands).

*“Home of the Colts”*



## Remembrance Day Ceremonies Outstanding

Our sincere gratitude goes to the many students and staff who created and led our Remembrance Day ceremonies on November 10 and to the hundreds of students and staff who showed respect by dressing formally on this day. The assemblies were dignified and classy and provided an opportunity to reflect on the horrific consequences of war and appreciate the tremendous sacrifices made by millions of Canadians, including former RHS students. Students completed *Personal and Social Core Competency* self-reflections with a focus on social awareness and responsibility: *How do you remember what you haven't known (as many people today have never experienced war)? What am I doing to remember? How can I contribute to building peaceful relationships and communities?* These thoughts were captured and collected on our Poppy wall of reflection. Special thanks to **Emre Ozbag** and **Shaiyaz Pirani** who served as emcees. Our sincere appreciation to guest speaker Mr. Keith Lang, our student-cadet flag party, Mr. Sheppard and our talented band and choir students, , and the Colt Ambassadors who ran our Poppy Campaign that raised over \$600 in donations to support veterans and their families. A big thank you also to Ms. An, Ms. Chung, Ms. Ho, Ms. Shelling, and Ms. Goulas for organizing our ceremonies. *Lest We Forget*



## Miyawaki Pocket Forest Planting Day – November 19

The Richmond Secondary School Green Team, in collaboration with Garden City Conservation Society, and Earth Literacies, will be hosting a Miyawaki Pocket Forest Planting and Celebration on Saturday, November 19th, 2022. A Miyawaki Pocket Forest is a dense formation of native species that boasts 10x faster growth, 30x more density, and 100x more biodiversity due to its resemblance to a wild, sprawling forest. This Forest is being planted in hopes of rewilding and decolonizing the space, re-establishing biodiversity, mitigating climate change effects (sequestering carbon, excess precipitation, drought, heat domes, etc.), and creating a community space. We dug 1 metre deep, combined the base with local compost and organic material, and will be planting a mix of 30 different species native to the West Coast from Richmond down to Oregon (to prepare for the Southern climate shift). Folks of all ages are welcome to join and help with the planting of the first Miyawaki Pocket Forest in Western Canada located on the west side of Richmond Secondary School (on Moffatt Road). This project is sponsored by TreeCanada.



“Home of the Colts”



## Student Attendance

There is a strong correlation between student achievement and success with student attendance. Attendance includes being present, being engaged, and arriving on time. The number of students arriving late is alarming and unacceptable. This time of year the days are colder, wetter and darker and we see more cars on the road and traffic is a lot heavier especially during the morning commute. **Students and families need to plan ahead and leave extra time in the morning. School starts at 8:30 AM. Arrive at least 10-15 minutes before.** Knowing that there is traffic congestion in our parking lot after 8:05 AM, families need to plan with this in mind and moreso when there is inclement weather. If you get caught in the parking lot congestion, please have your child exit your vehicle safely and walk the remainder of the way to the school.

## Snow?



As we approach winter and the snow season, parents are reminded that our SCHOOL WILL BE OPEN, unless officially closed by the Richmond School District. If it is snowing, please do not phone the school – listen to the radio and check the school and SD38 website for updates. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on inclement weather.

Follow the school on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and subscribe to our Website. All links can be found at <https://rhs.sd38.bc.ca>.



## Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

At the November PAC meeting, parents learned about the Alumni Association of the oldest high school in Richmond, and also learned about how Gaming Grant funds have been distributed over the years. A special thank you to our guest speaker **Donna Matheson** from the Richmond Secondary School Alumni Association. The next PAC meeting will be on Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 PM. PAC would like to make this meeting more of a social gathering since it falls right before the winter holiday, and are asking parents/caregivers to complete a short questionnaire at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/77X9G7P>

## Dry After Grad (DAG) 2023

Planning for DAG 2023 has begun! DAG is the parent-hosted celebration for the Grade 12s held immediately after their June 29 Dinner & Dance. We had a group of dedicated and enthusiastic parents meet on November 8 to begin organizing this event. Parent support and volunteers are essential for this event to run. The next DAG meeting is on Tuesday, November 22 at 7:00 PM in the LLC. All grade 12 parents are welcome and we encourage grade 11 parents to get involved as well as it is a great opportunity to learn about the event when it is your turn to host. Please email your queries to [RHSdag2023@gmail.com](mailto:RHSdag2023@gmail.com).

## IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME INFO NIGHT – DECEMBER 7

Are you a curious, capable and dedicated learner in Grade 10? The International Baccalaureate Diploma is a balanced and challenging two-year program of studies that is recognized by universities around the world for developing knowledgeable, open-minded, inquiring and capable thinkers and learners. All students (and parents) currently in Grade 10 at Richmond Secondary or attending any other high school in Richmond are welcome to attend our **IB Information Night on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30 PM**. Learn more about the program, the application process, and the learner profile of successful IB students. For more information, parents and students can also contact our IB Coordinator Mr. Dave Miller at [dmiller@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:dmiller@sd38.bc.ca).

*“Home of the Colts”*





## December Food Drive

THE RICHMOND FOOD BANK PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR OVER 2300 PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY EVERY WEEK AND THIS INCLUDES HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN.

**FOOD DRIVE**  
for the Richmond FOOD BANK

ACCEPTING DONATIONS in BLOCK B  
DEC 6-8-12-14

HELP DONATE TO THOSE IN NEED!  
TOP ITEMS IN NEED ARE:  
PEANUT BUTTER, CANNED MEAT, CANNED FISH, BEANS, LENTILS, RICE, PASTA, CANNED TOMATOES, CANNED VEGETABLES, CANNED FRUIT, SOY, HEALTHY FRESH MEATS, DRIED FOODS, BAKED GOODS, TOILETRIES.

CASH DONATIONS ENCOURAGED \$1 = \$6 in Food

Please donate what you are able!

We will be organizing our annual school-wide December Food Drive with all proceeds going to the Richmond Food Bank. RHS has a long tradition of supporting the Richmond Food Bank and we are known for our remarkable generosity. All members of our school are encouraged to participate and to donate what they are able. Cash and food donations will both be collected on December 6-8-12-14. *#ColtsGive #ColtsCare*

## Winter Music Concert

Parents, students, friends and community members are invited to attend our annual **Winter Music Concert** on **Tuesday, December 6** at 7 PM in the large gym. This is always a wonderful event as our talented groups perform a wide range of classic, pop, and holiday music. **SAVE THE DATE** and stay tuned for ticket information.



## Holiday Support for Families in Need

The *Richmond Cares Richmond Gives* organization hopes to brighten the holidays for local families in need. Eligible applicants will receive food and gift support to make the holiday season a little brighter for all members of their family. To learn more about *Richmond Cares Richmond Gives* or perhaps to find out how you can help, please contact their office at 604-279-7020 [emailinfo@rcrg.org](mailto:emailinfo@rcrg.org) or web: <https://www.rcrg.org/>

## Annual Community Christmas Luncheon

We will host the 47th annual Richmond High School **Community Christmas Luncheon** on **Friday, December 9**. This has been a special event at our school for over four decades and is usually attended by District and RHS staff, Trustees, the Mayor and members of City Council, RCMP and Richmond Fire Department members, public health staff, RHS alumni, parents, and business people from all over Richmond. Enjoy a traditional holiday meal prepared by our Professional Cook Training students and come together to share warm season's greetings. All proceeds from this event will be donated to charitable causes locally and globally. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at:

<https://richmondsd38.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/54166/125/False/True>

Tickets are limited so buy your tickets now and by Monday, November 28.

RICHMOND SECONDARY SCHOOL  
PRESENTS

**47th Annual**  
*Community Christmas*  
**LUNCHEON**

A Gathering of Caring Members of the  
Richmond Community

**Friday, December 9**

DOORS OPEN AT 12:15 PM | LUNCH AT 12:30 PM

We welcome non-perishable donations for  
the Food Bank if you are able.

**LIMITED TICKETS | \$25 EA**  
Email [Richmond@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:Richmond@sd38.bc.ca) for ticket link

7171 MINORU BOULEVARD, RICHMOND, BC  
RHS.SD38.BC.CA

*“Home of the Colts”*



## Grad 2023 News

# CLASS OF 2023

**Grad photographs** for the Yearbook will be taken on November 21 in block B and C. Grade 12s will be called down alphabetically. Please wear a black shirt or top and “look your best”. Grad comments and baby photos for the yearbook are due on November 21 and should be emailed to [rhsgradquotes2022@gmail.com](mailto:rhsgradquotes2022@gmail.com).

**Grad Movie Night** is on Thursday, November 24 at 7 PM in the Multipurpose room. Stay tuned for more information from the Grad Committee on grad clothing and the upcoming spirit week.

A reminder to confirm your participation in the **2023 Valedictory Ceremony** by:

- Paying your \$45 Valedictory Fee by Friday, December 2.
- Submitting your gown size [HERE](#) by Friday, December 2.

The deadline to purchase tickets for the **Winter Formal** is Friday, December 16.

## Colts Athletics Update



Thank you to the coaches, sponsors and student-athletes who represented our school in the fall season. Fall teams included our senior girls' and boys' volleyball teams, our senior boys' soccer team, our Grade 8, Grade 9 and Grade 10 girls' volleyball teams, our cross-country team, and our swim team. All of our teams and athletes competed with skill and sportsmanship. Special congratulations to our dedicated senior girls' cross country team for their second place finish at the South Fraser Championships and for qualifying for the BC Championships. The winter sports season is already underway and our six basketball teams and our table tennis team are practicing and preparing for league play. RHS is hosting the *Colts Elementary Volleyball Tournament* on Wednesday, November 30. Grade 6 and 7 students from 12 elementary schools will participate in this event thank to Ms. Ip and our Athletic Leadership students. For more information on Richmond Colts athletics or if you would like to volunteer to help coach a team, please contact our Athletic Director Emily Ip at [eip@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:eip@sd38.bc.ca)

## UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES

November 19	Miyawaki Pocket Forest Planting & Celebration	December 9	RSS Community Christmas Luncheon
November 22	DAG Meeting at 7:00 PM in LLC	December 14	PAC Meeting at 6:30 PM
November 24	Collaboration Day	December 16	Breakfast with Santa
November 25	Pro-D Day	December 16	Last Day of School Before Winter Break
November 28	Grade 9 Immunizations	December 18-26	Hanukkah
November 30	Colts Elementary Volleyball Tournament	Dec 19 – Jan 2	Winter Break
December	FOOD DRIVE Month at RHS	December 25	Christmas
December 6	Block Rotation – BCAD/FGEH	December 26	Boxing Day
December 6	Winter Music Concert at 7:00 PM	December 26	Kwanzaa
December 7	IB Information Night at 6:30 PM	January 1	New Year's Day – Welcome 2023!
December 8	Term 1 Report Cards Published	January 3	School Re-Opens – PLT-FGEH

“Home of the Colts”







# BECOME HOMESTAY at the RICHMOND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Be a host for an international student for a month, semester or year. Richmond International Education (RIE) Homestay Program is looking for local families to offer a welcoming home.

**Contact us to find out more about this enriching opportunity.**

**[study@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:study@sd38.bc.ca) 604-668-6217**



**RICHMOND**  
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION  
ENRICHING GLOBAL MINDS

