



# 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

**Welcome to 2023!** The start of a new year is an ideal time for students to clarify goals and make adjustments as necessary to be sure they are on a pathway to achieve personal goals and aspirations. January also marks the mid-way point of the school calendar and students will soon be asked to make course and program selections for the next school year. We urge our returning students and parents to read the course descriptions on the school website and for students to listen and ask questions – your counsellors and teachers, your parents, classmates, older siblings and friends can all help you make the right choices for next year. Our 2023-2024 timetable will be constructed based on student course selections, so choose your courses and alternate selections carefully and thoughtfully – take the time now to plan for your future success. I also remind members of our 2023 graduating class to be fully mindful during these final months of high school and enjoy this busy but memorable time. Please reach out to your counsellor or our career advisor if you need help planning any aspect of your post-secondary life.

Thank you, *Anita Kwon*

## Student and Family Affordability Fund



As shared this past fall, the **Student and Family Affordability Fund** is designed to assist families who require financial assistance with school-related costs in the following areas: school and course fees, school supplies and course materials, field trips, school-related extracurricular opportunities, clothing and footwear required for sports and school activities. The additional funding is also used to support school meal programs and other nutritional supports for students. Please email Ms. Kwon at [akwon@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:akwon@sd38.bc.ca) if you are in need of assistance. As always, all requests will be treated with dignity and your privacy will be respected. We want to work with our families to ensure that our students, your children, have everything they need in order to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.

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## Graduation Assessment Days – Tuesday, January 24 & Wednesday, January 25

On January 24 and 25, we will host the Graduation Literacy 10 Assessment (GLA 12) for grade 12 students. Students must check their assessment date and time and location on the posted schedules. The schedules have been put up around the school and have also been posted on the **Richmond – Grade 12 Students** MS Teams. We will follow an alternate bell schedule on these days.

Please note the following instructions for ALL students on January 24-25:

- Students scheduled for the GLA 12 should **arrive by 8:00 AM** to their assigned location. Bring photo ID.
- **Grade 9s:** Report to the large gym for career education activities on January 24 in PLT.
- **Grade 10s:** Report to the Multipurpose room for a career programs presentation on January 24 in PLT 1.
- **Grade 11s:** Report to the Multipurpose room for a career programs presentation on January 24 in PLT 2.
- All other grade 8-12 students sign up for PLT 1 and PLT 2 sessions.

ALTERNATE  
BELL SCHEDULE

JANUARY 24, 2023  
JANUARY 25, 2023

### GRADUATION ASSESSMENT DAYS

8:15 – 11:15	GLA 12
8:30 – 9:50	PLT 1
9:55 – 11:15	PLT 2
11:20 – 12:00	Block B/F
12:05 – 12:45	Block C/G
12:45 – 1:30	LUNCH
1:35 – 2:15	Block A/E
2:20 – 3:00	Block D/H



## Graduation Assessment Results

The November 2022 graduation assessment results are now available for students and parents to review. Students can access and view their results on either one of these platforms:

1. **MyEducation BC** - Family top tab > Assessment side tab
2. **Student Transcript Services (STS)** – Sign up for a BCeID at <http://www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca>

## Mental Health #LetsTalk – Wednesday, January 25



The annual “Let’s Talk Day” that will be recognized all across Canada is on **Wednesday, January 25**. It is important for families and teens to spend time reflecting on what it means to be “healthy”. Many will identify being free of illness, eating well, getting enough sleep and exercising regularly as keys to ‘being healthy’ yet mental and emotional health may be taken for granted, or not talked about at all because of the stigma that may be attached to mental health issues. The truth is, many people wrestle with stress, anxiety, negative thoughts, feeling low or depressed at times in their lives and it is okay to talk about it. More importantly, we need to be ready to listen carefully to our family members and friends. Richmond Secondary School students need to know that we care about them. Our counsellors are always available and parents can get help from their family doctor or learn more on a wide range of excellent online resources. Explore some of these online sites:

<http://letstalk.bell.ca/en/>

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/mental-health>

<https://youthinbc.com>

<https://keltymentalhealth.ca>

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## Rainbow Cling Installation Completed

The Gender Sexuality Alliance Club has designed a new rainbow sticker (cling) that has been installed in all learning spaces in the school. These rainbow safe space clings symbolize pride and acceptance. This months long project involved students removing the old stickers and replacing them with the newly designed rainbow clings. The new design presents a more progressive flag to promote greater inclusivity. The colours in the triangle of this flag highlight the transgender community and people of colour. These rainbow clings welcome students to a safe and inclusive environment for our 2SLGBTQIA+ students. Our school is a safe place for everyone, and students and staff care and respect the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.



## Out In Schools Presentation – January 25

All students are invited to learn more about the 2SLGBTQIA+ community by attending a special presentation by **Out In Schools** on Wednesday, January 25 during PLT (9:00-10:30 AM) in the Multipurpose space. Interested students can register by using the PLT sign up at <https://rhs.myweeklyplanner.net/>.



# 25

## Jan 2023

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### MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

@ 9:00AM - 10:30 AM

# OUT IN SCHOOLS

a 2SLGBTQIA+ presentation

OUT

X

GSA

IN SCHOOLS

CLUB

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## Program Planning & Course Selection for 2023-2024

Richmond Secondary School counsellors will host Grades 8-11 assemblies for RSS students on **Thursday, January 26** and students will receive a personalized course selection form, learn about options for courses, graduation requirements and post-secondary pre-requisites to prepare them for choosing their courses for next year. Our timetable and staffing for 2023-2024 is determined based on student enrollment and course requests, so students must select courses carefully, taking into consideration their summer school and online learning plans. It is difficult to make course changes later in the process. Grades 8-11 students will have an opportunity to check and confirm their course selections later in the spring. Students and parents are encouraged to read the online course descriptions, discuss options with their classmates and current teachers, and choose courses thoughtfully. Please read the 2023-2024 RHS course descriptions online at: <https://rhs.sd38.bc.ca/students/program-planning-course-selection> and be sure to carefully enter your course requests on the MyEducation BC Student Portal and get your completed course selection form signed by parents submitted to the office by **Thursday, February 9**. This is important. All student course requests will be checked by RHS counsellors and if students or parents have any questions about the course selection process, please contact your counsellor.

## Grade 7 Parent Information Night – February 9

We will host our Grade 7 Parent Information Night in the school theatre on **Thursday, February 9** at **6:00 PM**. All parents and guardians of Grade 7 students who live in the Richmond catchment area and those who may apply to attend the school next year are invited to attend. This will be a great opportunity to get to visit the school, meet the principal, vice principals and some other staff, learn more about Richmond Secondary School, and ask any questions you may have. We look forward to meeting members of the RHS grad class of 2028! Parents can find out more by calling Richmond at 604-668-6400 or checking out our website at: <http://rhs.sd38.bc.ca/> and following us @RichmondColts on Twitter and Instagram.



## Richmond School Transfer Process

Richmond students who want to apply for a transfer to a school that is outside of their catchment area **MUST APPLY TO TRANSFER**. This includes out-of-catchment students with a brother or sister currently at a secondary school and students currently in Grade 7 who attend a feeder school but live in another catchment area. Students who are already attending a secondary school out of their catchment area and want to stay, do not have to reapply. The Round 1 Transfer period will be from **February 6-28, 2023** and these applications are for the 2023-2024 school year. Transfer forms must be submitted to the school you are applying to, on or before **February 28**. Out-of-catchment students in grade 10 applying to the IB Diploma Programme, **do not** have to submit a school transfer form; however the IB application was due by 4 PM on Friday, January 6.

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



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## erase Website Updated

The erase (expect respect and a safe education) website has been updated to ensure trusted information and resources are available for students, parents/caregivers and educators on consent and the prevention of gender-based violence. The information complements the recent updates to the Supporting Student Health guides and PHE curriculum elaborations. The erase Report is an important tool for ensuring students or caring others can anonymously share something they've seen or heard that concerns them.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase>



## Governor General's Academic Bronze Medal

Congratulations to **Hanson Sun** for being awarded the Governor General's academic bronze medal as the top student in Richmond Secondary School's graduating class of 2022. Hanson earned the highest combined grade 11 and 12 scholastic average out of 296 students in the graduating class.

"For more than 125 years, the Governor General's Academic Medals have recognized the outstanding scholastic achievements of students in Canada. They are awarded to the student graduating with the highest average from a high school, as well as from approved college or university programs. Pierre Trudeau, Tommy Douglas, Kim Campbell, Robert Bourassa, Robert Stanfield and Gabrielle Roy are just some of the more than 50 000 people who have received the Governor General's Academic Medal as the start of a life of accomplishment."

(SOURCE: Governor General of Canada Website)



## Richmond Reading Riot Returns



The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Reading Riot has begun in Richmond secondary school Library Learning Commons! There are 10 books from a diverse group of authors. Read as many of the books as you want. Rate each book on the green ballot and put it into the box in the LLC. The more you read, the more chances you have at winning weekly prizes and the grand prize giveaway. Happy Reading! 📚

## Parents Welcome at RHS!

In January, our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) hosted a session on program and career planning with guest presenters Mr. Lam (from Counselling) and Ms. Jones (retired Career Information Advisor). The next PAC meeting will be on Wednesday, February 8 at 6:30 PM. Please check your email for the meeting details. We look forward to seeing new and returning parents! Contact the RHS PAC at [rhsbcpac@gmail.com](mailto:rhsbcpac@gmail.com).

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## Grade 12 News and Reminders – RHS Grads of 2023

The **PSI** portal on the Ministry of Education Student Secure Web Login is open and Grade 12s are urged to complete this task so post-secondary schools can access your grades – go to StudentTranscripts at: <https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student/welcome.jsp>

The **2023 Winter Formal** is on Thursday, February 16 at the Riverside Banquet Hall's Grand Ballroom.

A mobile photo studio from Artona will be at Richmond Secondary School from **February 17-26** and all Grade 12s who want their name and photo to be included on the **"RHS Grad 2023" composite** must book a sitting and have their photo taken by Artona: <http://www.artonagroup.com>

Grade 12s interested in applying for any of the internal Richmond Secondary **scholarships** must complete the "RSS Scholarship Form" available on the school website on or before **April 14** – remember, students must apply to be considered for any scholarships. Look on the RHS website under STUDENTS > Grade 12 Information.

The 30-word **Valedictory write-ups** are due by **April 14** – look on the RHS website under STUDENTS > Grade 12 Information.

Grade 12s should also be checking the bulletin board by the Counselling Centre and the Career Information website at <https://rhs.sd38.bc.ca/students/rss-career-centre> for post-secondary and scholarship information and application deadlines and other news.

## UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES

January 22	Chinese Lunar New Year (Year of the Rabbit)	February 9	Grade 7 Parent Info Night at 6 PM
January 24-25	Graduation Assessment Days	February 14	Valentine's Day ♥
January 25	Out In Schools Presentation	February 15	Canada Flag Day! 🇨🇦
January 26	#LetsTalk Mental Health Day	February 16	Grade 12 Winter Formal
January 26	Program Planning Assemblies	February 17	Pro-D Day
January 30	Pro-D Day	February 17-26	Formal Grad Photos by Artona
February	Black History Month	February 20	Family Day Holiday
February 8	PAC Meeting at 6:30 PM	February 22	Pink Shirt Day at RHS
February 9	Course Selection Forms & Online Entry DUE	February 23	Collaboration Day
February 9	Term 2 Interim Reports Published		

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# 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



# VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER INTERPRETER POOL .

The Cultural Interpreter Team of Richmond School District is looking for passionate individuals fluent in English and another language to join our Volunteer Interpreter Pool.

## LANGUAGES NEEDED

Cantonese, Farsi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Mandarin, Mongolian, Russian, Somali, Swahili, Turkish, Ukrainian and Vietnamese.



## TRAINING PROVIDED

Volunteer interpreters will support parent-teacher conferences and info sessions after receiving a 5-session training.

Contact Sarah Zhao to learn more: [szhao@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:szhao@sd38.bc.ca) 604-358-4921