



## Welcome to the Tyson Elementary 2019/20 School Year! September 9, 2019

### Principal's Message

Thanks to everyone for making me feel so welcome as I begin my first year as Principal at Tyson Elementary. I know that I have big shoes to fill with Mr. Edgcombe moving to F.G. Leary, but I will work hard, put value on developing relationships with students, parents, and staff, and love the work that I get to do every day. ☺

How exciting that we are now entering our second week of school, classes have been determined, and the important work of learning and personal development can begin! At our opening assembly last week, I encouraged the students to try to remember the following things as they begin the new school year: be yourself (we all have unique characteristics and talents), be kind to others (we all need a friend and to feel cared about), own your choices (everyone makes mistakes at some point), and do your best (hard work pays off). Every student at Tyson has the potential to do great things but we need to keep a growth mindset and use mistakes as learning opportunities in order to grow our brains. If we can do these things, it's bound to be a 'roaring' great year for all our Tyson Tigers!

### Welcome new/returning staff!

We have some new and returning staff members who we are pleased to have on staff this year. Ms. Michelle Dargatz is back teaching Kindergarten while Mrs. Bennett is still in her position as the CTA Vice-President for another year. Mrs. Nicole MacCarron (nee Christian) is back and teaching Grade 1 while Mrs. Baker is on a Leave of Absence for the year – teaching in Poland. Mrs. Hayes is our new Grade 4/5 teacher who was hired to replace Mrs. Eggen when she retired. Ms. Elaine Hoogeveen will be our Child and Youth Care Worker this year because Mrs. Karisa Neufeld had a baby boy on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and so will be off for the year; congratulations to her on this exciting new addition to the Neufeld family!

### 2019/20 Tyson Staff

**Primary Teachers:** Evelyn Bakker, Michelle Dargatz, Nicole MacCarron, Kirby Jacobson, Catherine Reich, Leanne Simington, Alison Toor, Diana Wegener, Kim Woodbury

**Intermediate Teachers:** Michelle Austin, Dan Edwards, Susan Gorby, Nicole Hayes

**Support Teachers:** Diana Wegener (LA/Early Intervention), Pat Martin (Counsellor), Julie-Anne Taylor (ELL), Carrie Klassen (Librarian), Louanne Macdonald (Resource Teacher), Erica Tolman (SLP), Kim Woodbury (Grade 3/Prep Teacher).

**Office:** Joanna Kasper (Principal), Paula Libby (Secretary)

**Education Assistants:** Carlee Lemon, Shawna Irvine, Jennifer Martin, Lorie McLaren, Dawn Rideout, Kathryn Thompson, Stacy Timms, Debbie Tovey

**Aboriginal Support:** Julie Gutierrez

**Child and Youth Care Worker:** Elaine Hoogeveen

**Supervision Assistants:** Kristen Backus, Debra Currie, Nicole Shaw

**Custodians:** Derek Dumont, Linda Heath

### Family BBQ

We look forward to welcoming you to our school on the evening of Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, from 5 – 6:30. We will have hotdogs, chips, and water available for those who would like to purchase some dinner - \$3.00 - cheaper than fast food and way more fun for the whole family! Watch for pre-order information coming to you this week. If you don't want to eat, please come out and introduce yourself to your child's teacher and me as we would love to meet you!



### Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Tyson Elementary School is very fortunate to have a very active Parent Advisory Council. **Every Tyson parent is automatically a member of the PAC!** Parents are encouraged to become involved and take an active role in the life of the school through the Parent Advisory Council. The first PAC meeting this year will be on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. If you are interested or require more information, please contact your P.A.C. President, Nicole Evans, or check us out at <http://tyson.sd33.bc.ca/parent-advisory-committee>.



### Bell Schedule (New!)

Supervision Begins	7:58 am
Entry Warning Bell	8:08 am
Classes Begin	8:13 am
Recess	9:50 – 10:05 am
Lunch	11:45 – 12:30 pm
Afternoon Session Begins	12:30 pm
Dismissal	2:06 pm
Supervision ends	2:21 pm

### School Office

We want to make sure that we know which students are arriving after the bell or are leaving early, in the interests of keeping all students safe and accounted for. We ask that students come and see Mrs. Libby at the office if they come in a little later than 8:13 to pick up a 'Glad you are here!' slip so she knows they have arrived. If your child needs to leave early for any reason we ask that the adult picking him/her up comes to the office to sign the student out. Mrs. Libby will gladly call down to your child's classroom to request they come to meet you at the office!

**The school office is open from 7:45 – 3:00 Monday to Friday.**

**Our office is always ready to serve you.**

### School Supplies

Students in Grades K-5 are purchasing a supply package for \$45 from the school this year; please be sure to send in a cheque as soon as possible made out to Tyson Elementary School. If you are sending cash, please put the correct change in a baggie or envelope, labeled with your child's name. This year we were again fortunate to receive support from Staples, Murray Honda, and a number of other local businesses in the form of backpacks which contain school supplies.

### Parent Volunteers

Parent Volunteers are always welcome in our school. Please contact your child's teacher directly if you wish to help. All visitors to the school need to sign in at the office upon arrival and will be provided with a Visitors tag. Please Note – **ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST COMPLETE A CRIMINAL RECORD SEARCH.** These must be re-submitted every 4 years. Forms may be picked up at the school office.



## Parking Lot

Please take care driving through the parking lot during drop-off and pick-up (actually at all times!). Remember to stop in the pull-through lane when dropping off or picking up students. *Children aren't always as mindful of their environment as we would like them to be!*

## Meeting Spot

Please establish a pre-determined meeting spot **outside** the school. The end of the day can be a busy time for teachers and students. Students and teachers need to maintain focus, complete tasks and get students organized for homework. Encourage your child to become more independent and take responsibility to get themselves ready at the end of the day. It builds resiliency skills and further prepares them as they get older.

## Supervision

Teachers supervise the playground 15 minutes prior to school starting in the morning, at recess and 15 minutes at the end of the school day. During the noon hour there are three supervisors and multiple other staff outside on duty.

## Bicycles/Scooters/Skateboards

Bikes and other wheeled “vehicles” (including scooters, roller skates/blades and “heelines”) are to be **walked** onto and off of the school grounds. Bikes are to be parked in the bicycle racks by the back of the school. Please make sure that the bicycles are locked and that helmets and other wheeled modes of transit are taken into the classroom for safekeeping.

## Electronics

Cell phones, iPods, and other electronic devices are to be kept in backpacks during school hours unless a teacher or EA is providing direct supervision for their use as an educational tool.

## Dress for the Weather

Students benefit from fresh air and exercise, they need it to thrive, so we will be sending students outside most days for recess and lunch. Please dress your child in appropriate footwear and bring a coat if the weather looks damp because unless it is pouring rain or the temperature is close to or below zero, we'll be heading outdoors! The great thing about our school is that it has a large undercover area so for those students who really don't like the rain, there is an option to go and play there.

## Behaviour Matrix

Our school has a positively worded “MATRIX OF EXPECTED BEHAVIOURS” to use so that students ALWAYS understand what is expected of them in our Tyson Elementary community. The MATRIX is based on four ways to be in the various areas of our school.

We are asking students to be:

**Responsible**

**Orderly**

**Attitude** (Have a good one!)

**Respectful**

Check out our behaviour Matrix on our website at [tyson.sd33.bc.ca](http://tyson.sd33.bc.ca)!





## Terry Fox Run

The Terry Fox Run for Tyson will be **on Friday, September 27, at the Vedder Trail (details to follow!).**



## Health Concerns!!

We would just like to remind parents that due to various health concerns regarding allergies and diabetes, we want to impress upon students the importance that they do not share their lunches or snacks with each other. **We are a nut and dairy aware school** and do have students in our school with severe nut *and* dairy allergies. Thank you for your serious consideration in this matter.

### Important Dates in September:

Meet the Teacher BBQ	Thursday, September 19, 5:00-6:30	<p><b>You can stay up-to-date between newsletters by using our website.</b></p> <p><b><a href="http://tyson.sd33.bc.ca">tyson.sd33.bc.ca</a></b></p>
PAC Meeting	Monday, September 23, 6:00	
Individual photo day	Tuesday, September 24	
Terry Fox Run/Walk	Friday, September 27	
Orange Shirt Day/Walk	Monday, September 30	

## Verification Forms

Student Information forms will be sent home with each student. Please update any information that may have changed since your child's school registration. Please return the SIGNED form as soon as possible to your classroom teacher.

## Permission Click

If you have not already completed the Acceptable Use Agreement and consent for your child to access technology through our school, please complete and approve the form that was sent to your e-mail address. Your child will not be able to utilize the school's computers ie. laptops, computer lab until an accepted agreement is on file.

## Fair Notice

The Chilliwack School District and community partners are committed to making our schools safe for students and staff. As a result, schools will respond to all student behaviours that pose a potential risk to themselves, other students, staff and members of the community.





What behaviours initiate a student threat assessment?

A student threat assessment will be initiated when behaviours include, but are not limited to, serious violence or violence with intent to harm, kill, verbal/written threats to harm/kill others, Internet website/MSN threats to harm/kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats and fire setting.

#### **Duty to Report**

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours.

#### **What is a threat?**

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

#### **What is a Threat Assessment Team?**

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multi-disciplinary. The team may include Principal, Vice Principal, District Resource Teacher, School Counsellor and Police.

#### **What is the purpose of a student threat assessment?**

The purposes of a student threat assessment are:

- o To ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and others.
- o To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat.
- o To understand factors contributing to the threat makers' behaviour.
- o To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker.
- o To promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

#### **What happens in a student threat assessment?**

All threat making behaviour by a student shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response. Once the threat has been activated, interviews may be held with the student(s), the threat maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students are required.

#### **Can I refuse to participate in a threat assessment process?**

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker or parent/guardian, the threat assessment process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring learning environment.

**Use our website to stay up-to-date!**

**Tyson.sd33.bc.ca**

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