



# Brighthouse School News

*“Where Everyone Counts”*

**Mr. E. Adjei-Achampong Jr.**  
Principal  
6800 Azure Road  
Richmond, BC V7C 2S8

**Mrs. S. Tse**  
Vice-Principal  
Phone: 604-668-6522  
Fax: 604-668-6418

Web: <http://brighthouse.sd38.bc.ca>

## WELCOME TO BRIGHOUSE SCHOOL !

### Dear Families:

Welcome Back! As usual, this has been a very busy start-up with over 420 students registered at Brighthouse this fall. On behalf of the staff, we would like to welcome all of our returning families as well as our new families to an exciting, new school year. Our school goals this year are literacy and maintaining an engaging school community.

### How can parents support the school goal?

1. Take an interest in what your child is learning at school. Take a few minutes each day to look over your child's work and discuss what he/she learned.
2. Provide nourishing snacks and lunches for your children at school, preferably in reusable containers so that we reduce the waste at school. Please encourage your child to eat breakfast every morning.

It has been an exciting and positive start to the school year for our students. Our students have seemed very happy to return to school, catch up with old friends and say hello to the newest students and families at Brighthouse. Once again, our students showed great SPIRIT in welcoming new students into our community, and helping to make the first week of school a success for everyone. Please kindly ensure that your child arrives to school on time, rested and ready for the day. I will also like to extend a special welcome to Mrs. Tse, our new Vice Principal, as Mr. Sala has now assumed his new role as Vice Principal at Blair Elementary, he will be missed. On behalf of the Brighthouse staff, have a successful and amazing school year. We look forward to teaching and learning with the entire school community.

### Brighthouse School: Hours of Instruction

8:30	School opens
8:40	Bell sounds to begin the day
8:45 - 10:30	Instructional Time
10:30 - 10:45	Recess
10:45 - 12:25	Instructional Time
12:25 - 12:55	Noon Break (Outdoors)
12:55 - 1:05	Lunch (in class)
1:10 - 2:38	Instructional Time
2:38	End of Day Dismissal



## Social Responsibility

Our social responsibility focus for the month of September is "goal setting and new beginnings". Students are encouraged to show a positive attitude and include others in activities. *"Knowing others is wisdom, knowing yourself is enlightenment" - Lao Tzu.*

## Staying in Touch

We really value the involvement of parents at Brighthouse, and we want to keep you informed of important events around the school. We do this in a number of ways: the school newsletter is published on the second Friday of every month. The school's website (<http://brighthouse.sd38bc.ca/>) provides lots of important information and policies pertaining to the school. Our newsletters are always posted there as well. Please ensure that the school has your current email as important information may be sent home via email. Thank you!

- the **Parent Advisory Council (PAC)** will be setting up dates and times for upcoming meetings. All parents are welcome to attend these meetings to exchange ideas, ask questions and discuss ways to support the school. Free child care is provided. **Our next PAC meeting is Wednesday October 4<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.** Please see our next newsletter for a complete list of PAC meeting dates and times for the 2017-2018 school year.

## Meet other Parents - Friday Mornings

PAC (Parent Advisory Council) will be meeting on Friday mornings! This will be an informal gathering in the NLC (Neighborhood Learning Centre located beside the gym). This will be a time to discuss ideas, work on projects and visit with other parents within the Brighthouse community. Please drop in after the kids are in class. Brighthouse is a great school! Let's keep it great by each of us doing what we can to support the school and community. If you are a parent of a student attending Brighthouse then you are a member of the PAC. Please join us for our next PAC meeting. Everyone is welcome! If you want more information about the PAC, check out the PAC webpage at <http://brighthousepac.x10host.com> or feel free to contact them by email at [contact@brighthousepac.x10host.com](mailto:contact@brighthousepac.x10host.com).

## School Office Hours

The school office is open each day between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Our administrative support staff, Ms. Henry and Mrs. Tweedlie, can be reached at (604) 668-6522. Please try to avoid important visits between noon and 1 p.m. when the administrative assistants take their lunch break.



## Parking, Drop-off and School Access

Whenever possible, we ask that you and your children walk to school. It is a healthier and greener alternative to driving. When that is not possible, parents are asked **to only drop off** their children in our **Drop-Off Circle**, which is entered just north of the staff parking entrance, off Azure Rd. Please do not park and leave your car in the Drop Off Circle. When picking up your child after school, you are asked to find a spot a block or two away and arrange to meet your child at the same spot every day.

If you need to walk into school with your child, please park in the neighbourhood.

**Please kindly do not use the staff parking lot at any time.** Once the building opens at 8:30 a.m. each day, students may enter the school through our main entrance at the east end of the school, or through the north doors adjacent to the elevator.

## Why Walk?

- ☐ Your child needs exercise every day
- ☐ Less traffic around the school will mean a safer place for your child
- ☐ Save the environment
- ☐ Gas is expensive

## **If your child will be absent from school**

Please call **(604) 668-6522** and **press 1** to leave a message. Please kindly leave a clear message stating your child's first and last name, division, grade and a reason for absence. Thank you

## **School Supplies/Agenda Fees**

Once again the Richmond School district will provide each student with his or her school supplies. Supply costs are as follows:

**Grade 1-7:                   \$38.00 (this includes agenda fee)**  
**Kindergarten:         \$30.00**

## **REGISTER NOW for School Online Payments!**

As some of you may know, the School District is now using a School Cash Online system so that parents will be able to pay for school events and activities online. This will include payments for September school supplies, field trips and other payables. No more cheques to sign or cash to lose!

To get ready for this new way of paying, please **set up your online account as soon as possible**. We hope that most families will choose to pay online, as it will be very convenient for all. We will, however, still accept payments at school from those families who are unable to pay online. Once you set up your account, it will be valid for the entire time your child is here at Brighthouse Elementary.

### **Setting Up Your Online Account:**

Step 1: Parents can **register for an account at** <https://richmondsd38.schoolcashionline.com> (You can find this link easily by going to our school website and clicking on "School Cash Online - Setting Up Your Account" on the top menu bar.)

Step 2: Select "Get Started Now" and follow the steps.

Step 3: After an email confirmation is received, select the "click here" option. You are registered!

Step 4: Sign in to your account and **add each of your children** to your account.

Individual student pupil numbers will be sent home on the inside front page of your child's agenda for easy access. If you require help with setting up your online account, please contact the office and we would be glad to help you!



### **Terry Fox**

Our Terry Fox Run is set for **Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30pm**. We are looking forward to a great run and hope that parents will be able to join us. The kids will get

some exercise and participate in a cross Canada effort to raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation. We hope that everyone can bring a "Toonie for Terry". We will ask students to bring in donations during the next few weeks in support of cancer research. Thank you, in advance, for supporting Terry's dream!

### **Medical Concerns**

If your child has any specific health concerns that we should be aware of please contact the office. If your child needs to have medication given at school, there is a special form that needs to be filled in by yourself and your child's doctor.

### **Emergency Contact Information**

In the weeks to come, we will be sending home a Student Information verification form, along with other forms (media consent, walking field trip permission etc.) to be completed. Please review, make any changes and return to your child's teacher as soon as possible. The information provided on these forms is **very important** for the school to have on file.

### **Richmond School District Code of Conduct**

The Board of School Trustees recognizes its obligation to all members of the school community to provide a positive climate and a safe, healthy environment such that effective, purposeful teaching and learning may take place. To that end, it is expected that all members of the school community will conduct themselves in an ethical and lawful manner that demonstrates respect for self, others, property and the environment. A violation may warrant intervention or disciplinary action. It is expected that all members of the school community (staff, students, parents and guests) will:

- respect the rights of others
- respect the health and safety of others
- respect the property of others - private or public
- respect the legitimate authority of the school administrative officers and staff
- respect and take pride in the schools' physical facilities
- respect the individual rules within each school
- behave in an ethical and lawful manner
- behave in a considerate and courteous manner
- behave in a safe and responsible manner at all times
- not threaten, harass, intimidate or assault, any person within the school community
- not be in possession of weapons, dangerous articles, alcohol or illegal drugs while in school or at school functions

## **What's Happening at Brighthouse!**

### **September**

- 18 -29 Monday ..... Terry Fox Donations
- 21 Thursday.....Meet the Teacher and Community BBQ 4:00 -6:00 p.m.
- 22 Friday .....PRO D Day, **students DO NOT attend school**
- 25 Monday.....Individual Photo Day
- 29 Friday ..... Terry Fox run 1:30 p.m.

### **October**

- 06 Friday .....Breakfast Club starts
- 06 Friday .....Pizza Day
- 09 Monday ..... Thanksgiving Holiday - **students DO NOT attend school**
- 18-19 .....Parent Teacher Conferences (**early dismissal 1:38**)
- 20 .....Provincial PRO D Day - **students DO NOT attend school**