

September 16, 2016



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 38 (RICHMOND)



WELCOME TO BRIGHOUSE SCHOOL !

Dear Parents:

Welcome Back! As

usual, this has been a very busy start-up with 390 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. Special welcome to the following new staff joining us this year: Mr. Pantaleo (gr. 6/7) and Ms. Stutt (gr. 3/4). We also welcome back: Ms. O'Gorman (gr. 1/2) and Ms. Grisdale (K) returning from maternity leave.

We look forward to teaching and learning with the entire school community. On behalf of the Brighthouse staff, have a successful and amazing school year.

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)
1:05 - 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 first 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.
- 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. Child care is provided. Please see our next newsletter for a complete list of PAC meeting dates and times for the 2016-2017 school year.

Our first PAC meeting will take place Thursday, Sept. 29th at 3:00 in the Library. (Babysitting is available).

Meet the PAC - Monday Mornings

PAC (Parent Advisory Council) will be meeting on Monday 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 us by email at 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 now able to drop off their children in our new Drop-Off Circle, which is entered just north of the staff parking entrance, off Azure Rd. Please 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.

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

Please send your **cheque (no cash)** made payable to "Brighthouse Elementary" and put in an envelope clearly marked with your **child's name and division**. If you are paying for more than one child, please indicate the 2nd child's division as well.

Terry Fox

Our Terry Fox Run is set for **Friday, September 30, 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 start bringing in donations during the week of September 19th in support of cancer research. The donation bin will be located on the office counter. Thank you, in advance, for supporting Terry's dream!

School Goal 2016 - 2017

We are excited to share that our school's goal for this school year will continue in the area of Reading Comprehension. Staff will be delving deeper to look at strategies to support students' in their Reading and comprehension. Some of our Professional Development days will have a focus on Reading comprehension. We will continue to support Social Responsibility and awareness in the school. With the Primary students, we will be emphasizing the Traffic Light behavior choices where students are encouraged to make good choices in and around the school. In the Intermediate grades we will focus on **STARR** behavior choices:

(**S** - Safe, **T** - Thoughtful, **A** - Accepting, **R** - Respectful, **R** - Responsible)

The older students will have a number of opportunities made available to them to demonstrate their Leadership while at the same time being positive role models for our younger students. As a staff, we will be working on ways to further implement these positive behavior choices both in our classrooms and around the school.

Instrumental Band Rental Event

The grade 6 and 7 students will once again be in our Brighthouse band! The rental event will be held on **Monday, September 19th, from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. in the Music room**.

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 an Emergency Contact Information Sheet. 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



Want to be a Noon Hour Supervisor?

The Richmond School District is currently looking for Noon Hour Supervisors. They are taking applications at the Richmond School Board, 7811 Granville Street.

Please call 604-668-6000 for more information.

What's Happening at Brighthouse!

September

- 19 Monday.....Band Rental 3:00-4:00 p.m. in Music Room
- 22 Thursday.....Meet the Teacher 5:00 p.m. in the Gym
- 23 FridayPRO D Day, **students DO NOT attend school**
- 28 Wed.....Photo Day
- 29 Thursday.....First PAC Meeting 3:00 in the Library
- 30 FridayTerry Fox run 1:30 p.m.

October

- 07 FridayBreakfast Club starts
- 10 Monday.....Thanksgiving Holiday - **students DO NOT attend school**
- 19-20Parent Teacher Conferences (**early dismissal 1:38**)
- 21Provincial PRO D Day - **students DO NOT attend school**



***** IMPORTANT *****

No School on the following days:

September 23rd (Friday)

October 10th (Monday)

October 21st (Friday)

Pick your child up early at 1:38:

October 19th (Wednesday)

October 20th (Thursday)