



FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

By now you may have had the opportunity to look at the proposed budget for the 2010 – 2011 school year. You will be receiving notice of a meeting for parents that will take place on Monday, April 12. This is an opportunity for you to look at what other parents are doing to advocate for our public schools. It is very important for parent voices to be heard.

We have turned the corner and we are in the early days of our last term of school. As usual we have a lot on the go. This is the season of field trips and special events. You have probably felt this in your pocket book! If for any reason it is difficult for you to pay for an event or field trip please let your child's teacher know and we will pick up the expense with no questions asked.

Barb Hinds just announced today that the **Track and Field** season is beginning for students in grades 3 – 7. Please encourage your children to get involved. This is a great opportunity! Student can pick up registration forms from Barb.

The student council made a presentation today about **Pink Shirt Day** which takes place this coming Wednesday. This is an anti-bullying campaign that was inspired by students standing up for a student wearing pink who was called homophobic names back in Ontario a few years ago. The whole student population wore pink and pretty much shamed the bullies into better behavior. If all possible please have your children wear pink on Wednesday.

Have a great weekend!

Regards,

Hugh

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 9th:** REPORT CARDS GO HOME TODAY!
- April 10th:** Rally for Education – noon at the Vancouver Art Gallery
- April 12th:** (**Div3**) Field Trip to the Vancouver Art Gallery 8:45 am – 12:00pm
(**Div14**): Skating 9:45am – 10:45am
- April 14th:** PINK SHIRT DAY!
- April 19th:** (**Div13**): Skating 1:30pm – 2:30pm
- April 20th:** Rally at the Min of Ed office (1245 W. Broadway) at 4:00pm
PAC Meeting – 6:15pm to 8:00pm
- April 22nd:** Pro-D Day – NO SCHOOL
- May 7th:** Starry Night: An Evening of Talent & Fundraiser

FROM THE PAC:

NEW ON THE WEBSITE:

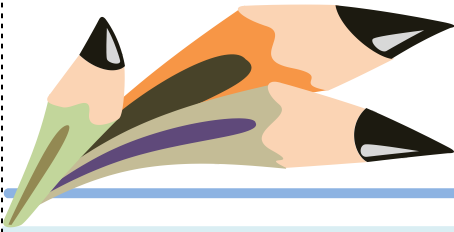
A brand new section “**Community Events**” which will allow us to advertise fun events going on in the community. If you have something you would like to post here, please email bayviewpac@gmail.com and we will get it up as fast as we can. ALSO, you can find an overview of the [April Calendar](#), a [call for volunteers](#) for the Starry Night: Evening of Talent, [more information on Pink Day](#) and [a list of public consultations](#) regarding next year's budget being held by the VSB in the upcoming weeks.

BAYVIEW 2.0:

After you are done surfing our site, take a minute to check out the amazing Bayview Flickr feed, located [here](#) (thanks to Noel) or join our Bayview Facebook group located [here](#). There are many ways to stay connected to Bayview and we hope you are taking advantage of all of them.

THANK YOU'S:

We can never say this enough, but thanks to all of the parents who are pitching at our school. There are several big projects underway such the Starry Night fundraiser, the Bayview music CD and our new community gardens that would not be possible without you. We also want to acknowledge all of you who continue to contribute in the classroom. You make Bayview a better school!



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE:

Unfortunately, the news today is filled with stories about the effect that chronic underfunding by the provincial government has had on our public education system. Our school district, the VSB is facing an \$18.12 million dollar deficit for the 2010-2011 school year. According to a document released by the VSB, this shortfall will result in across the board cuts. For example, the VSB will be reducing its teaching staff by 113.8 full-time teachers. This total includes 43 non-enrolling resource teachers working as resource teachers (ESL and Special Education), learning assistance/skills development teachers, secondary school counselors and teacher librarians. The Strings program, available to students in 51 elementary schools will be cut. Eight special education assistants and four multicultural liaison workers will also be eliminated. In addition to these cuts (and several more), the VSB is seriously considering the revised calendar proposal which we have shared with you.

It is time for us, as parents and concerned community members to get organized and get involved. There are several groups who have a jump on this and have engaged in letter writing campaigns, are organizing meetings and rallies, and are doing everything they can to draw the public's attention to the dire state of our public education system. Below is an invitation from one such group; the British Columbia Society for Public Education. Please consider attending. If you can't make it, please take the time to call/write/email our Minister of Education, Minister of Finance or the Premier himself. The PAC website has all of their addresses for you.

School Budget Cuts - What can we do?

As parents with children in the public school system, we have a great deal of influence over the future direction of public education. Standing united, we can send a powerful message about the importance of high quality education for all children. Just last year our provincial government promised to protect education. Underfunding the 2010-2011 Vancouver Board of Education's budget by more than \$18 M does just the opposite. It doesn't have to be like this. We can make a difference, we must. Our children cannot wait, they need to learn now, their future depends on it.

Come and meet with other parents to talk about what we can do. Find out what other PACs and parents are doing. Please send at least one member of your school's PAC and let other parents know everyone is welcome. (A Chinese interpreter will be present.)

Where: Vancouver Board of Education

1580 West Broadway, Room 120

When: Monday, April 12th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm

RSVP: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6GKV9B9>

For more information, call Allison McDonald 604-780-6941 (PAC Co-Chair, King George Secondary School), or Annie Ehman 604-255-3165 (Past PAC Chair, Vancouver Technical Secondary School and Past Chair, DPAC)

Who we are: BCSPE is a group of parents that supports a strong and vibrant public education system where all children can successfully learn. Our board members are all past or current members of Vancouver PACs, DPAC or Vancouver Board of Education Committees. You can visit our website at: www.bcspe.ca

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

VSBWest 2 COMMUNITY TEAM is offering the following activities:

Photoshop Basics (Grade 6 and 7 only): March 31 to May 5th - Wednesdays 12:15pm to 1:30 -Contact lsmith@vsb.bc.ca or mkulik@vsb.bc.ca for more information or call 604.713.5610. Cheques and registration forms are available in the office.

Drama with Jodi:

March 31st to April 28th – \$60 for 5 sessions, payable to Kitsilano Secondary School – contact ponggratzproductions@yahoo.ca

Spring Flag Football (Grades 5 -7, Bayview & General Gordon Students Only):

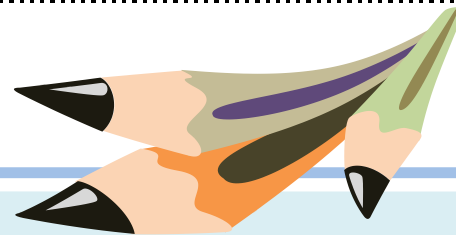
April 13th - June 2nd - Cost: \$45
Tuesdays – 3:15pm to 5:00pm
Wednesdays – 12:30pm to 2:00pm
Location: McBride Park



STARS OF THE WEEK:

A big shout out to the following students:

DIVISION 1:	ERICSSON
DIVISION 5:	JOSIAH & DUNCAN
DIVISION 6:	WENDY & SOL
DIVISION 7:	JULIAN, MEGAN & ETHAN
DIVISION 10:	ZOE, MOLLY H & MOLLY CG
DIVISION 11:	QUINN & ERIC
DIVISION 12:	BEN, RILEY & KEVIN
DIVISION 14:	SAPPHIRE



A STARRY NIGHT: A BAYVIEW EVENING OF TALENT & FUNDRAISER

Join us on May 7th for our 4th annual Evening of Talent. This is one of the school's 2 major fundraisers and this year we are setting a lofty goal. We would like to raise \$10,000, which will go towards funding much needed items such as Smartboards, bikeracks, art supplies, science lab materials, subsidizing field trips, sustainability initiatives, parent education and much more. Ticket prices are only \$10...email bayviewpac@gmail.com to reserve your today!

Bayview Community Elementary School

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http://bayview.vsb.bc.ca/school_profile.html

Liaison Trustee: Patti Bacchus

Assistant Superintendent: Lynne Green

Principal: Hugh Hooper

PAC Chairperson: Kelsy Wittmann

<http://www.bayviewpac.ca>