



**PETER EWART
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Principal's Message

Welcome to Peter Ewart Middle School. Peter Ewart Middle School is located on the dynamic Willoughby Slope in the Township of Langley. Together we work with our feeder schools; Langley Meadows Elementary, RC Garnett Demonstration Elementary, Donna Gabriel Robbins Elementary and R.E. Mountain Secondary School to provide our students with opportunities of innovation, community, excellence and a sense of belonging.

Every aspect of Peter Ewart Middle School's design supports the unique developmental needs of young adolescents. We believe focusing on the Langley School District's vision and the Middle School Pillars is essential in creating an inclusive school culture focused on the belonging and value of all. At Peter Ewart Middle School, we promote a school culture of care with a focus on building connections. Improving student learning through meaningful relationships, connectedness, and an environment of care is crucial to adolescent engagement. At Peter Ewart Middle School we create a safe, positive, and vibrant culture driven by the needs of middle years students. This along with, involving parents, staff and the community increases student engagement which then leads a positive impact on our students' achievement.

The Peter Ewart Middle School learning community encourages all to achieve their academic, athletic and personal success through involvement and belonging. Structures such as the essentials (Woodwork, Home Economics, Art, Drama, Makerspace and Digital Literacy) give students the opportunity to explore their passions and build on their individual curiosities and skill sets. Engagement through students having choice to explore their passions in a variety of ways along with our extracurricular Music programs and Athletic programs give students the ability to share their knowledge with each other and communicate and expand on their learning.

It is our goal to provide an enriching environment where every individual has the right to achieve their full learning potential. Working together with all stakeholders to create a caring, safe environment of engagement, motivation and promotion of individual belonging will ensure that the children of today will become productive citizens of tomorrow. Together we will learn, share, collaborate and inspire.

Mrs. Stephanie Labby
Proud Principal

Pillars of Middle School

- a. Integrity...Safe Place and Transitions
- b. Community...Connectedness...Staff Know Each student
- c. Excellence...Integrated Cross -Curricular Instruction
- d. Courage...Explorations and Curricular Competencies



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Support for Students

Learning Commons:

Peter Ewart's learning commons has a collection of print and non-print materials and technology resources. In addition to library skills our Learning Commons teacher cooperatively plans and teaches units with classroom teachers. The Learning Commons teacher and the Learning Commons technician manage the learning commons, the internet and word-processing computers, provide lunch-hour access, and hold book exchanges with class divisions.

School Counselors:

Peter Ewart has one school counselor. Students and parents are encouraged to call or leave a note requesting to see the counselor in order to address social and emotional needs of the children.

School Based Team (SBT):

Every month, the Resource/Learning Assistance teacher chairs a meeting of teachers and an administrator, plus School District support staff. Meetings are scheduled to discuss the needs of individual students, referred by teachers, and to brainstorm suggestions for their support.

English Language Learner Support (ELL):

ELL support teachers are provided to Peter Ewart to work with students for whom English is their second language.

Aboriginal Support Worker:

Our Aboriginal Support Worker will provide Aboriginal students with academic and cultural support.

Youth Care Worker

Our Youth Care Worker will assist both students and families with ways of coping with and correcting negative behaviours, making friends and acting positive.

WEB Program

WEB stands for "Where Everybody Belongs". This is a dynamic school orientation and transition program that welcomes the Grade 6's and strives to help them feel comfortable throughout their first year at middle school. The program trains Grade 8's to become WEB mentors who will foster and guide the Grade 6's to discover what it takes to be successful during the transition to middle school and help facilitate Grade 6 sense of belonging and success.

Character Strong /Advisory

The goal of advisory class is for all students to build another positive connection with an adult in the



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building and to develop areas of student growth that other aspects of the school are not working on. Advisory at PEMS is important to foster leadership where friendships can flourish. Advisory classes will discuss topics around developing school culture, leadership and team building and other areas of social emotional learning. Advisory classes meet once a week for 35 minutes.

Breakfast/Lunch Program

For those in need, a breakfast program will run every morning from 7:45 to 8:15 for students who wish to participate. A staff member will be there to prepare breakfast, and also assist students who perhaps need breakfast. A bag lunch will be provided for those in need of a lunch. Please reach out to the school counsellor if your family wishes to participate in this program.

Things to Know:

School Supplies

School supply lists can be found on the school website.

<https://pems.sd35.bc.ca/student-life/school-supply-lists-2021-22/>

First Day

Grade 6s and the WEB Mentors come for a half day starting in the morning at 8:25am -11:15 am on Tuesday, September 5th. Grade 7 and 8 students come for their first day on Wednesday, September 6th starting in the morning at 8:25 am and ending at 2:38 pm. (Grade 6 students also attend full day on Wednesday, September 6th.) This is a full day of instruction. More specific information will be emailed and posted on our websites late August/early September.

Calendar

Please refer to the pages in the agenda and on our website for information and times of other events.

Peter Ewart Middle School Expectations

At Peter Ewart, we expect the best. We want our students to be able to empathize with others and have



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the moral courage to make the right decisions. We are confident our parents will partner with us in using Restorative Action, where all adults in our school community establish and reinforce clear expectations.

If any students:

- a) bully, disrespect, interfere with, or endanger other students
- b) are disrespectful toward school buildings, property, and the property of others
- c) are disrespectful towards adults or peers
- d) refuse to comply with a directive from any adult staff member at a school (including teachers and teaching assistants, parents acting as chaperones or coaches, noon hour supervisors, etc.),

then they will be held accountable, and are subject to disciplinary consequences for their behaviour.

Closed Campus

Peter Ewart is a closed campus; that is, no one will be allowed to leave the school premises after arriving in the morning unless they have a note from a parent.

All visitors must check in at the office upon entering, if you are visiting the school.

Lunchtime

We do not have a cafeteria, so students will eat lunch in their classroom, sitting at their desks. Proper inside behaviour will be expected at all times. After the eating period there will be activities such as clubs and intramurals. All other students will be expected to go outside for the duration of the lunch period.

Out Days

All days are outside days; that is, students will go outside for recess and lunch play periods. Students must therefore come dressed for the weather each day.

Personal Technology

There has been ongoing discussion around the use of personal technologies (Cellphones, iPads etc..). Our policy is that students must put away personal technology upon school entry and not to be used until the bell at the end of the day. Electronic devices will not be used during recess and lunch and will not be allowed outside during these times.

Individual teachers will set their own guidelines for usage in the classroom. Depending on the activity or assignment, this could change frequently. **Cellphones** are a useful tool. Students will be allowed to organize and record their homework electronically at the end of each period. Cellphones may be used much more extensively depending on their teacher's classroom rules.



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We kindly ask parents to support our Personal Technology policy by contacting the school directly if you would like to contact your child during the school day

Lockers and Locks

Lockers are assigned by the classroom teacher, usually, within the first couple days of school. Please note that these are 'half' lockers so those big suitcase style rolling backpacks will NOT fit in them. We request that locks are to be purchased through the school as we have the ability to open them if a child forgets the combination.

Illness / Absence

Please keep sick children home from school. This way they do not infect other children. However, sometimes children are recovering and no longer contagious. If this is the case, we ask that you please contact your child's teacher.

Peter Ewart has an automated system where we contact the home of every student who is absent to inform parents of their child's absence. You can help our wonderful secretaries by emailing the school at pemattendance@sd35.bc.ca and letting us know your son or daughter will be absent or late. If this is not an option we ask that you phone the school at 778-726-4815. This not only saves us from making an unnecessary call, but if there are students out there who need our help, it helps us identify them faster.

Paying for Extras

Many times during the year parents will be asked to pay for extras around the school including: field trips, agendas, Sports team, spirit wear, etc. In order to make this as easy as possible we have set up a system whereby parents can pay through School Cash Online as well as the traditional options of cheque or cash. All cash and cheque payments will only be handled by our office staff.

Communication

Good communication between home and school is a critical factor in student success. We encourage parents to read the weekly newsletter on Fridays. Agendas are an excellent way to communicate with teachers, or parents can phone the school (778-726-4815), email, or make an appointment to see a staff member. We welcome your involvement, and your suggestions.

Please feel free to communicate with us, by following:
Website: <https://pems.sd35.bc.ca>



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Daily Schedule

2023-2024 Bell Schedule

8:20	Warning Bell
8:25 – 9:45	Block 1
9:45 – 10:00	Recess
10:00 – 11:20	Block 2
11:20 – 11:53	Lunch (15 mins eating/18 mins outside)
11:53 – 1:13	Block 3
1:13 – 1:18	Transition
1:18 – 2:38	Block 4

Student Life and Extra Curricular:

Explorations

At Peter Ewart, each student will take about 15 classes of: Woodwork, Foods, Art, Digital Literacy, Drama and Makerspace.

Explorations Grade 6

- Occurs every other day.

Explorations Grade 7

- Occurs every other day.

Explorations Grade 8

- Occurs every other day.

Clubs

Peter Ewart has many clubs and activities and we encourage students to get involved! Most of these take place during the school lunch time giving students even more opportunities to connect with peers in



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other classes and grades. If students would like to start a new club, just find a group of like-minded people and a teacher sponsor and away you go. Listen to the announcements and check the school website for dates and times.

Band/Choir

Peter Ewart offers a Senior and Jazz Band for students who have taken music instruction before, and a Junior Band for those just starting, as well as a Vocal Choir. Both of the bands and choir will be outside the timetable. This means they will be either before or after school, or at lunch.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this email and we realize that you may still have some questions. We will continue to give you the most up to date information as we receive it.

We look forward to the year ahead.

Enjoy your summer,

Stephanie Labby (Proud Principal), Kim Casquilho (Vice Principal) and Andrei Baboi (Vice Principal)