



School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)

KVR

Middle School/École Intermédiaire

300 Jermyn Avenue, Penticton, B.C. V2A 2E1

Phone and Fax: (250) 770-7600

Principal: Steve DeVito Vice-Principal: Jennifer Wingham

September 2017



Administrators' Message

Hello to all members of the KVR community; both returning and new! We hope that you have enjoyed a full and relaxing summer. September has arrived and of course, with it, comes the promise of another exciting school year. KVR is a wonderful place... we have a dedicated staff, amazing students, and truly supportive parents who work together to make this a great middle school. We are excited to welcome many new members to our community in grades 6, 7, and 8. The purpose of this 'early edition' of our newsletter is to provide you with some information about what's been going on over the summer, introduce some new members of our community, and to help answer any questions about the September start up. We are eagerly anticipating the new school year and are looking forward to re-connecting with all the members of our community!

Mr. DeVito and Mrs. Wingham

First Day

Schools re-open on **Wednesday, September 6th**, which is a half day. Classes begin at 8:37 and students will be dismissed at noon. Grade 6 students will report to the gym for a brief assembly. At this assembly, they will be introduced to the grade 6 team and teachers will call their classes and lead them to their classrooms for introductory activities.

Grade 7 and 8 students will report to the multipurpose room where they will find their division and then will report to their classroom. For more information regarding opening day, supply lists, and calendar please visit our web site at <http://kvriddleschool.weebly.com/>. Students should not bring school supplies on the first day. They may bring their supplies once they are issued a locker.

Bus students are reminded that buses will run 3 hours earlier than normally scheduled... i.e. a bus scheduled to leave at 3:10 will leave at 12:10.

DIVISIONS

Please respect the staff's thoughtful work (during June, July and August) in creating balanced classrooms regarding gender, ability, and appropriate learning environments. To this end, **we will not be taking any requests for class transfers or placement.**

PAC MEETING

We need you! Your first Parent Advisory meeting will be held on **Wed., Sept. 13th at 6:00pm** in the library. Come and join us! PAC meetings occur on the second Wednesday of every month at this time. Being a member of our PAC is a great way to get involved in our community.



Open House

Please join us for our annual 'Open House' on Thursday Sept. 21st from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. This is a great opportunity for families to check out our school, classrooms, and say hello to your child's teachers. Everyone is welcome and there is an ice cream treat waiting for all who attend! This event is sponsored by our PAC. Information tables will be set up by Parents for French and the Public Health Nurses regarding their immunization program.

Welcome New Staff!

We are pleased and excited to welcome some new (and returning) staff to KVR. Joining our Grade 6, team we have Mr. Sean Cargin. Our grade 7 team is welcoming Mr. Mitch Hardington. Mrs. Kylie Holmes will be teaching grade 8 English, Social Studies, and Drama. Ms. Hilary March will be teaching Art. Also, joining us is Learning Support teacher Mr. Mike Redford and counsellor Ms. Jane Christie. The following CEA's, Mary Hennig and Pat Styles, will also be joining our team.

VISITORS TO KVR

In order to keep our community as safe as possible it is expected that anyone visiting KVR **during school hours** (8:34 am – 2:56 pm) must check in at the office. Visitors will be assigned a pass to wear while in the building. Please be respectful of this policy.

CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH



really, really!!!

WE NEED YOU!

Your local Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Chapter is hard at work providing school trips, bursaries, scholarships, classroom resources and activities to enhance French learning for our French Immersion and Core French students.

Minimal time commitment, meet really fun people and enhance your kid's French learning experience.

Come out and see what we are all about...no French skills required ☺

Our next meeting is

Wed Sept 27th, 2017 at 7pm in the KVR Library

Everyone welcome! Please join us!

Any questions? Email us at jmkentel@shaw.ca

Bagged Lunch

The bagged lunch program is supported and subsidized through our school district. This program is needs based and can be confidentially accessed through Mr. DeVito. Please let us know if this is a service your family needs to access. Service will begin on Sept. 11th.



KVR IS A CLOSED CAMPUS

As stated in our planners and in accordance with School District #67 policy, KVR Middle School is a **closed campus**. All students in grades 6-8 are expected to remain on campus unless signed out by a parent or guardian. Sign in and sign out procedures are in place to ensure student safety. See Mr. DeVito or Mrs. Wingham if you have any questions.

Lunch Services

At KVR we do not have a cafeteria program. Students are expected to bring their own lunches to school. However, throughout the year we do provide limited service as fund raising programs for our different teams. For example, the grade 8 team brings in pizza on Friday. Options are pepperoni, ham & pineapple, and cheese. The pizza we order does have whole wheat crust and is in compliance with 'Healthy Schools.'



Students must pre-order before school on Fridays to receive pizza at lunch. Also, our Leadership team will be bringing in Subway on Tuesdays. We will provide you with information regarding other food services as it becomes available.

KVR CLOTHING

Please check out our display case in the school entrance for a variety of clothing items available to order. KVR hoodies, tee-shirts, and sweatpants are very popular. We also have gym bags! Order forms are available in the office.

STUDENT HANDBOOK AND CODE OF CONDUCT

In accordance with the Ministry of Education's guidelines, KVR Middle School has revised our school code of conduct. Each student will be provided with a code of conduct as an insert in their planner handbook. As well, it will be posted in our school's entrance and on our website. Teachers will be reviewing this information with their classes at the beginning of the school year. Please take the time to go through our code of conduct and discuss this very important information with your child.

Bikes, Skateboards, and Scooters!

While we appreciate that, for many students, riding bicycles, skateboards, or scooters are healthy options for transportation we have the following expectations around safety and security.



- During the busy times before and after school students should not be riding on school property. Please walk bikes and carry skateboards and scooters.
- Students should always be wearing helmets when riding. We ask parents to support us in encouraging this.
- We cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items. If something does get stolen, we will assist in trying to recover the item but can't guarantee its return.
- Students must use the bike racks outside and it is strongly recommended that they use a lock. KVR is located in a high traffic area and we have had several items stolen. Unfortunately, even using a lock does not guarantee security.
- Skateboards and scooters are not permitted in the building. If students are unable to lock these securely to the bike rack we do have limited storage in an outside room. This room is locked throughout the day but is not monitored.
- If you have any concerns about the security of your child's bike, skateboard, or scooter we would encourage that they be left at home.

KVR PHOTO DAY

Our School Photo day is scheduled for **Tuesday, Sept. 19th**. All students will have a photo taken for our yearbook. Parents may purchase packages when the proofs are sent home in October. Re-takes will occur on **October 19th** for students who missed the first photo date. Parents wishing to have their child get a retake photo must prepay at that time.



Aboriginal Education Program

School District #67 is pleased to offer a district wide Aboriginal Education Program for aboriginal students from K-12. The purpose of this program is to enhance academic achievement and to increase cultural learning opportunities for students.

One of our Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement goals is to increase the awareness of aboriginal history and culture by both the aboriginal and general population of students in schools across the district. We do this by offering school wide cultural events such as a District Pow Wow, Metis cultural performances, and aboriginal theatrical productions. In addition, we put on an annual aboriginal cultural event called Building Cultural Bridges to teach elementary students about various aspects of aboriginal culture in Canada.

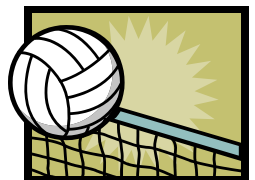
Aboriginal students who were in the Aboriginal Education Program in the 2016-17 school year will continue to be in the program for this coming school year unless parents notify the school. New aboriginal students to the school will be given a consent form to fill out. Please complete and return the consent form to school as soon as possible.

If you are wondering if your child is eligible to participate in the Aboriginal Program, please contact Al Beckingham, Principal of Aboriginal Programs at 250-770-7698 for more information.

FALL SPORTS AT KVR

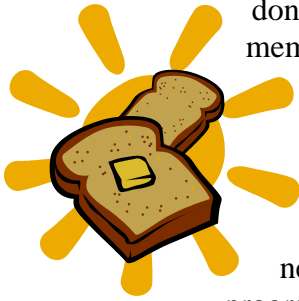
Students are encouraged to get involved in extracurricular activities at KVR. Athletics is an excellent opportunity for many. Please listen to announcements and watch the ***Athletics bulletin board*** for information. The following sports are traditionally held in the Fall. Please note that we are looking for parent volunteers to help with coaching. If you are interested please e-mail our Athletic Director, Ms. Tank at ltank@summer.com.

- Cross Country Running – All students
- Gr. 6, 7, & 8 Volleyball (boys and girls)
- Field Hockey - Gr. 7 & 8 Girls



KVR Breakfast Program

Once again we are very pleased to announce that KVR will be offering a breakfast program for our students. This program is run by parent volunteers and is sponsored by *Valley First* and generous



donations from other community members. The purpose of this program is to ensure that **all** students have the nutrition needed to engage effectively in learning. This program is meant to support students in need but is not exclusive. This program is also always looking for volunteers to help out. If you are interested, please inform our office staff.

Dropping Off , Picking Up, and Idling Cars

Parents are reminded that the area directly in front of KVR on Jermyn Ave. is a 'no-stopping zone'. Please do not stop to drop your child off in this area. It is not safe to do so. RCMP do monitor this and will ticket violators. Please plan a suitable drop off/pick up location out of this zone. Also, there have been many complaints about idling vehicles waiting to pick up students from KVR. If you are waiting in your vehicle please turn your engine off to help reduce emissions.



Smoke Free Environment

KVR is a smoke free environment. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on School district property. This includes in our school parking lot.



NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

As we are all becoming more environmentally responsible we are also going to continue our practice of **e-mailing** the monthly newsletter home. To reduce our carbon footprint, we will not send a paper newsletter home with each student. However, if you prefer a paper copy of our newsletter, please let Lorrie Smith at lsmith@summer.com (or 250-770-7600) and provide us with your child's name and teacher and we will ensure a copy is sent home. We also post our monthly newsletters on our website...

<http://kvriddleschool.weebly.com/>

Counsellor's Corner

Welcome to the new school year at KVR! As the school counsellors, we are looking forward to reconnecting with last year's students, and meeting our new students.

Middle school is a time of transition, and students face social and personal changes, as well as academic demands. Here are some things that parents/guardians can do to help:

- Listen to your child's observations about school (whether positive or negative)
- Respond to difficulties with affirmation (rather than judgment), for example "That must be hard for you"
- Remind your child that any change can be difficult and requires an adjustment period; assure them that things will likely feel different in a little while
- Encourage them to let you know daily how they are doing, and ask them to look for one or two things that are positive every day

The middle school years are a time of tremendous change for our students. As they move into adolescence, they experience shifts in their emotional life, friendships, interests, thinking skills, and physical maturity. It can be a demanding transition for both students and their families.

Counselling is available at KVR Middle School to assist students as they encounter social and emotional challenges. Common concerns include: friendship difficulties, transition to new grade and teachers, anxiety/depression/school avoidance, changes in family relationships, losses, self-esteem building. Sessions are confidential, and available through self-referral, or by referral from teachers or parents. In addition to individual counselling, at times referral to community based agencies is recommended.

Please feel free to contact us at any time.

Nick Korvin (nkorvin@summer.com)

Jane Christie (jchristie@summer.com)

250-770-7600

Student Insurance

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance

For your convenience, we've made arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc (iA Financial Group).

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the unexpected costs of injury from accidents, and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

For complete plan details, please visit kidsplus.ca.

Kids Plus™
Accident Insurance



September Dates to Remember!

6	School Opens (Half day only)
13	PAC Meeting 6:00 pm in KVR library
19	School Photo Day
21	Terry Fox Run
21	KVR Open House/Family Night 6:30 - 7:30 pm
29	Professional Development Day (no school for students)

Remember to “Like” us on Facebook for updates and information about upcoming events at KVR Middle School!

