



JOURNEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Ms. Pamela Gerrits

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Katrina Abell

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Journey News

Nov 15, 2021

We would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the Coast Salish, specifically Esquimalt Nation and Songhees Nation on which Royal Bay Secondary is built, and the nations that SD62 works with, Beecher Bay SCIA'NEW Nation, T'Sou-ke Nation, and Nuu-chah-nulth Pacheedaht Nation to the west.

We recognize the territory, the First Nations peoples, and thank them for sharing this beautiful land. Hych'ka – Coast Salish Kleco Kleco – Nuu-chah-nulth



Introducing the New Principal:

I am excited to join this vibrant community as Principal of Journey Middle School!

Welcome to our new Parent Newsletter. For those of you with students at Edward Milne, the format will look familiar to you; we are working towards smooth transitions between our schools, not just for students, but for families as well!

The middle school years are a strong interest of mine – this is my fifteenth year working in middle schools (Journey is my 5th), and my Master's Degree was focused on Middle School Experiences. I have had the opportunity to help develop the revised BC Curriculum, which gave me an understanding of where we are going with both the curriculum and with the new teaching techniques and approaches.

This is my ninth year as an Administrator and my first year here at Journey. As an educator, my training is in Music Education. I have run music programs from K-12 in band, choir, jazz band, vocal jazz, guitar, music exploration, and have conducted a variety of ensembles. This past fall I also had the opportunity to work with future educators, teaching at the University of Victoria. As a musician, I primarily play flute and saxophone, but can often be found playing a variety of instruments in the pit at some of our secondary musical theatre programs. I am passionate about education and enjoy working with people of all ages!

At Journey, the dedication of our educators and support staff is exceptional, and the focus on the child is at the core of everything we do. We aim to provide a calm, caring, and compassionate environment for every person in the building. I encourage you to get involved, join our PAC, meet with the teachers and support staff wrapped around your child, and enjoy this unique time in your child's development!



What's inside!

- Page 2 Around the School
- Page 3 Remembrance Day
- Page 4 Na'tsa'maht
Indigenous Education
Opportunities for
Everyone
Points of Progress
- Page 5 Journey PAC
- Page 6 Upcoming Dates

Around the school

Inclement Weather:

For information on school and bus news on days with inclement weather (like today), listen to CFAX 1070 in the morning for the most up to date information. Thank you to everyone for being flexible with all the weather and traffic challenges today!

Parent Teacher Interviews:

Students will be released at 11:59 this Thursday to allow for Parent-Teacher Interviews. Students taking the bus will be picked up 3 hours early, starting at lunch. For information on meeting your teachers, please send them an email (available on the school website).

Non-Instructional Day:

Reminder that this Friday is a non-instructional day for students. Our staff will be participating in a variety of training sessions and learning opportunities.

Lockers:

Lockers are returning to Journey! Thank you for your patience as we worked through a process to ensure safety for staff and students. Teachers are in discussions this week on the process of starting this up, and you can expect lockers to be in place within the next week or so. We will be looking at staggering access to lockers with classes for safety.

Whiteboards:

Good news! We have put in the order to replace 18 chalkboards with whiteboards over the next few months. Currently each classroom is equipped with one whiteboard for their projector, and either chalkboards, whiteboards, or a mix of both. Journey is joining the modern age!

Clothing:

Quick reminder that students will be outside for some classes, breaks, and before/after school. Please remind your children to dress for the weather. Thank you!

COVID/Communicable Diseases information

Masks are required for students, staff, and Visitors. **If you're planning on visiting the school please** call ahead to schedule your visit with a specific staff member, and complete the health check here before arrival.

Remembrance Day Museum at Journey!

This year, our students participated in a Remembrance Day Museum, spearheaded by our Vice-Principal, Mrs. Abell. Thank you to our community members and to the Sooke Museum for sharing their knowledge and stories. Special thanks to Elder Bill and to the staff and students at Journey Middle School who helped put this event on! Please see below for more pics!



Na'tsa'maht Indigenous Education Corner

Our thanks to our Na'tsa'maht Indigenous department for sharing some of the resources below—click on the links to learn a little more!

COAST SALISH MOON Slideshow:

WESELANEW (November): [Moon of the Shaker of the Leaves](#)

SJELŽÁSEN (November): [Moon of Putting your Paddle away in the Bush](#)

Opportunities for Everyone

Click on the links below to access more information on these opportunities:

[Parents as Career Coaches—a Virtual Zoom Session](#)

[Kath Murdoch—Getting Personal with Inquiry Learning](#), (Networks of Inquiry & Indigenous Learning)


[Victoria Literacy Connections:](#) The Victoria Literacy Connections (VLC) offers several free and paid programs for children and youth. Eg. E-Reading Club (English and French), PenPal Club, ESL Support, School Support and Tutoring, Reading Partners, Remedial Program etc.

Points of Progress:

As part of a province-wide Reporting Pilot Project, teachers are working with various options of reporting out the progress of our students to families. These teachers will be in contact with you to share the option they are following. Some will be using our new proficiency language (see below), some will be sending out Points of Progress, and others will be reporting using a portfolio system. Our FAST (Fine Arts, Applied Skills, Design & Technology) courses will all be reported on MyEd. Families will have access to Term 1 MyEd report cards (for those teachers using MyEd to report) on the afternoon of December 10th. If you have any questions or are unsure how your teacher will be reporting, please send them an email (available on the Journey web-site).

To view reports from teachers reporting on MyEd, go to <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca>.

If you need help logging in, go to [MyEd Family Portal User Instructions](#).

Proficiency Scale				
	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
	The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.

Journey PAC

2021-2022 PAC

Executive Members:

President: Trudy Fraser

Vice President: Heather Stout

Treasurer: Marise Coetzee

Secretary: Greg Reaney

Meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at
7:00 pm via MS Teams

Please join us at our next Journey PAC meeting

December 14, 2021 @ 7:00 pm

[Click here to join the meeting](#)



*If you wish to attend the online meeting or
volunteer with Journey PAC please email
Trudy Fraser at <hunni8205@gmail.com>.*

Thank you!

Upcoming dates:

Nov 17	Lockdown Drill, 1:00 pm
Nov 18	Early dismissal(3 hours early)
Nov 19	Non-Instructional Day: students not in session
Dec 1	Last day of FAST* rotation #2
Dec 3	Last Day of Term 1
Dec 17	Last Day of school before Winter Break

Full-Year Course Term Dates:

Term 1	Sep 7 – Dec 3 (12 weeks)
Term 2	Dec 6 – March 11 (12 weeks)
Term 3	Mar 14 – June 29 (14 weeks)

FAST* Rotation

Rotation 1	Sep 7 – Oct 20 (18 sessions)
Rotation 2	Oct 25 – Dec 1 (18 sessions)
Rotation 3	Dec 6 – Feb 2 (20 sessions)
Rotation 4	Feb 7 – Mar 16 (17 sessions)
Rotation 5	Apr 4 – May 11 (17 sessions)
Rotation 6	May 16 – June 29 (20 sessions)

**FAST = Fine Arts, Applied Skills, Design & Technology Rotations*

Journey Admin Contacts

Pam Gerrits - Principal

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Katrina Abell -Vice-Principal

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Journey Counselor Contacts

Michaeline Yarchuk - Counsellor

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Please visit our website at:

<https://journey.web.sd62.bc.ca/>

for teacher contact information