



# Message from the Administration

Mr. Kal Russell  
Principal

Mr. David Mark  
Vice-Principal

## Year 2 of the New Curriculum at North Saanich

We are off to another great start at North Saanich Middle School. Many staff members feel it was the best start up ever! Students have settled nicely into our school routines and we are excited about the rest of the year. Our staff feels very fortunate to be working with your children. They are an amazing group of kids!

This year we have smaller classes which means an extra division as well as a couple of portables on site. Educationally, we are in year two of the new BC Curriculum in grades K-9. Our staff have been utilizing the strategies and principles of the new curriculum for several years now and are comfortable with its philosophies. At NSMS, we believe in personalizing instruction so that all students are being challenged at their level and moving forward in their learning.

This is the only formal newsletter that we will send out this year. Last year it was obvious that not many people were reading newsletters, so I switched the format to a blog style post on our website. The post called 'Stuck in the Middle' will share a story from school that highlights our school philosophy, programs and students. I hope you will read them.

There are a couple of other small changes at school as well. This year the province has moved up the FSA dates to October. Grade 7 students will be writing a series of 6 standardized provincial assessments during that time period. Another change is in grade 8 FAAS. This year our grades will be doing Multi-media with some drama skills mixed in. Last year we incorporated more media into our drama program and our grade 8 students have indicated that this is their preference. And finally, we have a new Superintendent in Saanich. Mr. Dave Eberwein joins us from West Vancouver where he had an excellent reputation as a leader and strong voice for public education.

Our staff is excited about working with your children. We encourage you to stay connected to your child's teacher and learning through email, phone calls, face to face meetings and teacher homepages. And we hope to see you at school activities and events.

**Go Hawks!**

PAC Meeting  
Tuesday,  
October 17th  
7PM in the  
Learning  
Commons

NORTH SAANICH MIDDLE SCHOOL

# The Hawk Eye

## Remembrance Day Assembly—Nov. 10

We are formally inviting parents to join us for our annual Remembrance Day Assembly. This is a very important learning opportunity for our students and staff.

At 9:45 AM on Nov. 10, 2017 we will be assembling in our gym to

remember those Canadians who have served our country, providing us with the opportunity and privilege to live in a peaceful country.

We will have seating available for guests.

**We shall not forget.**



# Procedures for voicing your concerns

Parents will, on occasion, have questions regarding their child's education. The staff at North Saanich Middle School wants you to contact the school when a problem or question arises. To facilitate action on any concern regarding the schools policies, procedures or curriculum, we ask that you take the following steps:

- (a) Should the concern be the result of an action or decision of an employee, the complainant is encouraged to discuss the issue with that employee;
- (b) If not resolved by the employee the complainant should involve the appropriate principal or supervisor;
- (c) Should the principal or supervisor not resolve the concern then the complainant should involve either the Assistant Superintendent (Learning Services), the Assistant Superintendent (Instructional Services) or the Secretary-Treasurer;
- (d) Should the concern remain unresolved, the Superintendent of Schools may be contacted for assistance with process;
- (e) At any time the complainant may contact a trustee by phone or direct a letter to the Board Chair for assistance with process;
- (f) If concerns are still not addressed satisfactorily, a complainant may formally appeal a decision to the Board according to the Administrative Procedures outlined in Policy 1360.

## 32nd Annual NSMS Triathlon

Each October 31<sup>st</sup> for the last 31 years North Saanich Middle Students have been participating in their own Triathlon. Students can work in teams of three with a swimmer, biker and a runner or they may participate as an individual in the 'Iron Person' where they perform all three disciplines, swimming, running and biking. This is a great tradition that focuses us on fitness and fun. Please encourage your child to participate in this event.



## New Staff

Joining the NSMS Team:  
Teachers :

- Mrs. Pires
- Ms. Ammaturo
- Mrs. De Klerk
- Mrs. Searle
- Mr. Peden
- Mrs. McElgunn

## Dates to Remember

Please check our school website at [northsaanich.sd63.bc.ca/](http://northsaanich.sd63.bc.ca/) or follow us on Twitter @SD63NSaanich

October		November	
Thanksgiving	09	Photo Retakes	03
PAC Meeting @ 7 p.m.	17	Remembrance Day Assembly @ 9:45	10
BC Shake Out Drill @ 10:15 a.m.	19	Remembrance Day Holiday	13
Early Dismissal at 1:55 pm	19	PAC Technology Evening	21
Non Instructional Day	20	Non Instructional Day #2	24
Triathlon Swim Day	30		
Triathlon (Bike & Run) & Halloween Social	31		

