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June 30<sup>h</sup>, 2021

## Principal's Message

Thank you for sharing your children with us, each and every day! We truly value the time we spend with the students as we learn together and build memories together. As we work with our students and their families, together we are working towards a learning environment where students are happy and healthy.

These last fifteen months have been quite the rollercoaster! We could not be prouder of our school community, as our students, their families, and our staff have done a remarkable job of navigating through uncertainties and challenges presented to us by the pandemic. Everyone has worked together to do our best to provide the students with wonderful social, emotional and academic learning experiences, with the goal of having our Bastion Bobcats feel safe and comfortable at school. As we prepared the year-end slideshow, we looked through hundreds of photos. In the photos, the students always had smiles on their faces and were actively involved in day-to-day activities, as well as special events. The photos are evidence that our students, families and staff stepped up to the challenges. We should all be proud of ourselves and celebrate all of the great things that happened over the school year!!

Currently, we are hopeful for a close to normal school start-up in September. A tentative school start-up plan is outlined below, however, this is subject to change. School districts in British Columbia will receive updates from the Public Health Officer and the Ministry of Education, mid-summer. As soon as School District No. 83 receives this important information, the school district and schools will provide families with specific information.

On behalf of all the staff members at Bastion Elementary, we would like to wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer break! We hope your summer is filled with relaxation, fun and adventure. Everyone should look forward to building memories as a family!

Sincerely,

*Joel Menzies*  
Principal



*Laura Jegues*  
Vice-Principal

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## Saying "Good-bye" is Always Hard

It is always hard to say good-bye at this time of year, to students who will be leaving, as well as staff members.

Several of our Grade 5 students have attended Bastion Elementary since Kindergarten, and Bastion Elementary is a big part of their lives. Those Grade 5s who have joined Bastion in the last few years have been a welcome addition to our school. We would like to wish our Grade 5 students all the best as they move on to middle school and start the next chapter in their learning journeys.

We would also like to say good-bye to those students, and their families, who are moving to new schools or new communities over the summer. We hope your children enjoyed their time at Bastion Elementary, and we would like to wish each of you all the best in your new endeavors.

A few of our staff members will be leaving Bastion Elementary. These individuals have helped Bastion Elementary be a wonderful place to learn and teach. We have been very fortunate to have a strong teaching staff and support staff, who always look out for the best interests of all the students. We would like to say good-bye to the following individuals and wish them all the best as they move on to new opportunities, where they will continue to have a positive impact on the lives of children:

**Mrs. Tammy Isaac** (Retirement)  
**Mme Rose Trudeau** (temporary contract ended June 25<sup>th</sup>)  
**Mme Mckenzie Beinder** (temporary contract ended June 25<sup>th</sup>)  
**Ms. Megan Banman** (temporary contract ended June 25<sup>th</sup>)  
**Mr. Jason Chambers** (temporary contract ended June 25<sup>th</sup>)  
**Ms. Nichol Forsyth** (accepted a CEA position at North Canoe)

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## New Additions to Our Bastion Team

We are pleased to announce the names of the following individuals, who have been hired to join our Bastion staff for the 2021 - 2022 school year:

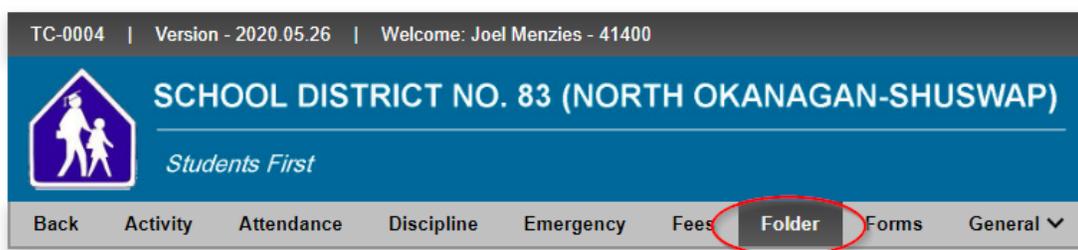
**Mme Valerie Viens** (joining us from École Cedardale in West Vancouver)  
**Ms. Sheri Webster** (joining us from South Broadview Elementary)  
**Ms. Cheri Matuga** (joining us from Hillcrest Elementary)  
**Ms. Adrienne Skibbe** (new part-time Music teacher)  
**Mrs. Megan Ollinger** (rejoining Bastion after a one-year Leave of Absence)  
**Mrs. Christine Williams** (rejoining Bastion after a one-year Leave of Absence)

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## Year-end Report Cards

Some students were away on the last day of school. Not to worry if you were unable to get your child's report card, as families can access a digital copy of the report card through Parent Connect. Please follow the instructions below to view your child's year-end report card:

1. To access Parent Connect, click on the following link:  
<https://cimsweb.sd83.bc.ca/SchoolConnect/ParentSignone.aspx>
2. Enter your email (the email you receive school communication in) and your password. If you are unable to remember your password, click "Forgot My Password".
3. If you are having trouble signing into Parent Connect, click on the [Instructions Document](#) link.
4. Once you are in Parent Connect, select the specific child from the Student drop-down menu.
5. From the top menu bar, click on Folder.



6. You will then see a list of documents (mostly previous report cards). Click on [View](#) for the 2020-2021 Term 3 Report Card June 2021 document.

<a href="#">View</a>	REP	2020-2021 Term 3 Report Card Jun 2021	2021/06/28
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7. The report card will then show-up as a PDF document.

## Preventing the “Summer Slide”

Our students work very hard during the school year, and all of them make significant improvements from September to June. Academic, social, and emotional growth are evident in so many of our learners, and we hope everyone takes advantage of various opportunities to continue strengthening their skills over the summer. **Summer is a time to relax, have fun, and seek adventure.** Keeping this in mind, studies have shown that students who make gains over the school year, do in fact show some regression in their learning when they stop thinking about skills they work so hard to achieve over the year. The term “summer slide” refers to the loss of academic skills. Here are some suggestions to help the students prevent the “summer slide”:

- Continue to use on-line programs introduced to the students, by the classroom teachers. All students who used these programs throughout the school year will continue to have access to the programs during the summer. Teachers will be able to provide you with login information, if your child does not already have that information.
- Students from Kindergarten to Grade 5 can join the Okanagan Regional Library’s Summer Reading Club. Parents can visit the ORL website and register their children for this fun program. There are summer programs/events that run through the library, and everything is free!
- Whether or not your child joins the Summer Reading Club, the goal is to try to have him/her read throughout the summer. It is always a benefit when the parents can model good reading habits to their children!
- Children can write in various ways about their adventures over the summer. Whether it is writing on paper or an iPad, or creating a journal or scrapbook, children should be encouraged to be creative and write about events/ideas, which are personally interesting.

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## Looking Ahead to September

1. **Office Hours.** The school office will be open from 8:30 - 2:00, starting Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Our secretaries, along with Mme Jegues (VP) and Mr. Menzies (Principal) will be in the school all week, preparing for a new school year and welcoming any parents/students who wish to stop by and say "hi".
2. **First Week of School.** The Grade 1 - 5 students will start school on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. When the Welcoming Bell rings at 8:02, the students will line-up at the exterior door of *last year's* classroom. The students will spend the first day in their last year's classrooms, so we can determine who has moved away and who has recently registered. On Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> (maybe even Thursday), the students will be able to go to their classrooms for the year and meet their teacher(s).

Kindergarten students will begin their Gradual Entry on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. A reminder about the Kindergarten Gradual Entry will be sent to Kindergarten families in August.

***Please note: Due to any revisions of the Ministry of Education's COVID-19 restrictions and regulations, our plan for school start-up may change. We will inform families of any new start-up procedures as soon as we receive direction from the Ministry of Education and School District No. 83.***

3. **School Supplies.** Families do not need to go shopping and purchase school supplies for their children. The school has purchased school supplies for each classroom, and families are charged a School Supply Fee to cover the cost of the supplies used over the course of year. In preparation for the first day, students will need to have a backpack and a clean pair of indoor runners (with non-marking soles). A copy of the School Fee Schedule for 2021-2022 can be seen on the next page

## School Fee Schedule 2021-2022

### Permissible Fees:

- Listed below are the permissible school fees in compliance with provincial legislation. A **financial hardship policy** is in place at Bastion Elementary for families unable to afford school fees. Please contact Mr. Menzies or Mme Jegues (250.832.3741) for further information. If you wish to work out a payment plan, please contact Leahann Mohle, the school secretary.

- *Due by Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

- **School Supplies (K – Gr. 5):** \$35
- **Student agenda:** \$7 (Agenda replacement: \$7)

*(Please Note: Kindergarten students do not need to purchase agendas.)*

### Requested Fees:

- Provincial legislation does not allow schools to charge a mandatory activity fee. Our PAC and staff believe these programs and activities are important for our students. We are requesting parents continue to pay these fees, so these programs can continue. Our ability to provide these programs will depend on the response from parents. No student will be denied access to a school sponsored program/activity for financial reasons. If circumstances do not permit payment at this point, please contact Mr. Menzies or Mme Jegues.

- **Optional Cultural Performance and Activity Fee \$5 per student**

Due to limited Cultural Performances and School-wide Activities in 2020-2021, we are only charging \$5 per student, as opposed to the regular \$30 per student.

- **Field Trips:**

Teacher may plan field trips and charge a fee to cover costs (eg. transportation, entry fees, accommodation, food, equipment rentals, etc.).

Payment can be made by cash, cheque or e-transfer.

E-transfers can be sent to [bas@sd83.bc.ca](mailto:bas@sd83.bc.ca).

A password is not required.

Please be sure to include your child's first and last name and what the payment is for in the Memo/Notes section (eg. Suzy Smith – School Fees).

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Menzies or Mme Jegues (250.832.3741), if you have any questions regarding fees.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank families for their continued support.

