

Neilson Grove News



Message From the Principal

It has been a good start to our school year. Thank you again to all of our Neilson Grove Families. You have made me feel so welcome! I'm looking forward to a great year of learning with you and your children.

My number one value that influences how I work, the decisions that I make, and how I would like our school to function is belonging.

Belonging. A learning environment where children feel they belong is a safe environment. When children- or any person for that matter- feel safe they will take risks in their learning and be willing to try new things. Children bloom in this kind of environment and we can see amazing growth in their learning. Creating this feeling of belonging is challenging and important work that needs all of us working together and this newsletter will hopefully start us on that journey!

Important Dates

Sept. 13- PAC Meeting @7:00

Sept 15- Individual Photo Day

Sept. 22- Open House 6:00-7:00PM

Sept. 23- Professional Learning Day- No School for Students

Sept. 29- Truth & Reconciliation Day Events/Orange Shirt Day (Stay Tuned for details!)

Sept. 30- Truth & Reconciliation Day- No School For Students

Oct. 3-Nov 11- FSAs for Grade 4 & 7 Students

Oct. 10- Thanksgiving

Oct. 19 & 20- Parent-Teacher Conferences, Dismissal @2:00

Oct. 20- Great Shakeout BC

"As Griffins, We SOAR!"



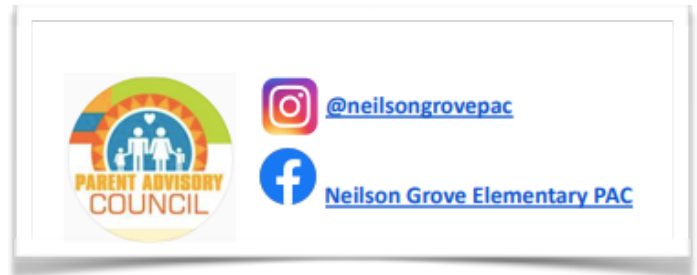
S.O.A.R. is the acronym that we use at Neilson Grove. It's what we all agree are our rights and our responsibilities; our school agreements.

We have the responsibility to be **SAFE** and the right to have others act in safe manners around us at school.

We have the the responsibility to be **OBSERVANT**; pay attention to how our words and behaviour is affecting those around us, and the right to have others be observant of the impact their words and actions.

We have the responsibility to be **ACCOUNTABLE** for our choices, both our words and our actions, and we have the right to have those around us take responsibility for their words and actions.

Finally, we have the responsibility to be **RESPECTFUL** to those around us, and the right to be respected.



"There is strong evidence that increased parent involvement in the school results in increases in students' achievement, satisfaction, and a sense of belonging"

Happily, we are able to come together again for PAC meetings. We also want to be flexible and offer options, so we will be running PAC meetings as hybrid meeting; in-person for those who are able and comfortable, and simultaneous virtual options for those that would prefer this option.

Here is the 2022-23 Neilson Grove PAC:
Chair - Terry Kaplan, Secretary - Natasha Gray, Co-Treasurer - Angela Brain, Co-Treasure - Megan Birks, Co-DPAC Rep - Diane Chubb, Co-DPAC Rep - Ryoko Campbell

DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

We have a wonderfully supportive community and I have already seen how respectful the dog owners have been, keeping dogs on leashes and in control when they come on our school property.

Unfortunately, the Delta School District has a policy that, unless it's a working dog- Guide Dog, Trained Therapy Dog, etc.- they are not allowed on the school grounds, while school is in session.

It would be greatly appreciated, if your dog walks with you to and from school, that you keep it behind the fence of the school property at pick-up and drop-off time. Thanks!



Navigating Conflicts & Mistakes

School is a place to learn and that learning isn't just about academics. It's important that we help children learn to navigate conflicts in positive and respectful ways to help them become their best selves.

MAKING IT RIGHT

1. Own your choices:
I shouldn't have ...
2. Identify the Problem:
It was wrong because ...
3. Make a plan:
Next time I will ...

We are starting with this, "Making it Right" restorative practice that's in kid-friendly language. Staff, including our Noon Hour Supervisors and I will be using this language to work through situations that come up with students.

I will be introducing this at our first assembly.

We'll talk about the importance of owning our choices, knowing that everyone makes mistakes—even adults, and to be kind and respectful humans we need to understand the impact our words and actions have on others, and learn to do things differently.

Learning takes patience and time. With practice, we know that our students will develop their skills to take ownership of their words and actions, identify how their actions and words may not fit with our school S.O.A.R. agreements, and be able to make plans to do things differently the next time they are in similar situations.

We hope that you'll begin hearing your children using this language and would love to hear from you!

Parent Connect & Student Information Updates



If your child has a medical condition that requires precautionary treatment or medication at school, and you

have not filled out a "Medical Alert Card" and/or the "Administration of Medication at School" form, or if there is new information regarding your child's medical alert, allergies, or medication, please come to the office for the form. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call the office, 604-946-4468.

It's also very important that families review the Emergency Release information on Parent Connect. If there is any information that needs to be updated or changed, please contact the office as soon as possible.

Every year families are asked to give us consent for several programs and technology support programs that we may use in classrooms.



If you could, we would really appreciate that these consents get done as soon as possible. These include consent for walking field trips, the fresh fruit and veggie program, Google apps for education, etc. All of these consents can be found on Parent



Connect- Forms.

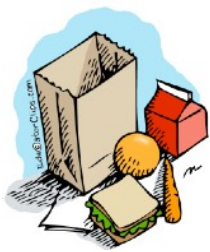
Visitors

Thankfully, it looks like the most challenging parts to the pandemic are behind us and we can have visitors in our building again. That said, we still need your help with keeping our school a healthy environment. If you're feeling unwell, please **do not** come into the school.

Teachers instructional time is very important, as I'm sure you know. If you need to speak with your child's teacher please call during break times, before or after school or email (all teachers emails can be found on our school's [website](#)) to set up a meeting time.

As has been recommended by our School Liaison Officers, we will continue to keep our front door locked. We will happily let you into the building when you come to the front door!

Lunches



If the morning was rushed and you weren't able to get your child's lunch made before they came to school, it's fine for you to drop it by the office. We greatly appreciate if this could be an "out of the ordinary" thing because it impacts the class routines and teaching time.

Bell Schedule

8:50	First Bell
8:55	Instruction Begins
10:35-10:50	Recess
12:05-1:00	Lunch
3:00	Dismissal

Updated Daily Health Check

A health check means a person regularly checking to ensure they (or their child) are not experiencing symptoms of illness (including but not limited to COVID-19 symptoms) that would limit their ability to participate fully in regular activities before coming to school to prevent spread of communicable diseases, such as COVID-19, within school settings.

Common symptoms of communicable disease include:

- fever or chills
- stuffy or runny nose
- sore throat
- cough
- headaches
- muscle or body aches
- fatigue

Specific symptoms of COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

Do not attend school or work if you are sick.

Anyone exhibiting new symptoms of illness (including COVID-19) should stay home and follow guidance provided by the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Communicable Diseases Plan

Though we are in a much better place and able to function closer to what we have been used to, we aren't yet completely in "normal" times. Schools no longer have to create individual safety plans or individual communicable diseases plans, but will now have routines and systems that use the Delta School district's Communicable Diseases plan.

You can see the District's plan [here](#).