

OCTOBER 23 - 27, 2023

Monday Oct 23	Tuesday Oct 24	Wednesday Oct 25	Thursday Oct 26	Friday Oct 27
Day 2	Day 1	Day 2	Day 1	Day 2
UBC Teacher Candidates Arrive for Short Practicum	Transcript Verification Assembly (Gym @ Flex) <i>Dussehra (Hinduism)</i> <i>Youth Climate Action Day</i>	Photo Retake Day	Literacy 12 Assessment Prep (Theatre @ Flex) PAC Meeting 7:00pm on Teams Click Here to Join	Loon Lake Music Trip (Oct 27-29)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Welcome Teacher Candidates! (Oct 23)

McNair welcomes the following TC's for their 2-week Short Practicum:

A. Boni (Ms. Mar and Mr. Lui)
H. Zeng (Ms. Holden)
L. Andrews (Mr. Sangra and Mr. Banks)
T. Dhami (Ms. Zanikos and Mr. Wallace)
S. Draskic (Mr. Young and Mr. Leung)

Flex Time Attendance

We are now emailing parents a weekly summary of each student's Flex Time usage. Parents will be able to see which classrooms their child has signed up for and their attendance status for each day.

Transcript Verification Assembly (Oct 24)

Grade 12 students will be provided with an opportunity to review their individualized Transcript Verification Reports for accuracy. TVRs list all current and past classes. Students are asked to check these for accuracy to ensure that the correct information is sent to post-secondary institutions.

Photo Retake Day (Oct 25)

Artona will be in the study centre in the morning to take photos of students who were missed on photo day and to retake photos of those who wish to have a new photo. Students wishing a retake **must** bring their current student card with them to have a new photo taken.

Grade 12 Literacy Assessment Prep Session (Oct 26)

In preparation for writing the Literacy 12 Assessment, all grade 12 students are invited to the theatre during Flex for an important information session. This session will review the structure and content of the assessment and provide some tips for success.

PAC Meeting (Oct 26) – Link to Meeting Below

Thursday, October 26 at 7:00 PM will be this year's first PAC Meeting. All parents/guardians are invited to attend virtually on Teams. [Click here to join.](#)

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Oct 30	Haunted House
Oct 31	Halloween
Nov 1	Collaboration Day Gr 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day <i>Musqueam Day</i>
Nov 3	Grade 12 Literacy Assessment
Nov 7	<i>National Inuit Day</i>
Nov 8	<i>Indigenous Veterans Day</i>
Nov 10	Remembrance Day Ceremony
Nov 11	<i>Remembrance Day</i>
Nov 13	Statutory Holiday (School Closed)
Nov 15	Senior Math Contest Immunization Clinic
Nov 16	<i>International Day for Tolerance Metis Day</i>
Nov 20	Pro-D Day (School Closed)
Nov 22	Learning Updates (Report Cards) Published on MyEdBC
Nov 24	<i>Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahdur (Sikhism)</i>
Nov 25	<i>Holodomor Memorial Day</i>

Parent Sponsored Dry After Grad (DAG) Committee

PAC encourages Grade 12 parents to self-assemble a Dry After Grad (DAG) committee to start planning for this event. Past parent experiences show that much time is needed for fundraising as well as planning all aspects of the event. Therefore, starting earlier is better. PAC team welcomes any questions on this at the end of the PAC meeting on October 26.

Dussehra (Hinduism– Oct 24)

A Hindu event celebrated on the 10th day of the month of Ashvina (September–October), the seventh month of the Hindu calendar, with the appearance of the full moon, an event called the “bright fortnight” (shukla paksha).

Youth Climate Action Day (Oct 24)

A worldwide movement of young people who are concerned about climate change and global injustice.

Matthew McNair Secondary School

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THE MCNAIR WAAG

Dear Parents,

A very happy new school year to you all! We hope that all the families were able to have a relaxing and safe summer break. A warm welcome to everyone, especially to the families new to McNair! Once again, we invite you all to join the McNair Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) where you can voice what is important for your child and where we can together form a supportive learning community for our kids.

This year the PAC will hold virtual meetings every alternative month starting in Oct (date to be determined). The meeting link will be sent closer to the date.

URGENT NEED OF PAC EXECUTIVES FOR 2023-2024

We are urgently looking for parent volunteers to fill executive roles (Co-Chair/Vice-Chair, Secretary) for McNair PAC.

Role/Responsibilities:

The **co-chair/Vice-Chair** will help lead and host PAC meetings, be the key contact for the Richmond District Parent Advisory Committee (RDPA), and school administration, as well as voice any concerns from parents/students as needed. The **Secretary** will help record and share meeting minutes and post an agenda for period PAC meetings. If you are interested or want to nominate someone, please get in touch with us at mcnairsd38pac@gmail.com

We especially encourage Grade 8 parents to consider playing this important leadership role as this is a great way to make connections with school administration as well as other parents and contribute to building a safe and supportive learning environment.

Secondary School PAC also plays an important role in making decisions on the Gaming Grant allocations to support scholarships, clubs, and various extra-curricular activities at school. If we do not have PAC executives:

- Our PAC will be dissolved.
- We will not get any gaming grant money from the government used for our kid's extracurricular activities.
- We will not receive any funding from the District PAC when available.
- No possibility for dry after-grad events or fundraising for future Grade 12 students.

Decisions on how to support your child(ren)'s education should not be made by only a handful of parents. We hope to see many of you at the upcoming PAC meeting in Oct. Joining the PAC has been a fulfilling experience for current and past executives as we are able to contribute to our kids' school's overall experience.

ACTION ITEM FOR GRADE 12 PARENTS: ASSEMBLE A DRY AFTER GRAD COMMITTEE (DAG)

What is a Dry-after Grad? If you wonder, you are not alone. Many families ask this question every year. Therefore, we want to share information about this early on to raise awareness about this event that requires significant efforts from parent volunteers (especially Grade 12).

Dry Grad is an all-night supervised celebration for Grade 12 students after their graduation dinner party in a safe, fun environment. The purpose of "Dry Grad" is to provide ALL Grad students an opportunity to celebrate together one last time as a class in a supervised and completely safe alcohol and drug-free environment before they move to their post-secondary pursuits. The Dry Grad is **organized and planned by a volunteer parents' committee** and is **not funded by the school**. **Fundraising by parent volunteers** is the only source of funds for the grads to have an event like this and it requires significant funding (~\$15-\$20K). Therefore, we urge Grade 12 parents to start planning early to fundraise and build a Dry Grad Committee. **This event can only happen with committed parent participation, either by leading/supporting the fundraisers, donations and your time for the party.**

For more details on what is a dry-grad event and what preparation required, please read

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/managing-your-health/lifestartsnow_drygrad_web.pdf

We ask all Grade 12 parents (and any other parents interested in helping) to organize a meeting after the Oct PAC meeting to form Dry After Grad Committee (DAG Committee) and start planning in time.

FACEBOOK PAGE

We invite you all to join the Facebook page for McNair PAC to engage in conversations with other parents, give suggestions, ask questions or simply network with other parents of McNair students.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/231812398863620>

For any questions about PAC Executive positions or any other questions related to PAC, please contact mcnairsd38pac@gmail.com

Sincerely,

McNair PAC Executive Board