



400 Campbell St, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 3G7
Telephone: 250-754-2722
School Year: 2023-24
September 2023
School Email: info.ph@sd68.bc.ca
School Website: <https://ph.schools.sd68.bc.ca>

Principal: Christine Bohm
Secretary: Teresa McGorman

Principal's Message

To both our returning and our new families, Welcome to Pauline Haarer! We hope you and your family have had a wonderful and restful summer break. The staff is looking forward to another exciting year of learning with your child(ren).

Ecole Pauline Haarer would like to welcome to our school community: Mme. Nicole Lewis (Gr6/7), Mme. Teri Mirau (Gr4/5), Mme. Jacqueline McCreath (Gr3/4), Mr. Thomas Bradbrooke (Music/Band), Mme. Teresa McGorman (Secretary) and M. Kyle Vanderberg (EA).

The staff list for 2023-24 is as follows:

Christine Bohm – Principal
Teresa McGorman - Secretary
Heather Marshall – K
France Soucy – K/1
Micalla Wallace – Gr 1/2
Kerry Murdoch – Gr 1/2
Heather Boyd – Gr 2/3
Jacqueline McCreath – Gr 3/4
Teri Mirau – Gr 4/5
Simon Brink – Gr 4/5
Nicole Lewis – Gr 6/7
Casey Anderson – Gr 6/7
Janelle Ten Have – Library
Thomas Bradbrooke – Music/Band
Gitanjali Mitchell – Inclusion Support Teacher
Nika Silickas – Counsellor
Alisa Gatley, Ali Laasko, Kyle Vanderberg – Educational Assistants/Noon Hour Supervisors
Alena Piper – CYFSW
Kellie Mitchell – Speech & Language
Michelle Sokoloski – Indigenous Education Teacher
Emily Baker – Psychologist
Nick Pyrch & Graham Fisher – Custodians

Contact information for our teaching staff is available on our school website.

I would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during the first week of school until the School District confirmed our division numbers. The school team, which comprises teachers, EAs, counselor, IST, CYFSW and administration, meet numerous

times throughout the spring and fall to create and review class placements. We try to place students in classes that address academic needs, social and emotional needs, while adhering to class size and composition legislation and the restrictions of the teachers' Collective Agreement.

Thank you to our Grade 7 students. Many of them have volunteered to be our Kindergarten Helpers, supporting our new Kindergarten students on the playground at recesses. Also, a thank you to our group of Grade 7 students who have volunteered to read the morning announcements this year: Rowan, Annika, Katelyn, Ellie, Lila, Audrey, Finn, Isaiah and Emryst.

We are looking forward to welcoming families to the PAC Welcome BBQ and the annual Open House/Meet the Teacher Night, on September 28th. The Open House will immediately follow the Welcome BBQ. More information and times are below in the Open House/Meet The Teacher section. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) will be starting during the first week of October for all Grade 4 and 7 students. This Ministry of Education mandated assessment is in English and encompasses several basic skill components in both paper based and digital formats: reading comprehension, writing and mathematical computation. All students are provided with supports to help them, should they need, to complete the FSA. More information will be coming home as the FSA start date approaches or visit

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/program-management/assessment/foundation-skills-assessment> for parent information and sample assessments.

Sincerely,
Mme. Bohm

New Office Hours

The school office will be open from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, Monday to Friday. It will be closed daily at lunch from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. Please leave a voicemail or send email at info.ph@sd68.bc.ca during our closed times.

Your message will be responded to upon the return of the secretary.

For picking up at lunch recess (11:45-12:20), please let the school know in advance of 11:00 a.m. that you will be picking up your child during the time the office is closed. We will need to arrange for your child to be supervised by the office until you arrive. Thank you for your cooperation.

Absences

If your child is absent from school or you know of dates your child will be away, we would ask you to please let your teacher know and please contact the school by 8:35 am either by phone at 250-754-2722 or by email at info.ph@sd68.bc.ca. If we are unavailable to take your call, please leave a detailed message on our answering machine. Your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us.

Feeling unwell?

Families are reminded to complete the Daily Health Check with your child(ren). You can find the Health Check on the School District's website. Please keep students who are feeling unwell home until they are better. Students who become sick at school will be sent home. The office staff will call the main care providers first and if we do not hear back, we will move on to the Emergency Contacts listed in the student's file. We are optimistic that we will not have to consider a Functional Closure scenario this year, if those feeling unwell stay home from school/work. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in helping us stay a healthy learning and working environment.

Student Verification Forms

Student Verification forms have been sent home. This form contains important information about your child: current home address and phone numbers, medical information, allergies, etc. Please review the information, make any updates and return them to the school as soon as possible. **It is vital that this information is up to date for each school year.**

If you change your phone number throughout the year, please let the office know right away; so that in case of emergency or illness we are able to contact you. ***Please return all of the forms to the classroom teacher as soon as possible.***

Other Consent Forms

Parents/Guardians would have already received e-consent forms for their children. These will encompass Walk/Run field trips, Technology, Media, Parent Volunteer Driver and Emergency Release. It is important that all families have someone other than themselves on the Earthquake Release consent form. In case of an earthquake and parents/guardians are unable to pick up their child(ren) due to road closures,

personal injury, etc.; the school will still need to be able to release your child(ren) to an adult. It is vital that we have this information. Thank you for your attention to this.

Earthquake Comfort Kit

Every year we ask parents/guardians to provide their child with an Earthquake Comfort Kit to provide comfort to your child while they wait for their parent/guardian to pick them up from school after an emergency has occurred. If you have not already, please ensure that your child brings his/her own Comfort Kit to their teacher by the end of September. We will be placing them in the Earthquake Kiosk in early October.

Fire, Earthquake, Lockdown Drills

EPH will be conducting the mandatory number of each of the emergency drills this year. Our first few will take place at the end of this month without bells. This is an opportunity for students who are anxious to learn how and why we practice these important drills in a calm and supportive learning manner. Anxious students will be given the opportunity to walk through each drill with the Principal and to see the "behind the scenes" activities. For more information about this process, please contact Mme. Bohm directly at the school at 250-754-2722.

Drop Off and Pick Up

The school provides supervision 15 minutes before school and after school. Supervision is at the front of the school. The duty at the front is there to direct traffic and keep students safe while crossing. Students should not arrive at school prior to 8:30 am, unless they are attending the onsite daycare. Similarly, please ensure that your child(ren) is/are picked up at the end of the day by 2:40 pm. Students whose parents are late will be asked to remain at the office. If you know you will be late, please contact the office a *minimum of 15 minutes before the end of the day*, so that the office staff can locate your child and relay the message.

We ask everyone to please respect the Staff Parking areas as well as the Yellow Lined "Bus Only" area. This area is reserved for Buses, Day Care drop-off and pick-up and for those needing to park in the Handicap Parking.

We also ask that you drive slowly in and out of our parking lot. Children do not often look before they dart. Thank you for helping to keep all of our students safe.

New Reporting Order

There is a new Reporting Order in place this year from the Ministry of Education and Child Care. We will be sharing with you your child's learning progress as follows:

- 3 formal written reports (December, March and June)

- 2 informal communications – Student Led Conferences – in October and May

For more information about the new reporting order, please visit

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/legislation-policy/public-schools/student-reporting>

Parent Teacher Conferences/Formative Assessment Conferences

The week of October 16-19th is set aside for Formative Assessment Conferences between parents/guardians and teachers. This year EPH will be doing something different to meet the communication requirements of the new Reporting Order from the Ministry of Education and Child Care. October 16 and 17 will be regular full days of instruction. October 18 and 19 will be early dismissal days. Students will be dismissed one hour earlier each day. October 16th, all families will be invited in to participate in Student Led Conferences. October 19th will be reserved for meetings between the teacher and parent/guardian which will have been prearranged. The meetings will be for those families requesting an in-depth conversation with the teacher or for when the teacher is requesting to meet with a parent. Ecole Pauline Haarer will host another two early dismissal days in the Spring to allow teachers to communicate student progress to families.

Dot Day

EPH participated in the International Dot Day activity again this year. Students were given an opportunity to express their creativity by starting with a dot. For more information on Dot Day, please visit <https://www.internationaldotday.org/>

Sports

Mme. Anderson is the NETPEA Representative for Ecole Pauline Haarer this year. All inquiries about afterschool sports and the NETPEA league should be directed to her.

Cross Country will be starting soon. Mme. Anderson will be announcing meetings and practice run dates and times shortly. She is hoping to have some parents join to help coach and run alongside students. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mme. Anderson at casey.anderson@sd68.bc.ca

Open House/Meet the Teacher Night

We are so excited to welcome families for our Meet the Teacher Night on September 28th. Teachers will be opening their classroom doors to families from 6-7 pm to introduce themselves and their classrooms routines and expectations. Please note this is not an opportunity to discuss individual students and their progress. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to make

separate meetings with teachers for these types of conversations.

The PAC will be hosting a welcome back BBQ from 5-6 pm prior to the Open House/Meet the Teacher event on the portable side of the school. Thank you to PAC for organizing a Welcome Back BBQ!

We hope to see you!

PAC Meetings

All parents/guardians of Ecole Pauline Haarer are part of the PAC and are welcome to attend the monthly meetings. The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) contributes much to the school community: providing hot lunches and fun food days like Banane Royale, supports learning in classrooms by helping with funding for resources, field trips, and supports parents navigating the school system.

PAC meetings take place in the school library from 6:30-8:00 pm. Child minding by Grade 7 students is available. The following are the dates for 2023-24:

September 21, October 12, November 16 (plus AGM), January 11, February 8, April 11, May 9, June 13.

For the September PAC Meeting, we will be joined by the new developer of the construction site adjacent to the school (ie. The old Caledonian Clinic). All families are welcome to attend this presentation to hear how the construction will impact the school and traffic and parking around the school site.

Terry Fox Run/Walk

Once again, students and staff at Ecole Pauline Haarer will be participating in a Terry Fox Run/Walk event on September 18th. We will begin with an assembly at 9:45 am and participate in our Run/Walk on the field immediately afterwards. Please ensure your child(ren) has/have runners and are dressed comfortably for this event. Thank you to Mme. Wallace for organizing the Terry Fox Run/Walk for EPH this year.

National Day of Truth & Reconciliation (ORANGE SHIRT WEEK)

Please join us during the week of September 25th-September 29th in acknowledging and honoring the children and families of residential schools. In support of *Every Child Matters*, students and staff are encouraged to wear orange throughout the week. To learn more about Orange Shirt Day and Phyllis Webstad's story, please visit <https://irshdc.ubc.ca/orangeshirtday/>. Schools will be closed on October 2nd for the statutory holi-day.

Things on Wheels

For the safety of everyone, we are kindly asking students to please walk bikes and scooters while on school property. Students wearing heellies will also be asked to change their shoes once inside the school.

Dress Code

We appreciate the fact that our students come to school appropriately dressed for our school activities. Please remember to have a pair of running shoes at school for Physical Education. Students are expected to dress appropriately for each season and weather. T-shirt logos must be not have references to drugs or alcohol. Casual school wear is expected to be worn by all students. Rain jackets and boots are recommended for the wetter weather in the months coming up. Students will be expected to go outside for recesses.



Nut Aware

We greatly appreciate the effort Ecole Pauline Haarer families make to ensure that our school is safe food zone for all students. While we cannot guarantee a nut free environment, we are reminding parents/guardians that snacks and foods containing nuts are not encouraged to be brought to school. We have a number of students and staff with severe life-threatening allergies to nuts. We thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Bell Schedule

8:45 a.m. Welcome Bell
10:15-10:30 Morning Recess
11:45-12:20 Lunch Recess
2:25 Dismissal

Community Events:

[Mariners Volleyball Club Grades 3-8](#)
[Fall Skills Development Programs.](#)

Canadian Parents for French

EPH's students and their families are invited to a Back to School Silent Disco en français in collaboration with Canadian Parents for French Nanaimo-Ladysmith and Collective Groove Silent Dance co. Join us for an afternoon of listening and dancing to French music using headphones. There will be 2 channels of music (one adult and once child) and 2 hours of dancing. The event will take place on Saturday, September 16 at Neck Point Park at 1 pm. For more information and to reserve your headphones, please RSVP here: <https://forms.gle/17WcSLEczWCDsSVg6>.

FALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

MARINERS VOLLEYBALL CLUB

- TRAINING & GAMEPLAY
- ALL SKILL LEVELS
- MALE AND FEMALE
- GRADES 3 - 7

REGISTER NOW

More information:
www.marinersvolleyballclub.ca

