



March 29, 2017

Dear Parents,

I am writing to update you on some staffing changes for next year. We know from feedback from students and parents both, that it has been a very good year at Edgewood School with the addition of an on-site teaching Vice-Principal, and a range of itinerant teachers bringing fine arts, hands-on learning and counselling services to the school with support from our education assistant, school secretary/library clerk, bus driver and custodian. It's been a strong team with great opportunities provided for learning. And what a terrific group of students!

The plan for next year is to continue with a breadth of educators to serve your children. However, the unforeseen resignation of our NES/EES principal, Joe Baron effective July 31<sup>st</sup>, was communicated to me over spring break. This has caused the district and Board of Education to re-examine EES staffing for 2017-18.

I want to assure you that the educational needs of your children remain an uppermost priority in our minds. A breadth of strong educators will continue to lead, teach and support your kids, providing learning experiences in fine arts, hands-on learning, technology, Aboriginal Education and opportunities for working with other students across the district. Here is a summary of the revised plan for EES for the 2017-18 school year as approved by the Board of Education at a Special Regular Meeting earlier this week:

- Mike Hibberson will be transferred to NES and EES as Principal starting August 1/17
- Learning from our previous experience where the NES Principal has been challenged to visit Edgewood School regularly, and knowing that Mike has built strong connections with all of you and wants to continue that leadership and time with the students, Mike will work at EES one day every two weeks. At NES, a shared EES and NES VP will cover for Mike when he is at Edgewood School.
- Mike's EES Principal time will be scheduled into his calendar to ensure his contact and work with students, staff and community and will be communicated in advance to parents and students.
- A teaching Vice-Principal will be hired by mid-May. A parent representative on the hiring committee would be appreciated so that the interests of EES parents are represented.
- Our new EES and NES VP will be at EES three days per week and at NES two days per week. Not only will this facilitate better coordination between principal and vice-principal to serve the needs of EES, but also ensure that three or four days per week, either the Principal or Vice Principal are scheduled to be at the school.
- The teaching VP will cover teacher preparation for the primary class teacher and a 3 day per week intermediate class teacher
- We are seeking a VP who also has skills in teaching Literacy, Numeracy, Fine Arts, Hands-on Learning, Technology and supporting diverse learners. This teaching assignment will support your kids' learning in a

**Terry Taylor**

*Superintendent of Schools and Secretary-Treasurer*

range of core academic and elective areas. Our new VP will co-lead with Mike, a team of educators dedicated to growing Edgewood student success in a broad range of interests and passions.

- About 1.5 days per week of our new VP's time will be spent teaching or co-teaching in the school, with the remaining time leading Edgewood School and supporting students, parents and staff
- A .75 FTE intermediate classroom teacher will continue to support the learning of most of the core academic areas with a strong focus on supporting success for all children

Both Quinn De Courcy, your Board of Education Trustee, and I plan to be at the Heritage Tea on April 26<sup>th</sup>. I propose meeting with parents' mid-morning on that day to discuss these plans for EES, to hear your input on criteria for the new VP and intermediate teacher, and to confirm the parent representative who will sit on the VP interview committee. Please consider volunteering for this one day commitment to help advise on the new VP we will hire for your school.

In the meantime, should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Quinn directly at 7478 or contact me by email at [terry.taylor@sd10.bc.ca](mailto:terry.taylor@sd10.bc.ca).

As always, we remain committed to working alongside you to provide the very best education for all of your children. I am confident that 2017-18 and beyond will be amazing years for our students at Edgewood School!

Most sincerely,



Terry Taylor  
Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer