



# École Secondaire Hugh McRoberts Secondary

## NEWSLETTER

February, 2025

Principal: Ms. Aviva Vaughan Vice-Principals: Mr. Spencer Cook & Mr. Kevin Li

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### UPCOMING DATES:

- Feb 3 & 4: Hosting Sr Boys Richmond Cup Tournament
- Feb 5: Grade 12 CLC Meeting PLT
- Feb 5: Grade 10 Program Planning Teams Meeting PLT
- Feb 6: Grade 11 Program Planning Teams Meeting PLT
- Feb 6: S1 Final Report Published
- Feb 6: S2 Meet the Teacher Night
- Feb 6: Grade 8 Parent Presentation
- Feb 12: Grade 9 Program Planning Teams Meeting PLT
- Feb 12: Stuco One True Pair @ Lunch
- Feb 13: Grade 8 Program Planning Teams Meeting PLT
- Feb 13: Grad Winter Formal
- Feb 14: Pro-D (School Closed)
- Feb 17: Family Day (School Closed)
- Feb 19: Collab Day
- Feb 19: Grade 12 TVR Distribution, PLT
- Feb 20: Grade 12 CLC Meeting PLT
- Feb 26: Grade 12 TVR Signing PLT
- Feb 27: Grade 12 CLC Meeting PLT
- Feb 28: Program Planning Sheets Due

### Principal's Message

I hope this message finds you well as we embrace the second half of the school year. It has been a fantastic year so far, filled with learning, growth, and strong connections within our school community. I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the ongoing work and support from students, staff, and families – your engagement makes our school a real community.

As we begin Semester 2, students have the opportunity to start fresh with new courses, set new goals, and continue developing their skills. This is an exciting time of transition, and I encourage all students to stay focused, ask questions, and seek support when needed.

While we are very much enjoying the present, we are also looking ahead to the 2025-2026 school year. Planning is underway for next September, and we are working on course offerings and programming to best support student success. Over the next few weeks, students will be engaging in course selection and program planning, making important decisions about their learning pathways. Families play a key role in this process, and I encourage you to have conversations at home about future goals and aspirations.

As always, our doors are open, and we welcome any questions or feedback. Thank you for your continued partnership in creating a vibrant and supportive learning environment.

Ms. Vaughan

## January in Review

### Annual Reading Riot in the LLC

READ, RATE, REPEAT!

The Reading Riot was in full force in January. This year we have a new set of exciting book choices for students to read until April 4<sup>th</sup>. All students are encouraged to get busy reading! Students can submit their book ratings for weekly prize draws, announced every Monday until April.



### Grade 10 Drama Production



Congratulations to our Grade 10 Drama class for their incredible performances on January 23 & 24. They performed "The Secret in the Wing," by Mary Zimmerman, directed by our very own talented Mr. Wilson.

### Happy New Year

We wished all our families a Happy New Year upon return from break. This month we also wished our school community a Happy Lunar New Year, as we usher in the Year of the Snake.



## Breakfast Club on Tuesdays

A reminder that our Breakfast Club prepares complimentary hot and cold dishes every Tuesday out of the library Seminar Room #1. All students are invited to get a good start to their day!



## Student Art Displays

You can see the work of our incredibly talented student artists around the school, down the art hallway and in display cupboards. Right now, the work of our Ceramics 9-12 students is on display in the Library Learning Commons. Well done McRoberts artists!



## Looking Forward: FEBRUARY, 2025

### PAC

Our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meets on the second Wednesday of the month. All parents are encouraged to join. This is a great way for parents to get involved in the school, learn more about how the school runs and what our students are learning, as well as supports that are in place for parents and families. **Please join us for our February meeting, on Wednesday, February 12th at 7pm in the library.**

### DRY AFTER GRAD (DAG)

What is Dry After Grad? DAG is a special all-night event crafted to provide our graduating class with a safe and inclusive environment, free from the influences of drugs or alcohol. The goal is to create lasting memories through a mix of engaging activities, games, and delicious food for our graduates. This event happens right after the Grad Dinner Dance and lasts until 5:00am the next day.

Are you interested in helping with Dry After Grad? Or learning about the process? The Dry After Grad Parent Committee is holding their next meeting on Wednesday, **February 12th at 6pm**, just before the PAC meeting. All parents are invited, regardless of what grade your student is in. Please join us in the McRoberts library to learn more about what is involved in organizing this important grad event.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with DAG. An email will go out to parents asking for volunteers. Please consider helping out with this important event. It can only run with parent help!

### SAFETY DRILLS

The safety of our students and staff is a priority. To ensure we are ready case of an emergency, whether it be an earthquake, lockdown, or other emergency, we practice every year to ensure we are ready in case of any emergency. In January we practiced drills for Drop/Cover/Hold-On and Evacuation. This month we will practice an Evacuation drill.

### PROGRAM PLANNING

We have begun the program planning process for the 2025-2026 school year. In January we held our Grade 7 Parent Information Night in-person, and our virtual Grade 8 – 11 Parent Information Night. If you missed the virtual presentation, it can be found on our website on our program planning page.  
LINK: [PROGRAM PLANNING INFO](#)

Our students have been provided with paper program planning sheets and instructions with deadlines for submitting forms.

Please make note of important dates for student program planning meetings:

February 5: Grade 10 Student Meeting PLT on Teams

February 6: Grade 11 Student Meeting PLT on Teams

February 12: Grade 9 Student Meeting PLT on Teams

February 13: Grade 8 Student Meeting PLT on Teams

For more information, see our website:

<https://mcroberts.sd38.bc.ca/news/2024/12/program-planning-2025-2026>

### MEET THE TEACHER & GRADE 8 PARENT PRESENTATION

Semester 2 began on January 29<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to the opportunity for parents to meet their children's new teachers on **Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 7:25pm**. Information will be emailed to parents with schedules.

Following Meet the Teacher, we will have a brief presentation for Grade 8 parents in our Gym at 7:30pm.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

### PRO-D & FAMILY DAY

A reminder that on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> we have a Pro-D day, and Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> is Family Day. School is closed on both these days. We hope our families enjoy time together on February 17<sup>th</sup>.

## NUMERACY / LITERACY

This year, the Richmond School District is supporting a Literacy/Numeracy Mentorship position at every secondary school. Mme. Mainville is our Literacy/Numeracy leader and has been hard at work determining how best to support literacy and numeracy with our students. Based on the data collected from students and staff, we have two main school goals. For literacy, we are working on the following questions: How do we create opportunities for students to grow their comprehension skills in order to read/understand more complex texts? How do we build resiliency to get there? Our numeracy goal is based on the question: How do we create more confidence in staff including numeracy development in their subject area?

## PERSONAL LEARNING TIME

PLT provides opportunities for students to gain a deeper appreciation of the importance of self-care, to become more self-aware and provide opportunities to make connections between their physical and mental health. The school is open to all students during PLT time, and teachers are onsite. During PLT, students have access to teachers and departments and a place/space to engage in their learning individually or collaboratively. The library will always remain open to any student wishing for support.

Please see our website for more information about PLT: [McRoberts PLT](#)

## GRAD EVENTS & DEADLINES

**GRAD WINTER FORMAL:** February 13<sup>th</sup>. Details including address and directions will be sent by email to students and parents.

**GRAD YEARBOOK WRITE-UPS:** Write-ups are due February 2<sup>nd</sup>. An online form was emailed to students to fill out and submit. If you missed the deadline, see Ms. Vaughan this week.

*For any questions or concerns about Grad Events, please contact Ms. Vaughan.*

## Stay Connected!

Please stay connected and informed. Much of our communication happens via email, so please make sure we have updated email information, and check your email regularly for school updates. Please also check our website <https://mcroberts.sd38.bc.ca/> on a weekly basis and read the *Strikers Weekly* for important information about the week ahead. You can also follow us on [Instagram](#) at [hugh\\_mcroberts](#).

*Learning Together Achieving Our Dreams*

### McRoberts Mission Statement

*McRoberts is a bilingual school where staff, students, and parents learn together in an environment of trust, support, and mutual respect. Our purpose is to enable all learners to develop their potential, prepare for the future, and achieve their dreams.*