



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

556 Boleskine Road, Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8

Pieter Langstraat, Superintendent

Phone (250) 475-4162

Fax (250) 475-4112

LETTER TO PARENTS

Monday, November 20, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardians:

Re: **New student enrolment priorities and proof of residency requirements in effect for 2018-2019 school year**

Although we are still early into the current school year, we are already preparing for next year. With the annual registration and transfer request process set to begin in January and February, there are some changes to student enrolment priorities and proof of residency requirements.

For the 2018-2019 school year, new student enrolment priorities and proof of residency requirements are in effect. In addition, to save parents time and effort, current students can submit a transfer application at their current school instead of to the School District office.

The new student enrolment priorities place greater emphasis on students attending their neighbourhood catchment school, while including priority for siblings attending a school together. The new enrolment priorities apply to new registrations, transfer requests and student transitions between elementary and middle, and middle and secondary school for both English and French programs.

To review the student enrolment priorities in effect for the 2018/2019 and future school years, please visit: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/parent-student-resources/registration/student-enrolment-priorities/>

In terms of proof of residency requirements, every home address in the Greater Victoria School District is connected to a catchment school where new students must register. In addition to proof of school age eligibility and citizenship, new document requirements are in place for proof of residential address. For those of you with children that attend a school outside of your catchment, this is something you will need to be aware of as they transition from elementary to middle school and middle school to secondary school. In the new year, letters will be sent home from current schools to parents of all grade five and eight students. Non-catchment Grade 5s and Grade 8s will have to apply for a transfer during the K-12 Student Transfer Process if they wish to continue on a catchment pathway that does not align with their current home address.

To confirm a residential address is associated with a catchment school, please review the proof of residency documentation requirements for homeowners and renters: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/parent-student-resources/registration/documentation/>

Important Upcoming Dates in 2018:

January 8 – 12	Registration for schools of choice (South Park Elementary and Cloverdale Traditional)
January 15 – 19	Early French Immersion (Kindergarten and Grade One) Registration Week
January 29 – February 2	Kindergarten Registration and Kindergarten Transfer Week Late French Immersion (Grade Six) Registration Week
February 15 – 23	Kindergarten to Grade 12 transfer process Registration open for new Grade One – Grade 12 students for 2018-2019 school year
February 23 by 3 p.m.	Deadline to submit transfer requests. Must be submitted to catchment school
March 31	Deadline to inform parents of all transfer decisions

Parent Information Nights:

For new registrants to the District, Parent Information nights will occur at S.J. Willis, 923 Topaz Avenue.

November 28, 2017 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.	Early French Immersion (Kindergarten and Grade One) Information night
January 17, 2018 6 p.m. –8:30 p.m.	Welcome to Kindergarten Information night
January 24, 2018 6 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.	Late French Immersion (Grade Six) Information night

Each middle school and high school will also host an information/transition night in the new year. Visit school websites for dates.

We have been working with our staff across our 47 schools to prepare for the changes to the process. We appreciate your support and patience as we make these changes. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to discuss with your school principal.

Sincerely,



Piet Langstraat
Superintendent of Schools
Greater Victoria School District No. 61