



SOUTHRIDGE

Wednesday

DECEMBER 13, 2017
ISSUE #15

Weekly Voice

With 'Agency', Students Become Protagonists of Their Own Learning Stories

One of the most important things we can do as we partner together as educators and parents to support each student as a unique learner is to build their *agency*. Agency means that not only does each learner know their unique learning strengths and areas for growth, they also know what steps to take next to create their own conditions for success. *"Instilling the principles of agency helps students find personal relevance in their work and motivates them to participate actively, build relationships and understand how they impact themselves and their communities."* (New Tech Network) In short, *agentic learners* are the protagonists of their own learning stories.

Over this week, all K-12 students will bring home their Term 1 Progress Reports. As you think about framing conversations with your child about their report card, consider how you might build *agency* as you come alongside them to reflect on this chapter of their learning story. Before you even open the envelope, take a few moments to ask your child what they feel their learning successes and challenges were. Try to see your child as a learner through their eyes instead of yours. Sometimes, our own childhood and adolescent experiences, whether positive or negative, unwittingly creep into our conversations with our children about *their* learning, placing the focus on our successes and failures instead of theirs. While this is seemingly innocent, the baggage we may carry can, in fact, be harmful to our child's sense of agency, particularly if they gave their best effort but did *not yet* yield the results they were hoping for. When a student is the protagonist of their own learning story, they are self-aware enough to persist when learning challenges arise. They can also consider why and how they were successful in a particular area and think of ways they can transfer that success to other areas of their learning. Agentic learners know that their best is always changing, because they are always learning and growing (growth mindset). The old saying, 'when we know better, we do better' rings true here. In the elementary grades, we are laying the groundwork for agency so that as students move on through high school and ultimately prepare for their next steps in life, they not only have a personal sense of agency, but a well-stocked tool kit that they can utilize in any learning/life context.

When talking with your child about their learning, make sure to create a two-way dialogue by asking open-ended questions that will evoke deep reflection and build agency, after all, there are still many more opportunities to demonstrate growth over the

remainder of the school year. **Consider asking questions, such as:** *What did you feel you were particularly successful with this term? Why?... What was tricky for you? Why?... How did you handle that? What was the result?... How do you know you've done your best?... How do you know you are growing as a learner?... How are you developing your attitudes toward learning?..... What will you keep doing next term?... What will you do differently next term?... How are you using the Approaches to Learning/Core Competencies to build skills that you can use across all subjects?*

If you haven't yet registered for our special presentation on **The Role of Grading and Assessment in Learning** with renowned guest speaker, **Ken O'Connor** on **January 11, 2018**, we encourage you to do so. **Please [click here](#) to let us know you are coming** so we can plan accordingly. This free event promises to be both engaging and informative. You won't want to miss it!

On behalf of all Southridge faculty and staff, we wish you a holiday that sets your spirit soaring with light, hope, peace and love.

Volet!

Tanya de Hoog
Head of Junior School

Important Dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
Junior Christmas Concert	Wednesday, December 13	6:30 pm	Junior School Great Hall
PYP Feast	Thursday, December 14	11:30 am	Junior School Great Hall
MYP Casual Day	Thursday, December 14	All Day	Junior School
Senior School Feast	Thursday, December 14	6:00 pm	Senior School Gym
MYP Breakfast	Friday, December 15	8:30 am	Junior School Great Hall
Casual Day	Friday, December 15	All Day	Both Schools
Winter Break	December 16 – January 7		Both Schools
Late Start	Monday, January 8	10:20 am	Both Schools
Kindergarten Parents Coffee Social	Tuesday, January 9	8:00 am	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, January 10	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Grade 1 Parents Coffee Social	Thursday, January 11	8:00 am	Junior School Great Hall
Assessment and Its Role in Student Learning Featuring Ken O'Connor	Thursday, January 11	7:00 - 8:30 pm	Junior School Great Hall
Grade 2 Parents Coffee Social	Tuesday, January 16	8:00 am	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, January 17	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Grade 7 Parent Evening about Senior School	Thursday, January 18	6:00 pm	Alan Brown Great Hall
Admissions Related Non-Instructional Day for K-2 Students	Friday, January 19	All Day	Junior School
Grade 3 Parents Coffee Social	Tuesday, January 23	8:00 am	Junior School Great Hall
Junior School Assembly	Wednesday, January 24	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Grade 4 Parents Coffee Social	Thursday, January 25	8:00 am	Junior School Great Hall
KFACE Classic Basketball Tournament	January 25 – 27		Senior Gym
Admissions Related Non-Instructional Day for Kindergarten Students	Friday, January 26	All Day	Junior School

Junior School News

Dismissal for Christmas Holidays and Return for Monday, January 8, 2018 - Late Start

On Friday, December 15th, all students will be dismissed at 12:00 noon. At this time, all students will also receive their Term One Progress Report Card. (Please be advised that progress reports are not be given early to families who leave for break ahead of this date and time. Undistributed progress reports will be available for pick up from the Senior School Reception Desk between December 17-22. Otherwise, they will be handed out on January 8, 2018.) Christmas break is three weeks long with a return to school date of Monday, January 8, 2018 (Day 3). Please mark your calendars accordingly.

Please also note that Monday, January 8, 2018 is a late start day, and students need to arrive between 10:10 and 10:20 am for a start time of 10:25 am. ***Please do not bring students any earlier than 10:10 am as all teachers are in meetings and no supervision is provided.***

Mark Your Calendar: Admissions Related Non-Instructional Days in January 2018

In order to assess and get to know prospective students applying to the school for the 2018-19 school year, the following dates will be non-instructional dates for the specific grades indicated:

- **Friday, January 19, 2018** – No School for K-2 students (Gr. 1-3 Admissions Assessment Day). School is in session for Grade 3-7 students.
- **Friday, January 26, 2018** – No school for Kindergarten students (Kindergarten Admissions Assessment Day). School is in session for Gr. 1-7 students.

Thank you in advance for making alternative arrangements for your child on the affected dates.

PYP Feast - Jazzy Gratitude

Date: Thursday, December 14, 2017

Theme: Jazzy Gratitude

Dress up: Colourful jazzy clothes

Purpose: To promote the PYP community by coming together to celebrate. Promote relationships between grades. Provide leadership for grade 4's. To have fun!

We will begin with assembly in the great hall and move to our multi-age groups to play games and make crafts. The actual eating or '*feasting*' begins at 11:30 am.

The signup sheets for volunteering will be posted by December 1st outside of your child's classroom door. You also may be contacted via your room representative. We will need help with set up, clean up or prepare food. Cheryl Spence and Kimi Cavaleri, are our parent volunteer co-coordinator for the feast. Thanks once again for all your support.

What do you need to do as a parent?

- sign up on the list outside of your child's classroom to bring food or to help with set up and clean up
- help your child dress in 'theme wear' – colourful clothes

Thank you,
Rowena Raber and the Primary Division

MYP Breakfast

The **MYP Breakfast for Grades 5-7 is happening Friday, December 15th**. Please remember to send your child to school HUNGRY, as they will be eating a huge breakfast at 8:30 am. Students are allowed to wear either their pajamas or 'winter wonderland wear' (hats, toques, festive sweaters, etc). The schedule for the morning is as follows:

8:00 - 8:30 am	Students with homeroom teachers
8:30 - 9:15 am	Breakfast in Great Hall
9:15 - 9:50 am	Holiday songs sing-a-long in Great Hall
9:50 - 10:20 am	Recess
10:30 - 11:30 am	Vancouver Theatre sports presentation in Great Hall
11:35 am - 12:00 pm	Back with homeroom to receive report cards
12:00 pm	Dismissal

Sue McNeil
Grade 7 Teacher

PYP Skating

Friday, December 15 th 8:30 – 9:30 am	Skating:(Day 2) classes: 1RK,1RR, 2AJ, 4SM, 4KR
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Where? South Surrey Arena (2199-148th Street)
Cost: Ice time to be covered by Southridge
Dress: Come in PE strip and stay in it all day!
Note: **Everyone MUST wear a CSA approved HELMET including adults!!** Bike helmets are not safe!

We welcome all parents and younger siblings who wish to join us. **Please come directly to the rink between 8:15-8:30 am.** (The children should register with their classroom teacher and inform him/her if you required rent anything.) *EVERYONE* is required to wear a CSA certified helmet on the ice. (bike helmets are not approved; Note: you may rent helmets at the rink)

Skating is only 1 hour and we feel that the students should not need a snack before we get back to school. **Please refrain from bringing or buying snacks at the rink.** We will let the children have their snack immediately on returning back to school.

Lost and Found in the Junior School

The holiday season is upon us and as excitement rises, our Lost and Found grows! Please check the items in the lost and found cupboard **before the holiday break. All unclaimed items will be given to charity over the holidays.**

We have some wonderful ladies who come to the school every week to help **return labeled** lost and found items to their rightful owners. However, many items do not have names and we cannot store everything without names indefinitely. We have a stock pile of lunch kits and containers. If your child is not coming home with these items, please come with them to check the lost and found. Your child often does not recognize his/her items and they sometimes need a little guidance in learning how to search and find items.

As the year goes on, the names and labels begin to wash off or disappear. Please take the time to check the labels and ensure that they are still readable. **Remember, initials or first names only are not really helpful. Please label using the family name.** We cannot find the owner of unlabelled or poorly marked items. Thank you so much for attending to these details. Let's start the New Year with an empty Lost and Found!

Rowena Raber
PYP Division Leader

Interdisciplinary Arm Lab Unit

One of the key aspects of the IB Program is the idea that learning should not be confined to distinct and separate chunks of class time. For example, learning mathematical concepts should not be relegated to simply 50 minutes a day, but rather spread across the disciplines as a way to challenge students to engage in transference of skills and knowledge. With that in mind, I am very proud to announce a successful trial of an interdisciplinary unit of inquiry involving my Science 5 classes, and Mrs. Alison Ito's Design 5 classes.

When learning about the human body, it is very helpful to use scale models and a variety of manipulatives. In doing so, students are able to get a better grasp of abstract concepts such as how the heart beats or how the lungs use pressure to inhale and exhale. To teach the Grade 5 classes about the musculoskeletal system, myself and Mrs. Ito decided to combine our resources and skills to design an inquiry-based unit intended to show the students, rather than tell them, how an arm worked.

With minimal instruction, the students were able to not only construct anatomically correct arms using only household items, but also incorporate muscles such as the biceps and the triceps to allow the arms to organically and fluidly move up and down. Over approximately two weeks, the Grade 5 students performed investigations into how the bones worked in harmony with the muscles, and produced working models of their findings. In Design class, the students used a variety of tools to plan and construct the models, and were assessed on their building process and design briefs. In Science, the students performed investigations into the biological mechanism that is the arm, and were required to create a detailed lab report including a testable hypothesis on how to improve their arm in Design class.

Dylan Lal
MYP Science Teacher

Happy Holiday Hampers

Your empathy and commitment toward children and their families this holiday season is such a positive example for our impressionable students. As a Junior School community we have helped a total of 17 refugee families with personalized non-perishable items, gifts and gift cards. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are very appreciated by all the [Options Community Services](#) staff members and even more by the recipients in their community programmes, as you truly make a difference in their lives this holiday season.

The teachers and I also appreciated the time many parents put into organizing the hampers and working with the children to choose, purchase, and wrap items for others.

Learning to see others' perspectives and feeling appreciative of our own circumstances are valuable experiences for everyone. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

Jo-Ann Murchie
PYP Coordinator

Junior Swim Team: Sign up for 2018 meets!

Attention Jr. Swimmers:

Just in case you missed our schoology announcement, **information and sign up for our 2018 meets is available at <https://goo.gl/forms/wvG192iLXDCkau602>**

Sign up will be open until Friday, December 22nd at which point registration for our Victoria meet (Grades 3-5) will close. Thank you in advance for helping us stay on top on entries and have a great break!

The Swim Coaches
Katie Reid, Alyshah Jiwa, Christine Sullivan, Allison Redies

Senior School News

Senior School Feast is Tomorrow Night!

This is a reminder – the annual **Senior School Christmas Feast is happening tomorrow night!** All Grade 8-12 students are expected to attend and must wear their #1 uniform. The schedule for the evening is as follows:

5:30 - 5:40 pm	Students arrive in Advisory
6:00 pm	Dinner
7:00 - 9:30 pm	Entertainment (9:30 pm ending time is approximate)

It's going to be a great night and great way to finish off 2017 at Southridge! Looking forward to it...

Brad Smith
Head of Senior School

Dismissal for Christmas Holidays and Return for Monday, January 8, 2018 - Late Start

This is a reminder that Senior School students will be dismissed from school at 12:00 pm on Friday, December 15th. Christmas break is three weeks long with a return to school date of Monday, January 8, 2018. Mark your calendars!

Please also note that Monday, January 8, 2018 is a late start day, and students need to arrive between 10:10 and 10:20 am for a start time of 10:25 am.

Parent Volunteers Still Needed for Senior Feast Set-up

We are still looking for **Senior School Parent Volunteers** to set up for this years Senior School Feast on **Thursday, December 14th**. All volunteers **please arrive 8:30 am to the Senior School gym**, where you will be decorating and setting up for the evening festivities.

Any time you have would be greatly appreciated.

If you are able to volunteer, please email Sangita Verma at: csveverma@aol.com

Sangita Verma
Parent Volunteer

Attention Feast Volunteers: A Few Notes

For our 2017 Feast Volunteers, please read these important notes:

1. All assigned **Feast Volunteers must arrive at 5:00 pm**, sharp! If you are working on the floor, please go straight to the Senior School gym where you will check in with Robyn Eriksen and Maria Hodgson. If you are working in the kitchen, please go to the Senior School cafeteria and check in with Deesha Thind. Detailed instructions will be given to you at this time.
2. For those amazing parents who have volunteered to bring mashed potatoes or stuffing, please take your item directly to the kitchen when you arrive. Thank you!

3. **Dress Code:** Please wear black pants and a black shirt or black pants and a white shirt. You can add your favourite Christmas apron, if you like. Remember to wear COMFORTABLE shoes! Have some fun and add your favourite Christmas hats, necklaces, etc.
4. When meals are completed, **we ask everyone to stay and help clean up.** Grade 12 parents are given the opportunity to leave first in order to eat and enjoy the entertainment.

If, for any reason, you cannot make your shift or something changes, please notify Sangita ASAP at csveverma@aol.com.

Thank you, Feast 2017 Volunteers! Let's make this the best feast yet!

Sangita, Deesha, Robyn and Maria
Parent Volunteers

University Counselling Update

Holiday Greetings Students and Parents! As the festive season and a welcome break approaches, I would like to take the opportunity to provide some updates on University Counselling at Southridge. **Please see the PDF attachment below.**

Yvette Livingston
Director of University Counselling

Southridge Students Win Multiple Awards Including “Best Female Performance” at ZoomFest!

Southridge student filmmakers and animators won multiple awards including “Best Individual Female Performance” at the ZoomFest awards gala at Mulgrave School on Saturday, December 2nd. This year, ZoomFest had over 100 entries from around the province.

ZoomFest is a 48-hour filmmaking competition for teenagers. Over the course of two days, the student must make a complete film that incorporates the secret theme and prop. This year, the theme was “A blessing in disguise” and the prop was a stamp. Southridge had an unprecedented 95 students enter the competition.

Interestingly, two teams of Southridge students were able to create complete animated films in 48 hours, an impressive and unusual achievement that was recognized by the judges with special honourable mention awards. To view these unique films, please click the links in the awards listings.

Congratulations to all the Southridge students who entered Zoomfest! Please see the list of Southridge award winners below. To see a highlight reel of Southridge student work from ZoomFest, please click here:

<https://vimeo.com/241904333>

Best Individual Female Performance (Senior)

Didi Wang – “Dear” (Senior)

Jason Xu

Devin Ma

Catherine Mao

Nick Tang

2nd Place Overall

1st Place Junior Technical Achievement

“The Eva Phant Project” (Junior)

Isaac Ewing

Mila Vipond

Eva Lofig

3rd Place Senior Group Performance

“Clo.sure” (Senior)

Kaj Grant-Mathiasen

Fiona Firby

Porsha Kuiper-Hill

Harry Li

3rd Place, Junior Performance

Ashna Dhaliwal - “The Masked Blessing” (Junior)

Robin Lister

Tatum Byrne

Avery Bell

Honorable Mention (Animated Stop Motion Film)

“Sweet Substitution” (Senior)

Savannah Rawlins

Areeba Naeem

<https://vimeo.com/246851730>

Honourable Mention (Animated Film)

"A Blessing in the Sky" (Senior)

Angelina Liu

Hattie Zhang

<https://vimeo.com/246852007>

Thank you,

Chris Westendorf

Senior School Media Arts Teacher

An Enjoyable Outdoor Education Trip to Manning Park

Eleven Grade 8's, Ms. Alexandra, and Mr. Hinson, enjoyed the past two days at Manning Park for the annual Outdoor Education winter trip. On the first day, we enjoyed cross-country skiing at Strawberry Flats on a scenic 5km loop. Later, we were visited by several hungry Whisky Jacks eager to join in with our snacks. On day two, we hiked the 4km loop around the first Lightening Lake. On our journey home, we stopped at the historic Tashme museum in Sunshine Valley which housed the world's largest World War II Japanese internment camp in Canada.

Ira Alexandra

Senior School Outdoor Education

'Celebrate-a-Life', the Peace Arch Hospice Society and Southridge Art Students

For the past few months, Southridge art students have been diligently working on the delicate dove ornaments. With the winter season approaching, the art room is a place of creativity and festivity. Once again, Southridge's senior students, along with invited artists from the peninsula, contribute to the White Rock South Surrey Hospice Society's annual event, "Celebrate-A-Life."

Inspired by the winter season and Christmas spirit, the Grade 11 and 12 visual art students have been working on painting beautiful scenes and intricate patterns on the ornamental wooden doves that the hospice have provided; these doves are meant to be the carriers of celebration and hope, which also serves the purpose of raising funds for the society.

Here is how it works; visitors at the Semiahmoo Shopping Center during the Christmas season (December 1 to the 23rd) will be able to stop by the Celebrate-A-Life Tree, write down the name of a lost loved on a paper dove and hang it on that tree. Our doves along with other artists', are also up for donation. Our doves will be at the mall December 8 and 9. For a \$20 donation, you not only get to hang your loved one's name on the tree, but you also get to bring home a selected hand-painted wooden dove ornament of your choice!

The Southridge Art department is most grateful to the students for creating these, and ever grateful to be included among such talented artistic company for such a resonating cause.

Susy Baranzky-Job
Senior School Art Teacher

Time to book Graduation Portraits

Artona has reserved January 26th and 27th for Southridge Grad Portrait Sessions. For information about how to prepare for your grad portrait session [click here](#). Students have the option to take photos in casual/formal clothing of their choice; however, all Southridge Students will have a cap and gown photo that is used for the yearbook and the portrait composites that hanging in the hallways. All students must wear their Southridge white, button down shirt and formal school tie (no school trips ties or personal ties) for the cap and gown photos.

Please visit <https://artona.com/schools/SRIS/programs/graduation> to book your personalized 60 minute professional Studio session at Artona Photo Group. If these dates do not work for you, please contact Artona directly to book a time that works for you.

Artona Studio
353 West 7th Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1M2

Phone: 604-872-7272
Email: csr@artona.com

Both Schools

Snow Closure Procedures

Hopefully you received our email last week – we wanted to take the opportunity, with the winter season upon us, to **remind everyone of our school's snow closure procedures.**

In the event that Metro Vancouver experiences heavy snowfall and we feel it's necessary to close the school or adjust the school schedule (i.e. late-start or early-dismissal), you will receive communications from Southridge in the following ways:

- **Text Message** – a text message will be delivered to the cellular number(s) that have been provided to the school.
- **Email** – an email will be delivered to the email address(es) that have been provided to the school.
- **Website** – a notice will be posted to our school website (www.southridge.bc.ca). The message will appear as a pop-up when you visit the site.
- **Social Media** – messages will be posted to our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

In the case of a school closure, Southridge will also communicate via:

- **Radio Station** – Local radio station, [AM980 CKNW](#) will be informed of the closure for their broadcast reports and online school closure listing.

We will aim to communicate any closures or changes to the school schedule with you by 6:30 am. Subsequently, we will continue to monitor the situation and you will be informed about school re-opening via the same channels as above.

It is important to note, we do not align our school closure decisions with the Surrey School District. The district covers a large geographical area that includes 102 elementary schools and 24 secondary schools. Clearing parking lots and taking steps to ensure all 126 school properties are safe is very different than dealing with one school that has the benefit of a dedicated crew of people who work diligently to make sure our property is well prepared for traffic after a snowfall.

If you wake up to snow and have not received a text message or email from the school, we encourage you to check the website or social media before heading out for the day. If you do not see any updates by 6:30 am, then you may assume the school is open and proceed as usual.

For our families who travel longer distances, or for whom the commute appears unsafe, please use your discretion and remain home if you feel it is hazardous to drive. In this case, please remember to call (604-535-5056) or email (attendance@southridge.bc.ca) the school and let us know that your child(ren) will not be in attendance.

Happy winter!

Administration Team

Changes to our Campus and Launch of a Feasibility Study

Many of you will recall that during the 2014-2015 year, we underwent a process to develop our [Campus Master Plan](#) (CMP). For those of you who are new to our community: students, teachers, staff, parents and alumni were invited to participate in creating a long-term vision for our campus. The outcome of this collaborative work was a proposed outline for the future physical configuration of our campus.

Working with architects Simon Richards and Les Andrew, a final version of the [CMP](#) was presented to – and approved by – our Board of Governors in September 2016. Upon approval, work began on defining the phases of the campus development.

Through multiple building phases, our CMP will address space limitations for both our Junior and Senior Schools, provide adequate space for our arts and athletics programs, while considering traffic flow and parking lot safety concerns. At the core of our first building phase is a new 'Centre Building' (as shown in the CMP) as well as extensive renovations in the Senior School. We anticipate this phase to cost approximately \$20 million.

To assess the feasibility of this phase, we are partnering with Compton Fundraising Consultants who will be meeting with approximately 30 current and alumni families from our community as part of the feasibility study process. We anticipate the study will take approximately 3-4 months, after which our Board of Governors will determine how and when we will move forward with any major building project.

In the meantime, we have some immediate space restrictions in the Senior School that must be addressed. Our Senior School classrooms are currently timetabled 99% of the time. As a result, we cannot provide additional courses, and we are no longer able to provide adequate space for our Learning Strategies and Counselling offices. These are important needs that affect the learning and wellness of our students.

To address these needs, we will be moving some of our Administrative staff and the Uniform Shop out of the Senior School and into a temporary Annex on the property. The Annex will be positioned on the South side of the Senior School, and will not affect parking or other areas of our campus. We hope to have the temporary Annex in place – and staff re-located – by July 2018; however as with any construction project, we anticipate there could be delays and we are prepared to adjust plans and timelines accordingly.

We understand some of you may have questions about the feasibility study, and/or the temporary Annex. If you would like to discuss these projects, please contact Christiane Hodson: chodson@southridge.bc.ca. We also encourage you to review the attached **Question & Answer** sheet, which may be helpful in answering some of your questions. These materials will also be posted in the Parent Portal in the Campus Master Plan tab, for future reference.

Sincerely,

Nick Nuraney
Chair, Board of Governors

Drew Stephens
Head of School

End-of-Year Donations to Southridge

Thank you to all our parents who have already made a donation to Southridge this year! We are most grateful for our continued and generous support!

If you have not yet made a donation in 2017, there is still time! There are some important projects in need of your support:

- **Athletics** – This year's Athletics wish list item is **branded gym wall pads for the Senior School** gym. Similar to the ones we purchased for the Junior School a couple of years ago, these wall pads will be mounted on both ends of the gym, provide safety and look great! We need to raise \$7,000 to make this purchase.
- **Academics** – Senior School chemistry has requested a PSI Mini-Pro Carbon Dioxide probe. It is **specialized equipment** like this that creates the rich learning environment that our students enjoy. The total cost of this wish list item is \$2,600.
- **Arts** – Our Junior School music department has requested a new **electric piano** and our Senior School music department has requested a **French horn**. Please

consider giving to our Arts fund to help make these purchases possible. Our goal for this fund is \$8,000.

- **Greatest Need Fund** – If you would prefer to make a general or unrestricted donation to Southridge, the Greatest Need Fund is allocated on an annual basis to the projects around the school that need it most. **Our goal is to raise \$75,000 for this important fund.**
- Finally, directing your gift towards our endowment funds allows us to offer bursaries to students who would otherwise be unable to attend Southridge. **This is a remarkable way to make a real impact on a student's life.** Contributing to either the Carol E. Levy Memorial Endowment Fund or the Alan Brown Memorial Endowment fund also allows us to be more accessible to a broader socio-economic family population.

Donations can be made easily and safely [online here](#). Or, if you would prefer to make a donation by cheque, please ensure that you have dropped off your donation to the school by December 22nd.

Please contact me if you have any questions at all at chodson@southridge.bc.ca.

Thank you again for all your support of Southridge and our students and for making a donation this year!

Christiane Hodson
Director of Advancement

Advancement Update – Gala 2017 Results!

Thank you again to all our generous families and friends who contributed to **the Power of Community Gala 2017!** What an amazing event!

We had an early sell-out with 330 guests in attendance and good representation from each class. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket – I'm certain you enjoyed a wonderful evening with good friends in support of our school.

The **live and silent auctions raised more than \$178,000!** Thank you to everyone who bought an item and to all the families and local businesses who donated an item. In fact, our item donors are acknowledged in the attached list of donors. Please read over the list and be sure to thank them for their support of our gala when you see them and/or are visiting their business. It means a lot to them to know that their contribution made a

difference – and hearing it in person from a parent at our school has an extraordinary impact.

When we create a budget for the gala, we always work to ensure that ticket revenue covers the cost of the event. This year, through **the extraordinary generosity of Ryan and Cindy Moreno and The Joseph Richard Group**, guests were treated to an amazing meal at a fraction of the real cost. This amazing gift-in-kind, along with some excellent financial prudence from the gala committee, ensured that we met our budget targets.

For this reason, every sponsorship dollar goes right back to the school. This year, **sponsors generously donated \$74,700!** Thank you to each of them for their generous support. Their names are in the attached list of sponsors. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

By all accounts, the **2017 Power of Community Gala** was a huge success – in fact, based on our records, it was one of the most successful galas in our school's history, **raising \$280,000** for our students and programs. WOW!

Although we had identified a number of important projects and items that would be funded from the gala revenue this year, we were in the very fortunate position of having to identify additional items based on the success of the night. Because of your generosity, the following items/projects will soon be a reality because of your support:

- Carpeting in the Senior School (will be completed over this Christmas break)
- Materials for the Junior School Design Lab
- Additional robots for Grade 9
- Bleachers for the backfield
- MYP classroom furniture (originally, we were only planning to upgrade one classroom and are now updating BOTH Grade 6 and Grade 5 classrooms!)

Our community really is extraordinary! For everything you did to contribute to the gala – from volunteering to set-up on Friday to the clean-up crew on Sunday and everything in between – THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Also, you will definitely want to 'Save the Date' for next year – November 17, 2018!

Christiane Hodson
Director of Advancement

Don't Miss Out: Presentation by Ken O'Connor, The Grading Doctor (Jan 11)

On **Thursday, January 11th** from 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Southridge is excited to host **Ken O'Connor** for a special presentation on assessment and its role in student learning.

Ken is an internationally renowned and highly sought-after speaker, author and consultant. We are very fortunate that Ken has agreed to travel to Southridge to work with our faculty for the day and give a special presentation to our parents the same evening. Ken will share his insights not just as an expert educator, but also as a father and grandfather. Join us, as Ken looks back at how reporting has changed over the last several decades, and shares his insights on what's most important for reporting student learning today. **Parents of students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 are invited to attend.** If you have not yet pre-registered for this free event, we encourage you to do so today so that we may anticipate numbers.

EVENT DETAILS

Thursday, January 11, 2018

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Southridge School – Junior School Great Hall

Open to parents of students in K-12.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 604-542-2322 or tdehoog@southridge.bc.ca.

Tanya de Hoog
Head of Junior School

School Closed for Winter Break

Please note, Southridge School will be **closed for the Winter Holidays starting Saturday, December 23 through to Monday, January 1st, inclusive**, and will re-open for business on Tuesday, January 2nd. When classes are not in session, the school's office hours are 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Students are expected to return to school on Monday, January 8th. Please note that we have a late-start that day and students need to arrive between 10:15 and 10:25 am for a start time of 10:30 am. Please do not bring students any earlier as the faculty will be in meetings and unavailable to supervise.

Administration Team

Southridge Cafè

Here are a few things that hopefully will help you and help us keep everyone happy and with full tummies.

- We welcome feedback of any kind. Please do not hesitate to email us with any concerns or requests. southridge@canuelcaterers.ca
- The kitchen is always happy to help accommodate anyone with diet concerns or allergies.
- Breakfast is ready each morning at 7:30 am. Every morning, we also bake fresh muffins, cookies, scones and cinnamon buns.

Please review the attached menu for the final week.

Canuel Caterers

Uniform Shop News

The Uniform Shop is closed over the holidays from December 16th – January 7th and will re-open on the afternoon of Monday, January 8, 2017. Have a happy and safe holiday!

Merry Christmas!

Phala Tan
Business Services Manager



UNIVERSITY COUNSELLING UPDATE

December 15, 2017



SOUTHRIDGE.
We are all one.

Holiday Greetings Students and Parents! As the festive season and a welcome break approaches, I would like to take the opportunity to provide updates on University Counselling at Southridge...

Support for Applying to University

In addition to the university application preparation that is provided in Career Education classes and individual appointments, students have had multiple opportunities to work on, and get help with, their supplemental essays and videos. One of the key staff members providing that support was Dr. Taryn Beukema, along with other members of the English department. Dr. Beukema ran a workshop during LEW and was available on Mondays at 3:30 pm to help brainstorm and read through submissions. Students also had the opportunity to work with Ms. Livingston and Mrs. Becker on personal profile requirements (i.e. video submissions and resumes). We hosted the “Application Bash” on November 22nd where a number of teachers helped with answering questions about finishing online applications and polishing essays.

Important notes from these workshops:

- Even though we live in a tech-savvy world, the online applications can feel daunting because sometimes the wording of questions or instructions is confusing. Often, students just need someone to read through instructions with them and offer encouragement as they fill in the forms.
- Once a payment is made to the university, it is important to check the replies in response to the applications and follow the ‘next steps’ in setting up the student portal or account as directed by each university.
- Note that university student portals are often unavailable on Sundays since this is when they run weekly maintenance checks.
- Despite best efforts on everyone’s part, glitches can happen as universities process many applications. Students are encouraged to ask questions or seek help if they have any concerns about what is happening with their application. For example, this week, I had a student who had typed her email address incorrectly, and another who had a problem filling in an online form for essays because the internet browser was not optimizing the use of the website.

PLEASE NOTE: University processing centres (e.g. OUAC) and universities shut down over the holiday break.

Sending Marks to Canadian Universities

Once students have applied to a university, the institution will then communicate next steps to follow for providing marks information. Students are reminded to check their application status regularly for updates.

MOST UNIVERSITY OFFERS HAPPEN BETWEEN MID-MARCH TO MID-MAY!

Canadian Universities do not have “early” offers in the same structured way that US colleges do. Some review applications on a rolling basis and will provide opportunities to send marks early for review but they will not “reject” applications based on 1st term marks. If an offer is not made, the student will be reminded to send updated marks (either Mid-Year or Term 2 marks).

Self-reporting marks via an online web portal:

Some universities will ask students to self-report their marks and they will guide them on how to do this.

For example:

1. Western (students are guided once they apply)
2. McGill (2 stages Jan 6 to Feb 1 for term one or mid-year marks, and March 1 to May 1 for term two marks)
3. UVic (students are guided once they apply – portal opens mid-February to Mar 31)
4. UBC (Opens in March for Term Two marks ONLY-UBC does not want to receive transcripts prior to that date)
5. SFU (Portal Opens January 4 to April 30 – students are guided once they apply and can update marks anytime)
6. York (Self-report done when application is submitted)
7. U of Alberta & U of Calgary (Self-report done when application is submitted-transcript can also be sent)
8. U of Toronto (2 stage process as students self-report and also upload a PDF of their Southridge transcript)

Sending Southridge transcripts:

This is triggered by students requesting their transcripts be sent through Naviance. Marks are sent either in paper form or electronically and Ms. Byrom handles the sending of the marks once she receives the requests on Naviance.

Transcript schools include most Ontario universities and other eastern universities, for example:

1. Carleton – send Mid-year mark in February
2. Concordia – transcripts can be uploaded to online application
3. Dalhousie – submit official transcripts by March 15
4. Queen’s – Official transcript showing Gr 11 and First Term Gr 12 marks can be sent by Jan 8 for early consideration for top academic students (at least 90% average). Because the bulk of offers

are made between March and May 17th, there is no disadvantage to waiting for mid-year marks to be sent for consideration. Queen's reviews updated marks as they are made available.

5. Waterloo-an official transcript of your completed and current courses and a transcript of your winter mid-term marks as soon as they're available
6. U of Guelph – Guelph would like to receive transcripts for early consideration by Jan 11th but they stress this is not a firm deadline as they are continually accepting updated information. Students who are very keen on Guelph should request a transcript to be sent.
7. McMaster – Interim (1st term or mid-year) should be submitted as soon as possible. If interim average is sufficiently high you may be considered for an early “conditional” offer of admission. If McMaster is one of your top choices and you have a strong average, request a Term One transcript be sent.

This is a sampling of universities – students are reminded that they must check email notifications from the universities they have applied to and follow the next steps and to-do items as per instructions.

Note that Ms. Byrom will return to the office on January 3rd. She will be checking Naviance for any transcript requests that grads have submitted and will send Term One transcripts during the week.

U.S. Application Update

It's been a busy fall with two major application deadlines passed: early decision applications were due on November 1st and the Universities of California applications on November 30th. Regular decision applications for U.S. schools are generally due between the 1st and 5th of January; however, students are being strongly encouraged to have their Common Applications fully completed before they leave on holidays on the 15th so they can have the benefit of their English teachers' input on application essays. All U.S. applicants should have organized their teacher references by now, and all school-related documents will be submitted electronically by early next week. Students who applied for Early Decision should hear by December 15th, but regular decision offers aren't generally offered until March. As with Canadian schools, a mid-year transcript will be sent in early February to those schools who require it, but it's essential for students to remember that all offers are conditional on maintaining marks and any other conditions of offer.

PSI Choices Form

All Grade 12 students in BC are required to complete their online PSI (post-secondary institutions) Choices Form. This is a legal document that the Ministry of Education requires students to sign off on, to authorize release of official and final transcripts confirming high school graduation. All university offers are conditional until the Province confirms graduation. All Grads will be guided on completing this during Career Education classes.

Scholarships and Awards

In Grade 11 Planning, all Southridge students create a profile on www.studentawards.com or www.scholarshipscanada.com to research awards, scholarships, bursaries that are available across Canada. These profiles remain active throughout Grade 12 and provide Grads with lists of scholarships they are matched to. Over the next two-to-three months, this is the peak time for opportunities to apply for awards. We will be covering this topic in further depth during Portfolio classes.

Christmas Greetings to the Grads!

Finally, I wish you and your family a peaceful and joyful holiday season. I hope that you find time to rest and rejuvenate and return to school on January 8th ready to begin the remainder of the high school journey. Don't forget that attendance at Career Education classes and personal appointments is a requirement for your Graduation Transitions credits. Mrs. Becker and I look forward to continuing to work with you and to help you achieve success in your post-secondary and university goals.

Yvette Livingston
Director of University Counselling



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We are all one.

Q&A: Feasibility Study and Temporary Annex

If you have additional questions regarding the feasibility study, or the temporary annex, please contact Christiane Hodson, Director of Advancement: chodson@southridge.bc.ca

Q: Will our students be moved to the Annex?

A: Students and classrooms will not be moved to the temporary Annex. The Annex will provide temporary office space for some Administrative staff, and the Uniform Shop only.

Q: Does the addition of the Centre Building and Annex mean you are planning to increase the schools' student population?

A: No. Our plans do not include growth to our student population (which currently sits at 680 students). Southridge prides itself on being a small, connected community, where our students and families are known. The proposed changes to our campus reflect the space needed to accommodate additional course offerings, enhanced programs and more innovative learning space for our current student population.

Q: Is the 'Temporary Annex' just a nice word for a 'Portable'?

A: While the Annex will be a temporary structure, it is not a portable. Its modest design will complement our campus, and be a welcoming environment for our staff and parents. When it comes time to remove the Annex from our campus, it will be recycled through Habitat for Humanity (or another similar organization).

Q: Where will the temporary Annex be located?

A: The temporary Annex will be positioned on the South side of the Senior School, and will not affect parking or other areas of our campus. We hope to have the Annex in place – and staff re-



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located – by July 2018; however as with any construction project, we anticipate there could be delays and we are prepared to adjust plans and timelines accordingly.

Q: Will the building of the temporary Annex affect tuition?

A: No, tuition fees will not be affected by the construction of the temporary Annex.

Q: How long will the Annex be on our campus?

A: The lifespan of the Annex is a maximum of 5 years.

Q: I've reviewed the CMP and am curious about additional building phases and timing of construction. Will Southridge be in construction for the next 10 years?

A: We do not currently have timing established for any possible future phases of the CMP. Right now, we are focused on addressing our most pressing need, which is creating the necessary space for our students and academic program. Any further construction would consider our school calendar, safety and the best interests of our students. Once we hear back from our community about the Centre Building, the Board of Governors will determine how and when we will move forward with any major building project on our campus and we will be sure to communicate this with our school community.

Q: Is the construction of the temporary Annex the beginning of moving forward with the Campus Master Plan?

A: The construction of the temporary Annex addresses the immediate space restrictions in the Senior School. Currently, our Senior School is timetabled 99% of the time, which means we are unable to provide additional courses, and we are no longer able to provide adequate space for our Learning Strategies and Counselling offices. These are important needs that affect the learning and wellness of our students.



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Once we receive the results of the Feasibility Study for the Centre Building, the Board of Governors will determine how and when we will move forward with any major building project on our campus.

Q: How would a major building project – like the Centre Building – affect tuition?

A: It is premature to speculate about how tuition might be affected by the construction of the Centre Building – or any major building project – until we have the results of the Feasibility Study.

The Study will take approximately 3-4 months, after which our Board of Governors will determine how and when we will move forward with any building project.

Q: When will the community hear about the results of the Feasibility Study?

A: We plan to report back to the community by the end of the 2017-2018 school year. The Study will take approximately 3-4 months, after which our Board of Governors will determine how and when we will move forward with any major building project.

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY - 2017 Southridge Gala

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	Mon-11	Tues-12	Wed-13	Thur-14	Fri-15
Breakfast	Smoothie Day	Pumpkin Scone	Smoothie Day	Bacon Egger	Smoothie Day
Chef's Entree	Perogies and Sausage	Salad Bar	Butter Chicken	Salad Bar	Fish Taco
Pasta Bowl	Ravioli	Bow Ties	Mac and Cheese	Alfredo	Primavera
Grill Central	Special Burger	Chicken Noodle Bowl	Soft Taco	Pizza	Pot Pie
Weekly Panini	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza	Chicken Pizza
Great Greens	Pasta Salad	Salad Bar	Chef Salad	Salad Bar	Tossed Salad

We always offer our regular menu in addition to our daily specials

