



SOUTHRIDGE

Wednesday

AUGUST 29, 2018  
ISSUE #01

## Weekly Voice

### Welcome to a New School Year

A special welcome to all of our new Southridge families, and to our returning families, welcome back! It is wonderful to have everyone here with us at Southridge as we look forward to another great year filled with learning, growth, opportunity and community engagement.

To kick things off, please join me in acknowledging all of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes over the summer to prepare the school for the first day of school. Southridge relies on strong teams of skilled people who are devoted to making Southridge the best it can be as a school and as a community. Far from resting over the summer, there is a lot that needs to be done to prepare the school for opening.

In fact, with students out of school for an extended period of time, the summer is the only space in our busy annual calendar to dive into major projects. So, let's make sure we start the year off with gratefulness by expressing thanks to our administration teams, our facilities and grounds team, and our summer interns for all of their work in preparation for another fantastic year.

I would also like to draw your attention to an important document related to student safety. As part of our ongoing efforts to ensure that our leadership team is prepared to deal with difficult situations, Southridge worked closely with Safer Schools Together (SST) to develop important protocols for managing critical incidents. As part of our work with SST, Southridge was one of the first independent schools in the province to develop a set of resources to assess the level of risk associated with potential threats. As such, please reference the attached notice regarding assessing risk at our school.

I am looking forward to seeing all of our students and parents back on campus next week, and I am excited to begin Southridge's 24<sup>th</sup> year as a school.

Welcome back everyone and have a wonderful week!

Drew Stephens  
Head of School

## Important Dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
Labour Day	Monday, September 3		Both Schools
Junior School New Student Orientation	Wednesday, September 5	9:00 am	Junior School
Senior School New Student Orientation	Wednesday, September 5	9:00 am	Senior School
New Parent Coffee Morning	Wednesday, September 5	9:00 am	Southridge Cafe
Grade 5 and New MYP Parents and Students Technology Orientation – Session 1	Wednesday, September 5	10:30 am	Junior School
Grade 5 and New MYP Parents and Students Technology Orientation – Session 2	Wednesday, September 5	6:30 pm	Junior School
Fall Term Commences	Thursday, September 6		Both Schools
Kindergarten Group 1	Thursday, September 6	8:00 am	Junior School
Senior School Long Advisory	Thursday, September 6	8:35 am	Senior School
Senior School Assembly	Thursday, September 6	9:00 am	Alan Brown Great Hall
Kindergarten Group 2	Thursday, September 6	10:00 am	Junior School
Junior School Welcome Back Assembly	Thursday, September 6	10:30 am	Junior School Great Hall
Kindie Parent Coffee Morning	Friday, September 7	8:00 am	Southridge Cafe
Kindergarten (All)	Friday, September 7	8:00 am	Junior School
Grade 7 Bandathon	Tuesday, September 11	8:00 am	Junior School
Grade 12 Information Night	Tuesday, September 11	7:00 pm	Senior School
Grade 8 Parent Information Evening	Tuesday, September 11	7:00 pm	Senior School
Grade 9 Strathcona Meeting	Tuesday, September 11	7:00 pm	Senior School
Full School Assembly	Wednesday, September 12	9:30 am	Senior Gym
Welcome Back Wine and Cheese	Thursday, September 13	6:30 pm	Junior School Great Hall
Grade 5-7 Summer Reading Celebration	Friday, September 14	10:15 am	Junior School

## Junior School News

### Technology Information Sessions for all Grade 5 students and parents, and new MYP students and parents, Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

Please attend either the 10:30 am or 6:30 pm Technology Information Session for all Grade 5 students and parents, as well as all new families to Grades 5 - 7 - each student, along with a parent, must attend one of the offered sessions (hosted by Mr. Anderson and Mrs. de Hoog). The sessions take place in the Junior School Great Hall. Please sign in at the attendance table before you are seated. Students should wear their summer uniform.

### Walking Registry

If your Junior School child walks home from school, please email [attendance@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:attendance@southridge.bc.ca). If they walk home on a regular basis, one email indicating the days of the week they will be walking will suffice. Just be sure to let us know if anything changes. If they walk on an occasional basis, please email each time they are to walk home. This will help us to maintain a centralized registry of walkers.

### Southridge Family Handbook

An updated version of the *Southridge Family Handbook: A Helpful Guide for Life at Southridge, 2018-19* is now available in the Parent Resource section of the Parent Portal. You can find it under the "Both Schools" Tab. Please ensure that you read through this document carefully, and refer to it regularly. It is full of important information about our school departments, operations, procedures, behaviour expectations and routines for students, our academic and co-curricular programs, technology, as well as community expectations and involvement opportunities for parents. Please note that some of our program changes, (e.g. those mentioned in Mrs. de Hoog's post today) are not yet reflected in the Family Handbook. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or require clarification.

### PYP Summer Reading

Reading is a lifelong habit and skill, which we all wish to foster. We hope many Grade 1-4 students are taking advantage of the summer reading program offered through the local

library. Please remember to bring a record of your summer reading to school on the first day of school (Sept. 6).

### **Students entering Grades 1 through 4 please bring:**

1. A list of all the books you read over the summer (may use public library recording card).
2. A short summary of **one** book from your reading list that you want to recommend to others to read and/or a copy of the book to be shared.
3. All Grade 4s (except for new students entering Southridge) need to have a minimum of one, three-point AR book read so they can take an AR quiz on the Thurs. or Fri. of the first week back.

Children entering Grade 1 in September 2018 may have parents read **to** them and scribe for them.

We look forward to hearing all about your adventures in reading!

Sincerely,

Your Grade 1-4 Teachers

### **Please Return Library Books**

Many books were signed out of the library in June for summer reading. Please ensure that you return all books borrowed as soon as possible so we can ensure the library shelves are fully stocked for September book exchanges. We excited for you to see all the wonderful changes to our library space that will make borrowing books, reading, and learning even more fun!

### **The upcoming After-School Clubs will run from September 6 (September 13 for Kindergarten families) – December 21, 2018.**

- Monday: Reaction Attraction Chemistry - Partnering with 'Science Made Fun' by Unique Minds
- Tuesday: Therapeutic Art

- Wednesday: Innovative Thinking
- Thursday: Machines - Partnering with 'Bricks 4 Kidz' for Kindergarten to Grade 2  
Animation 3 - Partnering with 'Byte Camp' for Grade 3 to Grade 7
- Friday: Young Entrepreneurs

**\*NEW\*** Clubs Days: Friday, October 26, 2018 (Pro-D Day) and Monday, October 29, 2018 (Half-Term Holiday)

**\*NEW\*** After-School Clubs Program on Early Dismissal Days:

To learn more and register [click here](#)

Thank you,

Rita Rai  
After School Clubs Coordinator

## Senior School News

### A Warm Welcome from the Senior School Principal

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer with family and friends and are ready to get back at it for another great year in the Southridge Senior School! Faculty and staff have been busily working for the past couple of weeks in preparation for the start of the school year. We are all anticipating a great year!

School reopens for all Senior School students on Thursday, September 6, at 8:30 AM. The Senior School timetable is being adjusted slightly for the 2018-2019 school year (Advisory will begin at 8:30, not 8:35 as it did last year and we are adding a longer mid-morning break). We expect all Senior School students to arrive at school no later than 8:25 in order to be in Advisory on time:

- 8:30 - 8:40      Advisory
- 8:45 - 9:55      Period 1
- 10:00 - 11:10    Period 2
- 11:20 - 12:30    Period 3

- 12:30 - 1:20 Lunch
- 1:20 - 2:15 Period 4
- 2:20 - 3:15 Period 5

In case you missed the email last week, please click [here](#) to access additional important information and key dates, intended to give families an idea of some significant events in the Senior School over the first few weeks of the year. New families (including our Grade 8 students who graduated from our Junior School), please take special note of the New Student Orientation, which takes place on Wednesday, September 5. New parents are encouraged to attend the coffee morning in the Southridge Café at 9:00 AM and our laptop rollout for new students at 11:00 AM on September 5th in the Alan Brown Great Hall.

We are looking forward to an amazing year!

Brad Smith  
Head of Senior School

## **Changes in the Senior Library Volunteer Recruitment Process**

For many years, volunteering in the Senior Library has been organized internally. This year will change that process and volunteers will be externally recruited through Advancement along with the other volunteer opportunities. We're hoping to encourage parents new to the Southridge community, or those who are keen to donate their time to consider the library, in addition to welcoming back those who would like to continue volunteering in the Senior Library.

If you are interested in volunteering you should have a general understanding of the organization of a library, basic computer skills, and be confident to work independently. A love of books is also an asset! Volunteers must be able to commit to one shift from 12:15-3:15 every two weeks and will be required to attend a half-day training session in early September in order to familiarize them with the required procedures and skills that will be asked of them in the library. No previous experience necessary. If this sounds interesting, then go to the Volunteer Portal by [clicking here](#). We will be capping the number of volunteer positions at 20, and from those, ten will be regularly scheduled positions, with the other ten volunteers on-call.

Carmen Moser  
Senior School Librarian

## Both Schools

### Welcome Back Wine and Cheese Reception

The 2018/19 school year is just around the corner! We invite you to join us in the **Junior School Great Hall** on **Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** from **7:00 – 9:00 pm** for a fun **wine and cheese reception!** This is a great opportunity to connect as a community – catch up with other Southridge parents, faculty, and staff. You'll hear brief remarks from Drew Stephens and Renée Lepp. Our new dining services provider (SAGE) will be delighting our taste buds, and we will have some exciting door prizes up for grabs! **Please RSVP if you plan to attend by [clicking here.](#)**

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you on September 13!

The Advancement Office

### Coffee Mornings Next Week

Welcome to Southridge, new students and families! As you know, next Wednesday (September 5<sup>th</sup>) is new student orientation for all students from Grades 1 to 12. When you drop off your child for orientation, please feel free to attend a casual coffee morning in the Senior School cafeteria from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

Your 'Welcome family' will also be invited, so if you have not had a chance to meet them yet, this will be a great opportunity to say hello and get your last-minute questions answered!

We will also be hosting a coffee morning for Kindergarten families on Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 10:30 am in the Senior School Cafeteria. This is a great opportunity for all new and returning Kindergarten parents to meet each other for the first time.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Christiane Hodson  
Director of Advancement

## 2018 Gala Procurers Needed!

Planning for the 2018 Gala on Saturday, November 17th is well underway, and in order to ensure the success of our silent auction, **we are currently looking for parents to help us confirm donation items for this year's event.**

In addition to the generous donations we receive from our families, we also count on the support of the local business community to contribute items and services. Request letters are being sent this week to several businesses asking for their support and **we now need help following up with them to secure their donation.**

The success of our auction depends on the number of top-notch items we receive, and it takes many helping hands to get the job done. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to volunteer and support the school in a behind-the-scenes capacity. We will provide you with all the details needed to follow-up with each business and no experience is necessary!

If you are interested in this role, **please sign-up using our [online registration system](#).** (Step-by-step instructions for the new system are [available here](#).)

For any questions about how you can help, please contact Rebecca James at 604-542-2301 or [rjames@southeridge.bc.ca](mailto:rjames@southeridge.bc.ca).

Rebecca James  
Events Manager

## Summer at Southridge: Many Happy Campers!

As summer comes to an end and we start the 2018-2019 school year, I want to reflect on our summer camps that took place this past July and recognize the many individuals that helped support this year's program.

From July 3<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, Southridge delivered 83 day camps to 718 children between the ages of 6 - 14 from communities across the Lower Mainland and beyond. As in past years, our camps filled up very quickly, with 75% completely sold out by the time the program started. The fun-filled, activity-based camp themes ranged from sports and theatre, to cooking, art, Minecraft and more - there was truly something for everyone!

The purpose of our *Summer at Southridge* program is to connect with families from our surrounding communities and provide an environment for children to create exciting memorable summer experiences during their break from the academic year. In addition,



summer camp provides excellent volunteer opportunities to students who want to gain valuable leadership skills, while making a positive impact in the lives of youth.

A program of this scale requires a huge amount of support from our faculty and staff, including our fabulous facilities team who do an incredible amount of work to make our camps run safely and smoothly. We are also very fortunate to recruit excellent teachers each year who consistently deliver fun, creative and entertaining camps. This is truly a team effort that would not be possible without the collective support from everyone involved. So, thank you to every single person who helped make the 2018 *Summer at Southridge Day Camp's* a huge success!

Look out for the July 2019 program information which will be announced in early March.

Jasmine Boyes  
Community & Alumni Relations Manager

## Important Volunteer Information

Welcome back parents! As you read in the email from Mr. Smith and/or Mrs. de Hoog last week, we are very excited to be launching a new online volunteer registration system this year. You can [use this link to sign-up](#) yourself for a variety of positions today, including:

- Hot Lunch
- Gala Procurers
- Playground Supervision
- Library (Senior and Junior Schools)
- Hospitality
- Baking Committee
- School events like Christmas feasts, Photo Day, etc.

Step-by-step instructions for the new system are available [here](#).

Please note that not all positions are currently 'available' for sign-up. Junior School class parent positions will not open until classes are posted on Friday, for example, and Country Fair positions don't open until February. Please read *The Wednesday* each week for updates on volunteer positions. Thank you, in advance, for volunteering at Southridge this year! We sincerely appreciate your support and could not operate without you!

## **Introducing Your Volunteer Committee:**

Every year, a dedicated group of parents work behind the scenes to ensure that all volunteer positions are filled, new families are engaged as volunteers, and that all volunteers feel appreciated. If you have any questions about volunteering, are keen to get involved but not sure how, or just want to talk to someone who has likely done every job at the school, contact any member of this committee or send them an email at [volunteer@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:volunteer@southridge.bc.ca).

Committee Chair: Stephanie Schmidt  
Members: Cari Shorrock  
Yvette Plante  
Emma Gu  
Teanna Moe  
Michelle Morton-Kassam  
Deesha Thind  
Lisa Lewis  
Rachael Lawson

## **Criminal Record Checks for Volunteers:**

As per school policy, some volunteer positions at Southridge require you to complete a Criminal Record Check. These positions include field trip drivers, playground supervisors, library and uniform shop volunteers. If you have not yet submitted a CRC to the school, you can now submit one easily online through the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP). Additionally, at no cost, you may also share the results of your check with other registered organizations through the CRRP online service.

In order to request a criminal record check for yourself, please use the link and access code below. This access code is unique to Southridge School and can only be used by Southridge volunteers. You will require this code when submitting your request online.

The results of the criminal record check will be emailed directly to Sherry Hu, Advancement Assistant, who will retain the check for a period of 5 years. If you are unsure if Southridge currently has a CRC on file for you or if you have any questions at all, please contact Sherry directly at 604-542-2303 or via email at [shu@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:shu@southridge.bc.ca).

Online Link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/>

Access Code: DLQGGJ6CENS

## **Driver's Abstracts for Parent Volunteer Drivers**

If you are hoping to volunteer as a parent driver for a field or sports trip this year, you must also submit a Driver's Abstract to the school. It is quick and easy to get your Driver's Abstract from ICBC ([instructions here](#)). These should be emailed to [drivers@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:drivers@southridge.bc.ca) as soon as possible. A submitted Criminal Record Check and Driver's Abstract are BOTH required in order for you to be an approved parent driver.

Thank you again for volunteering at Southridge! We look forward to seeing you all again next week!

Christiane Hodson  
Director of Advancement

## **Changes to the Southridge Café & Hot Lunch**

We are excited to welcome you to the Southridge Café and our new food services partner, SAGE Dining Services! Gary Riemer, our on-site Food Services Director, is ready to bring the SAGE concept of fresh, healthy food to the Café starting Thursday, September 6. Hot lunch for our Kindergarten-Grade 3 students starts on Monday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. All families should have received an email yesterday with information to help prepare you as we transition to our new payment system and Hot Lunch program. **More information can be found in the Café & Hot Lunch section of the [Parent Portal](#) (you will need to login to view the page.)**

As we are all shifting to new systems in our Café, please be patient and understanding with concerns or issues that may arise over the coming weeks.

We look forward to enticing aromas and great food in our Café this year and invite you to stop by to see the latest upgrades and sample the offerings.

Eat Healthy!

Wendy Simpson  
Director of Finance & Operations

## **Keeping You Up to Date – Changes and Movements**

Karen Gaitens has joined Southridge as a temporary full-time Teacher on Call for the Junior School. Karen taught in Omaha, USA for 12 years as a Montessori Teacher,

primarily teaching Kindergarten before relocating to BC. Upon arrival in BC, Karen focused on completing her Bachelor of Education. She has spent the past year working at Southpointe as a Teaching Assistant where she was able to gain an understanding of the IB Primary Years Programme. Having recently obtained her teacher certification, Karen is excited to join Southridge and to help guide our young learners.

### **After School Clubs Program:**

Robyn Paterson will be joining the After-School Clubs team and will be taking on an instructor position beginning in September. Robyn, a certified Early Childhood Educator, brings to this role over 20 years of experience working with Infants, Toddler and Preschool aged children. She has spent the past 8 years running her own daycare and is looking forward to connecting, leading and directing activities and experiences for our students.

Please join me in welcoming Karen and Robyn to Southridge.

Darcie Sagert  
Human Resources Manager

## **Uniform Shop News**

Welcome back and hope you had a wonderful summer break. The Uniform Shop will open at the following hours before school begins. From past experience, many parents will come in on these days and there are usually line-ups. Your patience and understanding are greatly appreciated.

- Wednesday August 29<sup>th</sup>: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup>: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

From Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup> onwards, regular hours apply. Regular hours are:

- Monday – Thursday: 7:45 - 9:00 am and 2:00 - 4:00 pm.
- Friday: Closed

Phala Tan  
Business Services Manager



SOUTHRIDGE

## Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Fair Notice for Parent Community

### *What is a threat?*

- an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something
- may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture.

### *Duty to report*

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents/guardians/caregivers, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours to the school principals.

### *What is the purpose of a student threat assessment?*

The purposes of a student threat assessment are:

- to ensure and promote the emotional and physical safety of students, staff, parents, the student making the threat, and others
- to ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- to understand the factors contributing to the threat maker's behaviour
- to be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker
- to promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

### *What behaviours warrant a Student Violence Threat Risk Assessment to be initiated?*

A student threat assessment will be initiated for behaviours including, but not limited to:

- online threats to harm others
- sexual intimidation or assault
- verbal/written threats to harm others (clear, direct, and plausible)
- hate incidents motivated by factors including, but not limited to, race, culture, religion and/or sexual identity, expression or orientation
- fire starting
- serious violence or violence with intent to harm
- bomb threats (making and/or detonating explosive devices)
- possession of weapons (including replicas)
- gang related intimidation and violence

### *Collection Notice*

The School is subject to personal information privacy laws, and will undertake the collection of information in compliance with its policies related to such laws. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.

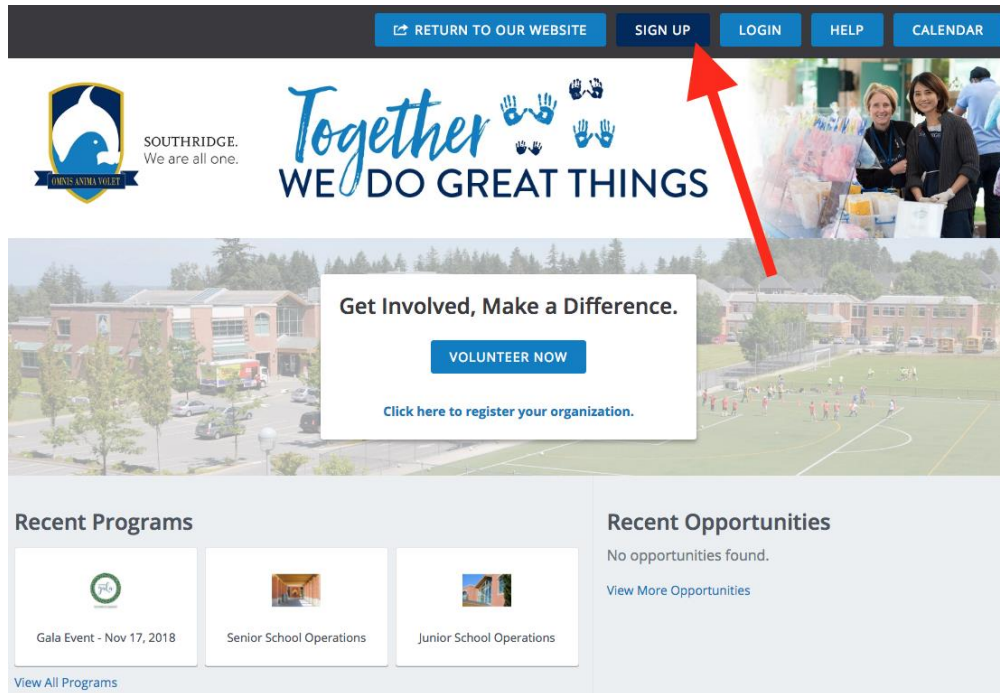
### **What Parents and Students Need to Know**

- any threat must be reported to the school principals
- investigation may involve the student services counsellor, the police or other community agencies
- investigation may involve locker or personal property searches
- interviews will be held with the threat maker and other students or adults who may have information about the threat
- parents of students who are directly involved will be notified
- threatening behaviour may result in disciplinary action
- an intervention plan may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any individuals targeted by threats

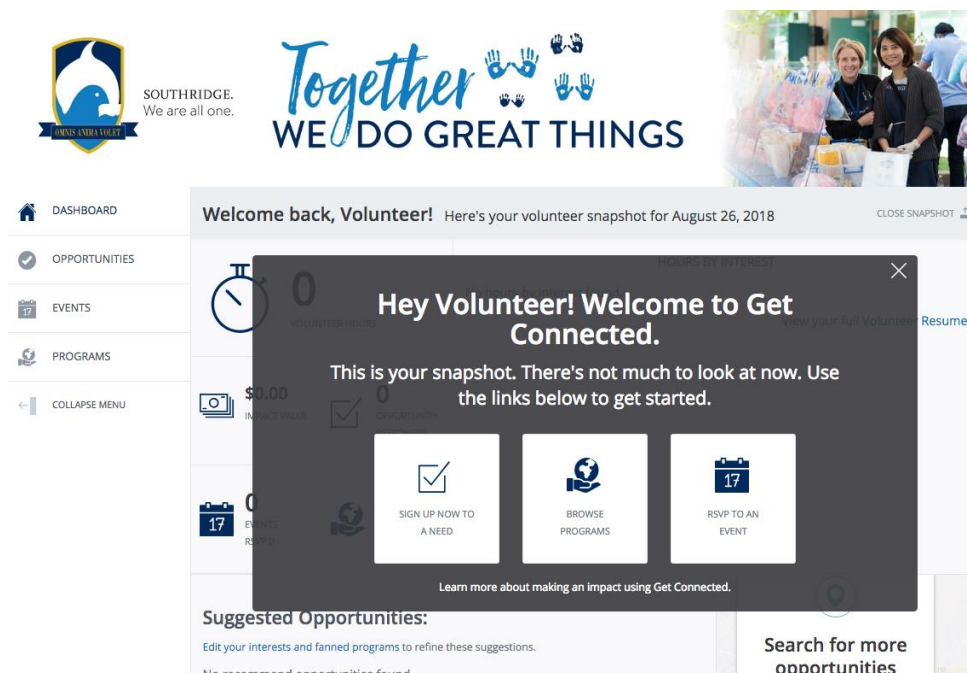
## Volunteering at Southridge – Signing up through Galaxy!

### STEP 1:

Getting started on the new Southridge Volunteer system is quick and easy! Go to <https://southridgebc.galaxydigital.com>. Click on the “Sign Up” button at the top.

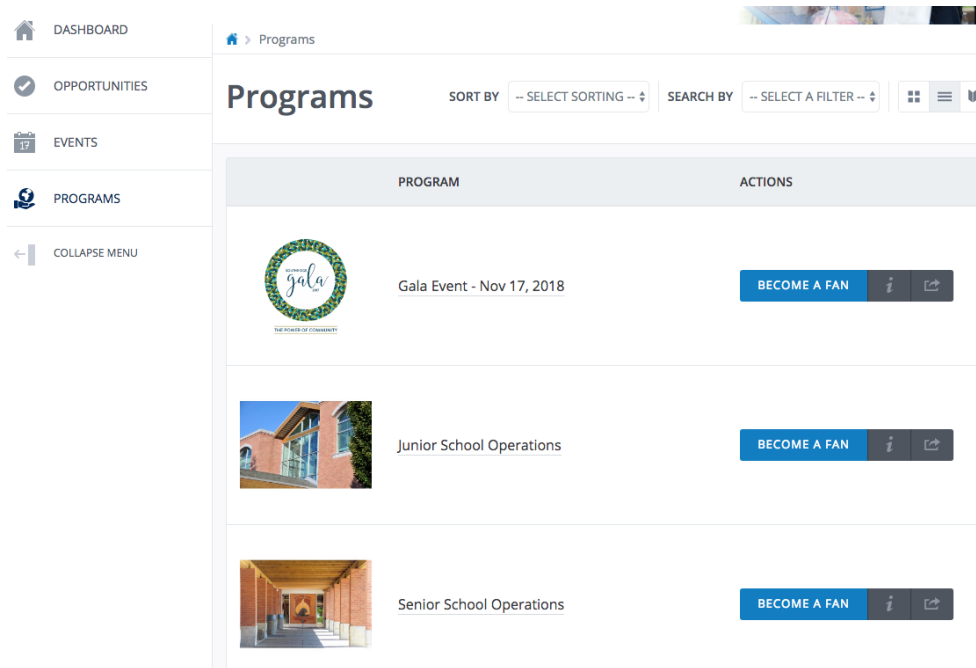


You can create your account with your email, or through your Facebook account. Once you've created your account, you will move to the dashboard:



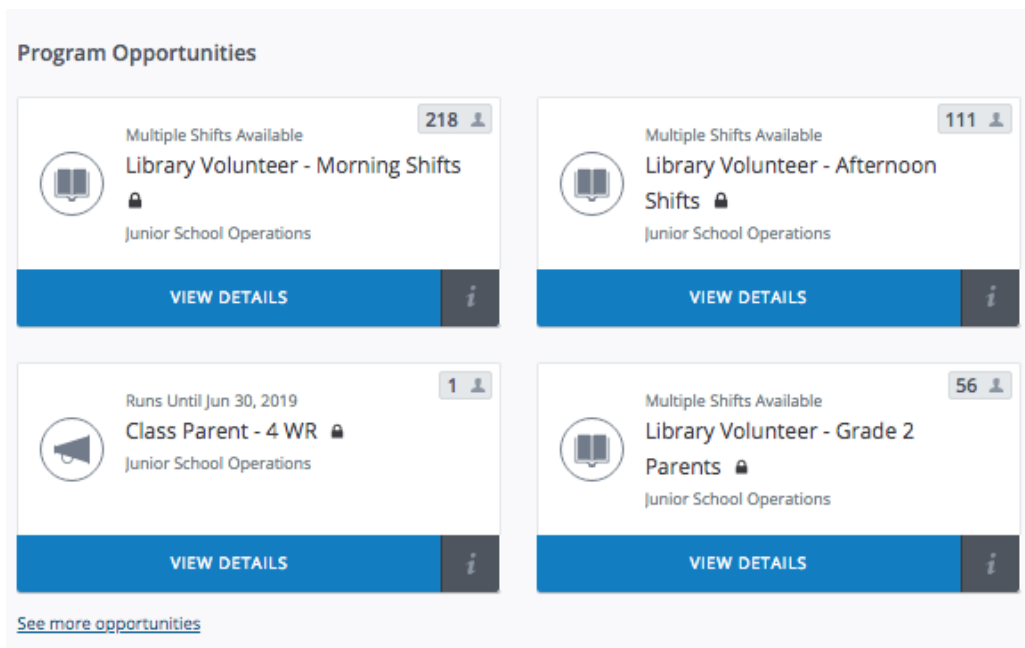
**STEP 2:**

On the dashboard screen, you can select “Sign up Now to a Need” or “Browse Programs”, both are accessible on the left hand menus as “Opportunities” and “Programs” as well. By selecting “Programs” the volunteer opportunities will automatically be categorized for you.



**STEP 3:**

Simply select the applicable program, then browse the volunteer needs. Don't forget the “see more opportunities” button if you don't see the volunteer position you are looking for!



#### STEP 4:

Once you have found the volunteer opportunity you are looking for, click on “View Details”. You can then sign up for a single shift or multiple shifts.

BEGINS	DURATION	OPEN SPOTS	SIGN UP NOW
Sep 6, 2018 @ 8:00am	1.00 hours	2 of 2	<a href="#">SIGN UP NOW INDIVIDUALLY</a>
Sep 7, 2018 @ 8:00am	1.00 hours	2 of 2	<a href="#">SIGN UP NOW INDIVIDUALLY</a>
Sep 10, 2018 @ 8:00am	1.00 hours	2 of 2	<a href="#">SIGN UP NOW INDIVIDUALLY</a>
Sep 11, 2018 @ 8:00am	1.00 hours	2 of 2	<a href="#">SIGN UP NOW INDIVIDUALLY</a>

#### STEP 5:

Be sure to click on “Submit Opportunity Response” once you have selected your desired shifts.

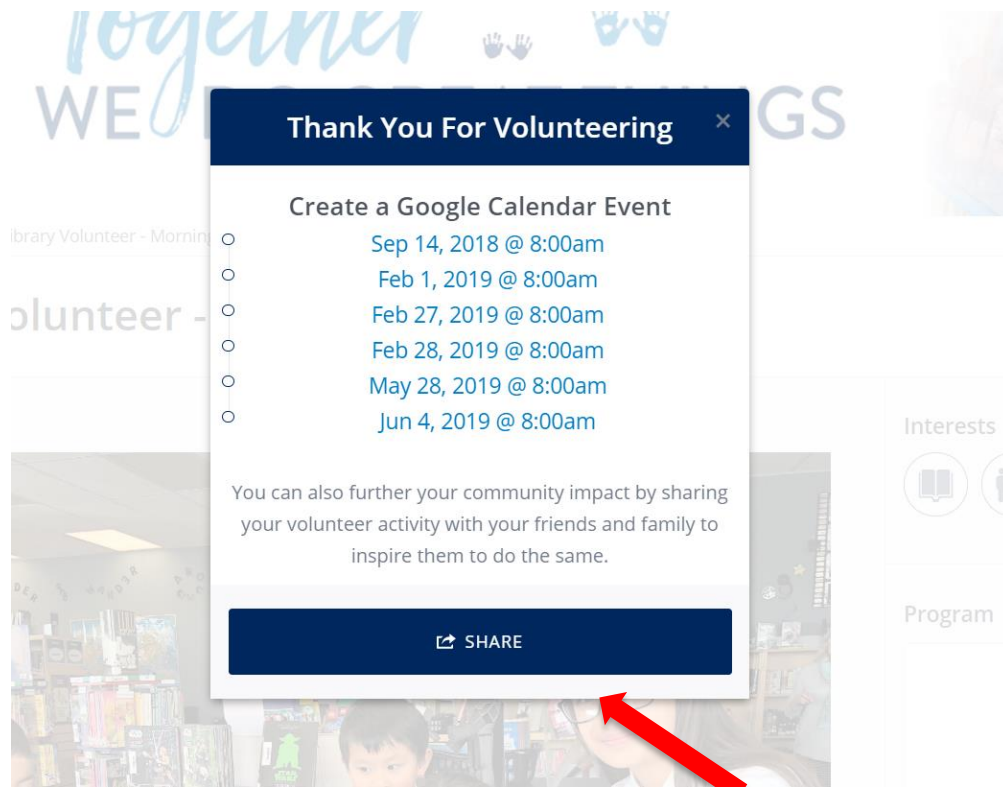
Additional Volunteer Information

Notes

[SUBMIT OPPORTUNITY RESPONSE](#) [CANCEL](#)



The system will summarize the opportunities you have selected and may give you the option of adding it to your google calendar (only if you selected a specific shift).



**Please do NOT share**

You will also be asked to 'Share' this information on social media. This is an automatic feature of the Galaxy system that we cannot turn off. Please **do not** share your volunteering on social media. We really don't want your friends, neighbours or second cousins signing up to serve hot lunch\*.

If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Hu at [shu@southridge.bc.ca](mailto:shu@southridge.bc.ca) or by phone at 604-542-2303.

\*Of course, if a non-parent does sign-up, we won't actually allow them to serve hot lunch. ☺