

Weekly Voice

The Only Cure for Boredom Is...Boredom!

Recently, I have been asked by several parents, "what should I do when my child gets bored?" When our children tell us they are bored, as parents, we often feel we must be the ones to provide them with the solution to their boredom. So, we sign them up for more lessons, add more activities to their schedules, give them more toys, and allow more screen time in an effort to appease their boredom.

Although boredom is most typically seen as a negative state, it is actually a pretty interesting and exciting concept. In more recent years, with the increase in screen time due to the advent of portable smart devices, coupled with a societal perception that the pathway to success in life comes from overscheduling our children's time so they have no down time, boredom is becoming a lost art. Research now tells us that boredom is necessary for creative thinking to thrive. According to psychologist and author, Dr. Sandi Mann, "Once you start daydreaming and allow your mind to really wander, you start thinking a little bit beyond the conscious, a little bit into the subconscious, which allows sort of different connections to take place. It's really awesome, actually."

Play is a manifestation of boredom and children, young and old, need lots of time to learn through unstructured play, whether it be playing with simple and open-ended toys, playing with their use time, playing in nature, playing with being still, or playing with their thoughts and ideas. Dr. Shimi Kang describes play as the "superfood of learning". She says, play "helps make kids uncomfortable with uncertainty." When we solve our children's boredom for them, we are limiting their capacity to think for themselves through play. Filling our children's time with activities, screens, and stuff actually depletes their brains of valuable neural resources. Boredom, and better yet, daydreaming, are the best ways to replenish the neural resources that are used up by being in a constant state of busy-ness or stimulation. When those neural resources are replenished, our creativity is boosted. When our creativity is boosted, our wellness is boosted, and when our wellness is boosted, we are more ready to set future goals and think about the steps we need to reach them, or tackle challenges that might otherwise seem too daunting.

When my kids were young, someone (I can't remember who, and if I could, I owe them a HUGE thank you) gave me some very sage advice. They told me that when your child tells you they are bored, it's not your job to fix it. Instead, they suggested, I should turn it back on them and ask, "and what are you going to do about that?" As a result, this is a



question that I have asked my own children many, many times over the years. They never like this response when they tell me, "I'm bored." In fact, they usually roll their eyes at me. But then they walk away, and they solve their own boredom, sometimes by finding something to do, and other times by just doing nothing.

So, the next time your child tells you, "I'm bored," ask them, "and what are you going to do about that?" and see what happens. You'll be doing them (and yourself) a huge favor!

Volet!

Tanya de Hoog Junior School Principal





Important Dates

Event	Date	Time	Location
Grade 7 Teach Your Parent Band Concert	Thursday, October 11	6:30 pm	Junior School Great Hall
Senior School Assembly	Monday, October 15	8:35 am	Alan Brown Great Hall
Outdoor Ed – Mountain Bike Trip	Monday, October 15	8:00 am	Senior School
School Photo Re-take Day	Tuesday, October 16	8:00 am	Junior School
Junior School Weekly Assembly	Wednesday, October 17	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
New York Arts Trip	Thursday, October 18		Senior School
Junior School Open House	Thursday, October 18	6:00 pm	Junior School
Zoomfest	Friday, October 19		Senior School
Casual Day	Friday, October 19	All Day	Both Schools
Senior School Assembly	Monday, October 22	8:40 am	Senior School
Kindergarten Pumpkin Patch	Monday, October 22	9:00 am	Junior School
UBC Information Session	Tuesday, October 23	6:30 pm	Senior School
Junior School Weekly Assembly – Cancelled	Wednesday, October 24		Junior School
Full School Assembly	Thursday, October 25	9:30 am	Both Schools
Professional Development Day	Friday, October 26	All Day	Both Schools
Half-term Holiday	Monday, October 29	All Day	Both Schools
Junior School Pumpkin Day	Tuesday, October 30		Junior School
Special Halloween Assembly	Wednesday, October 31	8:10 am	Junior School Great Hall
Senior School Spirit Assembly	Wednesday, October 31	8:30 am	Senior Gym
Senior School Jazz Retreat	Thursday, November 1-3		Senior School
Poppy Sale Initiative Begins	Thursday, November 1		Junior School
Senior School Assembly	Monday, November 5	8:40 am	Senior School
Southridge School Annual General Meeting	Tuesday, November 6	7:00 pm	Alan Brown Great Hall
Cancelled: Jr Assembly	Wednesday, November 7		Junior School



Junior School News

Full School Assembly- Thursday, October 25 @ 9:30 am

Please join us in our Senior School gymnasium for our second full school assembly of the year, led by Mr. Stephens, Dilly Kooner, and Jaden Sanghe. Our Grade 7 Term 1 Ambassador's and House Captains will receive their leadership pins at this assembly. Please note that there is **no** Junior School Assembly on Wednesday, October 24.

Pro-D Day and Half Term Holiday

Friday, October 26 is a Southridge professional development day. Faculty will be involved in in-school workshops throughout the day. School is not in session for students on this day, and school will also be closed on Monday, October 29 for the half-term holiday. Enjoy the 4 day weekend!

Halloween in the Junior School – keeping it fun and safe for everyone

We are looking forward to our annual Halloween festivities in the Junior School. Students are invited to bring a carved/decorated pumpkin to display on Tuesday, October 30. All pumpkins need to be taken home on Wednesday, October 31.

We will have our special Halloween assembly on Wednesday, October 31. Students are invited to dress up for Halloween. Please ensure that your child selects a costume that is engaging and appropriate. Scary or gory costumes, weapons (even 'fake' weapons such as sickles, axes), and other scary items that may accompany costumes are not permitted to be a part of any costume worn to school. Scary masks (e.g. monsters, masks with blood that drips through them) are also best left for evening festivities.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping to keep our Halloween festivities fun, safe and inclusive, especially for our youngest Junior School students.

Parent- Teacher Interviews - Wednesday, November 7 11:45 am Dismissal - SAVE THE DATE!

Parents please mark your calendars for the upcoming parent-teacher interview day on Wednesday, November 7 from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Students will be dismissed at 11:45



am. You will be able to schedule your interview appointments using 'Pick a Time'. Please stay tuned for more information as the date approaches.

Calling on all Grade 3 parents and any new parents for AR information session!

When: Monday, October 22 at 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Where: Junior School Library

Developing strong reading skills is important across all grade levels and subjects. At Southridge, our goal is to help every student develop a regular reading routine and a love of reading. The Accelerated Reader (AR) program is one tool we use to help us accomplish this. AR is an individualized program that helps children select books that are at their reading level, work towards reaching reading goals, and maximize reading growth. Come to our information session and see what you can do to help your child on this important journey towards becoming a confident, skilled, and avid reader.

Senior School News

Service Week in the Senior School - October 1-5

Last week in the Senior School, our students took part in our annual Leadership Experience Week. The Grade 8 and 9 classes boarded ferries and set out for a week of outdoor adventure at Strathcona Park Lodge. The Grade 10s stayed in the lower mainland for Service Week and dedicated themselves to volunteerism in the community. The Grade 11 class focused on career experience and developing life and leadership skills through a whole host of guest speakers, off campus experiences, and planned activities on campus. The Grade 12 class enjoyed guest speakers at Career Day on Monday, and used the rest of the week for their Grad Retreat to Rockridge Canyon. By all accounts, every grade enjoyed a valuable week of experiential education outside of our classroom walls.

I had the privilege and pleasure of organizing the week for our Grade 10 students, and I can say with certainty, that it was the best Service Week I have been a part of. The students were brilliant volunteers. Our community site sponsors and teacher chaperones only had positive things to say about their efforts and their energy. I won't go on, but I will leave you with a <u>link to the website</u> our Grade 10 students made to highlight their experiences over this year's Service Week. What I most enjoy about the website that the



students designed is that it's clear that they got as much out of the week as they put into it...which was a lot! I hope you'll take a look around and enjoy.

Until next year's Service Week,

Mr. Jones Vice-Principal – Student Life

Stroke and Turn Clinic for the Fraser Valley Swim Meet

If you are interested in learning to become a stroke and turn official and would like to help us out at the Fraser Valley Swim Meet on October 25th (doing stroke and turn), there will be a free two hour clinic offered at the following date and location. It would be for students and adults:

Thursday Oct 18th at the Surrey Sports and Leisure Complex (16555 Fraser Highway, Surrey V4N 0E9) in the multipurpose room on the hockey rink side. This clinic is free of charge and will run from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Students would receive volunteer hours for their portfolio for the time training and for the hours officiating at the meet as well. Although we can't provide them with transportation, we will feed them at the meet. The meet will be held at the same location as this clinic.

Anyone interested in signing up, please **pre-register** at **donna.m.chow@gmail.com** by providing your name and contact information.

Ms, Rodriguez-Lang and Ms. Beer



Both Schools

Don't Miss "The Heart of Us" Gala!



Saturday, November 17th

The annual Southridge Gala is well-known as one of our biggest and most vibrant fundraising events, offering guests a fun and glamorous evening, all while raising funds for important capital items and projects at Southridge. This year's "The Heart of Us" *Gala*, coming up on **Saturday**, **November 17**th, will be no exception.

On this unforgettable night, you will have the chance to connect with other parents and friends, while also enjoying a cocktail reception with music from our talented Senior Band students, indulging in a beautifully abundant buffet dinner, taking home incredible live and silent auction packages, and getting to dance the night away!

Limited to around 330 guests, the event usually sells out in advance, so please <u>purchase your table or tickets today</u>. You don't want to miss the opportunity to be part of this year's extraordinary gala!

If you are unable to attend, remember, there are many other ways to support our school community through this event: <u>become a sponsor</u>, <u>donate auction items</u>, or <u>volunteer!</u>

Thank you,

2018 Gala Committee



We Need Your Auction Items!

With "The Heart of Us" Gala fast approaching (Saturday, November 17th), we are calling on all school families to donate (or secure) auction items that will offer guests a variety of unique, one-of-a-kind experiences, products, and services to bid high and often on during the event.

Not only are the live and silent auctions a lot of fun (!), they also play a major role in the financial success of the Gala, helping us to raise more funds to support the purchase of new teaching tools, educational technology, classroom equipment and other important capital items to enhance our students' learning experience.

By donating to the silent and/or live auction with a gift certificate, product, or service, you will be making a valuable contribution to our school, while receiving prominent recognition that evening and in our 2018-19 Annual Report.

We need everyone's support to make the event a success, so **please** click here for a donation form and stay tuned for details on "Where the Funds Go".

2018 Gala Committee

Sponsor "The Heart of Us" Gala

It's through the combined efforts of our amazing school community that Southridge continues to prosper...and the Gala is no exception. Your generous sponsorship of last year's event allowed us to exceed our fundraising goals and raise more than \$275,000 – one of the most successful Gala's in our school's history!

Our success is based on your selfless contributions, which allows the School to purchase important items for our students and teachers. **We hope we can count on your support as a sponsor this year**. To find the level of commitment that is appropriate for you and your family, **please <u>click here.</u>**

Together, let's put our kids at 'the heart of us' and support them in making a difference in the world!

Please visit the **Gala website** for more details.

And a big 'thank you' to our sponsors so far:

Leadership



The Mao Family

Inspirational

- Major & Emma Gu
- PHL Capital Corp.
- The Wang & Yao Family

Supporting

The French Family

2018 Gala Committee

SLOW DOWN and Drive with Caution

As the autumn season begins to assert itself, the rain starts to fall with more regularity, and the number of daylight hours diminishes, the driving conditions on our campus during drop off and pick up become far less than ideal. Darkness and blurred windshields make it very difficult to identify pedestrians – especially when our parking lot is congested. So PLEASE take extra precautions while driving on our campus over the next few months: arrive early, watch carefully for pedestrians and drive SLOWLY – more slowly, in fact, than you think you need to. Keeping your children safe is our very top priority, and when it comes to the parking lot, all of us need to play a role.

Volunteer Opportunities

Uniform Shop

Volunteers are still needed in the Uniform Shop for afternoon shifts once a week on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoons. Junior and Senior School parents are welcome to volunteer, and training is provided. Contact volunteer@southridge.bc.ca for additional details.

"The Heart of Us" GALA

Gala Auction Wrapping: Thursday, November 15th (8 am—12pm)

Wrapping volunteers are required on the Thursday before the Gala to assist with assembling and packaging auction items. You would work with a team to make the



packages beautiful and ready for display on the big night. All the supplies are provided—you only need a smile and a creative eye! Please contact us at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca to sign up.

Gala Set-Up: Friday, November 16th

- Morning Shift (8 am—12 pm): Many volunteers are required on the Friday morning before the Gala to assist with setting tables, placing decor items, and putting the final touches on the gym! Volunteers will set tables, bring in auction items, set-up centerpieces, etc. Come prepared to have a lot of fun with a large group of parent volunteers.
- Afternoon Shift (12 pm—3 pm): A couple of volunteers are always required to put the final and finishing touches on the gym on the Friday afternoon before the Gala. If you have an eye for detail, please sign-up for this shift! No heavy lifting required! Please contact us at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca.

Bar Ticket Sales (5:30pm—8:30pm)

Bar ticket sales volunteers will work together in teams and are responsible for selling drink tickets to guests during the event. This job involves handling cash and counting tickets. Entails a 3-hour shift on the night of the gala. Bar ticket volunteers are encouraged to dress in business attire (no jeans) as they are interacting with guests. Please contact us at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca to sign up.

Parcel Pick Up (9:30 pm—1 am)

The parcel pick-up team is responsible for moving in and out of the gym during the Gala, clearing auction items from the tables as the tables close and handing these out to the winning bidders as they leave the event. Comfortable shoes are necessary, as is a lot of caffeine—this is a late-night shift (but lots of fun!). Please contact us at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca to sign up.

Sign Up Today!

Similar to previous years, volunteer positions are posted online through the Parent Portal, and you can sign up through the Volunteer Corner by clicking on the orange 'Volunteer Now' button. Please check out the Galaxy FAQ section in the Wednesday for additional information about signing up using the new volunteer system.

If you have any questions about volunteering at Southridge, please don't hesitate to contact the Volunteer Committee at volunteer@southridge.bc.ca.

Thank you!



The Volunteer Committee

Photo Retakes - October 16

Photo Retakes will be held in the morning of October 16th. Any students who missed photo day will need to have their picture taken. For those who are unhappy with their original school photos, students will need to bring your go-card to hand into the photographers when they have retakes.

Students having photos taken on retake day will need to wear number one uniform (Blazer, school tie).

Southridge Café

In addition to lunch service, Southridge Café offers daily freshly made baked goods early in the morning. They include muffins, scones, cinnamon rolls, toasts, and biscuits - a good snack/quick breakfast when your child is in a rush!

Happy and Healthy Eating!

Uniform Shop News

Senior School students now have the option of wearing pale blue oxford shirts instead of the regular white shirts for the winter uniform. The pale blue shirts are optional items and are available at the Uniform Shop for purchase by Senior students only. For assemblies and ceremonies, the white shirts still have to be worn.

Regular hours are:

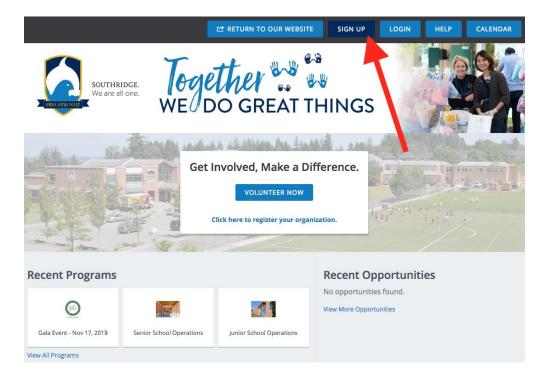
- Monday Thursday: 7:45 9:00 am and 2:00 4:00 pm (On days with late start, we open only in the afternoon.)
- · Friday: Closed

Phala Tan Business Services Manager

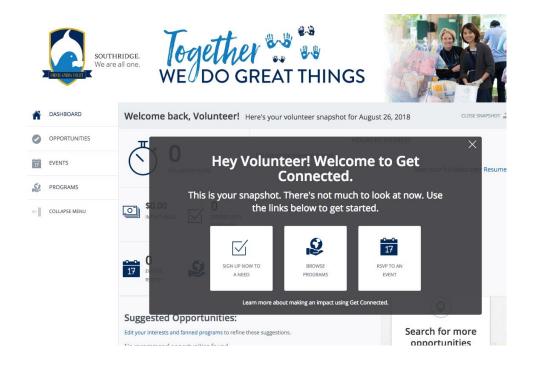
Volunteering at Southridge - Signing up through Galaxy!

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.

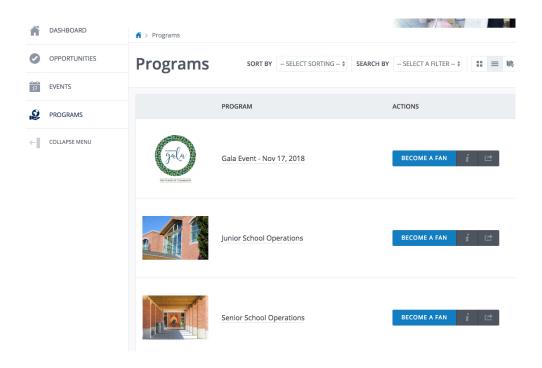


You can create your account with your email, or through your Facebook account. Once you've created your account, you will move to the dashboard:



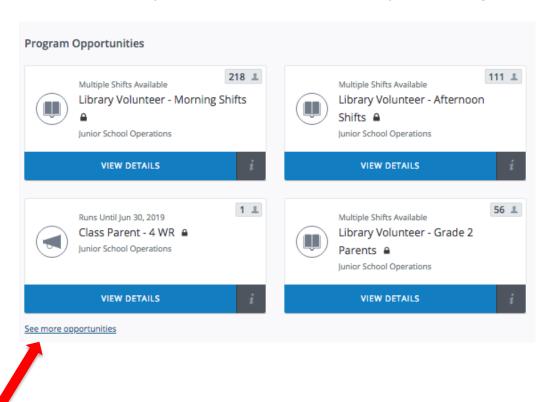
STEP 2:

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.



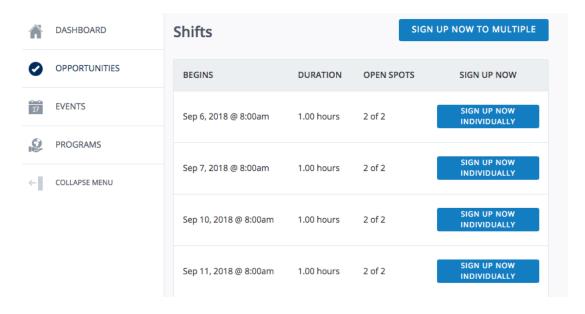
STEP 3:

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!

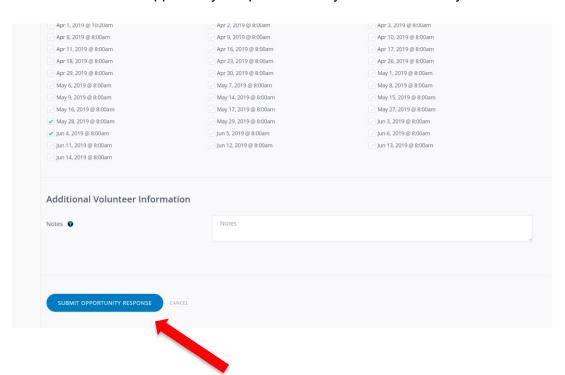


STEP 4:

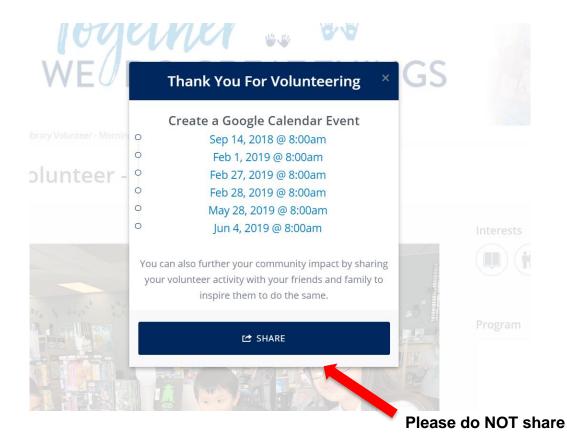
Once you have found the volunteer opportunity you are looking for, click on "View Details". You can then sign up for a single shift or multiple shifts.



STEP 5:Be sure to click on "Submit Opportunity Response" once you have selected your desired shifts.



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).



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*.

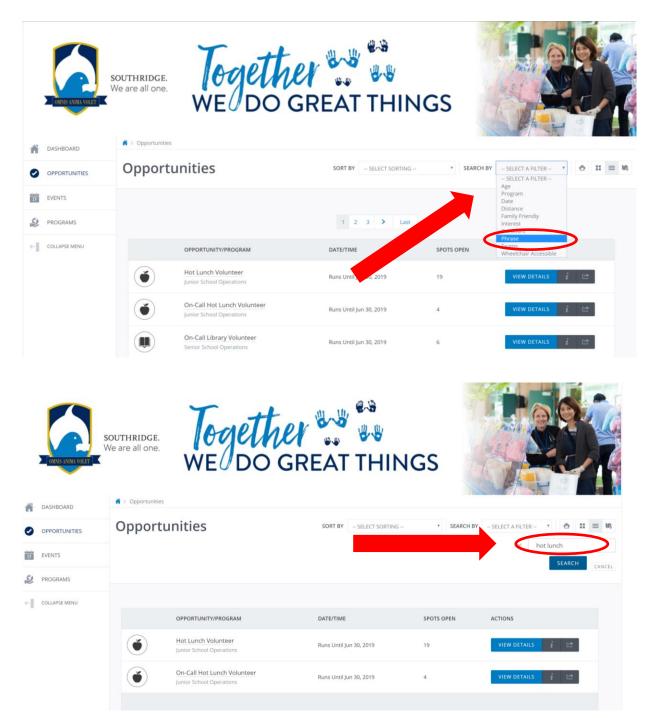
If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Hu at shu@southridge.bc.ca or by phone at 604-542-2303.

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

Volunteering at Southridge – Looking up volunteer opportunities

Step 1:

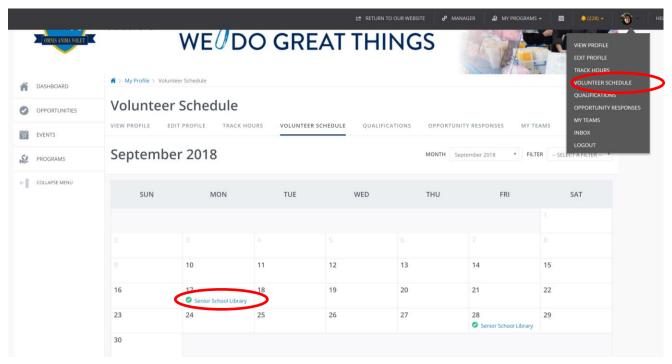
After creating an account and logging in (https://southridgebc.galaxydigital.com), click on 'Opportunities'. You can search for a specific opportunity like "hot lunch" or "playground" by selecting 'Phrase' in the 'Search By' list. Type in the key word(s) and any opportunity that includes that word will appear.



Volunteering at Southridge – Modifing your volunteer schedule

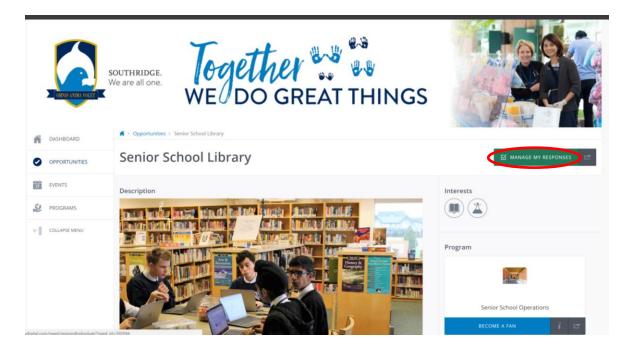
Step 1:

Galaxy has a great calendar feature that you can use to confirm or change your volunteer schedule. To access your calendar, click on your profile photo (or initials) on the top right corner, then select 'Volunteer Schedule' from the drop-down menu.

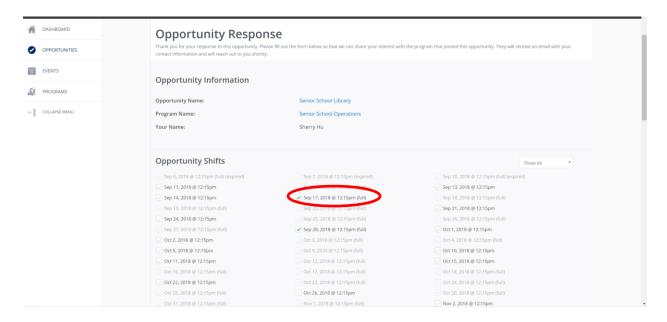


Step 2:

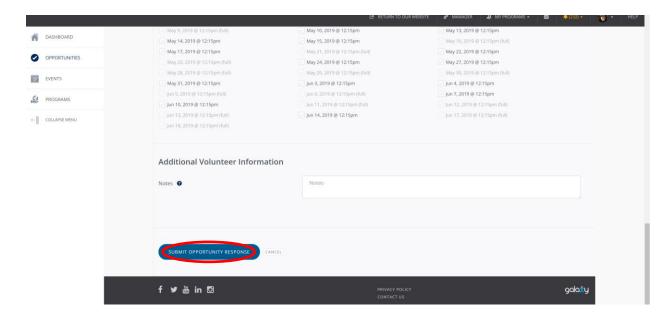
From the calendar view, click on a shift (in blue writing with a green check mark). If you don't see any writing in the calendar, you haven't signed up for anything yet for that month. On the next page, click on the green button, 'MANAGE MY RESPONSES'.



Step 3: Un-check green check marks to remove specific shift(s) from your schedule.



Step 4:Remember to click on the blue button, 'SUBMIT OPPORTUNITY RESPONSE' at the bottom of the page. This will 'save' your cancellations.



Alternatively, you can click on the green button, 'UNREGISTER', to remove yourself from an opportunity.



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