



**Media Release
For Immediate Release**

Monday, November 20, 2017

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

VICTORIA, BC – With the annual registration and transfer request process set to begin in January, schools are preparing for changes to student enrolment priorities and proof of residency requirements. After extensive consultation, new student enrolment priorities were approved in June 2017, to come into effect for the 2018-2019 school year. New proof of residency requirements are also being introduced.

The new priorities place greater emphasis on catchment students attending their neighbourhood school, while including priority for siblings attending a school together.

New student enrolment priorities now in effect for the 2018/2019 school year:

1. re-enrolling students
2. a catchment area sibling
3. a catchment area child
4. a non-catchment sibling
5. a non-catchment child
6. a non-school district child

The new enrolment priorities apply to new registrations, transfer requests and student transitions between elementary and middle, and middle and secondary school for English and French programs. The proposed changes differ from the previous priorities in that non-catchment siblings will no longer have priority over new catchment students, and out-of-catchment students transitioning out of elementary and middle school will no longer follow a school pathway giving them priority over catchment students.

In the new year, letters will be sent home from schools to parents of all grade five and eight students. Non-catchment Grade 5s and Grade 8s will have to apply for a transfer during the K-12 Student Transfer Process if they wish to continue on a catchment school pathway that does not align with their current home address.

Every home address in the Greater Victoria School District is connected to a catchment school. New students register at their catchment school and current students wishing to transfer to a different school must apply at their current school. In addition to proof of school age eligibility and citizenship, new requirements are in place for proof of residential address.

New proof of residency requirements

Home Owners must provide two of the following:

- Purchase agreement of home
- Recent property tax statement
- Home owner’s insurance
- Notice of Assessment
- A purchase agreement (with subject removal and a deposit receipt if a recent purchase)

If a homeowner is able to only produce one of the above, they will be required to also produce two of the following:

- Canadian bank or credit card statement
- BC Vehicle registration
- Income tax statement
- Insurance documents

Renters must provide:

- A rental agreement signed by landlord with landlords contact phone number

In addition to the above, two of the following are required:

- Canadian bank or credit card statement
- BC Vehicle registration
- Income tax statement
- Renter Insurance documents

**Please note, personal information other than address and full name can be redacted for privacy purposes.*

Important Upcoming Dates in 2018:

January 8 – 12	Registration for schools of choice (South Park Elementary and Cloverdale Traditional)
January 15 – 19	Early French Immersion (Kindergarten and Grade One) Registration Week
January 26	Deadline to submit Secondary Programs of Choice and Career Program Applications
January 29 – February 2	Kindergarten Registration and Kindergarten Transfer Week Late French Immersion (Grade Six) Registration Week
February 14	Last day for Secondary Schools to inform students re: acceptance into Programs of Choice and Career Programs

February 15 – 23	Kindergarten to Grade 12 transfer process Registration open for new Grade One – Grade 12 students for 2018-2019 school year
February 23 by 3 p.m.	Deadline to submit transfer requests
March 31	Deadline to inform parents of all transfer decisions

Parent Information Nights:

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

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

For more information about student registration and transfer process, visit:

<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/parent-student-resources/registration/>

For media inquiries, please contact:

Lisa McPhail
 Communications & Community Engagement
 Greater Victoria School District #61
 Office: 250.475.4103
 Cell: 778.679.5049