



Westsyde Elementary School

School District No. 73
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January 2026 Newsletter

Happy New Year and Welcome Back! I

hope you had an enjoyable holiday season and were able to spend quality time with friends and family. We are all set to return to regular school and classroom routines as we approach the second half of the school year. I am looking forward to all of the exciting learning opportunities coming in 2026!

Steve Scott - Principal

Mindfulness:

During the month of December we focussed on the power of teamwork and togetherness - "Together we grow, together we achieve. Every hand, every voice, every heart makes us stronger". Soon, we will shift our focus to Bravery and the importance of being bold by embracing the unknown and being courageous in our learning. Take a look at this [document](#) for more information as well as connections that can be made at home.

Math Question of the Month:

Last month we completed our first "Question of the Month" where students can take a grade appropriate problem home to solve and then submit it to the office upon completion. Thorough responses are entered into a draw for a Pizza with the Principal prize. Students are encouraged to work together with families on the questions/problems. Round 2 will begin Friday, January 9.

Sports:

We are in the process of organizing our grade 6/7 basketball teams. Games are set to begin the week of January 19. More information will be coming home soon if your child is participating.

Winter Clothing:

A reminder to please help your child come to school prepared to be outside in cold and snowy weather. Winter jackets, boots, gloves, and a toque are important items to have on hand each day. Labelling these items also helps to ensure they make it home again and not in our lost and found!

Kindergarten Registration and Schools of Choice for 2026/2027:

Stay tuned for upcoming information on our Kindergarten Roundup. The [SD73 District website](#) is offering two virtual information sessions to provide further information for parents of kindergarten students:

Schools of Choice Information Night

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 - 6:30 PM
(virtual session)

[ZOOM Link Here](#)

Meeting ID: 659 5646 1493

Passcode: 259977

SD73 Kindergarten Information Night

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 - 6:30 PM
(virtual session)

[ZOOM Link Here](#)

Meeting ID: 634 1071 0053

Passcode: 389554

If you know of anyone entering kindergarten this fall, please feel free to pass along this information or have them call the school if they have questions.

Hunger Heroes Food Drive:

Thank you for your support and generosity in December for our Salvation Army Hunger Heroes Food Drive. We were able to collect

almost 800lbs of non-perishable food items to help those in need. The enthusiastic leadership of Mr. Martin and our grade 6/7 students was also greatly appreciated.

Parking Lot/Pick Up:

Please consider arranging alternate after school pick up locations for your children aside from our main parking lot. One option is to pick up at the back of our school near the walkway on Sage Drive. Another would be to have older students walk across the street to the Canco parking lot to meet you there. We are trying to alleviate the end of day congestion in our parking lot. Your help is much appreciated.

District Parent Resource Page:

Our district has a [Parent Resource Page](#) that includes a lot of valuable information for families. This includes links to past Parent Engagement Sessions and information about a variety of Community Support Programs

Scent Free School

Please do your best to not wear perfumes, colognes or strong smelling shampoos/deodorants into our school. We have students and staff with strong sensitivities to these scents. Thank you for understanding.

Volunteers

All parent volunteers that wish to be involved in field trips and other school based activities are now required to submit a criminal record check. This can be taken care of online and the school will keep record of all completed checks. We usually receive them within 3-4 days of submission. The process can be found on the [Westside Elementary Website](#).

Crossing Guards and Lunch Supervisors

We are always in need of crossing guards and lunch supervisors again this year. These positions come with a small honorarium and volunteers are able to help out based on a

schedule that works for them.

Crossing Guards Needed - All School Days:
8:00-8:30am and 2:34-3:04pm

Lunch Supervisors Needed - All School Days: 12:05-1:00

Please contact the school if you are interested in helping us in these areas this year.

Newsletters

Monthly School Newsletters will be emailed to student contacts and made available on our [school website](#). Paper copies can be made available upon request. Mr. Scott will send out weekly updates as well.

PAC News:

Hot Lunch Order forms for Session 2 will be coming home soon and are for lunches from Feb 4 until the end of the school year. The last day for session 1 hot lunch will be Wednesday, January 28.

Upcoming Events:

- Jan 7 - Subway hot lunch
- Jan 9 - Be Yourself Day
- Jan 10 - Grade 7 Bottle Drive
- Jan 14 - Moon Wok hot lunch
- Jan 16 - Inside Out Day
- Jan 21 - Pancake hot lunch
- Jan 21 - PAC Meeting 6:30pm
- Jan 23 - Comfort & Calm Day
- Jan 29 - Pita Pit hot lunch