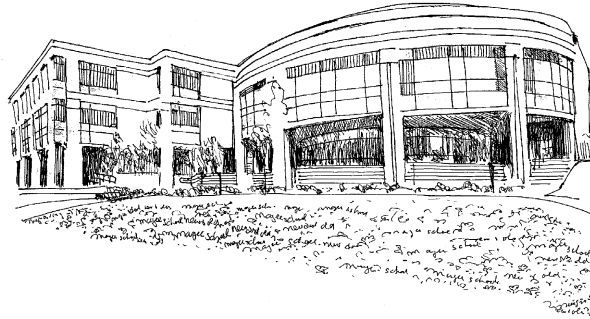


Magee Secondary School

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August 2012 Newsletter

Principal: Marea Jensen • Vice Principal: Rupi Samra-Gynane • Vancouver School Board Trustee: Allan Wong
• Vice Principal: Nick Akrap • Vancouver School Board Liaison: Denise Johnson
Magee PAC Co-Chairs: Mabel Sun & Wallace Lee, pac.magee@gmail.com

Principal's Message

Hello, Magee students and parents. As the beginning of another school year arrives you will find a number of important information items enclosed within this brief newsletter to help set you up for success. We look forward to working with each of you - all of us at Magee Secondary await the numerous and exciting learning possibilities and successes to be experienced over the course of this coming school year, be it academically, athletically, artistically, and socially!

We hope that summer break provided time to refresh and reflect on the previous school year, as well as time to chart a course for success for the upcoming year.

You will find helpful information about important dates on next year's school calendar posted onto our school's website, www.mageelions.ca. Please note a slight change in our bell schedule for next year with **classes now starting at 8:40 am and ending at 3:03 pm**.

Magee Secondary School teachers will once again have eight collaborative planning sessions spaced throughout the year. A reminder that on these collaborative planning mornings students have a later start to their school day with classes beginning at 9:45 am. This collaborative time allows important planning to take place on a regular basis for teams of teachers.

As you know, prompt, regular attendance to class is an essential ingredient for your child's success at school. We therefore encourage families to continue scheduling any important medical appointments, etc., outside of class time.

Mandatory Homeroom Periods will take place on the following times (**homeroom room locations will be posted in the atrium**):

Homeroom Period just for Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

- Tuesday, September 4th from 10:00 am – 10:45 am

Homeroom Period just for Grade 8s

- Tuesday, September 4th from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
- Grade 8s will learn how to successfully navigate their new school environment from their homeroom teachers and through the leadership of the Senior Peer Counselling Students

Homeroom Period for ALL STUDENTS in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12

- Wednesday, September 5th from 8:40 am – 8:55 am

All Students then begin classes on Wednesday, September 5th starting at 9:00 am.

During these mandatory homeroom periods, teachers take students through important school procedures, routines, and policies. The framework that guides decision-making for all Magee students, staff, and greater community is our school's **Student Code of Conduct** which will be addressed during these homeroom periods.

During the first week of school, your children will meet their teachers and new classmates for the year, classroom-learning goals will be established along with important homework expectations.

Should you have any questions for your child's teacher, or grade counsellor, please contact them directly. We encourage you to take time during this important first week of school to review with your child a sequence of strong work habits at school and home that will set him or her up to achieve their personal best in the classroom.

Magee students had numerous opportunities for success last year. Our senior graduating class earned hundreds of thousands of dollars in entrance scholarships both locally and internationally. Our students excelled with their citizenship skills both at the school and within the greater community contributing well over 10,000 hours of volunteer time. And, athletically, many of our school teams won city championships and then went on to achieve high standings provincially!

Our school's overall growth plan continues to place a strong emphasis on increasing student engagement, initiative and leadership within a culture of care and support.

Our two guiding goals are:

- (1) . . . to provide opportunities for each student to experience growth and success
- (2) . . . to foster global citizenship and environmental stewardship in all students

Over the year we will continue to broaden our expertise and practice of strategies that best meet the needs of all of our learners. Attendance, ability, and effort determine success.

A list of school and supplemental fees are attached in this newsletter. Homeroom teachers will collect school fees on Tuesday September 4th and Wednesday September 5th. After that school fees can be paid directly to our school accountant in the office.

Supplemental course fees are collected separately and directly by each classroom teacher.

School fees payment(s) can be paid by either cash or cheque. If paying by cheque please print the following information on the back of your cheque: your child's name, student number (if known), and homeroom (if known). Teachers are not able to give out change.

Parents please make a note of the district's Financial Hardship Policy, which recognizes that some families may not be able to afford school fees. Board policy is that no student of school age will be denied an opportunity to participate in a required course, class or program because of financial hardship. Parents and guardians unable to pay some or all of a school fee are invited to speak to their child's teacher, school counsellor, and/or administrator. (*Financial hardship application forms are available through the school office to assist with this process.*)

All financial hardship applications and discussions shall be confidential. Ways in which difficulties in meeting requests for school fees may be addressed include: partial payment, waiver of the fee, payment by instalment, and/or fundraising activities to reduce overall costs.

We look forward to connecting with parents at the **first PAC meeting of the year to take place on Tuesday, October 2nd at 7:00 pm**, at the school.

Finally, plans continue to take shape around the celebrations coming in **May 2014 when Magee Secondary School celebrates its centennial!** Stay tuned for further information in newsletters and through a link on our school's website. What a remarkable celebration this will be!

Yours truly,
Marea Jensen, Principal

PAC Message

Greetings to all parents and students returning or new to Magee. As parents or guardians of a Magee student, you are automatically a member of the Magee PAC. That means that you are invited to all meetings and events sponsored by the PAC Executive.

For parents in grade 8, new to the school, there are three ways to get more information on PAC through our web site, school office and/or e-mail.

For parents with students grade 9-11, we love to help, assist students in their development in school by sponsoring clubs and sports.

For parents with students in grade 12, we encourage you to use PAC as a tool in making their graduation year a special time in their life.

Please check with the school office for PAC meetings times. Our first PAC meeting will be Tuesday October 2, 2012 at 7:00 pm with our very own principal Ms. M. Jensen. We have three meetings with guest speakers annually and the last one is our AGM.

Enclosed, you will find two forms. One is a volunteer form that provides parents with options for volunteering in the Magee community. Magee has a rich history of parent volunteers contributing to all aspects of school life. We hope you find something that interests you. The other form is our annual direct donation fundraiser. As a PAC Executive, we made a decision to not actively fundraise throughout the school year. Instead, we ask parents to donate through direct donation so that money contributed is eligible for a tax receipts. This past year, we completed the multi-year computer lab fundraising project.

Moving forward, your donations to PAC will continue funding school clubs, sport and extra curriculum activities. Any donation amount is welcome and greatly appreciated.

2014 Magee will be 100 years old. In two years, it will be a celebration of the century. Your input is important to the PAC executives and by joining and supporting PAC, we are making difference in Magee students' lives.

Wallace Lee & Mabel Sun
PAC Co-Chairs

2012-2013 PAC EXECUTIVE	
* * * * *	
Co-Chairs:	
Wallace Lee & Mabel Sun	
Vice Chair & Secretary	Co-Treasurers
Grace Chan	Vivian Tian & Swan Zhou
Special Projects	Member at Large
Joanne Westcott	Iris Lee

The Magee Music Society

Welcome back everyone! Hope you all enjoyed your summer. We are excited to begin the new school year and look forward to seeing all the new and returning members of the band, choir, and strings and their families. Be sure to come out to our **Annual Potluck Dinner Welcome Night on Tuesday September 25th, 6:30** in the Magee Atrium. You can enjoy the swinging sounds of the Senior Jazz Band and lovely performances from the Chamber Choir. There will also be a free raffle for Music Society Members – sign up as a member that evening and try your luck!

This year promises to be a busy one with many opportunities for our students to showcase their talents. The concert season begins very early in October and students must have the required uniform so that they look as good as they sound! Please return the enclosed form by Friday, Sept 28th to ensure all students are properly fitted on time. We really appreciate your cooperation and are very grateful to the hard work of our amazing uniform ladies Jacky Henderson and Nancy Ehlen, alumni parents, who volunteer many hours of their time to help in this area.

The many events this season include a Concert Choir Retreat at Shaughnessy Church, a Chamber/Choir/Wind Ensemble Retreat at Whistler, and the ever popular Ryerson Fine Arts Concert November 6th featuring the Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Strings and Choirs. Also in November is the Junior and Senior Secondary concert Band Festival held at Point Grey Secondary and the Magee Auditorium, respectively. We also look forward to the Jazz Festival, Choral Festival and the Grade 8 band concert.

Be sure to look for our major fall fundraiser, the Music Society Poinsettia Sale. The rotunda will be brimming with the beautiful festive flowers delivered in good time for the Christmas season. Information will be sent home with all music students. Place your order early!

It is always our great pleasure to host the Seniors' Tea held in the Magee Atrium on Dec. 4th as a way to thank our surrounding community. And of course the December Magee Music Christmas concerts bring in the holiday spirit beautifully, and we hope you will join us for these wonderful events.

Huge excitement is mounting as this year the senior music students will be embarking on the Spain Music Tour during spring break! Every two years our senior students travel on an international tour and previous tours have taken them through Europe, Japan, Russia, Thailand and Hawaii. In order to support these tours as well as our on-going music enrichment programs, we provide a number of opportunities to help students earn travel credits, including poinsettia and spring plant sales, entertainment books, magazine sales, gift cards and other programs. Flyers and order forms are enclosed. New gift cards coming this fall are "itunes, Seasons in the Park, and Tea House in Stanley Park." Be sure to watch for them! All donations to the Music Society are also gratefully received.

This year the fabulous **Market Fair is February 15th**. It is the Magee version of the Night Market and the biggest fundraiser of the year. There will be music, food, vendors, entertainment, games – literally something for everyone! The whole Magee community is invited and close to 2000 come out to enjoy the fair every year. Don't miss it!

In the spring the concert season continues with many more performances, culminating in the year-end concerts in May where we are always amazed at the incredible proficiency and musicianship of our students. We are very fortunate to have our music directors, Mr. Chris Haas and Mr. Greg Quan, who work tirelessly to achieve the kind of musical standard that is of the highest level in the city.

All our programs need the support of our Magee Music Society members. Our membership form is available on the Magee website for your convenience ([mageelions.ca/music society](http://mageelions.ca/music%20society)). We would greatly appreciate your help in maintaining the high quality of our music program by volunteering your time and/or supporting the various fundraisers. We are committed to supporting the Magee Music Dept in many ways, including helping to fund festival and clinician fees, travel subsidies, musical instruments, and scholarships. We hope you will consider joining the Music Society; please feel welcome to attend the monthly meetings and support your students by coming out to enjoy the concerts and festivals.

Thank you everyone! See you in September!

All the best,

Marian Ma and Rita Kadota, Co-Chairs, Magee Music Society

Physical Education



Magee Lions PE clothing is available for ***purchase*** from the P.E. Department. While this purchase is optional, ***the P.E. department strongly recommends this purchase.***

The majority of high schools in the district have adopted a P.E. strip policy (similar to Magee's) in order to promote school pride, enhance personal hygiene, and to ensure students are appropriately clothed for physical activity. (Common strip amongst the students also helps promote student safety and quick identification of Magee students when moving about the greater community during P.E. activities.)

If students choose not to purchase this optional Magee Lions P.E. clothing, the department asks that students wear **red and/or black athletic strip** (following our school colours).

P.E. clothing purchase and distribution takes place during the first week of classes directly from P.E. teachers.

The purchase of Magee Lions P.E. clothing is an especially helpful organizational tool for Grade 8 students, as they may continue to wear their Magee Lions strip in Grade 9 and 10 PE classes (or purchase replacements as required).

The department asks all students to please **label their clothing** on the tags inside the shirt, shorts, or sweat pants.

Please note that family members are also more than welcome to purchase any of the clothing for themselves to share their school spirit! Strip is available through the P.E. office during school hours.

Prices are as follows:

Grey Gildan T-shirt	\$10.00	Black Russell Sweatpants	\$25.00
Black Adidas Dazzle Shorts	\$25.00	Black Hoodies	\$35.00

Counselling Department

GRADE 8 STUDENTS

A big welcome to Magee! We hope that your first year in high school goes smoothly. Your Counsellor, your Teachers and the Peer Counsellors are here to assist you any way they can, so do not be shy if you need assistance.

COURSE SCHEDULES

Please check your course verification slip carefully. If you find any errors or omissions then please make an appointment with your grade Counsellor on one of the following days:

Monday, August 27	10:00-3:00
Tuesday August 28	9:00-3:00
Wednesday, August 29	9:00-3:00

(Wednesday 1:00-3:00 - New Students by appointment)

SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES

Course selection changes resulting from summer school are dependant upon the space available in a requested course. We anticipate that there will be limited space available.

CAREER CRUISING.COM

is available for everyone in the Magee family. This is an excellent on-line career exploration, resume building and post-secondary search tool. Please see Mrs. Alberti, our Career Information Assistant, in the Counselling suite for details.

UBC INFORMATION SESSION

Wednesday October 3 at 7:00 pm for grade 11 and 12 students and interested parents.

PSAT WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17

Any grade 10-12 student interested in writing the PSAT should see Mrs. Miladinovic before the end of September to register.

CUE: CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES EVENT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 in the morning for grade 11 and 12 students.

POST SECONDARY LIAISON MORNING THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15

Representatives from SFU, UVic, Kwantlan, Langara, BCIT, and other post-secondary institutions will be speaking to our grade 11 and 12 students.

PEER COUNSELLING 12

Our first meeting is Tuesday September 4 at 11:00 am in the rotunda. Please be prompt. Our Peer Counselling Workshop is Thursday September 13 and Friday September 14.

GRADE 12 NEWS

Information will be available in the early fall regarding Graduation Transition 12 and please check out the Artona website to book your grad photo sessions. www.artonagroup.com

*D. Chevreau,
Department Head, Counselling*