



Monterey Middle School PAC Parent Orientation 2019

Welcome to Monterey Middle School! We've gathered together a few answers to frequently-asked questions about the school. Please see below.

What do these terms mean?

1. **Advisory Class:** Main classroom and teacher; students spend the majority of their school day with this class and their advisory teacher, and the advisory teacher is generally the main point-of-contact for parents regarding their child's progress and needs.
2. **Teams:** Advisory classes are grouped together into teams of roughly four classes, creating smaller communities of students and teachers within the larger school-wide community. The teachers within a team share common planning time to support them working together on behalf of their team of students.
3. **Exploratory:** Classes where students engage in learning experiences beyond Academics and Physical Education - like Woodwork, Fine Art, Home Economics (cooking, sewing, etc.), Drama, etc.
4. **Brainstorm:** A set of school-wide enrichment experiences – ranging from such choices as “Artists on Bicycles” to “Computer Coding” to “Environmental Action” to “Geocaching” to “Golf” to “Photography” to “Yoga” to much more! – which mix interested students from all grades and teams for a weekly session that runs for 7 to 9 weeks in the fall and spring terms.

How do I drop off or pick up my child by car?

During peak school hours, please drive only north (ie. away from the water) on Monterey Ave. and only south (ie. towards the water) on Oliver St.

When is the school library open?

The library is open every day (starting Week 2) for students to enter between 8:15-8:30am and stay until classes start at 8:50am, as a quiet place to read or do homework before school. Students regularly use the library during the school day too.

What kinds of extracurricular activities can my child do?

Lots! Everything from school sports, dance and drama clubs to robotics, literacy, and service/leadership groups. We also have an extensive Music Program that combines curricular and non-curricular times. Check the school website for more details.

How can I get involved in my child's classroom and the school?

There are all kinds of ways to get involved at Monterey, from Fun Foods days (the hot lunch program) to assisting with sports teams or serving as your class' holiday hamper liaison. Contact the PAC if you have any questions!

How does my child find out about what's going on at school that day?

School announcements are posted on a board by the front stairs if your child misses the morning's "news of the day" announcement on the PA system.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

1. Come to PAC meetings and add your voice to conversations about our school!

Meetings are usually on the second Thursday of every month and are held in the Home Ec. Room at 7:00pm. The scheduled dates for 2019/2020 meetings are:

- September 11
- October 10
- November 7
- January 9
- February 20
- April 16
- May 7

Contact our PAC Chair, Kristin Semmens, to find out more: ksemmens@hotmail.com

2. **Volunteer!** See the PAC volunteer role descriptions – posted on the Monterey School website as well as PAC section of the school's Community Info bulletin board in the hall nearest the office – to find a good fit for your availability and interests.

3. **"Like" Monterey PAC on Facebook!** Look for Monterey Middle School PAC.

4. **Consult the school website!** Here you'll find school hours, staff names and contact addresses, information about special dates and events, code of conduct information and much more: <http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/monterey/>

5. **Subscribe to the Monterey Twitter Feed!** @MontereyStorm

6. Read the **weekly "Next Week at Monterey" emails** and **emails from the Principal**