

Stave Falls Elementary

30204 Brackley Ave, Mission, BC V4S 1C2 (604) 462-9982



Explore Discover Wonder Learn



<https://stavefalls.mpsd.ca>



@SFEnatureschool



sfe.info@mpsd.ca



STAVE FALLS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Forest & Nature Program

Welcome to Stave Falls Elementary; we are excited to have you with us!

Our mission is to ensure that all students fulfill their potential in becoming happy and confident lifelong learners inspired by wonder, understanding and a compassionate connection to the natural world. We aim to provide a safe, healthy, and supportive environment where all students can learn and grow.

“Fostering stewards of the future.”

We offer students the opportunity to explore, discover and learn in the natural environment every day. Our learning is based on these principles aligning with the re-designed BC Curriculum and Core Competencies: Curriculum Connectedness, Indigenous Worldview and Perspectives, Experiential Education, Hands-On Learning, Cultivating Curiosity, Purposeful Play, and Environmental Stewardship.

“Nature is one of our greatest teachers.”



We acknowledge that we work, learn and play on the traditional, shared and unceded territories of the *Stó:lō* people and the Kwantlen First Nation.

Code of Conduct

The Stave Falls Code of Conduct has been created to maintain a safe, caring, and harmonious environment. It applies to all members of the school community, those who travel to and from the school and includes any school-related activities at any location, on social media, or any circumstance/activity that will have an impact on the school environment.

The purposes of the Code of Conduct are:

- To encourage the development of socially responsible behaviour resulting in a positive reputation for students and the school community.
- To foster a safe, respectful, and welcoming learning environment for all students, staff, and parents.
- To clearly communicate behavioural expectations to the school community.

In congruence with the BC Human Rights Code, Canadian Human Rights Act, and Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom, Stave Falls Elementary is committed to providing a safe, caring and socially responsible school environment in which all learners can achieve academic excellence, personal growth, and responsible citizenship. Safe, caring and socially responsible schools are free from acts of harassment, threats, intimidation, violence, abuse (verbal, physical or sexual), discrimination, theft, and vandalism. Safe schools do not tolerate the presence of weapons, banned substances, or intruders. Discrimination will not be tolerated based on (but not limited to): appearance, capacity, disability, colour, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Conduct Expectations

The school maintains high expectations for student behaviour and manners based on these principles:

- Safety
- Respect
- Responsibility

The school's code of conduct is designed as a tool to help students make personal and socially responsible decisions, demonstrating expected behaviours in a variety of situations:

- Being helpful to others by thinking and play safe
- Being respectful to yourself, others, and property
- Reporting to an adult if you think someone needs help
- Thinking before you act
- Taking pride in your accomplishments and strive for your personal best
- Being positive and kind

School Motto

At Stave Falls, we are guided by our motto: *"Owls take care of the Earth"*. We focus on positive behaviour supports for students guided by our collaborative core values of:

- Being Environmental
- Being **A**wesome
- Being **R**espectful
- Being Truthful
- Being **H**elpful

Responses to Conduct Issues

Responses to unacceptable conduct will be thoughtful and fair. The goal of discipline at Stave Falls Elementary is to strengthen students and to teach them that each situation is an opportunity for learning. The focus of any intervention will be preventative and restorative in nature. Our goal is to create conditions for the child to fix their mistake and return to the group strengthened. Wherever possible, students will be encouraged to participate in the development of meaningful interventions through discussion and mediation. Our school counsellors and youth worker help students with skill building and conflict resolution.

The severity and frequency of unacceptable conduct, as well as the age and maturity of students, is considered in determining appropriate actions. At Stave Falls we believe that as students progress through maturity, we expect increasing personal responsibility and self discipline. Students who violate the Code of Conduct will begin by having a discussion with the teacher and or the principal/vice principal. Often students will be asked to complete a reflection sheet to explain the details of the specific event and help them reflect upon a better way to deal with the situation the next time. Other consequences include, but are not limited to a warning, loss of recess/lunch hour privileges, restorative actions, school community service, in school suspension, and possibly out of school suspension. The goal in each situation is to repair the relationships, learn from the situation and return strengthened.

Bell Schedule

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|----------------|---------|
| Welcome Bell | 8:10am |
| Classes Begin | 8:15am |
| Recess | 10:00am |
| Classes Resume | 10:15am |
| Lunch | 11:45am |
| Classes Resume | 12:30pm |
| Dismissal | 2:08pm |

Attendance

It is important that students arrive at school on time each day; valuable learning occurs in the morning hours. Students arriving late must check in at the office. If your child will not be attending school, please contact the office at (604) 462-9982 or sfe.info@mpsd.ca. Stave Falls has a 24-hour voicemail system in place for messages; these messages are checked throughout the day. Notifying the school office of your child's absence prior to school beginning will help avoid unnecessary calls to home or work. If your child needs to leave the school for medical or dental appointments, please notify the office and your child's teacher. Students must be signed out at the office by the parent/guardian.

Supervision Hours

Morning supervision begins at 7:45am, when the first bus arrives. Students arriving before that time will not be supervised. Afternoon supervision ends 2:15pm, when the last bus leaves. Students staying after that time will not be supervised.

Parking and Drop Off

Please use every caution and drive with caution within our school zone. Our parking lot is open to parents and parking is available along Brackley Ave. Do not park or drive through the front entrance loop. Please do not park in the designated bus zone during the posted times of 7:30-8:00am and 2:00-2:30pm.

Unscheduled or Emergency Closures

In the event of an unscheduled or emergency closure of the school, the Mission Public School District will post information on its website at <http://www.mpsd.ca>.

Illness or Injury

If a student becomes ill or injured while at school, parents are contacted and asked to take the child home. If parents cannot be reached at home or at work, the school will contact the person designated as your emergency contact. Children will not be allowed to go home unless they have signed out at the office and the parent or emergency contact has given the child permission to leave the school. In case of an injury requiring medical attention other than first aid, the parents or the emergency contact will be called immediately.

Healthy Food Choices

We encourage healthy foods choices at school. Students are asked not to share food and should only eat food provided to them by their own parents.

- Please choose healthy snacks and treats for your child when packing lunches
- Please refrain from sending products with peanuts/nuts to school
- Please do not send cakes or trays of cupcakes for the whole class for your child's birthday.

On occasion, special celebrations may be held in class; in these instances, teachers will provide guidelines about the types or quantities of treat that will be needed.

Dress Code

Stave Falls Elementary's dress code is intended to support a safe respectful learning environment, while still allowing students freedom of choice and individual expression. Clothing is expected to cover shoulder, back, and midriff. Clothing with offensive slogans, graphics, or profanity (including those that promote alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs) are not acceptable.

Weapons (Real and Toy)

In accordance with our School District Code of Conduct, no weapons, real or toy, are permitted at school. Laser pointers are considered in this class, due to the potential for serious eye damage.

Toys

Students who choose to bring toys to school for classroom Show and Tell activities are expected to assume responsibility for their toys (expensive or special toys should be left at home.) Toys are not to be brought out on the playground during the recess or lunch breaks.

Cell Phone Use

Cell phones are not to be used or turned on during the school day from 8:10am to 2:08pm. After school students should use their cell phones outside of the building. A staff member may grant a student permission to use a cell phone for educational or medical purpose during class time. Students bringing devices to school do so at that their own risk.

Use of Technology

Technology can serve as a powerful tool to enhance education, communication, and learning. Stave Falls is committed to ensuring that all students who utilize technology, including computers, laptops, iPads, and other electronic devices to access the internet and social media, do so in a safe and responsible manner. Students are required to have adult supervision when using any technology. When technology is used for educational purposes, students and parents will be required to sign a permission form. Students are not permitted to use any form of electronic device or technology during recess or lunch.

School Phone

The school phone is used by students for emergencies only. Students are not to use this phone to make playdates. We urge you to make these arrangements before your child(ren) leave for school in the morning.

School Visitors

All visitors must report to the school office. Visitors are required to sign in and wear a visitor's pass. It is extremely important we are aware of all school visitors and their purpose for being at the school. If parents are picking up their child from the office, we will call into the class and have your child collect their items and come to the office. If you are volunteering in a class, meeting with a teacher, helping with hot lunch or any number of activities where you are inside the building, you are required to sign in at the office and wear a visitor's pass. When leaving the building, please check out at the office.

School Volunteers

The best school communities are those with active and dedicated parent volunteers. All volunteers must complete a Criminal Record Check through the online Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP), which is valid for 5 years. The link and access code are available on our website. Once complete, the results will be directly forwarded to our HR Department then sent to the school. Volunteers must also complete a School Volunteer application and submit it to the school office.

Lost and Found

Our lost and found rack is in the main foyer. You are welcome to come and check periodically for lost items. Please ensure all your child's clothing is clearly labelled.

Dogs

Parents are reminded that School District Policy prohibits dogs from being on school grounds at any time (even well-behaved, leashed, or muzzled dogs). This policy is in place for health and safety reasons. Some students are allergic to dogs; other are very fearful. Even the best-behaved dogs can panic when surrounded by dozens of enthusiastic children. Our primary concern is the safety of our students.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

All parents of students enrolled at Stave Falls Elementary are members of the PAC. As members of the PAC, parents are encouraged to attend regular monthly meetings. Please come and get involved in the school community, you don't have to be an elected member or coordinator to make a difference for our students. Working together, we can make Stave Falls Elementary a rich learning environment for our children. Watch for monthly meeting dates in the school newsletter or our website. The PAC executive can be contacted at stavefallspac@gmail.com.

