



School District No. 38 (Richmond)

GARDEN CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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Mrs. Joanne Rooney – Principal
Mrs. Jenny Slinn – Vice Principal

Caring, Respecting, and Learning Together



Garden City School – Division 1 (Mr. Sean Yesaki) – Sept. 2026

Dear Students/Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to Division One for the 2026/2027 school year! It is my pleasure to be working with each of you this year. As always, I look forward to teaching and learning with this group of kids. I will work hard to create a class that is challenging, engaging, yet student-centered, and I expect my students to push themselves to be their best.

Below are some guidelines for students and parents of Division 1 for the school year ahead. ***If at any time you need to communicate with me, please feel free to e-mail (syesaki@sd38.bc.ca), write a message in the agenda, call the school (604) 668-7855, or text me at (604) 789-3644.*** I will generally respond to messages as quickly as I can each day (even on weekends for important information).

Class Protocols

Students will line up “nicely” outside of gym door #11 at the beginning of the day (by 8:45 am) and at the end of daily recess times (10:25 am). We line up here to alleviate congestion and create a safe pathway through all of the entrances around the school. Upon arriving in class, students have assigned cloakroom/desk/storage spaces for all of their things. They will be expected to organize themselves and prepare for the beginning of every school day with their supplies and school assignments on their desks, ready to begin the day.

C.A.R.E.S. (Caring, Accepting, Responsible, Encouraging, Safe)

Each student is expected to demonstrate **our school motto of C.A.R.E.S.** As Grade 6 & 7 students, they are **leaders** in our school and disrespectful behavior will **not** be tolerated. No exceptions.

Work Habits

Along with a focus on learning, developing good work habits that are reflective of more mature students is one of the primary goals of our year. **Independent work habits** are extremely important for students to develop at this age. The habits we will address include: **organization** of work and materials, **completion of assignments** on time, and presentation of **quality work** by giving one's best effort.

All finished work, either simple assignments or project work, should be checked over for completeness and accuracy. All assignments should reflect the child's neatest printing and be carefully checked for spelling, punctuation, and other grammatical errors. Students will be asked to redo work that does not meet acceptable standards.

*A **good night's sleep**, a **nutritious diet**, **regular exercise**, and **limited screen/gaming time** are essential if students are to have an enjoyable, successful year.*

Class Website

My class website is at: syesaki.com. Alternatively, you will find it at: syesaki.wordpress.com.

On the class website, you will be able to see student homework assignments, an update on important classroom events/calendar, essential class handouts/assignments, curriculum links, class memories, and outstanding samples of past student work. This is the easiest way for students and parents to keep up to date with what is going on in class. ***There is no reason why students (and parents) should not know their homework or what is expected in my class for each school day!***



Assessment for Reporting/Report Cards

Student evaluations in all 9 subject areas will be based upon their:

- 1) *focus & participation in class*
- 2) *homework assignments*
- 3) *quiz and test results*
- 4) *project work*
- 5) *overall organization*

Students have been told that if something seems unfair, they are to come and talk to me about it. What I require from my students is ***their best***, nothing more, nothing less. It is important for students to remember that report cards are a measure of their effort/progress as a student and not a comment on their value as a human being.

Agendas

Agendas are an integral part of our communication between home and school. It is the student's responsibility to fill in his/her agenda **neatly and completely each day** and have it signed by a parent **when required**. At the beginning of the year, everyone is required to have it ***signed most days by Mr. Yesaki***. However, as the year progresses, this will change according to the student's individual needs. Parents/guardians will be required to sign on days when Mr. Yesaki has signed the agenda.

Homework

Students are generally required to complete homework on most school nights. If the student says that s/he often does not have homework to do, or s/he is spending too much time on homework, please let me know and I will address this concern. Generally, homework should be completed by 8:45 the next school morning. A phone call or email home may occur if a student is consistently missing homework. Please note that students will, at times, receive ***homework*** or ***assignment passes*** which will excuse students from completing one assignment of their choice or allow for more time to complete the work.

Many tests and assignment evaluations will need to be signed by parents. This signature lets me know that you have seen your child's work.

Lunch Hour & Recess

Each day, students will have a recess break from 10:10-10:25 am and an outside lunch break from 11:50 – 12:15 pm, regardless of weather, for some exercise and fresh air. As a result, kids are asked to be prepared with ***appropriate*** clothing each day. Students will be eating lunch in class each day from 12:15 – 12:45. I have a microwave which the students are permitted to use (with strict rules, of course) and a small fridge if they require to keep some food chilled.

Students are encouraged to eat nutritious, well-balanced snacks and lunches at school. Soda pop, bubble tea, and caffeinated drinks are not allowed in the classroom and there is cold, filtered-water in the school. Please refrain from bringing/allowing fast food (e.g. A&W, Little Caesars, Church's) as a lunch more than one time per week. Excess sugar and unhealthy fats in our food does affect our body and brain's ability to function their best.

Class Cooking

During the year, the kids will be cooking meals/desserts under my tutelage/supervision. We will prepare simple, nutritious meals such as tacos, pastas, hamburgers, etc. which a small group of kids will cook for the class to enjoy as a hot lunch. Cooking will occur every 6 weeks or so (as planning and preparation can be

challenging). The cost of food is rising, as you are well-aware, but I will make the best effort to keep costs low. Generally, I will ask for \$20 from each child which will cover 5 or 6 meals. Please note that food aversions/allergies/restrictions will be taken into account, and parents can always opt their child out of the activity/lunch if they so choose.

Lates

Being on time and prepared for class is crucial for success. If a student knows s/he will be late, a note from a parent/guardian is required. More than 4 unexplained lates in a month will result in the student making up the time after school or completing some tasks to help around our class/school community.

Class Jobs

Students are required to complete regular classroom duties at the end of the school day. Since the students are now older, more responsibilities have been given to them. It is important that we all work hard in taking care of our classroom as it can easily become messy and unorganized. Due to this requirement, students will be dismissed from the class generally between 2:45 and 3:00 pm. Please send me a note on days where your child needs to leave earlier and I will ensure that this occurs.

After School

Students need to take an active role in the learning process and to take *responsibility* for their own actions. Students may be required to stay after school due to **incomplete work, classroom responsibilities, or inappropriate behavior**. If the student is required to stay past 3:30 p.m., the student will be asked to phone home or contact their parents promptly to let their family know. As well, school teams (volleyball, basketball, track & field) may require practices or games that occur after school.

Absences

When a student is going to be away, a phone call to the Early Warning System is required (604- 668-6277). If an appointment is known (e.g. dentist/doctor) please send a note with your child before that date. If a student is to be away for an extended period (i.e. holiday), please inform Mr. Yesaki and the office of the dates of the absence (if possible, please let us know at least 1 week in advance). *When a student is feeling sick, it is better for the health of everyone in our school community if they stay home.*

I appreciate you familiarizing yourself with the above guidelines and routines for our classroom. Most importantly, it is crucial that your child achieves success through a combination of instruction, practice, participation, and fun! I look forward to teaching each and every student in Division One this year.

Many thanks,

Mr. Sean Yesaki
(Division 1 Teacher)



Name of Student: _____ Date: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian (please print in English): _____

Signature of Parent: _____

Preferred email address of parent/family: _____ (for easier communication with Mr. Yesaki throughout the year)

