



School District No. 38 (Richmond)

MacNeill Incentive Outdoor Education Program

A.R. MacNeill Secondary School
6611 No. 4 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2T2
Tel: (604) 668-6212 Fax: (604) 668-6202
Website: <http://macneill.sd38.bc.ca/incentive>

Re: Checklist for Parents Application Package

Dear Parents/Guardians:

WHEN YOU SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION, PLEASE INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. Candidate Information Sheet and Checklist
2. Questionnaire – Student
3. Questionnaire – Parent
4. Questionnaire – Grade 7 (or current) teacher
5. Grade 7 Report Card and/or Portfolio Assessment

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, January 27, 2021	7:00 p.m. Incentive Parent Information Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday, February 3, 2021	7:00 p.m. Grade 7 Open House & Parent Information Meeting via Zoom
Friday, February 11, 2021	10:00 a.m. <u>All application packages must be submitted prior to this time</u> to Ms. Lai by email tlai@sd38.bc.ca . <u>Please do not fax your application.</u>
Thursday, February 18, 2021 & Friday, February 19, 2021	Candidate Virtual Interviews
Friday, February 26, 2021	Letters will be <u>emailed</u> to parents of applicants to inform them whether or not their application was successful. <i>When required</i> , successful applicants will then proceed with registration at the Richmond School Board Office.

MACNEILL INCENTIVE OUTDOOR PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET 2021 – 2022



INCENTIVE OUTDOOR PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Incentive Outdoor Program attracts creative and motivated students with a passion for the outdoors. The fundamental goal of the program is to provide opportunities for students to develop critical thinking skills, creativity, innovative problem-solving and adaptability, both in the classroom and in the larger community. Incentive is an experiential program that develops competent, confident and caring people with strong leadership and outdoor education skills.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Incentive Outdoor Program offers a strong outdoor education component with a focus on environmental sustainability and stewardship. Students will develop skills in a variety of areas throughout the school year. These sessions culminate each year in an extended outdoor excursion (e.g. Strathcona Park Lodge) in late May. This outdoor programming is also integrated with students' academics, with opportunities for students to explore their relationship and responsibilities to their natural environment while learning outdoor skills.

Please Note: Outdoor Education 8-10 is based on the Outdoor Education PHE 11 & 12 Curriculum. As such, students who successfully complete our Outdoor Education 9 & 10 courses will be granted senior level credits which allow them to take more advanced academic courses in their senior high school years should they choose.

CURRICULAR AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Students in the Incentive Outdoor Program will develop an awareness of self, identifying areas of strength, as well as areas for self-improvement. Through the various curricular areas, students will develop the core competencies of Communication, Critical Thinking, Positive Personal and Cultural Identity, Personal Awareness and Responsibility and Social Responsibility. Students will engage in collaborative and independent inquiry-based learning, both at the school as well as within the community. Students will receive instruction in English, French, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Outdoor Education 11/12, and Physical and Health Education. Students will also develop skills through Independent Studies (Gr. 8/9) and Career Life Education (Gr. 10).



OVERVIEW

The Incentive Outdoor Program is primarily staffed by three full-time Incentive teachers and is part of A.R. MacNeill Secondary School. The program consists of three grades, Grade 8, 9 and 10 and employs a cohort model. This model involves students moving together through their courses, as well as engaging in a variety of outdoor activities together to create a special and lasting bond. The cohort model, coupled with a multi-grade environment, creates a supportive environment where students can grow, take risks, and develop their interpersonal and intrapersonal skills.



Examples of Outdoor Trips:

- Local trips to Richmond Nature Park, Garden City Park
- Camp Summit: All students engage in team building and climbing activities. As well, they participate in mountain biking, archery, and camping.
- Whistler: Downhill Skiing, Snowboarding
- Takaya: Indigenous Canoe Tours
- Strathcona Park Lodge: Students participate in a range of more challenging out-trips (ex: Wilderness Camping, Rock Climbing, Kayaking/Canoeing, Mountain Biking & more!)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students may enter the Incentive Outdoor Program in Grade 8, 9 or 10 and should:

- **have a strong desire to attend the Incentive Outdoor Program**
- **have a strong desire to develop outdoor skills**
- commit to actively participate in all the outdoor activities
- demonstrate resilience and a growth mindset
- have the ability to organize time and work independently
- enjoy working collaboratively
- demonstrate social responsibility and community involvement
- demonstrate ownership for their learning
- demonstrate strong academic proficiency in all subject areas (at the Grade 10 level, all students will be expected to complete Foundations of Math and Pre-Calculus 10)

Cost: Incentive students participate in many activities that have an associated cost. The total cost of all the trips and activities is estimated between \$1800 - \$2200. It should be understood that these activities are an integral part of the program. Candidates and their families should apply with this understanding.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Submission of Completed Application Package – Friday, February 11, 2021 10:00 a.m.
2. Applicant participation in:
 - an interview
 - team/individual critical thinking challenges
 - written reflection on their participation of those challenges
3. Student's current teachers will be asked to provide feedback concerning candidate suitability.
4. Notification of acceptance into the Incentive program will be emailed Monday, February 26, 2021.

INCENTIVE PARENT INFO NIGHT - Wednesday, January 27, 2021 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

****Please contact Ms. Dauvery Macdonald (Vice-Principal)** if you have any questions regarding the Incentive Outdoor Program: damacdonald@sd38.bc.ca or 604-668-6212

All application communication should be directed to:

Ms. T. Lai: MacNeill Incentive Outdoor Program

EMAIL: tlai@sd38.bc.ca Website: <http://macneill.sd38.bc.ca/incentive>

MacNeill Incentive Outdoor Program

Candidate Information Sheet and Checklist

(For Entry September 2021)

Application Deadline: Friday, February 11, 2021 10:00 am

This form must be submitted directly to Ms. Lai

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Date of Application: _____ Present School: _____

Student's Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name)

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____
(DD-MMM-YYYY)

Address: _____
(Apt/Suite) (Street Number) (Street Name)

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Parents' or Guardians' Names: _____

Home Telephone No: _____ Cell Phone No.: _____

Parent E-Mail: _____

Names of any siblings previously or presently in MacNeill's Incentive Program:

Other special programs/schools to which you are applying:

(Section below to be completed by the school office)

- ☐ Copy of Registration form from Central Registration (Out of District/Independent school)
- ☐ Applicant Questionnaire
- ☐ Parent Questionnaire
- ☐ Teacher Questionnaire
- ☐ Copy of Grade 7 December Report Card
- ☐ Yes Letter
- ☐ Wait Letter



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Name of Applicant: _____

September Grade: _____ Phone number: _____

For all Applicants who are entering Grade 8, 9 or 10 – TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT.

Please thoroughly answer these questions. If you need more room, attach an additional sheet to this form. Please number the answers if you use another sheet.

1. Why do you want to attend incentive and what do you hope to get out of the program?

2. What are your strengths and special skills?

3. What are three adjectives you would use to describe yourself?

4. Tell us what activities you have done already in the outdoors and what you would like to learn while at Incentive about the outdoors.

5. Tell us about something you have made, produced, written or invented.

6. What areas (academic or other) are you trying to improve and how are you making these improvements?

7. What else do you want us to know about you?



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Name of Applicant: _____

Name of person completing this form: _____

Phone number: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT:

Re: Application to MacNeill Incentive Outdoor Academy

1. Why do you want your child to attend incentive?

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2. Are you certain your child wishes to attend?

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3. What are your child's special strengths and abilities?

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4. What are your child's hobbies and/or interests?

5. Specify any awards or honours your child has received

6. Are you aware that Outdoor Education (field trips, an outdoor skills program, attending Outdoor Adventure Week) is an integral and important part of Incentive?

7. We cannot operate the variety of programs that we do without parent support. In the future, we may ask that parents volunteer to drive, organize fundraising and volunteer for some outdoor trips. Do you see yourself being able to contribute in some way to the program? In what ways?

8. Does your child have the "Get Wet" or "Water Safe" certificate? If not, are they willing to take the program and test in September? Please indicate the approximate swimming level of your child.

Yes, my child has the "Get Wet" or "Water Safe" ☐

Swimming Level: _____



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Name of Applicant: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY GRADE 7 (OR CURRENT) TEACHER:

We would appreciate your input regarding a student who has applied to the Incentive Outdoor Program. Please fill in this confidential questionnaire (2 pages) and EMAIL it to tlai@sd38.bc.ca. **Please note that we need all material back before February 11, 2021.**

Use a scale of 1-5 to evaluate the student's aptitude focused on Curricular Core Competencies, with 1 *not meeting expectations* and 5 *exceeding expectations*. Please provide specific comments in addition to the numerical assessment, highlighting student strengths and areas for improvement.

CORE COMPETENCY	RANK/COMMENTS
COMMUNICATION: Demonstrates the ability to express knowledge, experiences and information using a variety of platforms.	Rank: Comments:
THINKING: Demonstrates the ability to think critically and creatively in processing and solving problems.	Rank: Comments:
PERSONAL/SOCIAL: Demonstrates the development of a socially aware and responsible citizen in the school and community.	Rank: Comments:

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Do you believe that this student is well suited to a program that incorporates off-site/outdoor activities and field trips? Why or why not?

2. Does this student demonstrate resilience, independence and a growth mindset? Why or why not?

In your professional opinion, please check off your recommendation of the applicant.

- ☐ I highly recommend this student for the Incentive Outdoor Program.
- ☐ I recommend this student for the Incentive Outdoor Program.
- ☐ I have reservations to recommend this student for the Incentive Outdoor Program.
- ☐ I do not recommend this student for the Incentive Outdoor Program.

Comments:

Name of person(s) filling out this form: _____

School: _____ Phone No.: _____

I am a grade _____ teacher who taught the applicant _____ years ago/last year during his/her grade _____ year; I have known the applicant for _____ years.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire!