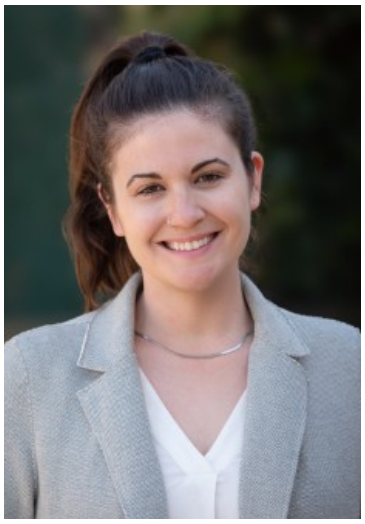
Cloverley Elementary Newsletter No. 2

May 7, 2026

We cannot wait to welcome all students to the new Cloverley Elementary School in September 2026. In case you missed it, the inaugural newsletter was issued April 24, 2026, and is available on the Cloverley Elementary website.



> Strong schools are built through meaningful connections...
>
> – Vice Principal Herschmiller

Welcome from Vice Principal Danielle Herschmiller

I am honoured to be part of opening a new school in North Vancouver, a rare opportunity to build a strong, connected community from the very beginning. I bring a strong focus on curriculum and instruction, grounded in the belief that engaging, purposeful learning experiences support the success of every learner.

My approach to leadership is rooted in care, connection, and collaboration. Strong schools are built through meaningful connections, and I am committed to creating a place where students, staff, and families feel welcomed, valued, and heard. Clear expectations and strong relationships help create a school where both learning and well-being can thrive, and I value working collaboratively with staff and community to develop systems that reflect these values.

I am excited to be part of shaping Cloverley Elementary alongside this community. Together, we have the opportunity to create a school culture grounded in belonging, curiosity, and a shared sense of purpose, where all learners can grow and thrive.

Danielle Herschmiller

Calling all students: Art for Cloverley Elementary!

Cloverley Elementary will open with a population of close to 360 students, and we cannot wait to get to know each and every member of our learning community. We invite students to submit a self-portrait, drawn, painted or using other artistic materials of their choosing. Families, please scan your child(ren)'s finished pieces (or snap a photo) and send to cloverley@sd44.ca. Art will be compiled into a mural, printed and hung as a fence panel along the perimetre of the Cloverley Elementary grounds later this season.

School Parents' Advisory Council (PAC) Information

Parent/guardian participation in the public school system is an entitlement specified in the BC School Act. We are looking forward to working with parents and guardians towards the establishment of the Cloverley Elementary School PAC. A meeting will be set later in May to elect an interim board to establish an interim Cloverley PAC. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be called in September. Please note that the May meeting is only to establish an interim PAC and no other business items will be discussed. Interim by-laws will be used until a formal PAC is established and by-laws developed.

A Facebook page has been launched. If you are interested in being involved in this process, please contact cloverleypac@gmail.com.

Construction Update

Construction of our new school is progressing well. Every day, more than 100 tradespeople are working hard to ensure the school doors are wide open and welcoming on September 8. With each passing day, new flooring is installed, additional walls are painted, more electrical wiring is completed, and millwork cabinetry continues to take shape.

Currently, civil work is focused on completing the north stairs and grading along the north side of the school, while roofing work continues steadily along the south side. Progress is visible throughout the site, and by the end of May, we expect the childcare space to be nearing completion and the ground level of the school to be approximately 80% complete.

Get to know your Cloverley Elementary Administrator Team!

Question: What is the first thing you want a student to feel when they walk into Cloverley Elementary on the first day of school?

Principal MacLeod: I want students to feel a strong sense of belonging. Cloverley will be new for everyone, and I want each student to feel welcomed, seen, and safe from the moment they arrive. My hope is that they walk in knowing there are caring adults ready to support them, and that they leave the first day feeling, "This is my school, and I belong here."

Vice Principal Herschmiller: I want every student to feel like they belong here. My hope is that students walk through our doors feeling welcomed, safe, proud of their school, and excited to be part of the Cloverley community. Every child deserves to feel seen, valued, and supported from day one.

Question: What is your idea of the perfect school day?

Principal MacLeod: For me, a perfect school day is not about everything going exactly as planned. It is about seeing students feel safe, included, and proud of their school. It is the small moments that stand out: a student helping someone else, a class cheering each other on, a kind word in the hallway, or a child heading home with a smile.

A perfect day would also include time in classrooms, especially those moments in Kindergarten where students remind you not to take yourself too seriously. Whether it is joining in on a story, helping with an activity, or having a student come up and say something completely unexpected like, "Mr. MacLeod, you smell like my grandpa," those moments bring joy and keep school fun.

A perfect school day is one where students know they belong, staff feel supported, and the school feels like a community.

Vice Principal Herschmiller: A perfect school day for me would include lots of time outdoors, learning together, and connecting with students throughout the building. I would love to visit classes to share and learn about animal behaviour (especially bears — my favourite!) and talk about how we can be stewards of our land and school community. I'd also love to spend part of the day attending play time in Kindergarten, playing soccer outside at lunch, and being present in classrooms and around the school community. Bonus points if I could bring my cat, Wilder, to school for the day as a companion!

Question: If you had a theme song, what would it be?

Principal MacLeod: Life is a Highway – Tom Cochrane

Vice Principal Herschmiller: We're All in This Together – High School Musical

Question: Growing up, who was your favourite teacher and why do you remember them?

Principal MacLeod: My favourite teacher growing up was Mr. Procyk, my Grade 6 teacher. I remember so many little things about him: the box of Tic Tacs he always had in his pocket, the way he could whistle really loudly using his fingers, his green Volkswagen Rabbit, the fun PE games, coaching the floor hockey team, and the awesome science experiments he would do with us.

But more than anything, I remember how much I felt he cared about me.

Years later, when I became a teacher, I was subbing in my old high school and found out that Mr. Procyk was now teaching Science there. I went into his lab to say hello. He looked up at me and said, "Hi Tim, it looks like you gained a bit of weight." I had not seen him in 14 years, and he still remembered me. That moment has always stuck with me. It reminded me that students may remember the lessons and the activities, but they never forget how a teacher made them feel.

Vice Principal Herschmiller: My favourite teacher was my Grade 4 teacher, who is actually still a teacher in this school district today. That year was a significant one in my life, as my family was going through a big change when my dad moved away. What I remember most was the way she built relationships and created a classroom where I felt understood, cared for, and capable of succeeding. Her impact stayed with me long after Grade 4. I even returned to volunteer in her classroom years later while completing my teaching degree.

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>
> – Principal MacLeod

Stay tuned for our next newsletter, coming May 21, featuring the incredible **partnerships** that will help make Cloverley Elementary a healthy and vibrant school community.