



Redhawk

RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

ISSUE #2

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

It was a fabulous few weeks back at DW Poppy, welcoming students and staff. The first two weeks brought excitement, smiles, learning and many positive interactions among staff and students. Seeing the enthusiasm from students as they started their new classes and saw some of our building upgrades was truly heartwarming.

This week we hosted school-wide grade assemblies to share about student supports, programs/clubs, school code of conduct and behavior expectations. We encourage parents to read the information we shared on pages 4 & 5.

We look forward to an incredible year ahead filled with growth and achievement. Thank you for entrusting us with your children's education.



Jonathan Harris
Proud Principal
DW Poppy Secondary School

GRADE 8 PARENT/STUDENT NIGHT

MEET THE TEACHER

Grade 8 students and families are invited to attend our grade 8 information and meet the teacher night. It is on **September 16th at 6pm** in the small gym. We will begin with an assembly to introduce staff and present some key information about DW Poppy. After the assembly we will release families into the school to wander, show lockers, see classrooms and meet some of the staff.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH
BREAKFAST BISTRO BEGINS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH
GRADE 8 INFO. NIGHT – 6PM

MUSIC PARENTS MEETING – 7PM

GRADE 12 INFO. NIGHT – 7:30PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH
TERRY FOX RUN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND
PAC MEETING – 7PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH
SCHOOL DANCE – 6:00PM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH
ORANGE SHIRT DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY
(NO SCHOOL IN SESSION)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH
NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH &
RECONCILIATION
(NO SCHOOL IN SESSION)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST
RECOGNITION OF TRUTH AND
RECONCILIATION DAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND
GRADE 8 BBQ - 12PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD
GRAD CRUISE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13TH
THANKSGIVING





GRADE 12 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Our grade 12 parent/student information night is **September 16th at 7:30pm** in the small gym. Counsellors will present everything families need to know to have a successful Grade 12 year and prepare for next steps!

STAFF CONTACTS

Please see the attached list of staff contacts and key office/support contacts below.

OFFICE STAFF: (604-530-2151)

Mrs. Greentree - Office Assistant (general inquiries) – SGreentree@sd35.bc.ca

Mrs. Heyes - Computer Operator (questions about MyEDBC) – Eheyess@sd35.bc.ca

Mrs. Brake - Administrative Assistant/Accounting – SBrake@sd35.bc.ca

VICE-PRINCIPALS

Tera Springenatic (students with last names A-L) – TSpringenatic@sd35.bc.ca

Sandy Gill (students with last names M-Z) – Sandeep.Gill@sd35.bc.ca

ABORIGINAL SUPPORT WORKER

Ms. Jack - Sjack@sd35.bc.ca

YOUTH CARE WORKER

Ms. Headley - GHeadley@sd35.bc.ca

COUNSELLORS

Ms. Jongenburger (students with last names A-L) – KJongenburger@sd35.bc.ca

Ms. Riznek (students with last names M-Z) – JRiznek@sd35.bc.ca

CLINICIAN

Mr. Joshi - Mjoshi@sd35.bc.ca

REPORTING ILLNESS/ABSENCE

It is always best to keep sick children home from school. If a student is away for an extended amount of time, please contact their teachers to arrange for work that they can complete at home or on TEAMS.

Emailing the school with an absence for your child is no longer an option as the email for reporting absences has been removed. Instead, the school uses an automated absence reporting system called SafeArrival, offered through SchoolMessenger. With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these two convenient methods:



1. SchoolMessenger App
2. SafeArrival

For information on how to use these methods for reporting your child's absence click [here](#).

ACCESS TO SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos are now live on the Artona website! To view and order your child's photos, simply scan the QR code that was sent home on Monday.

If you no longer have the QR code, you can still access the photos by visiting this link and entering your child's name and student number: <https://artona.com/orders/find>

Need help or have questions? Artona's customer service team is happy to assist you. You can reach them directly through their Contact Us page: <https://artona.com/contact-us>

GRAD CRUISE - OCT. 3rd

Grad cruise is rapidly approaching, and tickets are now available for our grade 12 students on school cash online by clicking [here](#).

SCHOOL DANCE

We will be hosting our first 8-12 school dance on **September 25th from 6-9pm**. Tickets are \$5.00 for sale on school cash online or in the front foyer from September 15-19th.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR SCHOOL

Schools and families continue to work together to ensure success for students. If you have an issue or concern but don't know who to speak with, the District encourages you to read these helpful Communicating with your School guidelines for parents/guardians found on our District website [here](#). As an additional reference, review this one-page resource [here](#).

HELPING YOUR CHILD THROUGH SELF-REFLECTION

Learning isn't just about absorbing information; it's about thinking, discussing, and reflecting. When students reflect on their Core Competencies, they gain insight into their strengths, identify areas for growth, and build key skills like communication, critical thinking, and resilience.

What Are Core Competencies? They're essential skills to engage learning

- **Thinking**
- **Communication**
- **Personal & Social Awareness**



These are embedded in BC's curriculum to help students grow into capable, confident learners. Stay tuned for updates on how your learner is engaging in self-reflection and building these lifelong skills.

SCHOOL FEES

Every year, there are fees payable to the school for different items, including student fees, grad fees, donation items, any athletics related items, workbooks, etc. The Langley School District uses an online system to collect these fees as it is user friendly and saves students from having to carry cash. Please go online at <https://schoolcashionline.com/> to register your child(ren). You will get an email notification any time a new "item" is available for purchase and the first item you will see are the student fees for the coming year. Please email Mrs. Brake at sbrake@sd35.bc.ca if you have any questions regarding school cash online or school fees.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

The Langley School District is committed to fostering safe and caring schools that promote mutual respect, cooperation, and social responsibility, and support optimal learning. Trauma Informed Practices and Procedures promote the creation and maintenance of safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and nurturing school environments.

Families play an important role in helping students achieve success as well as helping create a compassionate learning community. Just as students are expected to follow the District's **Student Code of Conduct**, there is an expectation for parents/guardians to uphold the District's **Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct**.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

At DW Poppy Secondary, we maintain high expectations for our students and want students to excel. We want our students to be able to empathize with others and have the moral courage to make the right decisions. We are confident our parents will partner with us in using Restorative Action, where all adults in our school community establish and reinforce clear expectations. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct [here](#) and the attached DW Poppy student handbook.

FAIR NOTICE – RESPONSE TO THREAT MAKING BEHAVIOR

DW Poppy Secondary is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. We take all threatening comments and behaviours seriously. Students, staff and parents should be aware of the District's Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol that can be found on the district website [here](#).



TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES: PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICES

Electronic devices can be distracting to student learning. There is a significant body of research showing that increased technology use is linked to problems with mental health, focus and the development of relationships and academic skills.

During hours of instruction, personal electronic devices must be turned off and stored away in backpacks or lockers, unless otherwise instructed by school staff for educational purposes. This includes during study blocks, washroom breaks, tutorial and any school sponsored activity such as an assembly or talk by a guest speaker.

To read the guidelines as set out by the Langley School District click [here](#).

ELECTRIC SCOOTER GUIDELINES

As more students use electric scooters to come to school, the District would like to inform parents of some important safety information.

- In BC, you must be at least 16 years of age and be wearing a helmet to operate an Electric kick scooter, within certain parameters, as per below and in the links.
 - Electric kick scooters cannot be ridden on public roads, except if the municipality is conducting a pilot. The Township is in the pilot, but the City is not. For more information, please click [here](#).
 - Operators cannot ride an electric kick scooter on sidewalks or in crosswalks, except if a sign or traffic control device allows.
4. Please refer to the link below for a full list of safety rules for operators by clicking [here](#).

PARENT CONSENT REQUEST

Each year, Langley Schools ask families to complete a set of parent consent forms for their child. These consent forms are required by our schools to ensure the health, safety, and security of all students. Langley Schools uses a secure web form to collect this information. Beginning mid-September, please watch for an email **request (subject: Parent Consent Request)** that contains a link for you to submit consents for all children in your family attending any Langley School. If your email address or contact information has changed, please call the school office to correct it in our files. If you have not received an email regarding a Parent Consent Request by the end of September or have any questions/concerns, please contact the school office.

BELL SCHEDULE

Please note the **Bell Schedule** below:



BELL	SCHEDULE	M	T	W	Th	F
Welcome	8:50	Day 1/2	Day 2/1	Day 1/2	Day 2/1	Day 1/2
Period 1	8:55 – 10:05	A	B	ABCD	C	D
MTSS	10:10 – 10:45	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial	Tutorial
Period 2	10:50 – 12:00	B	A	BADC	D	C
Lunch	12:00 – 12:35					
Period 3	12:40 – 1:50	C	D	CDAB	A	B
Period 4	1:55 – 3:05	D	C	DCBA	B	A

TUTORIAL TIME

Tutorial is instructional time built into the DW Poppy daily schedule that supports students' learning. During tutorial time, students may choose to meet with teachers for support within their timetable or work in areas of passion to extend their learning. Tutorial time (Multi-Tiered Student Supports, or MTSS) is scheduled each day for 35 minutes.

Welcoming Bell	8:50
Period 1	8:55 -10:05
Tutorial	10:10 – 10:45
Period 2	10:50 – 12:00
Lunch	12:00 – 12:35
Period 3	12:40 – 1:50
Period 4	1:55 – 3:05

ABORIGINAL PROGRAM

All Students participating in the Aboriginal Program are required to provide a new consultation form when they start at a new school. This includes any grade 8 students who are starting high school here at DW Poppy. Parents/Guardians of students with Indigenous heritage are asked to please complete and sign the attached Consultation Form and return it to either the school's main office or to Ms. Jack directly. No status card is required, and students can still register if they did not participate in the program in Elementary school. If you have any questions about whether your youth is entitled to register for the program or what benefits they will receive and cultural experiences they will have access to by being part of the program, feel free to email Ms. Jack at sjack@sd35.bc.ca. She would be happy to answer your questions or give you a call and arrange a meeting with you.



SPRIT WEAR STORE

Our DW Poppy online spirit clothing store is being updated and will be launching in the coming weeks. More exciting information to come!

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

Learning Commons

DW Poppy's Learning Commons has a collection of print and non-print materials and Technology resources. In addition to library skills, our Learning Commons teacher, Ms. Li, cooperatively plans and teaches units with classroom teachers. Ms. Li manages the learning commons, technology, provides lunch-hour access, holds book exchanges, interactive author visits, and provides instructional opportunities.

School Counselors

DW Poppy Secondary has two school counselors, Ms. Jongenburger (A-L) and Ms. Riznek (M-Z), who are available to help students with their course selections, timetable, grad requirements, post-secondary information, and to provide social emotional support. Students are assigned to the school counsellor based on their last name.

Resource Teachers

If your child has a Ministry Designation, a Resource Teacher will be working with your family to formulate and support any IEP goals and to create wrap-around support. This year we will not have resource blocks available to students as we have put a new support system in place which will include resource teachers pushing into classrooms to assist students.

School Based Team (SBT)

Each month, the Resource Department chairs a meeting which includes teachers, an administrator, youth care worker, clinician, counselors and School District support staff. Meetings are scheduled to discuss the needs of individual students as referred by teachers, and to brainstorm suggestions to support student learning.

English Language Learner Support (ELL)

Mr. Hoogwoud is our ELL support teacher who works with students for whom English is their second language. Our ELL teachers are experts in English language acquisition and provide supports for all levels of ELL development.



Aboriginal Support Worker

Sheila Jack is our Aboriginal Support Worker and is available to provide Aboriginal students with spiritual, emotional, social, physical, intellectual, and cultural support. Ms. Jack advocates for Indigenous students and families and provides wrap-around supports.

Youth Care Worker

Our Youth Care Worker, Genille Headley, provides support to both students and families. YCWs help students build connections, support social and emotional growth, find creative ways of correcting challenging student behaviors, and will help families with community supports.

Clinician

Mukesh Joshi is our clinician and will provide focused intervention services to students, families and the school. He will be working with specific students that are assigned to his caseload.

The Role of Parents (PAC)

Many hands make light work, and the PAC is an integral support structure that works alongside the school administrators to positively impact students and the school culture. The PAC applies for necessary provincial government grants, assists with fundraising, and implements a plan of how to best financially support classroom learning. Parents who would like to get involved with the PAC, please email poppypacsecretary@gmail.com.

The first **AGM PAC meeting** is on **September 22nd at 7pm** in the Learning Commons. Hope to see you there!

PAC Executive

Kim Leifso - Co-President
Sandra Young - Co-President
Angela Sawatzky - Treasurer

Renee Arbo - Secretary
Kerri Sketchley - Director at Large

Culture of Care

We understand that our students will learn more effectively when they feel genuinely connected to the school culture. Our staff work hard to support and engage students academically, socially, and emotionally while providing opportunities for personalized learning. We encourage parents to continue to be involved in their child's educational journey and we look forward to partnering and working alongside you.



CALENDAR & MY SCHOOL DAY APP

Students use the “My School Day” App to help stay organized with the daily block order and find updates to the school calendar. To check it out and find information on how to download it [click here](#). Homeroom teachers will help students navigate this App as it is a tool that all students are encouraged to use.

[Click here for the District Calendar.](#)

STAYING CONNECTED - COMMUNICATION TOOLS

Good communication between home and school is critical to ensuring student success. We have a few structures in place to help share information. For students and parents to stay informed, please be sure to use the following online methods.

Redhawk Release

We encourage parents to read the monthly newsletter “Redhawk Release” and pay close attention to school emails for important information. We welcome your involvement, and your suggestions.

SchoolMessenger

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. As we welcome our new families to our schools, some parents/guardians may receive a text message notifying them about SchoolMessenger. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).



My School Day App - [Click here](#)



Website: <https://dwps.sd35.bc.ca>

Follow Us On:



Instagram: @dwpoppysecondary



Facebook: @DW Poppy Secondary Parent & Guardian Page (run by PAC parents)



BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Our DW Poppy breakfast program will run every morning from 8:15-8:50am for students who wish to participate. We will also continue with our lunch program for students who need to access lunch. Support staff are there to prepare nutritious food and connect with students. Our start-up date will be **Sept. 15th**. Parents who are interested in volunteering and assisting with our bistro, please email Cathy Gropp at cgropp@sd35.bc.ca

LUNCH PROGRAM

Lunch break is 35 minutes. We offer a cafeteria service, and students can choose to eat lunch outside, on the hallway benches, or in the cafeteria. Students are to be respectful of our neighbours and it is expected that students will clean-up after themselves. Intramurals and club activities also take place during the lunch break. We encourage students to get involved in the fun!

ONLINE SYSTEM - LOCKERS & LOCKS

Lockers are available using an online platform for sign-up on a “first come, first serve” basis. The online sign-up is now open and can be accessed by clicking [here](#). Instructions on how to sign up are attached.

Lockers have been allocated to certain areas of the school based on grade. When student's sign up they can choose their locker based on availability and their lock will be provided with a combination during the sign-up. All locks are already locked on each locker. **Personal locks are not to be used and will be removed. There will be a \$15 charge if a lock is lost or broken.** It is advised that students not share their combination with others and to keep their combination in a secure place. Students are encouraged to use a locker to help stay organized but are not required.