



Redhawk

RELEASE

JANUARY 20, 2025

ISSUE #8

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

We have had a fabulous few weeks back and our DW Poppy staff have enjoyed connecting with students. Semester 1 is quickly coming to an end as the last day is **January 23rd**. Please ensure you are encouraging your child to finish the semester strong and get their assignments completed and handed in.

Thank you for continuing to engage in our school newsletters so you are up to date with important events. Please note that if you need to access any of the old newsletters that they are posted on our website.

Have a great week!



Jonathan Harris
Proud Principal
DW Poppy Secondary School

END OF SEMESTER TRANSITION DAYS

One of the most important measures of student success is the measure of student transitions, when students successfully move on to the next step in their educational journey. This might include a student who goes from one course to the next course (e.g., English 8 to English 9), from one grade to the next grade, from one level of school to the next level of school (e.g., middle to secondary), or to post-secondary opportunities. At the end of each semester, secondary schools have Transition Days, in which staff create opportunities for students to demonstrate key

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 20TH

GRADE 9 IMMUNIZATIONS

**GRADE 7 PARENT/STUDENT
INFO NIGHT – 7PM**

JANUARY 23RD

**LAST DAY OF SEMESTER 1
CLASSES**

JANUARY 24TH & 27TH

**TRANSITION DAYS
NO STUDENTS IN SESSION**

JANUARY 28TH

**SEMESTER TURN AROUND DAY
NO STUDENTS IN SESSION**

JANUARY 28TH

PAC MEETING – 7PM

JANUARY 29TH

SEMESTER 2 BEGINS

FEBRUARY 3RD

ISP STUDENT ORIENTATION

FEBRUARY 4TH

**GREG LEINO SURPRISE EVENT
50 YEARS COACHING – 8PM**

FEBRUARY 7TH

**LEARNING UPDATES PUBLISHED
(REPORT CARDS)**

FEBRUARY 10TH

**PRO-D DAY
NO STUDENTS IN SESSION**





transitions goals/growth and assist them in their transitions. Successful transitions are vital for students to build on the successes they have had, and prepare them for the new challenges in their new classroom, new school, etc. The Transition Days also allow for students to complete and present their major careers requirements. Some of the activities that occur during Transition Days in different secondary schools include:

- Mini-Capstone presentations by Grade 9 students
- Capstone presentations by Grade 11 and 12 students
- Careers and Capstone Fairs
- Grade 7/8 visits to the secondary school (e.g., Taste of LSS)
- Other connections and activities between schools to assist in student transitions
- Provincial Literacy and Numeracy Assessments for Grade 10 and 12 students.

At the end of Semester 1, secondary schools also will have a Semester Turn-around Day, to be able to complete the many tasks that are necessary in ending one semester and starting another, including reviewing semester-end student report cards and re-working student timetables.

The dates this year for the end of Semester 1 are:

- Friday, January 24th - Transition Day (no students in session)
- Monday, January 27th - Transition Day (no students in session)
- Tuesday, January 28th - Semester Turnaround Day (no students in session)
- Wednesday, January 29th - Semester 2 Begins

DRY GRAD FUNDRAISER - PANAGO PIZZA

The newest Dry Grad fundraiser coupons are \$14 and are good for one medium pizza. They are valid at any Panago and expire April 15/2025. Please e-transfer payment to dwpoppydrygrad@gmail.com. Please put your students name in the message section and I will leave the coupons in envelope with the students name at the office for pick up.

GREG LEINO SURPRISE EVENT- 50 YEARS COACHING

This year marks an extraordinary milestone, 50 years of coaching for Mr. Leino. This achievement is unprecedented in the history of high school sports. In recognition of this incredible milestone, Mr. Ellis is organizing a special event in his honor.

We invite you to join us at Mr. Leino's final home game of the season on **February 4th at 8:00 PM in the main gym at DW Poppy Secondary**. **Our hope is to keep this celebration a surprise**. We envision alumni, friends, and community members filling the stands before the game begins to show our appreciation for his dedication and contributions. Please see the attached letter with more information from our athletic director Lee Ellis. If you are able to attend, please RSVP by replying to lee.ellis@sd35.bc.ca.





ATHLETICS

Our basketball teams continued to hit the court this past week. The Grade 8 boys won their home game against Betty Gilbert, while the Jr Boys lost a tight game that went into overtime against Aldergrove. Both boys teams travelled to Walnut Grove mid-week where they competed hard and had some strong personal and team results but ended up on the losing end of the results. Our Grade 8 and Jr Girls were also in action this week with some hard fought games. Sr Boys played well against Langley Fundamental but saw LF go on a run mid game which they couldn't come back from. In more positive news our Sr Girls took on LSS this week and played an unbelievable game downing the Saints on their home court! There are only a few more weeks left in our season and all games are meaningful for playoffs. The grade 8 and Jr girls play on Tuesday at home vs Langley Christian. The Sr teams are also home that night in a back to back evening where they are hosting LCS as well. Our Gr. 8 and Jr boys travel to HDS and LSS in some important games. Our Sr teams round out the week hosting games against Abby Traditional on Thursday night.

Curling was in action last weekend as well in the mini-spiel. Congratulations to all athletes who took part in the tournament.

DW POPPY SCHOOL MUSICAL - WIZARD OF OZ

DW Poppy Musical theatre students are presenting the Wizard of Oz! Tickets to see the show are now on sale for \$15 by clicking [here](#). Dates of the show will be **Feb. 27th-March 1st** and **March 6-8th**. See the attached brochure for more information!

GRADUATION GOWN ORDER

To order your graduation gown for the convocation celebration (June 18th, 2025), please complete the form [here](#) by **February 28th**.

GRAD HOODIES

Grads who did not get a chance to order a grad hoodie can purchase them on schoolcashionline.com. Hoodies are available in black and navy blue in sizes S-3X. Hoodies are \$70, and the cut-off is **February 1st**. **This is their last opportunity this year to order a hoodie.**

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE: TRADES & CAREER EVENING

Help your child uncover their potential at Pathways to the Future: Exploring Langley School District's Trades & Career Opportunities!

Date: February 4, 2025

Location: Langley Events Centre (7888 200 Street, Langley)

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM





This engaging evening will feature:

- Quick, informative Career Crash Course presentations by industry experts.
- Interactive booths to connect with trades professionals and career educators.
- Insights into trades training, Youth Apprenticeships, and post-secondary pathways.
- Door prizes and light refreshments to enjoy!

Equip your child with the tools to succeed while building valuable connections.

See the attached flyer and information letter for more information.

MENTAL HEALTH INFO - (FROM FRASER HEALTH)

Health, safety, and wellness continue to be a priority in our schools. To help support our students and families, we are sharing important information from our community partner Fraser Health about mental health. Please see below for helpful reminders to support your child.

Support Your Child's Mental Health

Mental health is a key component of healthy child and youth development, and it has an impact on their relationships and their performance in school.

How Can Parents Support Positive Mental Health?

Parents can help support positive mental health by forming strong and caring relationships with their children.

- Connect – talk and listen to their feelings and experiences.
- Be active together – take a walk and build physical activity into family time.
- Take notice – encourage and praise the positive behaviours and choices your children make.
- Keep learning – encourage your child to learn from both positive and negative experiences.
- Give – your time, your words, and your presence.

Sometimes, parents feel like they don't know what to say or how to interact with their youth. Learn more about **tips for how to talk to your child or teen about mental health.**

Get more information about positive mental health for children and youth: **Positive mental health for children - Fraser Health Authority.**

Find out what services, programs and resources are available for your child and/or youth: **Child and youth mental health - Fraser Health Authority**

CAR SHOW PARENT VOLUNTEERS

D.W. Poppy Secondary is getting ready to start planning to host its 36th annual Car Show on **Sunday, May 4, 2025!** Our tradition of putting on one of the first car shows of the season brings many benefits for the school. We hope to see many cars on display and welcome thousands of spectators. This is a family friendly event. The event is our school's largest





fundraiser and benefits our entire school including the shops department, technology, athletic teams, dry grad, and many others. This event is not possible to run without the support of parent/caregiver volunteers. If you would like to be a volunteer at the annual Car Show, please reach out to Sandy Gill (sandeep.gill@sd35.bc.ca) so we can start planning!

ase see Ms. Bhullar for an application form.

POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

SASSY Langley for 2024 is up and running for its ninth year. In that time, \$100,000 has been awarded to Langley students headed for post-secondary education. Last year, 61 applications were received, of which 95% were from Grade 12 Langley School District students.

Further details and the application form are attached. This year's deadline is **Friday, March 15, 2024** at 11:59 PM.

POWER OUTAGES & SCHOOL CLOSURES

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. If you **did not receive a text or email** message during our power outages, then please ensure you sign up for our schoolmessenger system. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).

With storm season upon us, the District is reminding families about procedures during emergencies such as power outages. The District will post important information on school and District websites as well as on social media channels. The District may also send special instructions in emails and text messages (for those that opt-in) via SchoolMessenger. In the event of power outages, schools have an emergency phone line operational. Please avoid calling the school unless it is an emergency as this ties up the phone line.

As per the District's procedures, schools in the District may be closed to students by the Superintendent for weather related emergencies such as power outages or other causes related to health and safety. The decision to close a school due to a power outage is based on many considerations including expected power restoration time, operational emergency lighting, access to water and washrooms, among other factors. As always, it is a parent's decision whether to send their child to school (or keep their child at school) based on safety and individual circumstances. If you feel it is unsafe for you or your child to travel to or attend an open school for any reason, please keep your child home and report an absence to the school. For more information on school status information, read [here](#).

The District thanks students, families and staff for their cooperation during recent power outages impacting schools.





DW POPPY SPIRIT CLOTHING STORE

Our DW Poppy online Spirit Store is now Open! New items will be added throughout the school year and are available for order at any time. You can check out all of our Redhawks Spirit Wear that is available to purchase online by clicking [here](#). **All questions regarding orders should be directed to the vendor through the chat feature.** Orders will be delivered directly to the DW Poppy school office.

Please note that our school spirit store is separate from the athletics clothing store.

SCHOOL STATUS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Snow closures and power outages are an annual occurrence in Langley School District. So, where do you go to get information about the status of schools during periods of inclement weather? If you are able to access the internet via computer or smartphone, current information about Langley schools can be accessed on all school websites or www.sd35.bc.ca. Updates are also posted to X (formerly Twitter) @LangleySchools and Facebook at www.facebook.com/langleyschooldistrict. If you don't have internet connectivity but your phone is working, call a relative or friend in an area that has not been affected by the storm and ask them to check the district website for you. Local radio stations are also informed of school status in Langley. Tune in to CKWX 1130AM, CKNW 980AM, Country Radio 107.1FM, Pulse 107.7 or CBC 690AM or 88.1FM for updates. Please note that Langley District schools are all considered 'open' until a decision to close is required. Decisions on school closures are usually made by 6:30am. As always, it is a parent's decision whether to send their child to school based on safety and individual circumstances. If you feel it is unsafe for you or your child to travel to or attend an open school for any reason, please keep your child home and report an absence to the school.

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

The front entrance of the school parking lot is very busy during drop-off and pick-up times as we have many students who are bussed to school. Please do not drop off or pick-up your children directly out front of the school between **8:00-9am or 1:00-3:30pm** as it causes challenges when busses arrive to unload or pick-up. We appreciate your cooperation in minimizing the traffic at the front of our school.

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.

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 three convenient methods:

1. SchoolMessenger App
2. SafeArrival





3. Toll-Free Phone Number - 1-833-294-4837

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

PREVIOUS INFORMATION & REMINDERS

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](#).

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & RESPONSE

Health and safety are a priority in the Langley School District. Schools follow emergency procedures to ensure students, staff, and any visitors in our schools or sites are safe when unexpected incidents or events happen. At the start of every school year, administrators,

teachers, and staff review these emergency procedures. Schools practice a set number of drills annually in preparation for unexpected situations. The District encourages families to become familiar with these staff emergency procedures and the drills that are completed in schools. You can read them in the Staff Emergency Procedures Poster [here](#) or find them posted in areas throughout District buildings. If you have questions or concerns about emergency procedures, please contact your child's teacher or principal.

STUDENT SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

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. The District expects all students to follow the Student Code of Conduct [AP 350](#).

The District is sharing a reminder that no one can have **“any weapon for any purpose”** on school property. This means that weapons are not allowed to be used as part of an educational project, drama production, or themed costume. Examples of weapons include but are not limited to knives, brass knuckles, swords, decommissioned firearms, replicas, air soft guns, bb guns, and toy guns. The possession or use of fireworks, firecrackers, explosives, or similar devices or objects is also prohibited on school property. Failure to follow these expectations may result in confiscation, intervention, and consequences.

FAIR NOTICE RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES/STUDENTS





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The Langley School District is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. Our schools take all threatening comments and behaviours seriously. Our schools follow procedures when responding to threat-making behaviour to help keep students, staff, and the community safe. The following resource [here](#) outlines what information students and families need to know in relation to how the District responds to threat-making behaviour in our schools. Everyone has a role in helping keep our students safe. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school administrator.

ACCESS TO SCHOOL PHOTOS

The school photos are now available for access through the Artona Website. You can either scan the QR code available on the card students brought home last week or follow the link [here](#)

If you click photo day box, a new window will pop up with order information and timelines. If you click on the view and order button at the bottom, you can enter the QR code number and view/order photos.

If you misplaced your order card from Monday and need a new way to access the photos, it can be found [here](#)

If you need any additional support in accessing your photos, you can find multiple ways of getting in touch with Artona [here](#).

NEW 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.

The Langley School District recognizes the importance of establishing clear guidelines to ensure that personal digital devices are used in a way that supports educational goals and maintains a safe and respectful learning environment.

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, tutorial and any school sponsored activity such as an assembly or talk by a guest speaker.





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

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.

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

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. Check it out under “Student Life” on our website or click [here](#) for information on how to download it. 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

Good communication between home and school is a critical factor in student success. 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

DW POPPY SECONDARY - 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 District Code of Conduct on our school website or [click here](#).