



Lynn Fripps Elementary- April 24th

Hi Falcon Families,

Our new playground addition is complete! Today our kindergarten students were able to enjoy it. Next week, we will be having a grade-level schedule to avoid 600 students on it at one time. Thank you to the PAC for this wonderful gift that our current and future students will be able to enjoy for many years!

Our Grade 2/3 Spring Concert is on Tuesday. If you have a child participating, you should have received tickets and information. We still have extra tickets in the office if you need more. We will be having two shows. The afternoon show will begin at 1:30pm and the evening show will begin at 5:30pm. The afternoon concert should end right around the dismissal bell, so pick-up will be normal. For the evening concert please drop-off and pick-up at the regular classroom location. Teachers will pick-up from their regular spot, unless otherwise directed by the teacher, at 5:15pm

We are getting close to the time of the year when we begin to look at class placement for next year. I will begin to take requests, but all requests must follow certain guidelines. **I will not entertain teacher and friend requests. If a request is made asking for a specific teacher or a specific friend I will not add it to my request folder. I will only take requests from now until May 14th.** Requests must be around academic reasons and/or specific circumstances. Not all requests will be approved. Teachers spend a lot of effort and time making class rosters and I hope you trust the process.

A reminder to bring your smiles on Monday as it is class photo day!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Your proud principal,

Ron Dorland

Our New Playground Addition







Jump Rope for Heart

Today, our students and staff participated in Jump Rope for Heart. They could be found outside, jumping, hopping and skipping for a great cause. A huge thank you to Mr. Settingington for his efforts in organizing our Jump Rope for Heart day! As of now, we have collected over \$500.



















PAC News

In the News... Spring Carnival planning has started. In the meantime, should you have any questions, comments, or just want to connect, please feel free to send us a message on Facebook or email President@lynnfrippspac.com. ***Spring Carnival!*** This year's Carnival will take place on May 29th from 5–8pm, rain or shine!

- Silent Auction Baskets – each Division is collecting donations for a themed basket for our Silent Auction. Please check the posters around the school or your classroom newsletters for more information.
- We need Volunteers! Please sign up and help make this event a big success!
- We're also inviting local businesses and community partners to help us reach our fundraising goals. If you or a company/business you know would be interested in supporting, feel free to send us a message on Facebook or email President@lynnfrippspac.com.

Your support directly benefits our students and contributes to a fun, memorable event for the entire community. ***Fundraising for Fripps:***

- **Thank-you** to all who participated in our **Chocolate & Coffee** fundraiser. If you haven't yet picked up your coffee order, please visit the office.
- Our **FundScrip** gift card fundraiser is officially open and will run until June 5th. We're keeping it open for a few months so you can conveniently purchase gift cards for friends, EAs, and teachers for end-of-year gifting, if you should choose to. Happy spending! And remember, if you're buying gift cards anyway, purchasing through FundScrip is an easy way to help our PAC raise funds that directly support our students and our school. <https://group.fundscrip.com/.../pac-fundraiser-spring-2026> Use Code: B5WUEG
- Get your Lynn Fripps Spirit Wear from 9Blocks - Check out <https://www.9blocks.ca/lynnfrippselementary>

As always, subscribe to our Newsletter and Facebook page for more information. The PAC



SPRING CARNIVAL



*Lynn Fripps Elementary
21020 83 Ave*

* GAMES * BOUNCY CASTLES * FOOD TRUCKS *
SILENT AUCTION * CAKE WALK * FACE PAINTING *
BALLOON TWISTERS * CRAFT VENDORS
* CONCESSION *

Volunteers are critical in running this event.
Can you spare an hour of your time to help
ensure that we can run all the fun games and prizes?
Lots of options to help out.

Sign up
HERE





CLASSROOM BASKET FUNDRAISER THEMES

The **Lynn Fripps Spring Carnival** is happening on **Friday May 29**. Each division is responsible for creating a **themed basket** that will be part of our highly anticipated **silent auction!** Our silent auction has been extremely successful in the past years and the monies raised have been **used by PAC to fund playground equipment, sports equipment, educational resources and class field trips**. This is where we need your help!

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN DONATE!:

1. Drop off your **themed items** to the main office or give them directly to your child's teacher **labeled with your child's name & division**
2. Log into www.munchalunch.com & **make a monetary donation** by clicking "Fundraising Open" in the top menu.

DIV 1	An	Reading & Relaxing	DIV 15	Ewald	Picnic & BBQ
DIV 2	Toppin	For The Dog People	DIV 16	Gage	Let's Eat Out
DIV 3	Kufske	Coffee & Tea	DIV 17	Schroeder	Spa Lovers
DIV 4	Sorriento	Let's hit the links	DIV 18	Ball	Gardening
DIV 5	Hicks	Let's Eat Out	DIV 19	O'Keefe	Family Game Night
DIV 6	Charlton	Shopping Favourites	DIV 20	Faubert	Soccer
DIV 7	Myers	Family Game Night	DIV 21	Methvan	Fun with Water
DIV 8	Beatty	Coffee & Tea	DIV 22	Tripp	For the Car People
DIV 9	Deslandes	Kitchen/Baking	DIV 23	Baker	Outdoor Fun
DIV 10	Swayne	Arts & Crafts	DIV 24	Coulter	Nerf & Lego
DIV 11	Arora	Nerf & Lego	DIV 25	Myers	Kitchen & Baking
DIV 12	Rossi	Sweet & Salty	DIV 26	Westwick	Arts & Crafts
DIV 13	Wendell	Make the Car Shine	DIV 27	Madden	Ice Cream Party
DIV 14	Townsend	Reading & Relaxing			

DONATIONS MUST BE IN BY MONDAY MAY 11
 All items must be new and in the original packing. No alcoholic items permitted.
QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT: president@lynnfrippspac.com

Summer School

Summer Session 2026 – Elementary/Middle/Secondary

Are you looking for skill-building or new learning opportunities for your child to keep them engaged during the summer? The District offers a variety of courses as part of Summer Session. Online registration begins on Wednesday, April 22nd for Elementary (Grades 1 to 5), Monday, April 27th for Middle (Grades 6 to 8), and Wednesday, April 29th for Secondary (Grades 9 to 12) at 11:30am each day for Langley School District students. For important dates, times, and courses available to Grade 1-12 students, please visit our webpage [here](#).



2025/2026 Bell Schedule

8:45am- Warning Bell

8:50am- Instruction Begins

10:10am- Recess Begins

10:25am- Recess Ends

12:00pm- Lunch Begins

12:33pm Lunch Ends

2:33pm- Final Bell

2025-2026 District Calendar

School District #35 (Langley) 2025-2026 School Calendar Elementary Schools

MONTH	DATE	
September	Sep 1 (M)	Labour Day (School Closed)
	Sep 2 (T)	School Opens
	Sep 29 (M)	School Improvement Day (Students not in attendance)
	Sep 30 (T)	Truth and Reconciliation Day (School Closed)
October	Oct 13 (M)	Thanksgiving (School Closed)
	Oct 24 (F)	Professional Development Day (Provincial - Students not in attendance)
November	Nov 10 (M)	Design & Assessment Day / Learning Update Prep (Students not in attendance)
	Nov 11 (T)	Remembrance Day (School Closed)
	Nov 26 (W)	Student Inclusive Conferences
	Nov 27 (Th)	2 Hour Early Dismissal - Student Inclusive Conferences
December	Dec 19 (F)	Last Day Prior to Winter Break
January	Jan 5 (M)	School Re-Opens After Winter Break
February	Feb 9 (M)	Professional Development Day (District - Students not in attendance)
	Feb 13 (F)	Design & Assessment Day / Learning Update Prep (Students not in attendance)
	Feb 16 (M)	Family Day (School Closed)
March	Mar 4 (W)	2 Hour Early Dismissal - Student Inclusive Conferences
	Mar 5 (Th)	Student Inclusive Conferences
	Mar 13 (F)	Last Day Prior to Spring Break
	Mar 30 (M)	School Re-Opens After Spring Break
April	Apr 3 (F)	Good Friday (School Closed)
	Apr 6 (M)	Easter Monday (School Closed)
May	May 15 (F)	Professional Development Day (District - Students not in attendance)
	May 18 (M)	Victoria Day (School Closed)
June	Jun 25 (Th)	Final Learning Update & Last Day for Students Prior to Summer Vacation
	Jun 26 (F)	Administrative Day (Students not in attendance)
July / August		Summer Session

APPROVED: SD35 Board of Education Meeting
April 29, 2025

Important Dates

April 28th- Grade 2/3 Spring Concert

May 8th- Informal Reports Sent Home

May 15th- Pro D Day (no school)

May 18th- Victoria Day (no school)

May 26th- Kindergarten Welcome (current kindergarten students only attend the last half day)

*more info to come

May 29th- PAC School Carnival

June 11th- District Track Meet

June 12th- Sports Day

June 16th- Grade 5 Farewell

June 19th- National Peoples Indigenous Day

June 25th Last Day

Communicating with the School

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](#).

COMMUNICATING
with your school
GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING AN ISSUE OR CONCERN

- 1 Start with the employee whose action has given rise to the issue or concern
- 2 Contact your principal, vice-principal, or counsellor
- 3 Speak with a District Principal or Assistant Superintendent
- 4 When applicable, make an appeal to the Board of Education



PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT



Our goal is to create compassionate learning communities that are both academically and socially inclusive. Parents and Guardians play an essential role in the achievement of this goal in both physical and online spaces.

EVERY PARENT AND GUARDIAN CAN EXPECT TO:

- be treated with and have their child treated with respect and courtesy.
- have their family's privacy respected.
- be consulted with about their child's educational programming.
- speak to teachers and administrators when they have questions, concerns or need information, and bring along a support person.
- feel safe in receiving services from the school.
- have their concerns listened and responded to promptly and respectfully.
- have their school and community treated respectfully by others on social media platforms.

Parent/Guardian
Code of Conduct



EVERY PARENT AND GUARDIAN IS EXPECTED TO:

- treat others and their children with respect and courtesy.
- respect the privacy of other students, parents, caregivers and staff.
- consult with teachers and administrators about their child's educational programming when asked.
- communicate with school staff in a respectful manner.
- ensure their actions provide school staff with a workplace free of harassment, intimidation, threats and violence.
- address concerns by following the Guidelines for Reporting an Issue or Concern process.
- use social media platforms responsibly and avoid engaging in discussions that harm the school or community.

Guidelines for
Reporting an
Issue or Concern



Any person who disrupts or interrupts the proceedings of a school may be directed by a principal, or their designate, to leave the school premises. Any person who engages in abusive, threatening, or harassing communication may have their communication with school staff restricted.

District Information




THIS MONTH IN THE ARTS

April



9	NIGHT OF MUSIC	Langley Secondary School Main Gym	7:00 PM
15	IB ART SHOW	RE Mountain Secondary School Upper Floor	7:00 PM
20-24	NIGHTS OF DRAMA	Langley Fine Arts School Chief Sepass	6:30 PM
21	MUSIC JAMBOREE	Brookwood Secondary School Main Gym	12:00 - 3:00 PM
22-25 27-29	THE LITTLE MERMAID	Langley Fundamental Middle Secondary Main Gym	7:00 PM
30 May 12 79	CHICAGO: The Musical	Walnut Grove Secondary School WGSS Theatre	7:00 PM





**Bring Smiles to Langley Students
Support the Smile Cookie Campaign!**

Dear School Admin,

We're thrilled to share that the **Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign is back from April 27 to May 3**, and once again, 100% of the proceeds will support Langley students and schools through the Langley School District Foundation.

Every smile counts. Whether it's supporting mental health, literacy, food security, or school programs, your purchase of a Smile Cookie makes a real difference in the lives of children and youth in our community.

Here's how you can help:

- Pre-order boxes of cookies for staff rooms or school events, or even to take home to family and friends.
- Share the campaign with your school community to encourage participation.

Each box of 12 cookies is \$24, and we're pleased to **offer free delivery to schools**. Just fill out the attached form and send it to info@lsdf.org. Let's make every bite better – one Smile Cookie at a time!

With gratitude,

Alicia Rempel
Executive Director
Langley School District Foundation



Pre-Order Form

From April 27-May 3, Select Tim Hortons Restaurant Owners in Langley will be supporting the Langley School District Foundation!

Guests who purchase a freshly baked Smile Cookie will be donating to programs and initiatives that support Langley students with 100% of proceeds being donated!

Please consider buying a box for your staff, sports teams, friends and family!

The Langley School District Foundation is pleased to offer delivery!

To pre-order Tim Hortons Smile Cookies, complete this form and submit it to info@lsdf.org.

Number of Boxes: _____ **\$24/ box (12 Cookies per box)**

Your Name: _____

Delivery Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Delivery Date: April 27 April 30 **Delivery time window:**
 April 28 May 1 Morning
 April 29 Afternoon

Thank you for your support! Please make your payment



Active Beyond the Bell

Active Beyond the Bell

2026 / 2027 School Year Information

Help prepare your child to be active and healthy for life! Children will enjoy this after school program focused on physical activity, fundamental movement skills, health, and fun. Active Beyond the Bell (ABTB) runs for two hours after dismissal.

Registration information

Registration opens for the 2026/2027 school year for these schools.

Tuesday, April 28 at 12pm	Thursday, April 30 at 12pm
Alex Hope James Kennedy Langley Fundamental	Dorothy Peacock Lynn Fripps R.C. Garnett Richard Bulpitt

Priority registration information

Priority registration will be offered to current participants, and their siblings, who have registered for ABTB as of January 5, 2026, and who are registered for a minimum of 8 weeks between January and March. Eligible families will receive their priority registration date via a phone call on or before April 14, 2026.

All spots in the ABTB program will be booked on a first-come, first-served basis. Other ABTB participants and the general public can register on the dates and times listed above.

How to register

- Choose the weeks or months that work best for your family. Registration is weekly or monthly. Daily registration is not available.
- Register online at tol.ca/recregister, or register in person or by phone at one of our centres:
 - Aldergrove Community Centre
 - George Preston Recreation Centre
 - W.C. Blair Recreation Centre
 - Walnut Grove Community Centre

Registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Waitlists are available.

Fees

Active Beyond the Bell	Daily Late Fees
\$17.10/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$10 for 5 to 30 minutes• \$20 for every 30 to 60 minutes

Active Beyond the Bell ends two hours from the final school bell. Adults who arrive late to pick up their child will be charged a late fee. Late fees are processed daily.

Payment options

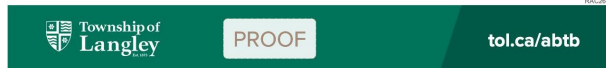
1. **Payment in full at time of registration.**
Pay by cash, cheque, credit card, or debit.
2. **Monthly scheduled payments.**
Monthly payments are due on the first day of each month for registrations within that month. Scheduled payments **MUST** be done over the phone or in person. This option is not available with online registration.

School closures

ABTB does not operate on days when schools in the Langley School District #35 are closed, including statutory holidays, non-instructional days, and during winter and spring breaks. Closure dates are confirmed by the school district and will be communicated through monthly ABTB newsletters. Phone calls will be made when a closure is unanticipated (e.g. snow days). Refunds will be provided for any cancelled days not included in your initial ABTB registration.

School's Out Day Camps may be available at Township of Langley recreation facilities on non-instructional days.

To view and register for School's Out Day Camps, visit tol.ca/recregister.



Cadet Club

2026 Langley RCMP Youth Camp Application WORKING FILE



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Participant Information (including t-shirt size)
- Parent/Guardian Information
- **Emergency Contact Information o Medical Information/Release**
- **Photo Release o Support Section o Alternate pickup arrangements**
- **Lunch Form**

- **Consent Form/Waiver of Liability**

KEY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

KEY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

- **Tuesday July 7 to Thursday July 9 – participant must be able to attend all three days in full**
- **R.C. Garnett Elementary (7096 201 St, Langley, BC)**
- **Applications due no later than May 5, 2026. Late applications will NOT be accepted.**
- **You will be notified by e-mail if your child has been accepted into the camp or not. It is mandatory to confirm acceptance. Please monitor junk mail.**
- **Registration on Tuesday, July 7 @ 8:30-9am**
- **Drop off Wednesday & Thursday @ 8:50am**
- **Graduation ceremony on Thursday July 9 @ 2:30pm**
- **Prompt pick up @ 3pm each day – must be signed out**
- **T-shirt provided – to be worn each day**
- **Running shoes required – cadets will be involved in physical activities. No flip flops, crocs or 'wheelie' shoes**
- **No electronic devices to be brought to camp**
- **Must bring re-fillable water bottle each day**
- **Must bring sunscreen and hat**
- **Cadets who have previously attended camp will not be accepted again**



APPLICATION FORM

July 7th – 9th, 2026 9am – 3pm

R.C. Garnett Elementary School (7096 201 St, Langley, BC)

Open to Youth born in 2015-2016

Priority given to students in Langley School District

Participant/Youth Information:

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____
First Middle Last (YYYY/MM/DD)

Home Address _____

Phone Number _____ School _____

T-Shirt Size YOUTH

T-Shirt Size ADULT

XS SM **MD** LG XL SM M L

Parent/Guardian/Emergency Contact Information:

Parent/Guardian Name

First Middle Last

Relationship to Participant

Home Address

Other _____

Phone Number

Email Address

Parent/Guardian Name

First Middle Last

Relationship to Participant

Home Address

Other _____

Phone Number

Email Address

Alternate Emergency Contact Information: Name

First Middle Last

Relationship to Participant

Phone Number **About the Applicant:**

Written by your child, please explain why they want to attend the Langley RCMP Youth camp:

Medical information:

Does the participant have any medical conditions or take any medication that we should be aware of?

Select one Yes ___ No ___

If yes, please explain

Does the participant have any allergies (food, environment, medication, etc.)?

Select one Yes _ No

If yes, please explain _____

If there any additional information about the participant that we should be aware of (fears/anxieties, special needs/considerations, family information etc.)?

Select one

Yes ____ No ____

If yes, please explain

Family Doctor: _____ Phone number _____

Personal Health Number:

Medical Release:

In the event that my child _____ becomes injured, ill or in need of medical attention and I am unable to be contacted, I authorize the Langley RCMP staff to seek medical attention and/or admit my child to hospital.

Parent/Guardian name

First Middle Last

Signature

Date

(YYYY/MM/DD)

Photo Release:

I hereby give permission for photographs to be taken of the youth who is participating in the Langley

RCMP Youth Camp. Their photographs are to be used by the Langley RCMP and the Township of Langley for possible publications in brochures, websites, leisure guides, social media and other promotional materials which the RCMP and the Township of Langley creates. This includes permission to copyright the photograph in its name. The purpose of the promotional material is to encourage people to participate in ongoing or future programs with the Langley RCMP and the Township of Langley.

I hereby release the RCMP and the Township of Langley from all claims arising out of their use of the photograph including all claims for libel or invasion of privacy.

Support:

If your child requires 1:1 support at school, the same level of support is required to participate in Day Camps. All support workers require a Police Information Check to be completed a minimum of two weeks prior to the first day of your child attending the Youth Camp.

I confirm that I have read this form and understood the content.

Parent/Guardian Name

First Middle Last

Signature

Date

(YYYY/MM/DD)

Alternate pickup arrangements if required: I consent for the release of my child into the care of the following person(s), should I not be able to attend to pickup.

Caregiver name Phone number

First Middle Last

Caregiver name Phone number

First Middle Last

Parent/Guardian name

First Middle Last

Signature

Date

(YYYY/MM/DD)

Complete the application, consent form and the lunch form, then forward to

Langley_Cadet_Camp@rcmp-grc.gc.ca OR

drop off at the Langley RCMP Detachment (22180 48A Ave, Langley) no later than May 4, 2026.



LUNCHES

Lunches (as listed below) and snacks will be provided for the three-day camp. Unless your child has specific dietary needs or does not eat the lunch items listed below, please **DO NOT** bring any food items. If your child does require something different, please send their lunch with them. The lunch will be kept in the fridge in the kitchen area. Please ensure their name is on the lunch bag.

Please complete the below lunch orders and attach to the completed RCMP Youth Camp Application:

YOUTH NAME: _____

Please mark the type of lunch item your child would like and which amount.

The maximum number of pizza slices is 2. The maximum number of burgers is 2.

Also, please note: there are no “special orders” for any of the lunch orders.

Day 1 (Burgers)	Day 2 (Subway Sandwich)	Day 3 (Pizza)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheeseburger <input type="checkbox"/> Hamburger <input type="checkbox"/> Veggie Burger	<input type="checkbox"/> Ham & Cheese <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey & Cheese <input type="checkbox"/> Veggie Sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheese Pizza <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Slice <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Slices <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaiian Pizza <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Slice <input type="checkbox"/> 2 slices <input type="checkbox"/> Pepperoni Pizza 1 Slice 2 slices



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Protected A once completed

Consent Form and Waiver of Liability for Volunteers Under 19 Years of Age

Name of Detachment and Program

Langley RCMP Community Policing Youth Camp July 7-9 2026

Detachment Address Applicant Address

22180 48A Ave

Langley, BC

V3A 8B7

Dear Langley RCMP Community Policing Cadet Camp July 7-9, 2026,

I, the parent / legal guardian of the below noted participant, having received information on, and understanding the activities,

position and program my son/daughter will be involved in, hereby give permission and provide consent for my child,

to participate in Langley RCMP Cadet Camp July 7-9, 2026 .

Participant Name Program Name

I understand these program/activities may or may not be covered by insurance.

I am aware that involvement in this program/position will require a commitment of 18.00 hours per month.

Number of Hours

I hereby release and forever discharge His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, the Attorney General of Canada, the Ministry

of Public Safety, Solicitor General of British Columbia, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the City of Langley City Name

their members, employees, representatives, and agents from any and all actions, causes of actions, claims, liabilities and demands for damages or otherwise, loss or injury, which may hereafter be sustained by my child howsoever arising out of 's involvement and participation in this program/position.



Participant Name

Participant Name (please print)

Parent / Legal Guardian Name (please print)

Witness Name (please print)

Date Signed

Participant Signature

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature

Witness Signature

Approved By



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

(Please detach and keep this paper with you!)

- This three-day camp will be held at:

R.C. Garnett Elementary School, 7096 201 St, Langley, BC

- **Day 1 – Tuesday, July 7~ ~** this day will start early with registration taking place between 8:30 and 8:50 am. Please be on time as the Morning Briefing will begin promptly at 9:00 am. The day's activities will conclude at 3:00 pm. **All Youth MUST be picked up by 3:00 pm.**

- **Day 2 – Wednesday, July 8~ ~** the Youth are asked to please be at R.C Garnett Elementary by 8:50 am. Activities begin promptly at 9:00 am. The day's activities will conclude at 3:00 pm.

All Youth MUST be picked up by 3:00 pm.

- **Day 3 – Thursday, July 9 ~ ~** the Youth are asked to please be at R.C. Garnett Elementary by 8:50 am. Activities begin promptly at 9:00 am.

There will be a graduation ceremony from 2:30-3:30pm. All parents/guardians are highly encouraged to attend.

All parents/guardians are highly encouraged to attend.

All Youth MUST be picked up by 3:30 pm.

- **Other Items of note:**
- **ALL YOUTH MUST BE SIGNED IN AND OUT BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN DAILY**
- Youth will be provided with a camp t-shirt
- Please ensure your child wears their supplied shirt **on all 3 days.**
- Youth must wear running shoes as they will be involved in various physical activities for all of the days, as well as using the gym and **only running shoes are permitted** on the floors
- Youth will not be allowed to participate without running shoes
- No 'wheely' running shoes, crocs or flip flops are permitted
- Bring a refillable water bottle each day
- Please no cell phones or other electronic devices
- Bring sunscreen and hat
- Due to the popularity of the Youth Camp, there are only 90 spots available. We will not have enough room to accept everyone who applies. When submitting your application, please be certain that they will be able to attend **ALL THREE** days in full.
- **PLEASE – DO NOT SIGN UP** if you have other commitments or are leaving town.