



December 2, 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello December, ACSS students and families,

During the week of November 21st to 25th, ACSS held its annual Wellness Week! This week is a highlight of the school year at ACSS as we always strive to communicate the importance of being well in life. Thank you very much to all the students and families who joined us in the daily conversations about wellness. Thank you very much to the staff who planned, organized, facilitated, and evaluated the Wellness Week activities. Finally, a special thank you to all the session facilitators and community members who presented the wide array of wellness topics to our students.

Did you know that Canada has competed in the World Cup of soccer twice? Once in 1986 and once in 2022. Did you also know that ACSS has represented Canada at both World Cups by having one of our graduates as players on the teams? It's true! All of us at the school were extremely proud of 2014 Grad Joel Waterman when we learned that he had earned a spot on this year's team. On the Canadian 1986 team, ACSS was represented by 1978 Grad Randy Ragan, and we are very proud to say that too! Here the two world-class ACSS soccer players are in their Grad photos (which are still on the walls of our halls):



Randy Ragan



JOEL WATERMAN



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

During the week of December 5th to 9th, ACSS students will be completing the Tell Them From Me Survey. Please see the information sheet in the newsletter to learn more about this survey.

During the last week of school before the winter break, December 12th to 16th, ACSS classes will be working hard to complete learning objectives so that there is not too much "unfinished business" going into the break. On Friday, December 16th though, we will be changing our schedule as we will be holding our annual Pancake Breakfast in the morning. We will also be having a pep rally later in the morning and a variety of winter holiday activities in the afternoon.

For the most up-to-date information about school events and happenings please check out our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages, as well as our school website www.acsstotems.ca

Thank you for reading this week's newsletter.

Mr. M. Palichuk

Principal

Aldergrove Community Secondary School





December 2, 2022

Tell Them From Me Surveys

Dear Students/Parents/Guardians & Families,

This letter is to inform you that ACSS students in grades 9 – 12 will be completing the “Tell Them From Me Survey” on the following dates: **November 28 – December 9**

Background:

The “Tell Them From Me” survey is a survey that we do annually, as a District, with all of our secondary school students; this survey is also completed in numerous other Districts across Canada. The survey and its results are completely anonymous. Because of COVID, we skipped the survey for two years, but resumed the survey last year and will be continuing with the survey again this year.

The name of the organization that provides the survey is The Learning Bar, based out of New Brunswick. Here is a link to The Learning Bar website where you can learn more about the organization and what they do: <https://thelearningbar.com/>

Why do we do this survey? What is in the survey?

The survey is designed to gather information from students on various themes and topics. The responses students give help the school to determine possible goals based on the specific needs of students in the school. The themes and topics asked about in the survey include student mental health, personal well-being, student engagement at school (including academic and participation in extra-curricular activities), and student at-risk behaviours (such as smoking, vaping, drug use, and sexual activity).

What do we do with the results?

The data that is generated from the survey reports trends; it does NOT report individual student responses or data. Again, the survey is completely anonymous, with each writer using a randomly selected code that cannot be traced back to them. The data provides a general overview of all student responses, giving schools a sense of what students are experiencing while at school. A similar report is also generated at the district level. The data provides insights and helps to guide decisions around providing supports, interventions, and educational opportunities for our students. For example, in one school, the data showed that fewer students were taking advantage of extra-curricular activities as compared to other similar schools across Canada, and this was correlating with student engagement in the school. This led to a weekly section in the parent newsletter that advertised all the extra-curricular activities happening in the school, leading to better communication to parents, and more student connection to extra-curricular activities.



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Do all students have to do this survey?

No. Students can opt out of individual questions and sections; they can also choose to not complete any of the survey. For example, students are warned before the survey that there are some questions that ask about sexual health and activity. Also, before that part of the survey, the students read a very clear message that they have the choice to skip this section if they do not feel comfortable answering questions on this topic. To be statistically meaningful, schools only need to have a certain percentage of students answering each question; the percentage differs based on the size of the grade cohort in that school.

Is there a parent/guardian version of this survey?

While we do not use the Learning Bar for a parent survey, the Ministry of Education does have a Student Learning Survey that is open from February to the end of April. Look for schools to send the survey information out to parents/guardians sometime in the spring. As well, we would also encourage parents to have a conversation at home regarding the survey to help support your children in the survey process.

I still have questions... who do I contact?

If you have more questions about the survey, please contact the ACSS main office, and ask to speak to an Administrator.

Your sincerely,

Mr. M. Palichuk
Principal
Aldergrove Community Secondary School





December 2, 2022

2022/2023 Upcoming Dates

December

December 14 — Christmas Concert stating at 7:00pm

December 16 - January 2, 2023— Winter Break - ***school not in session***

January

January 3 — School repones

January 31—Semester turn around day - ***school not in session***

December 7th there will be a Lunch and Learn for students in room 213 with Jonathan from TWU starting at 11:55am to teach students how to write winning scholarship essays.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

ACSS & BGMS Music Departments are hosting their Christmas Concert on **Wednesday, December 14 at 7:00 pm**, here in the big gym. Everyone is welcome to attend. It will feature all concert bands, choirs and jazz bands from Grades 6-12. Come and join us for a wonderful evening of music.



December 2, 2022



GRAD 2023

NEWSLETTER

Friday, December 2 2022

Grad news provided by Ms. Caines - for any questions, please email kcaines@sd35.bc.ca or call 604-856-2521

Important Dates

- **December 5-9th** - Grad Yearbook Quotes & Baby Photos submission open now and due Dec 9th.
 - Submit Grad Quotes (for yearbook)
 - Upload baby photo (for yearbook)
 - Report height (for ordering proper size of grad gown)
 - Your one-stop-shop link can be found here:
<https://bit.ly/ACSSGrad2023>
- **February 21-22** - Grad Photo Retakes. Missed your appointment? Don't love your original photos? Retakes will be at the school in February. This will be the last opportunity to get photos in the yearbook and on the composite.
- **June 12th 2023** - Grad Rehearsal, Grad Walk, Grad Convocation Ceremony (more info to be provided in due course, but this date has been confirmed and booked at Christian Life Assembly in Langley.)
- **June 16th 2023** - Strawberry Tea & Grad Banquet (Prom). More info to be provided in due course, but this date has been confirmed and booked at Clarion Hotel in Abbotsford (by Castle Fun Park).
- **Dry Grad** - ACUCC immediately after Grad Banquet. Grads and their guests will be bussed to the facility. Any grads or guests not wishing to participate in Dry Grad will be bussed to the school for guardian pickup.

Do you have outstanding library or textbook fees?

This holiday season, we will be offering Grads the option to waive missing library or textbook fees by bringing in a new or gently used children's book to donate to our feeder schools libraries. For every children's book donated in OUR library, we will remove \$10 of outstanding library or textbook fees. Grads will be unable to purchase event tickets with outstanding fines. See Ms. Caines for more information.

Dry Grad

Dry Grad is a parent organized and parent sponsored event that takes place immediately after Banquet/Prom. The next Dry Grad meeting will take place on Tuesday January 10th at 7pm in the school library. Dry Grad is working to develop a fundraising plan to make sure that all grads get the lowest price for their event tickets. While the school is not involved in the organizing of Dry Grad, we work with the committee to send information out to our grads and families. Minutes are emailed home to all parents from Ms. Caines. Please consider joining the Dry Grad committee. Many hands make work light!

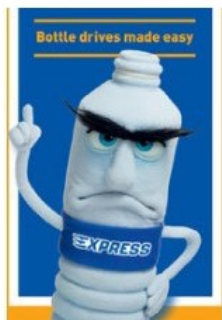




December 2, 2022



CLASS OF 2023 ACSS DRY GRAD BOTTLE RETURN FUNDRAISER!



Bring your unsorted containers in transparent bags to any Return-It Express location



Log in at the Express label stand using the ACSS phone number 604-856-2521



Using the label stand, print off the labels, tag each of your bags, and leave them with Return-It staff



They'll sort your contains and credit the Class of 2023 ACSS Dry Grad account!





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Thank you to the amazing staff and students at ACSS, Coghlan, Shortreed, Aberdeen, Chilliwack Home School Community and many Aldergrove Community Members for writing Cards to our Troops that are spending the holidays overseas. This year I sent 950 cards.

Did you know that the Wellness Week t- shirts were designed by our very talented grade 9 student, Addison? Here she is modelling her awesome design. Way to go!





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Hi wonderful Aldergrove Community!

This year we have decided to once again encourage everyone to participate in the spirit of giving (if able) through our school giving trees! Student Council and our school based Wellness Committee have teamed up to put a fun twist on last years giving trees. This year each star will represent a house team colour and a different category of "need" that we will be trying to help fill. We have four house colours: Blue, Green, Yellow, Red; four types of giving trees: self-care, personal care, non-perishables, gift cards. Each of these items collected will then be utilized to create our Holiday Hampers that we hand out to families in need over the two-week holiday period. We understand that money is currently tight but we do encourage you to encourage your students to grab a couple stars and bring some items in. It can be anything from a can of tuna, to a toothbrush, to a gift card.





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2022-2023
ALDERGROVE COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL
THE TWIG
VOL 65

2023
TOTEM VISION

DON'T MISS OUT!
Yearbooks on sale now!
\$65 until Christmas Break
\$70 after Christmas
We will sell out!
Order on SchooCashOnline



December 2, 2022



Aldergrove Elks
Annual
*Children's
Christmas Party*

Has Moved!

Saturday, December 10th | 4:30pm-7:00pm
Aldergrove Plaza (Fraser Highway @ 272nd)
Aldergrove Light-Up Parade at 6:00pm

Selfies with Santa
Balloon Twisters

Entertainment
Popcorn & Hot Chocolate



December 2, 2022

ALDERGROVE CHRISTMAS

HOSTED BY:



Aldergrove
Fair Days
Since 1912



2022

TREE LIGHTING • ALDERGROVE PLAZA
Sun, Dec 4 • 4:30-5:30 pm

LIGHT-UP PARADE

FRASER HWY 270-273 ST
Sat, Dec 10 • 6:00-6:45 pm

PARADE PARTY • ALDERGROVE PLAZA
Sat, Dec 10 • 4:30-7:00 pm

Thank you to
our
Sponsors



Parade entry forms & volunteer info: www.aldergrovefair.ca



December 2, 2022

Meet our Community School Coordinator – **Stephanie Eby**

See link here: <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/news-events/district-board-news/view/connecting-with-the-community-qa-with-community-school-coordinators/>

Happy Fall from your Community School Coordinator

Did you know that you can reach out to me for needs like food, housing,

program support, and other community needs?

My role is to connect students and families to community supports, provide out of school programming, and bring resources into the community.

You can reach out by phone or email or book an appointment through the link below.

Stephanie Eby

Aldergrove Community
Schools Coordinator

c. 604.862.5943

e. seby@sd35.bc.ca

To book an appointment,
click [HERE](#)

**FOR ONLY \$2
YOU CAN HELP FEED
HUNGRY KIDS AT OUR
LOCAL SCHOOLS**

FRESH CO

Each bag will contain one individual unit of products shown above. Fresh fruit to be supplied on day of delivery.
Products and brands may be different than shown as a result of supply challenges.



December 2, 2022



SCHOOL DISTRICT

Langley

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM



Come as a Visitor, Leave as a Friend

HOMESTAY FAMILIES NEEDED

Have a life changing experience and welcome an international student into your home!

Homestay families are provided **\$950/month** to offset costs!

CATCHMENT AREA SCHOOLS:

Aldergrove Community Secondary
Brookwood Secondary
Langley Secondary
Walnut Grove Secondary
Langley Fine Arts Secondary
Langley Fundamental Secondary
R.E. Mountain Secondary
D.W. Poppy Secondary

HOW TO APPLY:

Please visit our International Student Program website (Homestay section): www.studyinlangley.com and complete the online Homestay Application!

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Please contact:

Langley School District
International Students Program
Tel: 604-534-7891

We are located at the
Langley School Board Office
4875 - 222 Street, Langley, BC