



## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Dear Gator Families,

It is unbelievable to think that we have almost reached the end of our first month together. It has been a busy time here at WGSS with so much going on. We've had our first round of photo days for all staff and students (\*\*retakes coming up on October 8). Our student council has been busy organizing spirit days for the entire student body, while grad council has also organized events to make sure the Grads of 2026 have an amazing last year here at WGSS. Fall athletics are well underway, with WGSS athletes giving their best in volleyball, soccer, lacrosse, swimming and cross country. Our musical theatre class is in the middle of auditions for our spring presentation of the musical Chicago. We had our first PAC meeting and also hosted our reformatted Gator Meet & Greet for students, staff and families. It's been a busy but exciting month. I did want to take this opportunity to highlight a couple of important items that families should be aware of. Earlier this week, you should have received an email about Student Verification Forms and the Yearbook Consent process. Please take the time to review the student verification forms through MYEDBC, as it is important that we have up to date information about address, contacts, etc. Yearbook Consent forms have been completed in class by students, indicating whether students consent to their photos being used in our school yearbook. If the form is not completed or students decline consent, we cannot use any pictures of them in the yearbook. Please make sure to check-in with your children and contact the office if you have any concerns about their consent form.

HUB time is back again this year and I wanted to offer some clarification for families. Like previous years, we have 16 HUB days throughout the year (8 in each semester), where staff will come together to collaborate around instructional strategies and assessment practices to improve student learning. One change this year is that we have front loaded the Hub days earlier in each semester to provide more time for staff to put their plans into action. While most of the staff will be engaging in these collaborative professional learning communities, some staff will host learning HUBs for students. Hubs are designed to provide students with opportunities to receive extra support in specific curricular areas or to engage in some additional learning in an area of their choosing. While all students are encouraged to stay and engage further in their learning, we recognize that some may choose not to engage and therefore will leave the school campus.



Finally, September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day. It is a day to recognize and honour the children who did not return from residential school, the survivors and all of their families impacted by the residential school system. Today, students and staff engaged in a variety of learning opportunities to create a greater understanding of the Truth and reflect on small actions that everyone can take towards Reconciliation. On Monday, during the School Improvement Day, staff will be further engaging in learning opportunities connected to land and place as part of our journey. Staff will be participating in Walks of Reconciliation with a focus on strengthening learning through connections to the natural world around us. I also wanted to make families aware of the community gathering on September 30th at Derek Doubleday Arboretum from 5:00pm – 8:00pm. You can find more information in the “From Our District” section of the Gator News.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,  
M. Pue  
Proud Principal



# Gator News

## # 2

### IMPORTANT DATES

September 29 <sup>th</sup>	School Improvement Day – <b>Students Not in Attendance</b>
September 30 <sup>th</sup>	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – <b>School Closed</b>
October 1 <sup>st</sup>	HUB Day
October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	GQ Meeting in Library at Lunch
October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Grad Gala at Newlands
October 6 <sup>th</sup>	UFV Visit in Library at Rep
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Photo Retakes
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	HUB Day
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving - <b>School Closed</b>
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	HUB Day
October 16 <sup>th</sup>	SFU Visit in Library at Lunch
October 22 <sup>nd</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent Teacher Interviews – <b>1 Hour Early Dismissal</b>
October 24 <sup>th</sup>	Professional Development Day – <b>Students Not in Attendance</b>
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	HUB Day
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	HUB Day
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Design & Assessment - <b>Students Not in Attendance</b>
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Day – <b>School Closed</b>
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	SFU Beedie School of Business @REP (Cafeteria)
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 9 Immunizations
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	HUB Day
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	Learning Updates Issued in myEd

### GATOR NATION BREAKFAST CLUB VOLUNTEERS

Our Breakfast Club will be starting back up soon and we are looking for volunteers who can assist. If you are willing and able to assist one or more mornings per week (7:45-8:45am) please contact our Breakfast Club Volunteer Coordinator, Rebeca Monzo: [rmonzo@lwchurch.ca](mailto:rmonzo@lwchurch.ca)



## **2025/2026 ADMIN AND COUNSELLING TEAM**

### **Vice-Principal by Student Last Name**

A-HK: Ms. Florko

HL-PA: Mr. Powell

PB-Z: Ms. Harradine

### **Counsellor by Grade and Student Last Name**

Gr. 8 & 9 A-LA Ms. Viefhues

Gr. 8 & 9 LB-Z Ms. Alexander

Gr. 10 A-B Ms. Miller

Gr. 10 C-F Ms. Viefhues

Gr. 10 G-SP Mr. Adrian

Gr. 10 SQ-Z Ms. Alexander

Gr. 11 & 12 A-HK Ms. Twemlow

Gr. 11 HL-Z Ms. Miller

Gr. 12 HL-PA Ms. Miller

Gr. 12 PB-Z Ms. Twemlow

## **MEDICAL ALERTS**

We want to ensure the school is aware of any student life-threatening conditions. If your child has a new or updated life-threatening condition, please contact [rmadray@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:rmadray@sd35.bc.ca) to have a Medical Alert Form emailed to you for completion.

## **SELF-IDENTIFICATION OF ABORIGINAL ANCESTRY** **(First Nations, Métis Or Inuit)**

Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (Status or Non-Status), Métis, or Inuit Ancestry. If you have filled out the form in previous years, you do not need to send in a new one.

**\*\*Please fill out this [form](#) if student has Aboriginal ancestry (one form per child).\*\***





## **STUDENT FEES – SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**

Thanks to all our families who have already paid their student fees using our School Cash Online system. If you have not yet paid the \$30 student fee and \$70 grad fee (if applicable), please make sure this is done before the end of September.

WGSS has an online payment system that allows parents to pay for most school related items online. We encourage all WGSS families to pay their school fees using our online payment system. If you haven't already created an account, you can do so now. It only takes a few minutes to set up and add your child(ren). Once this is completed, you will see available activities or fees that can be processed online. You will require the following three pieces of information to attach your child to your account: Student ID (found on your child's timetable or MyEd account), child's legal last name and child's date of birth.

You will also find instructions and information on our [WGSS website](https://sd35.schoolcashonline.com/) or by visiting <https://sd35.schoolcashonline.com/> to get started.

Print or screenshot your online receipt: Your child will be REQUIRED to present their receipt to pick their purchased items such as locks, PHE strip, yearbook, etc. Your receipt can always be accessed and reprinted as needed from your account.

## **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](#).



## REPORTING AN ABSENCE

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** – Using your mobile device, download and install the SchoolMessenger app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. The first time you use the app, select “Sign Up” to create your account. You must use the same email address and phone number that is on file at the school. Select “Attendance” then “Report an Absence”.
2. **SafeArrival Website** – Use the SafeArrival website: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>. The first time you use the website, select “Sign Up” to create your account. You must use the same email address and phone number that is on file at the school. Select “Attendance” then “Report an Absence”.
3. **Toll-Free Phone** – Call the toll-free number 1-833-294-4837 to report an absence using the automated phone system. If you are calling the toll-free number, you must call from the parent/guardian phone number on file with the school.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. We ask that daily absences are reported as soon as possible and **before 3:00pm** on the day of the absence. This includes late arrivals and early departures. Future absences can be reported at any time. If absences are not reported before the cut-off time of 3:00pm, the parent/guardian may still receive an automatic notification in the evening to inform them of an absence.

Absences are only to be reported by parents/guardians on file with the school. Students are NOT to report their own absences.

Please report absences using SafeArrival instead of sending notes, calling, or emailing the school. Please use the three options above to report absences. **The school office will no longer accept calls regarding attendance. Parents/guardians will need to report via the app, website, or toll-free number in a timely manner.**

If families have children attending other schools, please continue to report absences using the existing procedures for those schools.



## FROM OUR SCHOOL

Dear Families,

We're thrilled to announce an exciting educational opportunity for your students: a tour of France designed to bring history, culture, and language learning to life! This unforgettable journey will give students a deeper understanding of French heritage while connecting classroom learning with real-world experiences.

### Tour Highlights:

- Visits to iconic sites like the Louvre and Versailles
- Immersive cultural experiences and guided historical tours
- Opportunities to practice French in authentic settings

Dates: March 16-25, 2026 (final dates confirmed closer to)

Priority will be given to senior students.

**ONLY 36 spots available!**

Tour provider: EF Educational Tours

Ready to Enrol? Scan this QR code to reserve your child's spot on the waitlist. Space is limited, and early enrolment helps lock in the best rate and availability.



For more information and a day-by-day itinerary, please visit:

<https://sholink.to/92482226>.

Students need to complete this survey and provide two teacher references. Please click here: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rvqr\\_Ar4dE-2p7oVwgS7JGG2ZPaY3GhEnP-dyupnQ2xUMlpRRU9HS0sxQzdNOFICQjQ3MUNDNk1DVS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rvqr_Ar4dE-2p7oVwgS7JGG2ZPaY3GhEnP-dyupnQ2xUMlpRRU9HS0sxQzdNOFICQjQ3MUNDNk1DVS4u)

Warm regards,  
Ursula Neuscheler & Paul Lincke  
[UNeuscheler@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:UNeuscheler@sd35.bc.ca)  
[PLincke@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:PLincke@sd35.bc.ca)



## **FROM OUR PAC**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

If you aren't able to join us at this time for meetings, there are still many meaningful ways to support our PAC. Financial contributions go a long way in enhancing learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom, and every donation—big or small—truly makes a difference for our students (see the flyer for more information). You can also stay connected with us through [wgsspac.ca](http://wgsspac.ca) or on Facebook at WGSS PAC. We can't wait to see you at our next meeting!

**PAC Executives** for the 2025 – 2026 school year:

- President - Itzel Symonds
- Vice President - Valerie Steckler
- Treasurer - Shivani Khera
- Secretary - Amy Olson
- DPAC Rep - Rebecca Hardin
- Members at Large - Stephen Northrup and Tali Litvak Kor

### **PAC Meeting Dates**

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at **7:00pm** in the WGSS library, with a few exceptions. There is no PAC Meeting in December or March. The meeting in June is a regular meeting as well as the Annual General Meeting.

Here are the dates for PAC Meetings for the 2025 – 2026 school year:

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| • October 9 <sup>th</sup>   | • March – no meeting    |
| • November 13 <sup>th</sup> | • April 9 <sup>th</sup> |
| • December – no meeting     | • May 21 <sup>st</sup>  |
| • January 15 <sup>th</sup>  | • June 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| • February 12 <sup>th</sup> |                         |

***We are very appreciative of our PAC and the Executive for the support that they provide for our students and our school!***





# Gator News # 2



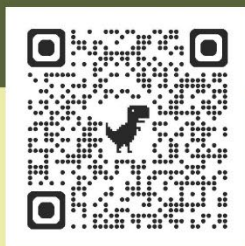
## ONE & DONE FUNDRAISER

**No selling required!  
Just your support!**

Now that elementary school is behind you, you're probably ready to leave behind all those requests to sell or volunteer! We get it, and we won't ask you to do either.

However, the PAC still needs your support. We continue to fund important school programs and requests that go beyond the standard curriculum, enriching our students' educational experience.

Please consider making a contribution through our ONE-AND-DONE fundraiser. A simple donation—no selling, no volunteering required—just your generous support to help keep these programs going!



Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to donate on School Cash Online towards **PAC Donations**

- ✓ **\$15** - Bidding wars at a silent auction? No, thanks!
- ✓ **\$10** - Chasing down corporate sponsors? No, thanks!
- ✓ **\$5** - Selling chocolates or wrapping paper to my friends and family? No, thanks!
- ✓ **Other** - I love this school and I am happy to help!





# Gator News # 2

## FROM OUR DISTRICT

### National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Langley Event

As part of the District's Truth and Reconciliation journey, we encourage our students, staff, and families to observe the day in their own way. Community partners in Langley are welcoming all members of the community to attend a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation event at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum on the evening of Sept 30<sup>th</sup>.


## National Day for Truth & Reconciliation


Link to the  
National  
Day for T&R



SEPTEMBER 30

As a vital part of Reconciliation, we honour the survivors of residential schools and the children who never came home, and their families and communities.

 **Location:** Derek Doubleday Arboretum  
21177 Fraser Hy, Langley, BC

 **Time:** 5:00 to 8:00 pm  
Educational Story-Walk,  
Drummers, Speakers and  
Candlelight Walking Vigil



We are honoured to work, learn, play and live on the ancestral lands of the **məθkʷey, q̓w̓a:ńłəń, q̓íćəý and səmyəmaʔt First Nations** who have occupied and stewarded this land since time immemorial.





# Gator News # 2

Langley Community Services Society

Serving Our Community Since 1971

## Mountain Movers: An Anger Management Group for Men

*If you notice you have struggles with anger and are looking for a supportive and empowering environment to learn healthier coping mechanisms, we invite you to join our anger management group and take a journey towards self-awareness, emotional intelligence, and ultimately, a happier and healthier life. Facilitated by a Registered Clinical Counsellor (RCC).*

### 6-Week Anger Management Group for Men

**When:** Wednesdays

September 17- Oct 22

**Time:** 5pm-7pm in-person

**Where:** Langley Community Services  
5339 207<sup>th</sup> street  
Langley BC, V3A 2E6

**\*Cost:** \$200

**Space is Limited**

**Register:** [lmargueratt@lcss.ca](mailto:lmargueratt@lcss.ca)  
leave a message at 604-534-7921 ext. 1240

*\*sliding scale available*

*Certificate provided following completion of all 6 sessions*



## **FROM FRASER HEALTH - Grade 9 Immunizations - Nov 19**

Grade 9 immunizations will take place November 19. Consent forms will be sent home a few weeks prior so please watch for them! For more information, click [here](#) or see flyer below.



### **School Vaccination Information for Parents**

Getting vaccinated on schedule is the best way to protect yourself from many dangerous diseases. Public health regularly checks immunization records for students in Grades 6-12 to help make sure they are up to date on vaccines.

We offer all routine vaccines needed for students in Grades 6-12 when students are in school.

Families can check their child's immunization records online to see if they need any vaccines by logging into [immunizationconsent.gov.bc.ca/s/](https://immunizationconsent.gov.bc.ca/s/) then looking at "Immunization forecast".



#### **Give consent for the child's vaccines online**

This year, students, parents, or caregivers of students in Grades 6-12 have the option to provide consent for vaccines online. You can fill out consent now or any time before the school clinic.

To give online consent for immunizations, scan this QR code or go to [immunizationconsent.gov.bc.ca/s/](https://immunizationconsent.gov.bc.ca/s/).



If vaccines are needed, please see [Vaccines | HealthLink BC](#) for more information on the specific vaccine your child needs.

Parents, students or caregivers who complete the online consent, will receive a letter closer to the time of school immunizations so you are aware of when the school clinic is occurring.

If consent is not completed online, students will receive a letter and paper consent form from the school close to the time of immunization. The letter will let you know when the consent needs to be returned by.

#### **What if the child had vaccines but they are not on their immunization record?**

If the child's record is missing vaccines they already had, please do the following:

1. Find the paper record at home, if one was given to you at the time of vaccination.
2. If you do not have records at home, contact the health care provider who gave the vaccines and ask for a copy of the immunization record.
3. Report the immunizations either of these ways:
  - Submit it online by either scanning this QR code or going to [FraserHealth.ca/immunizationform](https://FraserHealth.ca/immunizationform).



[www.fraserhealth.ca](https://www.fraserhealth.ca)

This information does not replace advice given to you by a healthcare provider. School Vaccination information for Parents  
Sept 2, 2025

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