

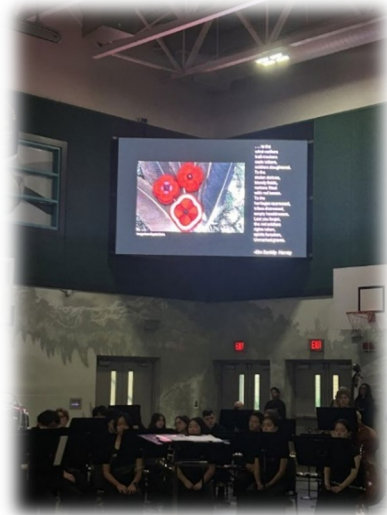


Gator News #5

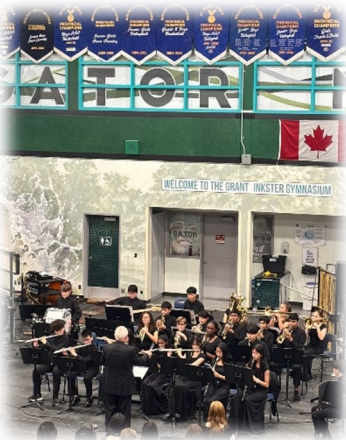
PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students and Families:

Last week we hosted our Remembrance Day assemblies which were put together by Mr. Angell, Mr. Curson, Mr. Rogers, Ms. Harradine, and several students who helped to plan the assemblies, perform, and present to our students and staff. They did a wonderful job of creating a reflective experience in which students and staff could honour those who have served and continue to serve our country as well as those who paid the ultimate price for all of us. Students and staff also highlighted Indigenous veterans and Aboriginal Veterans Day, which was November 8th. Thank you again to our student and staff planning group.



Our Music department has also been very busy these past few weeks. In addition to their contributions to the Remembrance Day Assemblies, we hosted our first music concert of the year, which had a fantastic turnout of parents to support our student-musicians and vocalists. In addition our students participated in two District Music Program events, one hosted at WGSS and one at REMSS. From a scholastic lens, some of our keen Math students participated in a variety of Math contests this week with the help of Ms. Sharkey and Ms. Park.





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Our Athletics teams have also been very active in the past few weeks. Both of our senior volleyball teams brought home the EVAA banner and have qualified for the provincials, our swim team is competing in the provincials this weekend, and our boys soccer team will be competing in the provincials next week. A few weeks ago, our senior girls cross country team won the EVAA banner. This is just a sample of some of the success our Athletics teams have had this Fall season. Our student athletes have worked hard throughout the Fall season and have found a lot of success and they have represented Gator Nation well. A huge thank you to our Fall Sport coaches who have put in a tremendous amount of effort and time to ensure that our student athletes have amazing opportunities to engage in high school athletics.



Next Friday, we will be publishing term 1, semester 1 Formal Learning Update. Please be sure to login to MyEd BC to view your student's report card. Infographic instructions on how to log into MyEd BC Parent Portal are further into the newsletter. If you have questions or concerns about your student's progress in any of their classes, please be sure to reach out to the classroom teacher directly.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeremy Lyndon

Proud Principal



IMPORTANT DATES

November 20	HUB Day 2
November 21	Pep Rally during REP
November 22	Student Learning Updates Issued to MyEd (See MyEd Flyer below)
November 27	HUB Day 1
December 4	HUB Day 2
December 20	Last Day Prior to Winter Break

GRAD 2024 PORTRAITS/YEARBOOK PHOTO RETAKES

Grad Portrait retakes will take place at the North Langley Community Church on December 5th & 6th

All Grads must be photographed for the yearbook and class composite.

If you have not had your Grad Portrait taken or if you need a retake appointment, please use the following link to book your photo session:

https://form.jotform.com/Vibrant_Photos/2025WGSS-grad-photo-retakes-Dec5th

We ask that you read **all the information** carefully. You will find answers to the majority of, if not all, your questions. Please contact Vibrant Photos directly at 604-380-3388 if you still require assistance.

Choose one of the following options when booking your retake (Please sign up for ONE photo slot only).

- **Full Grad sitting** (\$50+service fee): Book this option for a first time appointment for a full sitting or if you had a yearbook only session and now want a full sitting.
- **Yearbook only, first time sitting** (no charge): Book this option if you are wanting yearbook only photos and it's a first time appointment.
- **Retake Sitting** (\$20+service fee): Book this option if you are coming for retakes. This includes retakes for any part of your sitting you want redone and also applies to any Grad that wants their yearbook only photos redone.



WGSS BREAKFAST CLUB VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Walnut Grove Breakfast Club needs parent volunteers to assist with our breakfast club from 7:45-8:45am. Are you able to assist for one or more mornings a week? If so, please email Mr. Powell (npowell@sd35.bc.ca) and he can provide you with more details and connect you with our community volunteer coordinator.

STUDENT DROP OFF & PICK UP

We have received some feedback with respect to the parking lot and drop-off and pick-up before and after school. As you know, we have a very large school population. We have approximately 2200 students attending WGSS this year. Consequently, the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up can be very busy and our school grounds and surrounding roadways become very congested.

Based on feedback from students, families and community members, we thought it would be helpful to send a few reminders:

- Please do not drop-off or pick-up students along Walnut Grove Drive. This is unsafe.
- If you can drop-off or pick-up your student in a neighbouring area that is not as busy, that would be helpful.
- Please do not park in the parking lots of our neighbouring Townhouse Complexes. This creates situations where residents are not able to park in their own homes and makes it more difficult for them to navigate their internal roadways.
- If you can stagger your drop-off times (a little earlier) or pick-up times (a little later) that would also help to alleviate congestion.
- Please be mindful of blocking lanes if you are coming through the front of the school:
 - Please make room for our buses to be able to park and maneuver in the parking lot.
 - Please do not park in the lanes in front of the parking stalls; this holds up traffic and prevents cars from leaving the parking spots.
 - Please do not park in the designated bus zones.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, POWER OUTAGES, AND SCHOOL CLOSURES

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.

INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOL STATUS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Snow closures and power outages are an annual occurrence in the 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.

FRASER HEALTH INFORMATION

It's that time of year when we see a rise in illnesses impacting students and staff in our school. We are hearing from families about colds, respiratory illnesses, and stomach bugs



circulating in our community. As a reminder to help keep our school community healthy and well, we are sharing this online resource from our community partner Fraser Health. Here you will find information about protecting your child from communicable diseases and managing their illness:

<https://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-topics-a-to-z/school-health/illness-and-immunizations/illness-in-the-classroom>

Dental, Hearing, and Vision Checks (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 dental, hearing, and vision checks. Please see below for helpful reminders to support your child.

Make dental, hearing and vision checks part of a healthy routine

Health screenings help find issues early which can make treatment easier and more effective. It's important for your child to have regular eye exams and routine dental checkups. It is also important to recognize any hearing loss early as this is essential for speech and language development. Read on to learn when and how to access services for your child.

Dental

Tooth decay is the most common, but preventable, childhood chronic disease. It is important to establish good oral hygiene at a young age and have children's teeth checked by a dentist regularly. To find a local dentist near you who is accepting new patients, visit the BC Dental Association's [Find a Dentist database](#). If you are a member of a low-income family and you do not have extended health coverage, there are several programs that can help you access [affordable dentistry for your children](#). You can also contact the dental program at your [local public health unit](#) and ask about resources available in your community.

Vision

[BC Doctors of Optometry](#) recommends children receive their first eye exam when they are six to nine months old with a follow up exam at least once between the ages of two and five and then yearly once they enter school. You can find an optometrist accepting new patients near you at the College of Optometrists of British Columbia's [Find an Optometrist database](#). In B.C., one basic eye exam per year is free up to the age of 18.



Some optometrists may charge a user fee of about \$35-50 per visit, so be sure to ask about any fees before you make an appointment.

Hearing

Good hearing is essential for speech and language development and plays an important part in a child's social and emotional growth. It is important to recognize hearing loss early and seek out testing and treatment if needed. Fraser Health's Public Health community audiologists provide hearing services for children from birth to 19 years of age. If you have a concern about your child's hearing, referrals can be made by a parent or caregiver, a health care provider or education professional to your [local public health audiology \(hearing\) clinic](#).

Find more information on child health screenings and how to access free vision, hearing and dental exams on Fraser Health's website: <https://ow.ly/oK9z50PegZB>

Youth Clinics

Let your teen know about our youth clinics. These clinics are located across the Fraser Health region and provide free, confidential information and education regarding sexuality and health to youth under 21 to 24 (age varies by site). Learn more about the services available at youth clinics: [Youth clinics - Fraser Health Authority](#)

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING (CSL)



Learning is a journey for all students that requires the support of teachers, staff, and families. Parent/guardian involvement is always a contributing factor to a student's success. But how does a parent/guardian know how their child is doing? The District is sharing information about the different ways of [Communicating Student Learning \(CSL\)](#) to help support families. On this webpage you will find information about proficiency scales, letter grades, self-reflection on the core competencies, and how you can support your child in their learning process. Read more [here](#).

MYED PARENT PORTAL

Student Learning Updates will be published to MyEducationBC on November 22nd. Please login to your MyEd Parent Portal to make sure you can access your account. Please see the flyer below for some common MyEd login issues and ways to resolve them.


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myeducation.gov.bc.ca


Walnut Grove Secondary School




Upcoming Learning Update

Please log in to your **MyEd Family/Student Portal** **TODAY** and make sure you can access your account now.

Common Errors and Troubleshooting

 **BEFORE** login to MyEdBC, ensure to **Disable the Pop-Up blocker**


When did you reset your password last time? More than 3 months ago?



1. **Disable** the Pop-up blocker.
2. **Close** your browser **completely** and try again.
3. Try with a **different browser**. (Chrome, Firefox etc)


Passwords are good for 90 days, at which time after a successful login you will be required to create a new one immediately.

This account has been disabled



You can re-enable your account by using the **"I forgot my password"** on the login screen.

Invalid Login




- Both Login ID and Password are **Case Sensitive**.
- Disable** the Pop-up blocker.
- Close** your browser **completely** and try again.
- Try with a **different browser**. (Chrome, Firefox etc)

15 unsuccessful attempts will disable your account

*Please use a **Laptop or Desktop** Computer if you have difficulty resetting your password.




Setting security preferences will make it possible to use the **"I forgot my password"** option that displays on the login screen.


Enter the following information:




1. After logging in, click your name in the top right corner.
2. Click on **Set preferences**, then click the **Security** tab on the window that pops up.
3. Select a security question and enter your answer.

For more information, please visit our school district website at **sd35.bc.ca** or scan or click the **QR code**





Need your login information or a Password Reset?
Scan or click the QR code and submit a Request Form*

* Please note that it may take five (5) to ten (10) business days to process your request.

© 2024-2025 WGSS Family/Student Portal Nov 2024



WGSS PAC NEWS

Happy Friday everyone, from your WGSS PAC!

We held our November meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 12th at 7pm in the library, and had an excellent turn-out this month. If you haven't made it to a PAC meeting yet, please join us, we would love to see more and new faces at our meetings. Often, we see parents of new grade 8 students, which is great, but PAC meetings are relevant for parents and guardians of all students, regardless of grade. We know everyone is busy, and perhaps you've already given more time than you actually had when your kids were in elementary school. But we still need parent involvement at the high school level, and PAC meetings are a great way to air concerns and get questions answered. Please join us on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7pm in the WGSS Library.

The November meeting focused on appointing two representatives to attend District PAC meetings and report back to our PAC (thank you to Amy and Jared for volunteering their time), as well as voting on funding requests.

Every year, the BC Gaming Commission gives school PACs a certain amount of money to be spent supporting extra-curricular activities. In October, teachers and student club sponsors submit funding requests to the PAC, which are then voted on in November. Prior to voting, the PAC Executive goes through all requests to vet them for eligibility, as the BC Gaming Commission tightly regulates what funding can and cannot be used for. The Executive then recommends an amount to be approved per request, and this is voted on at the November meeting.

Requests that were approved this year include multiple student clubs (among them, for example, the Chess Club, Creative Minds, Literary Club, Rubik's Cube Club and Dungeons and Dragons), as well as funding for extracurricular sports such as volleyball, lacrosse and rugby. We also approved funding for Dry Grad, Grad Council and Tuff Wally (our annual Tough-Mudder style obstacle race that takes place in the spring). Finally, we were happy to be able to approve funding for several school beautification projects, such as a new sound system for the library which can be used by all student clubs, as well as the Music For Wellness program. Thank you to everyone who attended for your questions and comments and your time!

The PAC continues to ask for donations via SchoolCashOnline (please see our fundraiser flyer below). Donations go to the PAC's regular account, rather than our Gaming account, and it is from our regular account that we fund scholarships for graduating students, a project very dear to our hearts. BC Gaming Commission funds cannot be used for scholarships, and so we are dependent on fundraising. We would also like to raise funds



to continue to offer our Staff Appreciation event in the spring, where we express our appreciation to all teachers and staff for their hard work and time on our kids' behalf. Please donate! Any amount is welcome, and we appreciate whatever you can give.

Finally, please like and follow our Facebook page, and bookmark our website, wgsspac.ca. The approved Minutes from previous PAC meetings can be found on our website, as well as dates of future PAC (and DPAC) meetings.

Thank you so much from your WGSS PAC, and have a wonderful weekend!

Find us on Facebook/ Meta as "WGSS PAC", or on our website: wgsspac.ca, or email us at contact.wgsspac@gmail.com.

Here are the dates for upcoming PAC Meetings for the 2024 – 2025 school year.

- December – no meeting
- January 14
- February 11
- March – no meeting
- April 8
- May 13
- June 10 (Regular PAC Meeting and Annual General Meeting)



Gator News #5

WGSS PAC Fundraiser



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!





WGSS DRY GRAD NEWS

We encourage all parents/guardians of Grade 12 students to attend and learn how you can help and get involved in organizing a great and safe event for the Grads of 2025!

You can also find us on Facebook at *Walnut Grove Secondary Dry Grad 2025*.

Please note that the December 3rd Dry Grad meeting is cancelled. The next meeting will be January 7th, 2025. Be sure to mark your calendars for future meetings.

All meetings will be held in the **WGSS Library from 6:30-7:30PM**

Tuesday, January 7

Tuesday, January 28

Tuesday, February 18

Tuesday, March 11

Future Meeting dates will be determined.

Our WGSS Dry Grad Committee is currently running several fundraisers. Please see the flyers below for:

- Neufeld Farms
- Return-It Depot
- [Purdys Chocolates](#)
- [WGSS Dry Grad-Langley School District Foundation](#)



Gator News #5

Neufeld Farms Fundraiser

WGSS 2025 Dry Grad Fundraiser!


Neufeld
FARM MARKET

Registration opens from: **November 15th- midnight on December 2nd.**
(E-transfer/credit cards accepted)

Order Pick up: December 10th at 7:30pm
@WGSS



E-transfer Payments to: WGSSDRYGRAD2025@GMAIL.COM





SCAN HERE TO PLACE YOUR ORDERS TODAY!!



Thank you for SUPPORTING!





Return-It Walnut Grove Bottle & Return Centre



**SUPPORT DRY
GRAD 2025**

**Donate cans, plastic
bottles in clear or clear
blue bags**

1. Go to Return-It Walnut
Grove Bottle and
Return Centre
2. From Kiosk print label
enter # 604-111-2025
3. Stick label on bags.
All Funds will go to dry
grad.

LOCATION ADDRESS
20280 97AVE, LANGLEY
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Gator News #5

Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser

WGSS 
**DRY GRAD 2025
FUNDRAISER**

**Supporting a Cause Never
Tasted So Good!**

Buy your favourite chocolates to support **WGSS Dry Grad**


CHOCOLATIER

Go to <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1978848-120223> or Scan QR 

Place your order by **November 20, 2024**

Pick up Date: **December 4th, 3pm-4pm** at **WGSS**

Contact **Erin Heutink** at erinheutinksoftball@gmail.com
for more details.

 **CANADA'S CHOCOLATIER SINCE 1907**



Langley School District Foundation Dry Grad Fundraiser

WGSS DRY GRAD 2025



Support WGSS Dry Grad 2025 and the Langley School District Foundation [HERE](#) with a Tax deductible donation!! 90% of proceed go directly to fund this years Dry Grad while supporting the Langley School District foundation at the same time!!



<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/langley-school-district-foundation/p2p/wgssdrygrad2025/>

THESE EVENTS ARE MADE POSSIBLE FROM THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT FROM ALL OF THE 2025 GRADUATING FAMILIES.



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IN OUR COMMUNITY.....

The Arts are alive and thriving across many Langley secondary schools and each month there are many different events happening which are inspiring and engaging evenings for staff and family. Please see the flyer below for a list of events happening "This Month in the Arts" across Langley schools:

THIS MONTH IN THE ARTS

November

6

FALL MUSIC CONCERT

Walnut Grove Secondary School
WGSS Main Gym 7:00 pm

13

DISTRICT CONCERT BAND FESTIVAL

Walnut Grove Secondary School
WGSS Main Gym 7:00 pm

15 - DEC 6

AI Override - a collaborative exhibition

RE Mountain Secondary School
Upper Art Gallery

22

DISTRICT DRAMA FESTIVAL

Brookwood Secondary School
BSS Theatre 6:00 pm

27 - 29

BOOKENDS - DRAMA WEEK

Langley Fine Arts School
Chief Sepass Theatre 6:30 pm



Gator News #5

A festive winter market poster for Gordon Greenwood Elementary. The background is a light teal color with white snowflakes. At the top, a banner reads "GORDON GREENWOOD ELEMENTARY" in green capital letters. Below the banner are colorful Christmas lights and a yellow star. The main title "Winter market" is in large, bold, black letters with a white outline. To the left of the title are illustrations of a man and a child. To the right is a woman holding a red jacket. Below the title is a banner that says "eat, drink, shop & be merry!" in red cursive. A calendar icon shows "SATURDAY NOV. 23" in red and "10:00 - 3:00" in black. Below the calendar are illustrations of a food truck, a large red mug with a candy cane, and people shopping. At the bottom, the address "9175 206 Street, Langley" is written in white on a green background.

GORDON GREENWOOD ELEMENTARY

Winter market

eat, drink, shop & be merry!

FOOD AND BEVERAGE TRUCKS

OVER 40 LOCAL VENDORS AND MORE!

SATURDAY
NOV. 23
10:00 - 3:00

9175 206 Street, Langley



Gator News #5

YOU'RE INVITED!

ENTRY BY \$ OR FOOD DONATION

**JAMES KENNEDY★
ELEMENTARY**

Christmas

**CRAFT
MARKET**

40+ VENDORS
CONCESSION
PHOTOS WITH SANTA

SAT. NOVEMBER 30TH
FROM 11 AM TO 4 PM

9060 212TH ST
LANGLEY





Gator News #5

Fairy Godmother Foundation

Are you in need of grad wear for prom?

The Fairy Godmother Foundation is here to help! We provide FREE grad wear (dresses, suits, shoes, accessories) to students who may not be able to afford them, ensuring everyone has the chance to celebrate this special milestone.

Who Can Apply?

Any high school student in need of assistance with prom attire.

How to Apply:

Visit your school counselor and let them know you'd like to be considered for assistance.

Once applications are reviewed your counsellor will contact you with further details

Let us help you feel like the star you truly are on your big night!

Our team is excited to work with you to find the perfect outfit for your prom night!

**The Fairy Godmother Foundation –
Where every student deserves to shine!**

Apply ASAP as space is limited

For more information, ask your counsellor

