

September 2, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians, Students, and Staff:

As we begin a new school year, I am pleased to welcome all new and returning students, staff, and families back to our schools. I hope that your summer break was safe, restful, and filled with meaningful time spent with loved ones. With the break behind us, our classrooms are once again ready to be places of learning, care, and connection. I know our dedicated teachers, staff and administrators are excited to engage and learn with students again.

## Celebrating New Spaces and Managing Growth

Thank you to all District staff in various departments who worked hard over the last two months to get our sites ready for the new school year. I know students in some of our schools will look forward to updated indoor and outdoor spaces such as playgrounds. I also extend my gratitude to all staff who have played a role in ensuring our new school, Josette Dandurand Elementary, and the two new modular additions at Nicomekl Elementary and Lynn Fripps Elementary open to students and staff this week. The completion of these capital projects is an exciting milestone for the District and will help us meet the enrolment demands across Langley. Last week, Minister of Infrastructure, Bowinn Ma was at Nicomekl Elementary to celebrate all of these new spaces. You can read more in the media release <a href="here">here</a>.

The Langley Board of Education, Chair Candy Ashdown, is sharing words of excitement, gratitude, and reflections on the District's Strategic Plan in her back-to-school message that can be read <u>here</u>. The Minister of Education and Child Care, Lisa Beare, is also welcoming everyone back to classrooms which can be read <u>here</u>.

## National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be observed on Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. As schools will be closed on this day, students and staff across the District will spend time in the days leading up to it learning, listening, and reflecting on their Truth and Reconciliation journey. *Orange Shirt Day* serves as a reminder of Canada's shared history and the ongoing trauma and impacts of the residential school system on Indigenous peoples and cultures. The District encourages all members of our community to observe the day in their own unique way - whether by attending a local event, reading books by Indigenous authors, or exploring stories that elevate Indigenous voices. As has been done in the last few years in our District, educational activities in schools focused on Aboriginal Worldviews and Perspectives will continue throughout the year. The District remains committed to supporting all staff and enriching their learning through professional development opportunities focused to help deepen our understanding and renew our collective commitment to the journey of Truth and Reconciliation.

## Encouraging Parent Involvement and Communication

Families play an important role in helping create a safe, inclusive, and compassionate learning community. Just as students are expected to follow the District's Student Code of Conduct, there is an expectation for parents/guardians to uphold the District's Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct. These guidelines can be reviewed *here*. We recognize that strong relationships and active parent involvement are also essential to student success. To support open and effective communication, we encourage families to review the *Communicating with Your School* resource, which outlines helpful guidelines on who to contact when questions or concerns arise.

As always, the District and our schools share information with students, staff, and families through a variety of channels, including email, SchoolMessenger notifications, phone calls, and in-person meetings. We also invite all members of our community to stay connected by visiting the new District website, school websites, reading newsletters, and following social media channels - that's where important updates and positive stories from our schools are shared with the community.

As we all get settled into the new school year, I'm proud to be part of our collective effort to ensure all students achieve success. September is a busy and exciting time for setting goals and creating the structures to build on student strengths. We encourage all of you to be on that learning journey with them throughout the year.

On behalf of the District, we wish all of you a safe and amazing new school year!

Sincerely,

Mal Gill
Superintendent of Schools

Cette notification est importante. S'il vous plaît demandez à quelqu'un pour la traduire afin d'être bien informé(e) à propos de l'école. هذه الرسالة مهمة ، الرجاء أن تطلب من أحد الأشخاص ترجمتها لك لأنها تحتوى على معلومات مهمة من المدرسة 这是一个很重要的通知。请找人翻译它的内容,这样你就可以及时知道学校的情况。 ਇਹ ਇੱਕ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੈ। ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਕਿਸੇ ਤੋਂ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰਵਾ ਲਉ ਤਾਂ ਕਿ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਸਕੂਲ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਸਕੇ। 이것은 중요한 공지사항입니다. 이것을 번역할 수 있는 분에게 부탁해서 여러분이 학교에서 공지하는 것에 대하여 정확하게 인지할 수 있기 바랍니다. Đây là một thông báo quan trọng. Xin vui lòng nhờ người dịch để bạn có thể biết thêm những thông tin về trường học. Este es un aviso importante. Por favor consiga que alguien se Ito ay isang mahalagang notisya. Mangyari po lamang ay lo traduzca para que usted pueda mantenerse bien informado magkaroon ng taong tagasalin ng wika upang ikaw ay maging sobre la información de su escuela. batid tungkol sa impormasyon ng paaralan. دا يو مهم خبرتيا ده. مهرباني وكړئ يو څوک وغواړئ چي دا معلومات و تاسو ته وژباړي، ځكه چي دا خبرتيا ستاسي د ماشوم ښوونځي مربط ده. این یک اطلاعیه مهم است. لطفاً از کسی بخواهید که این اطلاعات را برای شما ترجمه کند، زیرا این اطلاعیه به مدرسه فرزند شما مربوط میشود. Это важное уведомление. Пожалуйста, попросите кого-Це важливе повідомлення. Будь ласка, попросіть когось нибудь перевести эту информацию, поскольку она касается перекласти цю інформацію, оскільки вона стосується школи школы вашего ребенка. вашої дитини.