



Issue #6

Principal's Message

The first formal report was published on Friday. Please have a look at the previous email sent to support the MyEd portal if you are having difficulty accessing. Please continue to have conversations at home about your child's progress and reach out to the teachers if you have any questions.

Winter sports are in full swing with T Bird Showcase Tournament for the Junior teams approaching as well as a Tip Off Tournament for the Sr boys at DW Poppy.

The music students experienced a fantastic trip to Vancouver Island with excellent ratings from the ajudicator. Thank you to Patti Thorpe and all the parents who helped make this possible.

One of our school wide goals is to improve the attendance rate for our students. Students should be present every day to ensure that all are successful by receiving instruction, gaining knowledge, and graduating on time. We are committed to providing an environment and system of support to ensure all students are successful. If students are not present, this cannot occur. Students miss direct instruction while absent, which impedes learning. While we encourage daily attendance, we understand there are circumstances that may require students to be absent. Parents or guardians are asked to use the Safe Arrival App to notify the school when their student is absent. Students are expected to be in class on time every period, every day. Any absence, whether excused or not, denies students the opportunity to learn.

Diane Smillie

Principal, LSS & Focus Alt Ed.





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School Goals

Intellectual Development:

- Goal #1: To track the effectiveness of interventions in place for literacy and numeracy.
 - o Increase number readers to grade level
 - o build basic numeracy skills
 - o improve numeracy scores in grade 9
- Goal #2: Improved Tier 1 UDL in classrooms and improved use of Tier 2 REP Time to address Question #3: What do you do when they don't know it?

Human and Social Development:

- Goal #3: "To remove barriers to improve attendance and fail rate"
- We believe in an inclusive environment that supports the vulnerable learner's needs and improves their attendance and success in school.





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Important Dates

(please visit the calendar on our website LSS Calendar for more information on each event)

December

December 5, Sr. Snowball Dance December 13, Winter Pep Rally (1:30 start time) December 23 – January 3, Winter Break

January 2025

January 6, School re-opens after winter break January 9 – 16, grad photos January 29, Semester 2 begins





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2024/2025 District Calendar

Sep 2 (M) Labour Day (Schools Closed)

Sep 3 (T) Schools Open-

Sep 30 (M) Truth and Reconciliation Day (Schools Closed)

Oct 4 (F) School Improvement Day (students not in attendance)

Oct 14 (M) Thanksgiving (Schools Closed)

Oct 23 (W) 1 Hour Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher Interviews

Oct 24 (Th) 1 Hour Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher Interviews

Oct 25 (F) Professional Development Day (Provincial - students not in attendance)

Nov 8 (F) Learning Update Prep/Design and Assessment Day (students not in attendance)

Nov 11 (M) Remembrance Day (Schools Closed)

Nov 22 (F) Learning Updates Issued

Dec 20 (F) Last Day Prior to Winter Break

Jan 6 (M) Schools Re-Open After Winter Break

Jan 29 (W) Semester 2 Begins

Feb 7 (F) Learning Updates Issued

Feb 10 (M) Professional Development Day (District - students not in attendance)

Feb 17 (M) Family Day (Schools Closed)

Mar 12 (W) 1 Hour Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Interviews

Mar 13 (Th) 1 Hour Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Interviews

Mar 14 (F) Last Day Prior to Spring Break

Mar 31 (M) Schools Re-Open After Spring Break

Apr 11 (F) Learning Update Prep/Design and Assessment Day (students not in attendance)

Apr 18 (F) Good Friday (Schools Closed)

Apr 21 (M) Easter Monday (Schools Closed)

Apr 28 (M) Learning Updates Issued

May 16 (F) Professional Development Day (students not in attendance)

May 19 (M) Victoria Day (Schools Closed)

Jun 26 (Th) Final Learning Updates Issued & Last Day for Students Prior to Summer Vacation

Jun 27 (F) Administrative Day (students not in attendance)

July / August Summer Session



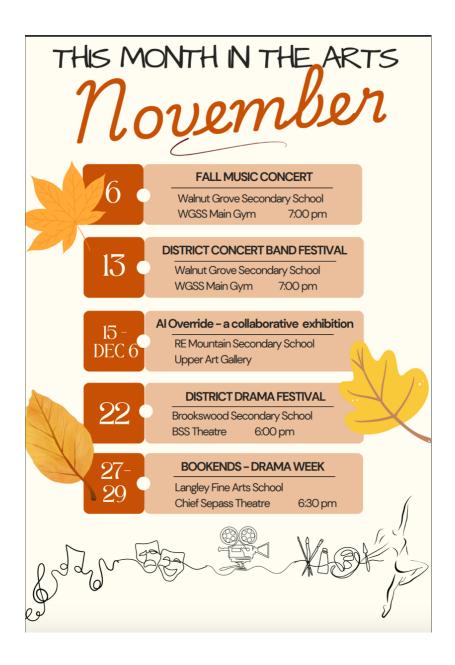


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Events

This Month in the Arts

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:







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2024/2025 Graduation

If you are a parent of a graduate, you may be interested in helping out with the **Dry Grad Committee** who can be reached at lssdrygrad@gmail.com

GRADS OF 2024 can swing by the office to pickup their official Graduation Diploma

Grad Photos

Graduation photos can now be booked online: **Book Here**

Our grad photo session is January 9 - 16 2025. There will be a mobile unit on our property where Grade 12's will take their photos. A \$60 deposit is required when booking, however will be refunded if you decide not to purchase. Your child will need to provide you with their student number in order to book.

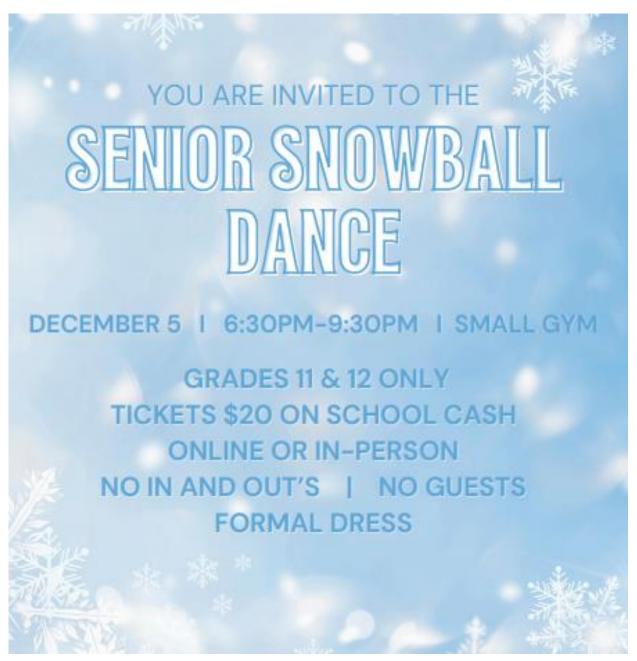
Any questions can be directed to Ms. Reid <u>breid@sd35.bc.ca</u> or Ms. Bezanson <u>mbezanson@sd35.bc.ca</u>





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2024/2025 Graduation cont'd







Issue #6

2024/2025 Graduation cont'd

Dry Grad

If you are a parent of a graduate, you may be interested in helping out with the Dry Grad Committee who can be reached at lssdrygrad@gmail.com

Dry Grad Event Info



Thank you to the students and parents that were able to help with the Winter Market!

Check out the Dry Grad site to get connected!





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2024/2025 Graduation cont'd

Tickets Available!

December 4th - 7pm - Vancouver Giants vs. Regina

January 3rd - 7pm - Vancouver Giants vs. Wenatchee



https://lssdrvgrad.square.site/fundraising-events

\$24 each

Purchase online with ticket delivery via email

Experience the thrill of live hockey with Vancouver Giants!

Don't miss these exciting matchups!

A portion of your ticket cost will be given back to the school to help fund dry grad events.

50/50 Draw during the game





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2024/2025 Graduation cont'd

Krispy Kreme Donut Days!! November 29th



\$15 per Dozen

Skip the Line & Pre-Purchase

https://lssdrygrad.square.site/fundraising-events



Quick Pick up. Proof of Purchase Required.

after school purchases available only if not sold out at lunch





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Career News

Hey LSS Thunderbirds staff and students here are the latest career events and field trips coming up this month. See Career Advisor Ms. Stuive or Mrs. Kiers for more info.

Hairstylist Workshop:

Applications are now <u>closed</u> for the Hairstylist Workshop. Students whose applications have been accepted will be notified next week via email/teams.

Opportunities

If you are interested in getting the latest District Careers info, consider checking out the Career Education Newsletter at https://careered.sd35.bc.ca/news-events/newsletters/





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Career News cont'd.

Electrical Workshop:

Students interested in getting a taste as to what the Youth Train in Trades Electrical program is like are encouraged to apply to attend this afternoon workshop. The workshop will take place December 17th at DW Poppy Secondary. Students are responsible for arranging their own transportation. Applications can be picked up from Ms. Stuive in the Careers Office (103b) and are due December 3rd.

ELECTRICAL WORKSHOP

DECEMBER 17, 2024 8:00 - 11:00am

See your Career Advisor for an Application! Applications due December 3, 2024



For Grade 10 & 11 students (and mature Grade 9s)





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Career News cont'd.

This week we have a guest speaker coming to the school during REP time (9:55 – 10:35am) in the Learning Commons to share about the Langley Youth RCMP Volunteer program. Students from any grade are welcome to sit in on these presentations as long as they obtain permission from their teacher to do so.

Langley Youth RCMP Volunteer Program Info Session - Thursday, November 28 at REP in the Learning Commons. Students in grades 9 – 12 interested in applying for the Langley Youth JR. Volunteer program are welcome to come and learn more from Officer Julie about what the program entails. Students are required to bring a blue hall permission slip to attend.

Youth RCMP Volunteer Opportunity



Come to the **Learning Commons** at **REP** (9:50am) Thursday, November 28th



to learn more about the Langley RCMP Youth Volunteer Program



NOTE: All students interested are welcome. Students are REQUIRED to bring a blue permission slip from C Block teacher.







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Career News cont'd.





Interested in studying at KPU?

Come to room A113 at lunch 11:50 - 12:25pm Tuesday, Nov 26th to learn more on how to apply to KPU, scholorships available, programs etc.



Kwantlen Polytechnic University Info Session

Tuesday, November26th at lunch in Rm.

A113

We will have a guest speaker from KPU come to share with students about how to apply to the university, the various programs that are available, and about scholarships/bursaries. Come on down to Rm. A113 at lunch to learn

more about KPU.





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Career News cont'd.



PIPING/PLUMBING WORKSHOP

THURSDAY | JAN 16, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Students in grade 9 - 11 are invited to join us for a workshop at Langley School District's Youth Train in Trades BCIT Piping/Plumbing Training Shop at Langley Secondary School to learn more about the Piping/Plumbing program.

Students will also learn about occupations related to the Piping/Plumbing industry and will be involved in some hands-on activities with current students. There will be plenty of time to ask questions!



See your Career Advisor for an Application!
Applications due December 19, 2024

Piping and Plumbing Workshop:

Students interested in getting a taste as to what the Youth Train in Trades
Piping and plumbing program is like are encouraged to apply to attend this afternoon workshop. The workshop will take place the morning of January 16th at Langley Secondary School.

Applications can be picked up from Ms. Stuive in the Careers Office (103b) and are due December 19th.

Now!





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Community News

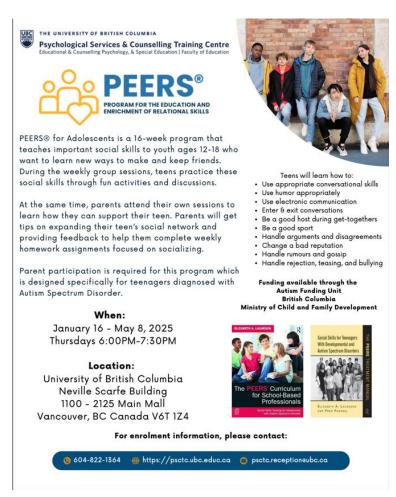
Youth Clinics

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

The Psychological Services and

Counselling Training Centre (PSCTC) at
the University of British Columbia will be
offering the PEERS® for Adolescents
program which is a clinical service that
families may access through their
Autism funding in the province. PEERS®
is a program for youth with an Autism
Spectrum Disorder (ages 12-18) and
their parents. The goal is to increase the
social skills of youth with to help make
and keep friends.

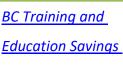






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Community News cont'd



Program Grant

Education Savings Week is November 18th - 22nd. In support, please share *this letter* with families/guardians of students in Kindergarten thru Grade 3 to let them know their child may be eligible for a one-time \$1,200 BC Training and Education Savings Grant for their post-secondary education or training.



November 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Government of British Columbia is pleased to inform you that your child may be able to receive the **\$1,200 B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant**.

Children may be eligible if:

- $\hfill\square$ The parent or guardian, and the child, are B.C. residents, and
- \square The child is between the age of 6 and the day before turning 9.

Once you open an account, known as a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP), and apply for the B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant (BCTESG), \$1,200 will be deposited into the RESP for your child. Students can then use the money to pay for post-secondary education or training expenses.

Plan today: you don't have to put any money into the RESP to receive the 1,200.

Step 1: Get Social Insurance Numbers (SINs) for you and your child. Go to http://www.canada.ca/social-insurance-number to find out how.

Step 2: Make an appointment with one of 56 financial organizations that offers the BCTESG. A list of partners is available here: https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/canada-education-savings/resp-promoters-list.html

Bring the SINs for you and your child and proof of B.C. residency and say: "I want to open an RESP and get the B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant for my child."

Learn more:

BCTESG homepage QR Code



BCTESG homepage URL https://www2.gov.bc.ca/BCTESG

Question? Contact: <u>BCTESG@gov.bc.ca</u> Your child may also be eligible for other, federal incentives, see: <u>https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/education-savings.html.</u>

Ministry of Education and Child Care Student Information, Data, and Education Network Services Mailing address: PO Box 9886 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9T6 Location: 620 Superior St Victoria BC V8W 9H8





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Community News cont'd

PAC Meetings 2024-2025

October 21, 2024

November 18, 2024

January 20, 2025

February 24, 2025

April 28, 2025

May 26, 2025 – AGM

Thank you to the PAC Committee and the AVID student volunteers for their work with the LSS Winter Market. The market proved to be a successful fundraising event with many vendors selling goods. We appreciate the support for our students at LSS.





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Community News cont'd

Music Department

The musicians have been busy demonstrating their talents in the Fall Concert at LSS and the District Concert Band Festival at Walnut Grove Secondary. This was followed with a tour to Vancouver Island to participate in the Comox Valley Music Festival. The scores from the ajudicators rank Excellent! Excellent scores and several Superior scores landed in the areas of Sound, Technique, Muscality, and Presentation. In addition, Superior scores were earned throughout the clinics with attitude, responsiveness, concentration and sight reading. Well done to all the music students who participated and a big thank you to our Band Director, Patti Thorpe and to the parents for the support.









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Community News cont'd







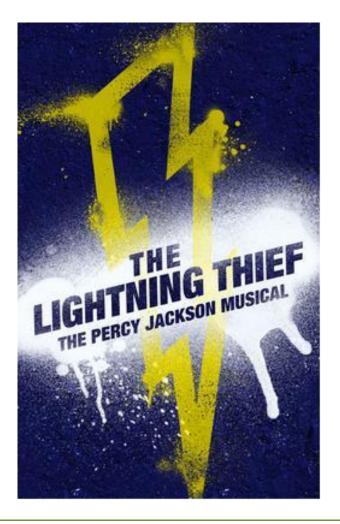
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Community News cont'd

We are pleased to announce we have secured the rights to "The Lightning Thief: a Percy Jackson Musical"

The kids are thrilled. It's a very modern broadway musical, small rock band. Only one other group locally has done it, and we are one of the first in Canada to perform it.

Dates are Feb 27, 28, March 1, 6, 7, 8 at 7pm. Matinee's March 1, 8 at 2 pm.







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Communication

Communication Tools

In order for us to collectively best support students, it is crucial that communication lines are open and efficient. We have a few structures in place to help share information. Please be sure you utilize the following: Thunderbird Chronicle: Good communication between home and school is a critical factor in student success. We encourage parents to read the monthly newsletter "Thunderbird Chronicle" and pay attention to school emails for important information. We welcome your involvement, and your suggestions.

Please feel free to communicate with us, by following:

Website: https://lss.sd35.bc.ca/

Instagram: @langleysecondary. @lssthunderbirds. @lsscareers





Support Services

School Based Team (SBT):

The Resource lead chairs a meeting of teachers and an administrator, plus School District support staff twice a month. Meetings are scheduled to discuss the needs of individual students, referred by teachers, and to brainstorm suggestions for their support.

English Language Learner Support (ELL):

ELL support teachers work with students for whom English is their second language.

Aboriginal Support Worker:

Our Aboriginal Support Workers, Danielle Smith and Amy Poirier work with our Aboriginal students for academic and cultural support.

Youth Care Worker:

Our two Youth Care Workers, Diaz Kambere and Maina Manodon assist both students and families with ways of





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coping with and correcting negative behaviours, making friends and finding success.

Feeding Futures

A breakfast program runs every morning for students who wish to participate. The Feeding Futures Program is intended to offer food for those in need. Healthy nourishment is vital to set student's up for success as they put their minds to work in class.

Canuel Caters offers Lunch which is also served daily Thank you!

Math Tutors Available

If you or your student are looking for a math tutor this semester, Mr. Vanbergen has a list of students who would be excellent candidates to support your student. Please reach out to your math teacher or counsellor for some possible options.

Homework Club

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday room 114 – 3 – 3:45pm





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Information About School Status During Inclement Weather

Snow closures and power outages are an annual occurrence in 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 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.

Student Safety in Schools (Middle/Secondary Schools)

The Langley School District is committed to fostering safe and caring schools that promote mutual respect, cooperation, and social responsibility, and support optimal learning. Trauma Informed Practices and Procedures promote the creation and maintenance of safe, inclusive, equitable, welcoming, and nurturing school environments. The District expects all students to follow the Student Code of Conduct AP 350. The District is sharing a reminder that no one can have "any weapon for any purpose" on school property. This means that weapons are not allowed to be used as part of an educational project, drama production, or themed costume. Examples of weapons include but are not limited to knives, brass knuckles, swords, decommissioned firearms, replicas, air soft guns, bb guns, and toy guns. The possession or use of fireworks, firecrackers, explosives, or similar devices or objects is also prohibited on school property. Failure to follow these expectations may result in confiscation, intervention, and consequences.





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Emergency Procedures & Response

Health and safety are a priority in the Langley School District. Schools follow emergency procedures to ensure students, staff, and any visitors in our schools or sites are safe when unexpected incidents or events happen. At the start of every school year, administrators, teachers, and staff review these emergency procedures. Schools practice a set number of drills annually in preparation for unexpected situations. The district encourages families to become familiar with these staff emergency procedures and the drills that are completed in our schools. You can read them in the Staff Emergency Procedures Poster here or find them posted in areas throughout our buildings. If you have any questions or concerns about emergency procedures, please get in contact with your child's teacher or administrator.

See next page for poster/procedures





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Parent Marshalling Areas

In the case of an emergency and a school is cordoned off or unavailable to parents, we will need to have an alternate site where parents can congregate and get important updates from the District.

The marshalling area for LSS parents and guardians is the Twin Rinks parking lot at 5700 Langley Bypass.

STAFF EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

LOCKDOWN

Used in response to an armed or dangerous assailant WITHIN the school

- ☐ Gather people in your vicinity into a secure room do this quickly
- ☐ Close and secure doors
- ☐ Turn off lights, be quiet, get down low/behind heavy furniture, get out of sight
- ☐ Silence all cell phones and ask that they be placed face down on floor
- $\hfill\square$ Alert other occupants by any means available and/or call 911 only if safe to do so OR Leave Safe. If no secure area is available and a safe exit is, then quickly leave the area/school. Report to the designated assembly area and await

*Normal activities in the school cease. Await police response.

HOLD & SECURE

Used if there is a security concern in the neighbourhood ☐ Bring everyone into the school and remain inside

- □ Secure exterior doors and windows
- ☐ Close exterior window blinds/drapes (if available)
- □ No one may enter or exit the school during Hold & Secure
- *Typically normal activities continue WITHIN the school.

EVACUATE

Used to move people out of the school when a hazard exists inside

- ☐ Direct students and other staff to exit the school via the shortest safe route
- ☐ Report to and assemble outside at the designated assembly site
- *Principal or designate will determine next steps.

SHELTER IN PLACE

Used if an environmental hazard may impact the school

- ☐ Bring everyone into the school and remain indoors
- ☐ Secure exterior doors and windows
- ☐ Close exterior window blinds/drapes (if available)
- ☐ Turn off all ventilation systems (if locally available/situation dependent) ☐ Staff designates will monitor access to the school via the main entrance
- Access may be denied if a risk exists that ieopardizes the safety of occupants
- *Typically normal activities continue WITHIN the school.

ROOM CLEAR

Used to move people away from a hazard contained in one room/area

- ☐ Direct students to leave the room/area and report to designated area (Ex. Library)
- ☐ Summon assistance as needed and appropriate (Ex. call First Aid Attendant, Principal/Vice Principal, 911)
- Staff should remain to manage the situation or exit if the room is unsafe.

DROP, COVER & HOLD ON

Used in the event of an earthquake, explosion, or any event that shakes the school

- ☐ Quickly move away from obvious hazards
- DROP low to the ground
- ☐ Cover take COVER under a sturdy table, desks, furniture, or other large sturdy
- ☐ HOLD ON to the furniture you are under and stay there until the shaking stops After the shaking stops, wait 60 seconds and then EVACUATE via the shortest safe route. Report to and assemble outside at the designated assembly site.

*Principal or other designate will determine next steps.



EMERGENCY TERMINOLOGY QUICK REFERENCE

SCHOOL DRILLS

FIRE

- 6 drills per year
 3 per semester

EARTHQUAKE

- 2 drills per year
 October -

LOCKDOWN

· 3 drills per year

PLACE

year with all