

Gator News #2

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students and Families:

This past week our students and staff spent time honouring the first ever National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Ms. Kelly, our Indigenous Worldviews and Perspectives department head, put together a wonderful array of activities for students to be able to engage in conversations about Truth and Reconciliation. She acknowledged that there are two parts to Truth and Reconciliation that are equally important. First, the idea of truth. This is a necessary first step to take as a non-Indigenous person in terms of listening and learning about the generational impacts of residential schools on Indigenous families and culture. Second, the idea of reconciliation. What steps and actions can we take as non-Indigenous people, and as a society to work towards reconciliation?



Below is a sampling of activities that were done in classrooms this week. There are also some photos that show the work that was done throughout the week. I encourage you to look through some of them and continue the conversation as a family. Much thanks and appreciation to Ms. Kelly for putting together these resources and thank you to all of our staff and students who engaged with open hearts and open minds as they approached the difficult work of Truth and Reconciliation.

- **Video** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zuRQmwaREY>
Namwayut: We are all one - Chief Robert Joseph shares his experience as a residential school survivor and the importance of truth and reconciliation in Canada. (4-minute animated video that shows a **brief** history of residential schools, the impact, and introduces reconciliation – much of this will hopefully be a gentle reminder of the reason for the day)
- **Watch** <https://youtu.be/E291mvuYp7k>
Remember Me by Fawn Wood (4-minute song with historical photos and present-day images of the finding of the 215)



- After viewing, **discuss** the significance of the findings.
Discussion questions:
Do the findings set us back on our path towards reconciliation, or do they move us forward?
What is the significance for the various groups? Families of the children that never came home, survivors, government, church leaders, communities where the findings are uncovered...
- **Set an intention** together. Ask students if there is something you can all do to ensure we honour the lives of the children that never came home?
- A video from one of our local First Nations communities, Katzie First Nation, which discusses some key ideas about engaging in work around Truth and Reconciliation.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtR331kTFG0&feature=share>

Thank you again to all our students and staff who engaged in this important work this week.

Sincerely,

J. Lyndon
Principal





Gator News #2

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, October 11	Thanksgiving Day, school closed
Tuesday, October 12	PAC meeting @ 7 PM in the WGSS Library
Wednesday, October 13	School Photo Retake Day
Wednesday, October 13	Interim Reports will be sent home with students
Wednesday, October 20	Parent/teacher interviews, early dismissal at 1:55PM
Thursday, October 21	Parent/teacher interviews, early dismissal at 1:55PM
Thursday, October 21	Last day of Grade 8 Term 1 electives
Friday, October 22	Provincial Pro D Day, students do not attend
Monday, October 25	First day of Grade 8 Term 2 electives

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR SCHOOL

Schools and families continue to work together to ensure success for students. If you have an issue or concern but don't know who to speak with, the District encourages you to read these helpful Communicating with your School guidelines for parents/guardians found on our District website [here](#). As an additional reference, review this one page resource [here](#).

ASSESSMENT PRACTICES

There are changes coming to secondary schools with respect to our assessment practices as well as to how we communicate student learning. Please click on the link [here](#) to see a letter which outlines the changes that are coming as we shift to proficiency scales as an assessment tool moving forward. In addition, there is a virtual Parent Information Evening coming up on October 14th, which I encourage families to attend.

PROGRAMS OF CHOICE – REGISTRATION PERIOD IS OCTOBER 4 - OCTOBER 20, 2021

Langley School District offers a rich diversity of programs that are designed to meet the specific needs and interests of students. Programs include Fine Arts, French Immersion, Fundamental, Langley Environmental Awareness Program (outdoor education), Montessori, U-Connect, and Career Education Programs (secondary). The registration period begins October 4, 2021 and ends October 20, 2021. For more information and instructions to register your child, visit our District website [here](#) and review our FAQ choice programs resource [here](#).



Gator News

#2

VENTILATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Schools continue to follow COVID-19 guidelines as set out by the Ministry of Education and Provincial Health Office. In an effort to communicate health and safety measures to students, staff, and families, the District is sharing an infographic about ventilation system improvements which have been implemented over the last two years. View infographic [here](#). The District will be making further upgrades this fall. If you have any questions, please email the District: feedback@sd35.bc.ca.

UPDATED DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Our District's procedure is for all students to complete a daily health check at home prior to entering school and/or boarding a District bus. The Ministry of Education's Daily Health Check poster has been updated to reflect new federal regulations regarding international travel. The symptoms listed remain the same. You can find the updated print version [here](#). The updated version is being translated into multiple languages, which will be posted to the Ministry's COVID-19 Safe Schools website [here](#). Families can also continue to use the Ministry's mobile app or online version [here](#). You will also find the most up-to-date COVID information including the updated mask mandate at <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/news-events/district-board-news/ministry-updates-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>

BC VACCINATION STATUS REPORTING REGULATION FOR STUDENTS

Fraser Health is sharing information with families regarding the BC Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation for Students. Vaccine reporting, which is a regulation that has been in effect since 2019, supports the gathering of immunization data and to offer immunizations in school settings. Examples of routine immunizations offered to Grade 6/7 and 9/10 students may include Chickenpox (varicella) vaccine, Hepatitis B vaccine, and Meningococcal Quadrivalent vaccine. **These in-school immunizations do not include the COVID-19 vaccine.** The District will continue to assist Fraser Health in this process including distributing and collecting information and accommodating public health staff on school sites. As always, our schools will continue to follow all COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Please read this letter from Fraser Health [here](#). WGSS will provide more information to families once our immunization dates have been confirmed with Fraser Health.



Gator News #2

PARENT CONSENTS

This year, parent permission consents were sent via email through a District online form rather than on paper. If you haven't already completed the permissions, please do so ASAP.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

New this year, WGSS has posted your child's Student Verification form through MYEDBC. This form contains your contact information, as well as your child's emergency contacts. We ask that you log into your Parent MYEDBC account and review the contact details to be sure the information is accurate. If you require any changes or updates, you can either print off the form, write your corrections and have your child return the form to the office, or contact the office at 604-882-0220 to provide your updated information.

Instructions or help with logging into your Parent MYEDBC account can be found here: <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/students-parents/myedbc-family-portal-help/>

WGSS YEARBOOK & NEWSLETTER CONSENT FORM

Your child(ren) has signed a Yearbook Consent Form this year to provide consent to be in our yearbook and WGSS newsletters. If you would like to change that permission, please contact our office at 604-882-0220.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos/ID cards were distributed to students during their A Block class today. If you did not order photos and would like to, please contact Vibrant Photos directly at 604-380-3388. You will need the .jpeg file number shown under the photo on the ID card. If your student missed photo day, retakes will be done on Wednesday, October 13. Students can pick up an order form from the main office. Please note that we do not do retakes for ID cards.



Gator News #2

THANK YOU!

WGSS would like to give a shout-out to the Taryn Guiel Real Estate Team for their recent donation of fully supplied backpacks and miscellaneous school supplies. Donations also went to elementary schools in the Walnut Grove catchment. Your generosity is appreciated!





Gator News

#2

VIRTUAL POST-SECONDARY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Join **WGSSCareers** on **Instagram** to be alerted to additional opportunities. The virtual events listed are hyperlinked to a registration and additional information.

Event	Date	Time	Link
Post-Secondary BC	Friday, Sept. 24 – and ongoing	Registration Opens	PS BC Virtual
Queen’s University – Info. Session	Tuesday, Oct. 5	8:00 am – 9:00 am EST	Queen’s Virtual
SFU – Try/Catch 2021 Computer Science (Gr 8-12 Girls)	Saturday, Oct. 2 + Sunday, Oct. 3	11:00 am – 4:00 pm	SFU Virtual
KPU – Virtual Open House	Saturday, Oct. 2	12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	KPU – Open House Virtual
Vancouver Film School – Open House	Saturday, Oct. 2	10:00 am – 1:00 pm	VFS Open House Virtual
Experience VIU – Open House	Saturday, Oct. 2	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	VIU Open House Virtual
U of Calgary – Open House	Saturday, Oct. 2	10 am – 2pm MDT	U of Calgary Virtual
BCIT – Big Info: At Home Event	October 4-7	4:00 pm – 8:00 pm	BCIT Virtual
UBC – Occupational Therapy Info. Session	Thursday, Oct. 7	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	UBC – OT Virtual
Douglas – Potential Nursing Applicants – Info. Session	Tuesday, Oct. 12	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Douglas – Nursing Virtual
SFU – Indigenous Info. Session	Tuesday, Oct. 12	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	SFU – Indigenous Virtual
UBC – Sustainability for our Future (Gr. 12 girls)	Saturday, Oct. 16	10:00 am – 3:00 pm	UBC Geering Up UBC Campus
U of Guelph – Info. Session	Monday, Oct. 18	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	U of Guelph Virtual
UBC – Sustainability for our Future (Gr. 11-12 girls)	Thursday, Oct. 21	4:30 pm – 6:30 pm	UBC Geering Up Virtual
U of T – Fall Campus Week	Week of Oct. 23-30	Various	U of T Open House Virtual
BC Children’s Hospital – Research Symposium	Monday, Oct. 25	8:30 am – 11:00 am	BCCH - Research Virtual



Gator News #2

CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES EVENT



50+ INSTITUTIONS | SEPT 27, 28, 29 | OCT 2, 4, 5, 6 | JAN 12, 20

Connect with university reps from across Canada & learn more about your post-secondary options!

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Acadia University | Mount Allison University | University of Waterloo |
| Alberta University of the Arts | Mount Royal University | Vancouver Island University |
| Bishop's University | Mount Saint Vincent University | Western University |
| Brescia University College | Nipissing University | York University |
| Brock University | Ontario Tech University | Simon Fraser University |
| Burman University | Queen's University | St Francis Xavier |
| Capilano University | Quest University Canada | St Thomas University |
| Carleton University | Royal Military College | The King's University |
| Concordia University | Ryerson University | Thompson Rivers University |
| Concordia University of Edmonton | Saint Mary's University | Trent University |
| Dalhousie University | University of Lethbridge | Trinity Western University |
| Emily Carr University | University of Manitoba | Université de Saint-Boniface |
| Fairleigh Dickinson University | University of New Brunswick | University of Alberta |
| Huron University College | University of Northern BC | University of British Columbia |
| King's University College | University of Ottawa | University of Calgary |
| Kwantlen Polytechnic University | University of Prince Edward Island | University of Fraser Valley |
| MacEwan University | University of Regina | University of Guelph |
| Marine Institute | Université de Saint-Boniface | University of Guelph-Humber |
| Memorial University | University of Saskatchewan | University of King's College |
| | University of Victoria | |





Gator News #2



POST-SECONDARY BC FOR STUDENTS FOR PARENTS FOR COUNSELLORS 🔍 Institution Directory Education Explorer News

www.postsecondarybc.ca STUDENT REGISTRATIONS OPEN SEPT 24th @ 9:00am

Find your post-secondary future at the 2021 PSBC Virtual Fair!



- Watch live presentations from 29 post-secondary schools across BC
- Connect with institutional representatives through text and video chat
- Download program information and watch additional video content
- Sign up easily for more information from any institution
- Door Prizes: Every student who visits the fair will be automatically entered into a draw for one of twenty-five \$100 Amazon gift cards.
- Survey Prizes: Fill out our Guest Survey after the event, and you'll be entered into a separate draw for another \$100 Amazon Gift Card.

7 DAYS TO CHOOSE FROM: October 7 & 19 / November 3, 9 & 18 / December 1 & 7
VIRTUAL FAIR OPEN FROM 9:00 am to 7:00 pm on these dates



Gator News #2

Current Volunteer Opportunities

Register at [BETTERCOMMUNITY.CA](https://www.bettercommunity.ca) for 30+ opportunities. Create a profile and get matched with an organization that aligns with your interests. Some examples include

- Langley Pos-Abilities Society – Working with people with disabilities, this is a great option if you want to go into the health care. The volunteer program coordinator is an employee of Fraser Health and Medical student.
- Langley Volunteer Bureau: Positions include events, Cards for Seniors and general volunteering throughout the community
- Langley Arts Council – Promote arts and culture, develop new skills, and gain skills that can be presented on a resume!
- Langley Rivermen – Help during games with numinous activates generally on Friday or Saturday evenings at George Princeton Rec Centre.

For these and more volunteering opportunities come and see Mrs. McGee in Room 120!

Health Services Career Spotlight Session

Learn about the different careers in Health Service. Presenters from various backgrounds in this field will talk about their occupations as well as their career journeys. Q & A to follow each speaker.

When: October 20th

Time: 3:15 -4:15 PM

Plate: Virtual

Registration: [TBA](#)

Girls Fly 2

Girls Fly 2 is one of the world's largest diversity outreach events of its kind to inspire female future leaders from shop floor to top floor in Aviation, Aerospace, Marine & Defence. Everyone of any age, gender or citizenship is welcome to attend - FREE!

Date: October 2nd and 3rd

Time: 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Where: Abbotsford International Airport

Click [HERE](#) for more information



Gator News #2

BC Youth in Parliament

Every year, between December 27th and 31st, 97 representatives of youth organizations ages 16-21 from across British Columbia gather at the Provincial Legislature in Victoria. Due to COVID-19 the 2020 Parliamentary Session will be virtual.

Application Deadline: October 26th
Click [HERE](#) for more information or to apply

Discovery Days in Health Science

[Discovery Days in Health Sciences](#) is a one-day event that give secondary school students and teachers the opportunity to explore a variety of career options in medicine and the health sciences.

The next Discovery Days in Health Sciences is scheduled virtually for Tuesday, November 16, 2021 from 8:30 am - 12:15 pm.

For more info click [HERE](#)

FREE First Aid Training

The Langley Youth Hub is excited to announce that they will be hosting two **Free First Aid Trainings: October 22nd** and **November 12th** (both Pro-D days).

Spots are limited, so any interested youth age 12-24 need to call the **Langley Youth Hub at 604-546-1130** to secure a spot or ask Ms. McGee for more info.