



Gator News #3

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This past week our students and staff spent time honouring the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Ms. Brasnett, our Indigenous Worldviews and Perspectives department head, and Ms. Beaudry, our Aboriginal Support Worker, 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. One of the misconceptions about this first idea is that we have learned the truth already and we don't need to do that anymore. Seeking to understand is something that will always be a part of this important day and a critical piece to Truth and Reconciliation. The process will be ongoing, and our understanding and compassion will continue to deepen. Second, the idea of reconciliation. What steps and actions can we take as non-Indigenous people, and as a society to work towards reconciliation? These are important questions that our students and staff considered as part of the learning and

activities that were put together for Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Here is a link to a video from April of 2022 that was offered to classroom teachers to facilitate conversations in the classroom around Truth and Reconciliation: please [click here to view](#).

Much thanks and appreciation to Ms. Brasnett and Ms. Beaudry, for putting together these resources and thank you to our staff and students who engaged with open hearts and open minds as they approached the difficult work of Truth and Reconciliation.





Thursday, October 13 is our Interim Report Day. All our students will be getting an update from all their semester courses. This is a great opportunity for families to connect with their children about their progress. We would encourage you to ask your children for their interim when they arrive home. The interim can also provide some discussion points for our Parent/Teacher Interviews.

Those interviews will take place the following week on October 19 and 20. As you know, separate, detailed information has been communicated about how to sign up and the details in terms of schedule. The information is repeated later in this newsletter and is also available on our website. I do encourage you to please make those connections with your child's teachers. It is an invaluable way to stay involved and informed with your student's education and also to have any questions answered about your child's progress.



As we enter the weekend, we continue to have wonderful, summer-like, weather. I hope you and your family have a chance to connect, relax and consider and appreciate the people and things in your lives for which you are thankful.

Have great Thanksgiving long weekend everyone.

Sincerely,

J. Lyndon

Proud Principal



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UPCOMING DATES

Monday, October 10	Thanksgiving Day (school closed)
Tuesday, October 11	PAC meeting, WGSS Library @ 7:00PM
Wednesday, October 12	School Photo Retake Day by appointment
Thursday, October 13	Interim Reports will be given to students
Wednesday, October 19	Parent/Teacher Interviews, early dismissal @ 1:55PM
Thursday, October 20	Parent/Teacher Interviews, early dismissal @ 1:55PM
Friday, October 21	Pro D Day (students do not attend)
Tuesday, October 25	WGSS Club Day
Tuesday, October 25	Dry Grad 2023 parent meeting, WGSS Library @ 6:30PM
Thursday, October 27	Grad Cruise 2023
Friday, November 11	Remembrance Day, (school closed)
Friday, November 18	Design & Assessment Day (students do not attend)
Saturday, November 19	WGSS Artisan Fair, 10AM – 4:30PM

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Our school has had a few of our local businesses contact us recently. They have asked us to remind our students and families about proper conduct when they are in public and being respectful of others in our community. We are hoping that families can remind their children that we are a part of a larger community, and they need to be mindful and respectful of others in stores, on the sidewalks and at the Community Centre.

BUS ETIQUETTE

A reminder for all families to make sure that you are not stopping or parking in the yellow bus lane in our parking lot in front of the school. Please give the bus space when they pull into our driveway and when the bus pulls out, please make room for them to leave. Thanks so much!

DO YOU KNOW A 2022 GRAD?

Ministry of Education Dogwood diplomas are available for pick-up from the Counselling Centre, 8:00AM-3:00PM.



AMAZING GATORS DOING GREAT THINGS!

WGSS is celebrating 2022 graduate Trinity Prodanuk for earning a perfect score on a college-level Advanced Placement (AP) Exam in spring 2022. While many of our students were successful on a variety of AP exams, Trinity was one of only 306 students **in the world** to earn every point possible on the AP Research Exam!

The AP Research Exam is a university-level research paper that is the end product of students spending eight months researching a topic of their choice, developing an argument, collecting data to fill a gap, and forming a new conclusion to add to the current body of research knowledge. Students then orally defend a 5000-word paper. Trinity's idea for her paper began with an interest in how colour influences people; her finished research paper was titled, "To what extent do eighth and ninth-grade students at Walnut Grove Secondary rely on their own understanding of colour and facial expression to come to an emotional and contextual understanding of a story spoken in a foreign language through perceived valence?"

Throughout her two-year AP Capstone program at WGSS, Trinity embraced the opportunity to learn about credible research, writing and presentation skills necessary for success in university. She applied herself to her work diligently and problem-solved her way through challenges. Her achievement in the program is exceptional and we are beyond proud of her. We are pleased to be one of only three public schools in BC accredited to offer AP Capstone to students who take AP Seminar in Grade 11 and AP Research in Grade 12.





PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

WGSS is offering online booking for Parent/Teacher Interviews. This system allows you to select your appointments to suit your schedule. It will also allow you to coordinate meeting times if you have more than one child. This program is simple and easy to use. You will have the option to choose an in-person interview or a Teams interview.

You will be able to register your student(s) and book your interviews online beginning **Thursday, October 13 at 3:30 PM until noon on Monday, October 17 for Parent/Teacher Interviews on October 19 and 20, 2022.**

Parent Registration

Please go to www.wgss.schoolappointments.com, click on the "Register" tab and fill in the registration form to create an account. Once you have successfully registered, you can login to the system using your new user ID and password. You must register **each** of your children with the "add a student" button. **Please note that even if you registered for appointments in previous sessions, you must re-register for the October 2022 session.**

To Book Appointments

Select Teachers

You can schedule appointments for any student you have added to the system by clicking on the "Book Appointments" icon to the right of the student's name. You are then taken to a page where you can select the teachers with whom you wish to meet. Multiple teachers can be selected by using the "Ctrl" key on a PC keyboard or the "Command" key on a Mac keyboard. You will also choose your meeting-type option here.

Teacher Appointment Calendars

You will be shown the calendars of the selected teachers. It shows appointment times that are available for booking. You may select appointment times by simply clicking the check boxes or by clicking in the time block beside the check box. Once an appointment time has been selected it will change to green.

It is not possible for you to select more than one appointment at the same time or to select more than one appointment with the same teacher.



Parents with More Than One Student

If you have more than one student at the school, the teacher appointment calendars will have an additional feature displayed when the second (or third, etc.) student bookings are made. If a sibling has an appointment booked, the student's name will be displayed for you, thus making it easier to book adjacent appointments.

Appointments Booked Successfully

Once the appointments are booked the screen will display the list of appointments for the student. If you click on the "Return to Home Page" button, you will return to the home page with your students and appointments listed. You can book additional appointments or book appointments for another student.

Printing Parent Appointment Schedule

From the home page it is possible for you to generate a PDF document with the list of your appointments. By clicking on the "Print Appointments" button a window will pop-up asking you what you wish to do with the document. Google Chrome is the recommended browser to use.

Parent Schedule PDF

The generated PDF will list the appointment times, the student, and the teacher with whom the appointment is booked.

Using Teams

If you are having your meeting on Teams, your teacher will email with the meeting link prior to October 19 and 20. You can use your phone, tablet, laptop, or desktop for the meeting. If you are using a phone or tablet, you will need to download the app. [Please click here](#) for a short video showing you how to access the meeting.

Reminder: You will not be able to register or book an appointment until the session opens on Thursday, October 13 at 3:30 PM.



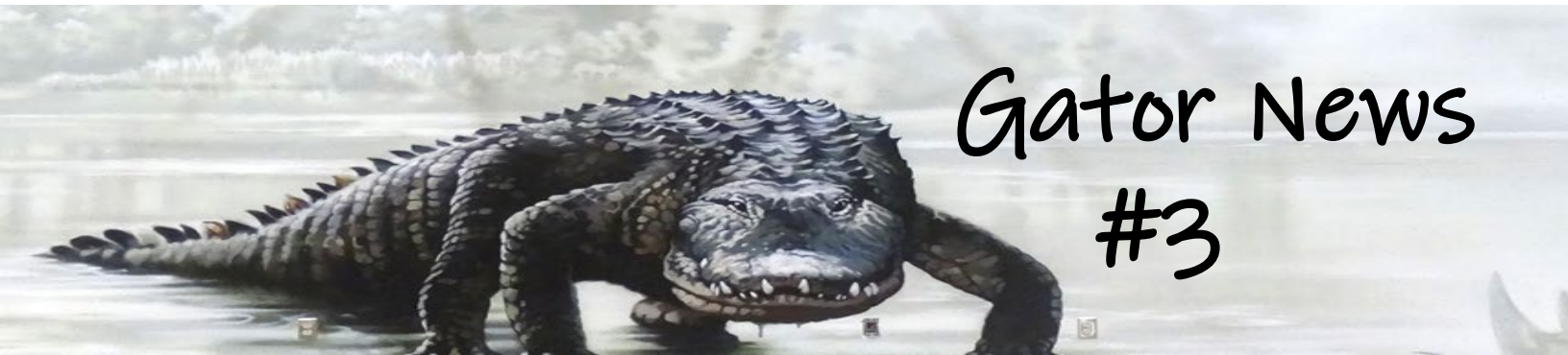
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VIRTUAL POST-SECONDARY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

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
Canadian University Event	Tuesday, Oct. 11	6:30 – 9:00 pm	CUE - Burnaby
CUE – Langley	Thursday, Oct. 13	12:30 – 1:15 pm	Langley Event Centre, Banquet Room
UBC – Engineering Open House	Oct. 13 – Oct. 15	Various	UBC
BCIT – Big Info Session	Monday, Oct. 17	4:00 – 7:00 pm	BCIT Virtual
U of Toronto – Info Session	Tuesday, Oct. 18	REP Time	WGSS Library
Douglas – Info Session	Tuesday, Oct. 18	5:00 – 6:00 pm	Douglas Virtual
2022 Trade Expo	Oct. 19 + Oct. 20	9:00 am – 2:30 pm	Agriplex Cloverdale
SFU – Applied Science Info	Thursday, Oct. 20	4:30 – 5:30 pm	SFU (Burnaby)
Douglas – Info Session	Thursday, Oct. 20	5:00 – 6:00 pm	Douglas Virtual
KPU – Fashion Marketing Session	Thursday, Oct. 20	6:00 – 7:00 pm	KPU Richmond
SFU – Environment Events	Friday, Oct. 21	9:45 am – 2:00 pm	SFU Burnaby
UBC – Sustainability – Gr. 11 Girls	Friday, Oct. 21	4:30 – 6:30 pm	UBC Virtual
TRU – Open House	Saturday, Oct. 22	9:30 am – 2:30 pm	TRU Campus



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UFV – Open House	Saturday, Oct. 22	10:00 am – 2:00 pm	UFV Abbotsford
U of Calgary – Open House	Saturday, Oct. 22	10:00 am – 2:00 pm	U of Calgary In Person
SFU – Try/Catch 2021 Computer Science (Gr 8-12 Girls)	Saturday, Oct. 22	11:00 am – 4:00 pm	SFU
TWU – Info Session	Monday, Oct. 24	REP Time	WGSS Library
KPU – Info Session	Tuesday, Oct. 25	REP Time	WGSS Library
SFU – Info Session	Tuesday, Oct. 25	3:00 – 4:00 pm	WGSS Library
Queen’s – Info Session	Wed., Oct. 26	REP Time	WGSS Library
KPU – Fashion Info Session	Wed., Oct. 26	5:00 – 6:00 pm	KPU Virtual
VCC – Open House	Wed., Oct. 26	4:00 – 6:00 pm	VCC - Vancouver
U of Calgary – Info Session	Thursday, Oct. 27	REP Time	Multipurpose Room
Discover TWU	Thursday, Oct. 27	4:30 – 5:30 pm	TWU Virtual
SFU Surrey – Open House	Thursday, Oct. 27	4:00 – 8:00 pm	SFU - Surrey
Langara – 2D Animation Info	Friday, Oct. 28	9:00 – 10:00 am	Langara Virtual



Language Challenge Exam Registration – WGSS Deadline – October 12

Language Challenge Test Information

- “Challenge Tests” are available through the Delta School District primarily for students who have a second (or third) language but who do not have the equivalence or external language credits on their high school transcript.
- A student is eligible for Equivalency if they have studied the language in their home country up to Grade 8 and/or 9 level.
- If a student wishes to write a Challenge Test, they are able to participate in a formal evaluation of a Grade 11 and/or 12 Language course in order to receive credit with a percentage mark on their transcript. It is a strong recommendation, given the mature level of understanding required in the challenge activities, that students challenge the Grade 11 course while they are in Grade 10 and **not** before.
- Note: The Language Challenge Exam will meet the Language Entrance requirement for university. However, not all institutions will use it in the calculation for their entrance GPA (e.g. UBC and U of T will not use it as an academic course).
- The student registration packages for are available online. WGSS students who wish to write the test should complete the [fillable registration package](#) (please do not handwrite the information). Then print pages 9-11, and bring those pages with a passport photo, and cheque, made payable to Delta School District. ISP students will bring their completed package to Mr. Janzen (ISP Coordinator); non-ISP students will bring their completed package to Ms. Kifiak in the Counselling Centre for signature. We would like to have all application packages before **Wednesday, October 12** so there is time to process them and get them to SD35 who in turn sends them to [Delta School District](#) by the November deadline.



DRY GRAD 2023

Meet your Dry Grad 2023 Committee:

Committee Chair:	Jennifer Smith
Vice Chair:	Natalie Wise
Secretary:	Csilla Wilson
Treasurer:	Connie Tunke
Fundraising:	Brie Walmsley and Karen Moore
Communication:	Vacant
Event Management:	TBA

The next Dry Grad parent/guardian meeting is Tuesday, October 25 at 6:30PM in the WGSS Library. All parents/guardians of graduates are welcome to attend.

To keep Grad 2023 families informed of Dry Grad news and events, we ask that you send your name and email address to wgssdrygrad2023@gmail.com so we can add you to our mailing list.