



## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

Welcome back to all our Gator families to another school year! I do hope that you and yours had a wonderful Summer and that you are ready for another great year at WGSS! As a staff, we are so pleased to have our students back with us! On Tuesday we welcomed our grade 8s and our new students to the building. Our Gator Quality Ambassadors helped to orient our new Gators to the school and welcome them with open arms. Here you can see a video of Mr. Juteau talking about how we transition our new Gators to WGSS: [WGSS First Day](#). There is an abundance of lively energy that our students bring which has made this week so rewarding and enjoyable. A huge thank you to our students and their families for making our first week back at school a wonderful one. I would be remiss if I didn't thank the staff at WGSS! They have done a fabulous job of welcoming our students back and of course for helping our students to settle into a new school year. Thank you everyone for making our first week back at WGSS a successful one.

We hope you had the opportunity to read the District's Welcome Back letter to families. If not, you can find it [here](#).

Today we hosted our grade assemblies and shared information about the upcoming school year and reminded students of the fabulous opportunities that are available to them here at WGSS. We know that students who are engaged and find connections beyond the classroom tend to be more successful. As one of the largest secondary schools in the province, we offer a plethora of opportunities for students to participate in and I encourage them to find their areas of passion to "plug into."

At our assembly today, we reviewed expectations, shared upcoming dates and information and we also shared some thoughts to help students frame their mindset as they start another school year and work towards growth and success. We shared this video from Kara Lawson, who is the Women's Basketball coach at Duke University. Her message of resilience inspiring one: [Handle Hard Better](#).

I would like to welcome back our PAC Executive for this school year:

- President: Anushka Brhelle
- Vice President: Steven Northrup
- Treasurer: Julie Croft
- Secretary: Vacant
- DPAC Rep: Kristen Faulkner



Next week, we will host our first PAC meeting on Tuesday, September 12. The meeting will begin at 7:00PM in the WGSS Library.

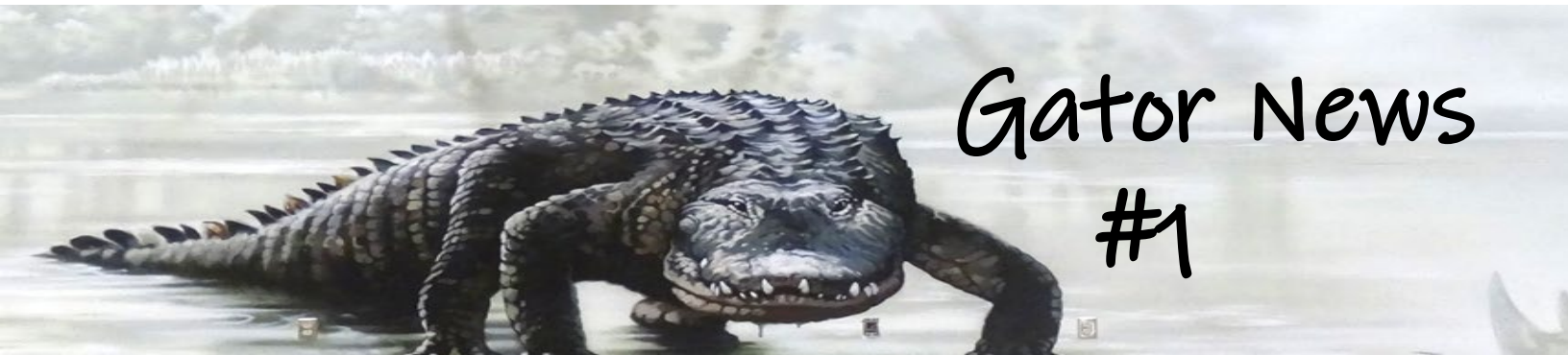
Finally, please mark your calendars: on September 21 we will be hosting our Meet the Teacher Evening. More details to follow.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

*J. Lyndon*

Proud Principal



# Gator News

## #1

### IMPORTANT DATES

September 12	PAC Meeting, 7PM in WGSS Library
September 19	School Photo Day (more info to follow)
September 20	HUB Day (more info to follow)
September 21	Meet the Teacher (more info to follow)
September 27	HUB Day (more info to follow)
September 29	Every Child Matters Day (show support and wear orange)
October 2	Truth & Reconciliation Day (school closed)
October 3	Grad 2024 boat cruise
October 6	School Improvement Day (students do not attend)
October 9	Thanksgiving Day (school closed)

### STUDENT FEES – SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

Thanks to all our families who have already paid their student fees using our School Cash Online system. If you have not yet paid the \$30 student fee and \$65 grad fee (if applicable), please make sure this is done before the end of September.

WGSS has an online payment system that allows parents to pay for most school related items online. We encourage all WGSS families to pay their school fees using our online payment system. If you haven't already created an account, you can do so now. It only takes a few minutes to set-up and add your child(ren). Once this is completed, you will see available activities or fees that can be processed online. You will require the following three pieces of information to attach your child to your account: **Student ID** (found on your child's timetable or MyEd account), **child's legal last name** and **child's date of birth**.

You will also find instructions and information on our WGSS website: <http://wgss.ca/our-school/pay-your-school-fees/> or by visiting <https://sd35.schoolcashonline.com/> to get started.

**Print or screen shot your online receipt:** Your child will be **REQUIRED** to present their receipt to pick their purchased items such as locks, PHE strip, yearbook, etc. Your receipt can always be accessed and reprinted as needed from your account.



## **MEET THE TEACHER**

Save the date! Thursday, September 21 from 6:00-7:30PM is Meet the Teacher night. More information to follow.

## **MEDICAL ALERT – LIFE THREATENING**

We want to ensure the school is aware of any student **life-threatening conditions**. If your child has a new or updated life-threatening condition, please contact [asargeant@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:asargeant@sd35.bc.ca) to have a Medical Alert form emailed to you for completion.

## **SCHOOL PHOTO DAY**

School Photo Day is Tuesday, September 19. All students will be photographed for security purposes and to receive their school ID cards. Information on how to purchase the optional photo packages will be sent home in a separate email next week.

## **WGSS BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

We are looking forward to starting up our Breakfast Program again for the 2023/24 school year. To help it run smoothly we need volunteers to assist. Please email Mr. Powell, VP responsible for the program, if you are able to assist in any capacity. [npowell@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:npowell@sd35.bc.ca)

## **PARENT CONSENT REQUEST**

Each year, Langley Schools asks families to complete a set of parent consent forms for their child. These consent forms are required by our schools to ensure the health, safety, and security of all students. Langley Schools uses a secure web form to collect this information. Beginning mid-September, please watch for an email request (subject Parent Consent Request) that contains one link for you to submit consents for all children in your family attending any Langley School. If your email address or contact information has changed, please call your school to correct it in our files. If you have not received an email regarding Parent Consent Request by the end of the month or have any questions/concerns, please contact your school administrator.





## **SCHOOLMESSENGER IN THE LANGLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Langley School District uses a notification system called SchoolMessenger to communicate information to families. As we welcome our new families to our schools, some parents/guardians may receive a text message notifying them about SchoolMessenger. For more information about the system and how to opt-in to receive text messages, visit the District webpage [here](#).

## **FAMILY ACCIDENT REIMBURSEMENT PLAN**

For those interested, the voluntary Family Accident Reimbursement Plan Insurance is available at <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

## **SELF-IDENTIFICATION OF ABORIGINAL ANCESTRY (FIRST NATIONS, METIS OR INUIT)**

Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (Status or Non-Status), Metis or Inuit Ancestry. If you have filled out the form in previous years, you do not need to send in a new one.

**\*\*Please fill out the attached form only if student has Aboriginal ancestry – one form per child\*\***



ABORIGINAL PROGRAM  
Langley School District #35  
4875-222<sup>nd</sup> Street, Langley, B.C. V3A 3Z7



### Self-Identification of Aboriginal Ancestry (First Nations, Metis or Inuit)

**\*\*Please fill out only if student has Aboriginal ancestry - one form per child\*\***

*Aboriginal Ancestry is determined on a voluntary basis through self-identification. This includes First Nations (Status or Non-Status), Metis or Inuit Ancestry. No documentation other than this self-identification is required and the ancestry can go back several generations.*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Aboriginal Ancestry: \_\_\_\_ Yes

Specify Ancestry if known: \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. Sto:lo, Cree, Inuit, Metis, etc.)

School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (month/day/year) Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_  
(with ancestry)

**\*By signing below I acknowledge that my son/daughter is of Aboriginal Ancestry (First Nations, Metis or Inuit)**

#### Parent/Guardian Consultation and Consent to Service

##### Aboriginal Education Programs/Services

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Academic and Personal Support                          | • Early Literacy/Numeracy Intervention        |
| • Home-School communication (letters, phone calls, etc.) | • PALS Program                                |
| • Monitoring of academic progress and attendance         | • Newsletter                                  |
| • Cultural enrichment                                    | • In-class Cultural Presentations/Events      |
| • Graduation/Scholarship/Bursary/Post-Secondary Info     | • Leadership Conference/Transition Conference |

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\*I give consent for my child to access the programs and services available through the Aboriginal Program.

\*This signature is considered consent for the duration of the student's enrollment in their current school.

\*Consent can also be given verbally by phone or by email to your Aboriginal Support Worker. \*To revoke this consent you must contact the Aboriginal Program office at 604-888-4819.

\*I give permission for my son/daughter's picture to be used in newsletters, webpage, etc. \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date Signed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Parent/Guardian Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address - if changed)

\*Please return this form to your child's school ASAP. If you have any questions, please call 604-888-4819.