

RAPTOR REPORT

September 28th 2024

Dear Families,

September has been a wonderful and full month for students and staff at BGMS. We ended the month with our Orange Shirt Day event in recognition of National Truth and Reconciliation Day which is held on September 30th.

Our event began with the powerful sound of drumming resonating through our school while students entered our gym, where we had the honour of listening to Melissa Epp, from the Matsqui First Nation, as she sang, drummed, and shared some important words about Truth and Reconciliation. We then participated in a walk around our school and community grounds. Students and staff used this an opportunity to 'walk the talk' as a visible action supporting the important conversations that have been occurring across the school in classrooms as students learned, discussed, and asked questions about Canada's history with residential schools.

I want to share with you my absolute pride in your children. They were thoughtful, respectful, and quite truly inspirational. There is a lot of power in walking alongside over 550 people unified and taking a step forward together. It was a moving day. Please ask your child about their experience.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Burns



RAPTOR REPORT

Check out what's happening at BGMS these days...

| IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Mon. Sept. 30 | ❖ School Closed - National Truth and Reconciliation Day |
| Fri. Oct. 4 | ❖ No School for Students: School Improvement Day |
| Sun. Oct. 6 | ❖ Deadline to order school photos |
| Fri. Oct 11 | ❖ Interim Reports Sent Home |
| Mon. Oct. 14 | ❖ School Closed – Happy Thanksgiving |
| Wed. Oct. 16 | ❖ Hot Lunch |
| Thurs. Oct 17 | ❖ Great Shake Out Earthquake Drill 10:10am |
| Wed. 23 & Thurs. 24 | ❖ Early Dismissal at 1:55pm – Parent Teacher Conferences |
| Fri. Oct 25 | ❖ No School for Students: Pro-D Day |
| Thurs. Oct. 31 | ❖ Costume Day and Halloween Carnival |
| Fri. Nov. 1 | ❖ PJ Day |
| Tues. Nov. 5 | ❖ Popcorn Day |
| Thurs. Nov. 7 | ❖ Remembrance Assembly (AM) ❖ Photo Retakes (PM) |
| Fri. Nov. 8 | ❖ No School for Students: Design & Assessment Day |
| Mon. Nov. 11 | ❖ School Closed – Remembrance Day |
| Wed. Nov. 13 | ❖ Hot Lunch |

Many of our Clubs and Teams are now up and running!

Please chat with your child to find out what club they are interested in joining or trying out to see if it's a good fit for them. Examples of some of our clubs include:

- Grade 7 Spirit Squad (leadership)
- Reading Raptors
- Pokemon
- Cos-Play
- LGBTQ+
- Choir



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BGMS SAFETY CONCERNS

Bikes and Scooters

- a. Please speak with your child about their road awareness. We have had multiple concerns from the public about students veering out in front of cars without checking the road is clear first. This will eventually lead to a child getting hit by a car. If students are trusted to ride or scoot to school, they must be able to follow road safety expectations.
- b. Please ensure your child wears a helmet.
- c. Please send your child to school with a lock so their wheels are stored securely during the day.

Parking and Driving

- ❖ We have received multiple legitimate complaints from parents, neighbours, and the RCMP sharing concerns regarding driving and parking at our school.
- ❖ Patience and thoughtfulness toward others is critical to avoiding an incident. If you choose to drive into our parking lot, please take a calming breath and model for your child how we can all work together to solve problems. We do not expect yelling or rude gestures made toward other drivers.
- ❖ Do not block driveways or cars that are parked on the road and do not park up on the sidewalks.
- ❖ There is a stop sign at the of of our parking lot as you reenter onto 27th Ave., be sure to stop for oncoming traffic at that intersection.
- ❖ We have requested new paint and signage for our parking lot which will clearly show the '1 minute pick up and drop off' zones as well as the 'drive through only' lane.
- ❖ Until the painting is complete, please note that the lane closest to 27th Ave. is drive through only – no stopping allowed
- ❖ The lane closest to our school is for quick pick up and drop off only, no stopping allowed
- ❖ Children should only exit or enter your car from the door facing our school (otherwise they will be in oncoming traffic).
- ❖ Once you have dropped off or picked up, please signal, shoulder check, and then merge safely back into the left drive through lane.
- ❖ If you wish to park and wait for your child, you are requested to use the farthest parking lot near the ball diamond. Make a plan with your child so they know where to meet you.
- ❖ Be prepared to stop for students at the crosswalk in front of our school entrance.
- ❖ Drive slowly in the parking lot and on surrounding roads.

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Orange Shirt Day National Day for Truth & Reconciliation September 30, 2024

A DAY TO HONOUR SURVIVORS OF RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS,
THEIR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES,
AND THE CHILDREN WHO NEVER CAME HOME



3:00 pm Truth-telling,
dialogue and
(un)learning led by
community allies

6:00 pm honouring ceremony,
drumming and
speakers

7:22 pm walking vigil
(dusk)

Derek Doubleday Arboretum
21177 Fraser Highway
ALL ARE WELCOME

for more information
please scan the QR code
or contact Shelley@lfvas.org



We acknowledge we do our work on the traditional unceded territories
of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui, and Semiahmoo First Nations

**Local allies together with an Indigenous Advisory seeking to learn and teach others
the "true history" of Canada as an act of reconciliation.**

Funded by:

Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

Presented by:



UNITED CHURCHES
OF LANGLEY
WEAVING A FAITH THAT MATTERS



Langley
Local Immigration
Partnership



Langley
Schools



Langley Community
Services Society



encompass
support services society



RAPTOR REPORT



TABLE TALKS ALDERGROVE

SUBSTANCE USE & YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
A DESSERT & DIALOGUE EVENING

WED
OCT 16

6:30PM - 9PM
ALDERGROVE KINSMEN
COMMUNITY CENTRE
26770 29TH AVE.

///// JOIN US FOR CONVERSATIONS ON IMPORTANT TOPICS RELATED TO SUPPORTING OUR LOVED ONES, REDUCING STIGMA, EXPLORING ROOT CAUSES, AND THE ROLE WE PLAY IN THE TOXIC DRUG CRISIS



Langley Community
Services Society



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PAC Fundraiser Coupon Books

Please be on the lookout for the coupon book (in a white envelope) that your child has brought home. Our PAC fundraises in order to directly support BGMS students with things such as lowering the cost of busses on field trips, providing free whole school treats, and many more 'behind the scenes' areas of support.

New to District Fall Registration

Do you know a family with children in the K-12 school system that is moving to Langley in fall 2024? Please assist the District in sharing this information with any of your friends and family. The District is encouraging families moving to Langley from another jurisdiction to register their child for school as soon as possible. With high enrolment in some schools, the District is working to facilitate student placement for September entry and support a smooth transition for these new families. For more information on the registration process and required documents, visit the webpage [here](#).

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](#).

Student Accident Insurance Plan (Voluntary Insurance)

This year, the District is offering two options for a voluntary student accident insurance plan that replaces the family accident reimbursement plan offered last year. This plan is voluntary, but I would encourage you to share the following information with the parents of your students as soon as you can, so they have an opportunity to enroll as early in the school year as possible. There are significant benefits of this accident insurance coverage for families.

Please note, enrolment in the program can be done online only, through one of the following options:

[Insure My Kids](#)

OR

[Study Insured](#)

Corresponding digital support materials for above service providers can be accessed via following link:

Insure My Kids:

[Insure My Kids - Support Material](#)

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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.

Programs of Choice – Deadline to Register is Monday, October 21st

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, and U-Connect. Registration for Kindergarten entry (for most programs) begins on **Monday, October 7th at 12 noon**, and closes on **Monday, October 21st at 12 noon**. For U-Connect, please contact the school directly. For more information and instructions to register your child, visit our District website [here](#) and review our FAQ choice programs resource [here](#).

Community Volunteers in Emergencies

Emergencies can happen unexpectedly due to weather events (e.g. earthquake or flooding) or unforeseen situations in the community. The health and safety of students, staff, and families is the District’s priority. The District together with schools follow emergency procedures to respond to incidents as well as prevent them from happening. As stated in the provincial [Emergency Management Planning Guide for Schools, Districts and Authorities](#), staff have a legal “duty of care,” meaning that they “must ensure that students are cared for until such time as they can be safely reunited with their parents.” Depending on the situation, the school may be caring for students for many days.

In these circumstances, schools may rely on members of the community to assist with emergency responses. Administrators may send a request to parents/guardians to help volunteer with first aid, facilities and maintenance, safety and security, and general labour. Adults with special skills in health care, policing, and engineering would be an asset in an emergency. No action is needed from families at this time as the purpose is to keep families informed.

RAPTOR REPORT

Online Family Support Sessions on Navigating Digital World – Hosted by Safer Schools Together

The Ministry of Education has once again contracted Safer Schools Together to offer complimentary Family Sessions, designed to support families and caregivers navigate the digital world. There is one session per month. Families can participate in as many as they wish. Sessions can be found at the link below:

[erase Registration \(saferschoolstogether.com\)](https://saferschoolstogether.com)

Families will learn:

- Digital media habits, oversharing, and digital addiction
- The permanence of online posts/activity
- The significance of your digital tattoo in how others perceive you (e.g., sports teams, college admissions, and potential employers)
- The importance of caring for peers both online and offline
- Geo-locational settings and the dangers of social media and cell phone misuse
- The social and legal consequences of cyberbullying behaviour as well as possession and distribution of intimate images (sexting and sextortion)
- An anonymous student reporting tool that can help you and your friends stay safe both online and offline

Student in Distress and School Safety

Health and safety are a priority in the Langley School District. Our schools follow emergency procedures to help keep students, staff, and the community safe. Depending on the situation, communication to parents/caregivers is needed to keep families informed about incidents in our school, such as during lockdowns, hold & secures, and room clears. Sometimes these incidents may not be emergencies but are medical crises. It is important to note that the decision to send communications to families is dependent on a variety of factors including the nature of what happened, who has witnessed or was directly impacted by what happened, as well as student and staff privacy. Although communication is unique and dependent on the specific situation, there are times when a student is in distress and the incident may require a message or letter to families. In addition to communication to parents/caregivers, teachers and staff may debrief with students after an incident that may have upset them. In some cases, the school counsellor may offer support to students in need. As always, we want families to let us know if your child requires support. If you have any questions or concerns about communication related to emergencies or incidents, please reach out to the school.

RAPTOR REPORT



Fair Notice for Students and Families

The Langley School District is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. Our schools take all threatening comments and behaviours seriously. Our schools follow procedures when responding to threat-making behaviour to help keep students, staff, and the community safe. The following resource [here](#) outlines what information students and families need to know in relation to how the District responds to threat-making behaviour in our schools. Everyone has a role in helping keep our students safe. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school administrator.

FAIR NOTICE

RESPONSE TO THREAT-MAKING BEHAVIOUR

School District 35 (Langley) is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. We take all threatening comments and behaviours seriously.

What is a Threat?

- A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something
- A threat may be verbal, written, drawn, posted electronically, in a text or made by gesture
- A threat may include high-risk behaviour such as possession of a weapon

What Parents and Students Need to Know

- Any threat must be reported to the school administration, counsellor or some other trusted adult
- Investigation may involve the police and / or other community agencies
- Investigation may involve locker or personal property searches
- Interviews will be held with the threat-maker and other students or adults who may have information about the threat
- Parents of students who are directly involved will be notified
- Threatening behaviour may result in discipline for a student
- An intervention plan may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any individuals targeted by threats

Privacy Matters

The School District is subject to personal information privacy laws, and will undertake the collection of this information in compliance with the requirements of such laws, including by limiting collection to information that is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat and by ensuring that information is collected from publicly available open source media sites. The School District will not collect information as part of a threat assessment unless there is reason to believe that a risk exists. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.

SD35 will follow up on every reported threat.

What is Threat Assessment?

- To ensure the safety of students, staff, parent/guardians and others
- To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- To understand the factors contributing to the behaviour of the person of concern
- To proactively develop an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the person of concern and others

Everyone Has a Duty to Report

- Often when we hear in the media about a violent incident, we learn that the person had made threats in advance of acting violently.
- To keep our school communities safe, students, parents, staff and community members must report all threat-related behaviours and high-risk activities.

Behaviours that Initiate a Threat Assessment

- Violence with the intent to harm or kill
- In-person or online verbal, written, text message or image threats to harm or kill
- Bomb threats or fire-setting

Threat Assessment Team

- Principal or Vice-Principal
- Counsellor(s)
- School Liaison Officer

RAPTOR REPORT

VOLUNTEER DRIVER FORMS

Thank you in advance to our parent volunteer drivers. Your help ensures that our students are able to attend sports events and field trips. If you expect to be a parent driver this year, please note that you will be required to:

- fill out our volunteer driver form (attached at the end of this newsletter)
- provide copies of your driver's license, ICBC insurance, private insurance (if applicable)
- provide your ICBC Driver's Abstract: <https://onlinebusiness.icbc.com/clio/>

This process needs to be redone for each new school year. Please don't wait until the date of the trip or sports event, as this can lead to a last-minute line up of parents trying to fill out forms. Pop into the office the next few weeks to register!

OFFICE PROCEDURES

To report an absence, please call the office at 604-856-8178 and press 1 to leave a voicemail.

PLEASE LET US KNOW BEFORE 8:45AM IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT OR LATE.

Parents can also input an absence using our online form although we have had a few technical glitches with that system so apologies if we do not receive your submission and call to inquire about the safety of your child. <https://bgms.sd35.bc.ca/our-school/attendance/>

School District #35 (Langley)
2024-2025 School Calendar
Middle Schools

| MONTH | DATE | |
|---------------|-------------|--|
| September | Sep 2 (M) | Labour Day (Schools Closed) |
| | Sep 3 (T) | Schools Open |
| | Sep 30 (M) | Truth and Reconciliation Day (Schools Closed) |
| October | 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) |
| November | Nov 8 (F) | Learning Update Prep/Design & Assessment Day (students not in attendance) |
| | Nov 11 (M) | Remembrance Day (Schools Closed) |
| | Nov 29 (F) | Learning Updates Issued |
| December | Dec 20 (F) | Last Day Prior to Winter Break |
| January | Jan 6 (M) | Schools Re-Open After Winter Break |
| February | Feb 10 (M) | Professional Development Day (District - students not in attendance) |
| | Feb 17 (M) | Family Day (Schools Closed) |
| | Feb 24 (M) | Learning Update Prep/Design & Assessment Day (students not in attendance) |
| March | Mar 14 (F) | Last Day Prior to Spring Break |
| | Mar 14 (F) | Learning Updates Issued |
| | Mar 31 (M) | Schools Re-Open After Spring Break |
| April | Apr 18 (F) | Good Friday (Schools Closed) |
| | Apr 21 (M) | Easter Monday (Schools Closed) |
| | Apr 30 (W) | 1 Hour Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Interviews |
| May | May 1 (Th) | 1 Hour Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Interviews |
| | May 16 (F) | Professional Development Day (District - students not in attendance) |
| | May 19 (M) | Victoria Day (Schools Closed) |
| June | Jun 26 (Th) | Final Learning Update Issued & Last Day for Students Prior to Summer Vacation |
| | Jun 27 (F) | Administrative Day (students not in attendance) |
| July / August | | Summer Session |



VOLUNTEER AUTOMOBILE DRIVER AUTHORIZATION (ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE)

School: _____

Dear Volunteer Driver:

Thank you for volunteering to drive students. Your assistance is much appreciated. The responsibilities in regards to transportation of students can be found in [Administrative Procedure 562 Transportation of Students Travel for Field Trips and Extracurricular Trips](#). To protect our children and you as a driver, we ask that you complete the following. You will need to provide the school a copy of your driver's license, driver's abstract and your current Autoplan Insurance Policy, the policy must include a minimum \$2 million liability insurance.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Driver's License Number: _____ Class: _____ Expiry: _____

Years of Infraction-free Driving Experience: _____

Vehicle Make: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____

Vehicle License Number: _____

Seating Capacity: _____ Booster Seat Capacity: # of no-back _____ # of high back _____

I hereby affirm that I have never been convicted of impaired driving or any other criminal driving offense. If I have a serious traffic violation after providing my driver's abstract, I will inform the school principal and withdraw as a volunteer driver. I acknowledge the requirement that all vehicle occupants must use seat belts and where applicable, booster seats. I affirm that I will operate the vehicle in a safe and legal manner, and I will be responsible for the proper installation of booster seats that are supplied by parents or the school in my vehicle, if they are required. I will not allow any child under the age of 12 to sit in the front seat of the vehicle if it is equipped with a passenger side airbag unless the airbag can be legally deactivated.

Date

Signature of Driver

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| School Administration Approval: | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Driver's License | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Driver's Abstract (Confirm no recent serious traffic violations) | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Insurance Coverage (Confirm min \$2M Liability Ins.) |
| _____ Signature of Principal | _____ Date | |

Parents and Guardians

You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of “Y” or “Yes” to our school’s short code number:

For **CANADA-BASED** numbers: **978338**

For **US-BASED** numbers: **61569** (see next page for QR code)

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with “Stop”.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge™, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.

For **CANADA-BASED** numbers:

**Opt-In from
your mobile
now!**



**Just send “Y”
or “Yes” to
978338.**

(For Canada-based numbers).



*if your number is Canada-based.

RAPTOR REPORT

Fundraiser: Willowbrook's Charity Shopping Night

Join us for a night of holiday magic during Willowbrook's 9th Annual Charity Shopping Night - Merry & Bright! 100% of ticket and event proceeds using [THIS LINK](#) will go directly to the Langley School District Foundation. Embrace the spirit of the season as we come together to make a difference in our community.

- General Admission include event access, light bites, prize entry, reusable shopping tote & more.
- VIP SWAG Admission includes all general admission elements plus elevated SWAG component.



CHARITABLE PARTNER OF

Merry & Bright

9TH ANNUAL CHARITY SHOPPING NIGHT

TUES., NOV. 19 7 PM - 10 PM

Tickets Start at \$20
\$20,000+ in Prizes - 50/50 Cash Draw
10% Back* Gift With Purchase

Willowbrook

100% of ticket and event proceeds will go directly to the Langley School District Foundation when purchased through the links below



KICK OFF YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Amazing fashion and access to special sales and promotions available only during the evening.

FESTIVE SIPS & SNACKS

Visit either the Nespresso Martini or Christmas Cocktail Bar, where expert mixologists will craft signature cocktails to elevate your evening. If bubbles are more your style, the Champagne & Wine Bar will also have you raising your glass in celebration. Plus, enjoy delectable bites and appies from Willowbrook's very own restaurants that will leave you craving more.

General Admission
includes event access, light bites, prize entry, reusable shopping tote & more
\$20

VIP SWAG Admission
includes all general admission elements plus an elevated SWAG component
\$40