



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Students and Families:

Welcome to second semester! It's hard to believe that we are already half-way through the school year, but here we are. Students and staff worked hard to close out the first semester and to help celebrate the learning that was done throughout first semester. My sincere thanks to staff for all that they have done to help students finish the first semester well and to help students settle into the second semester.

As we begin second semester, we say goodbye to a few staff members who are moving on to other adventures and we welcome back some new and returning staff.

Welcome (Welcome Back):

- Ms. Bhandal – Learning Support Services
- Ms. Ferguson – Learning Support Services
- Ms. Gill – Science
- Mr. Matties – Teaching Math, Science and ELL

We are also saying farewell to a few staff as semester one ends:

- Ms. Chi will be leaving us as her term is complete at the end of the semester. We wish her well as she takes on a Learning Support Services role at another school.
- Ms. Kurrein will be off second semester, but will be returning to us in September.

During our Transition Days, our Grade 9 students completed their mini-capstone presentations and our Grade 12 students who had CLC 12 this past semester completed their Capstone presentations. This is such a wonderful experience for our students and our staff; there was such a positive buzz throughout the building throughout the presentations. Our Grade 9 students met with staff to share their journey of growth, their plans for the future, as well as their strengths and their areas of growth. Our Grade 12 students were broken into small groups where they presented to a small panel of staff members. Many students remarked about how their Capstone didn't feel like work because they had chosen something that they were so passionate about. Congratulations Gators on a job well done.

I extend sincere thanks to Ms. Stubbings, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Castro and all our Career Education teachers who supported students along the journey of their capstone development. Thank you to our students who obviously put tremendous time and effort



into their presentations. It is not an easy thing to present in front of peers and a group of adults; I commend our students for their professionalism and their courage.

On Friday, February 7th, we will be publishing the first semester Summary of Learning reports. Please be sure to login to MyEd BC to review the report card with your student. Click <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/students-parents/myedbc-family-portal-help/> if you need help logging on.

At the start of a semester there are always changes that need to be made to student schedules and there are also requests from students and families for schedules to be changed. We have made some adjustments to schedules as we have worked to balance classes. For the most part, these changes are completed, as of today. There may still be a few changes into next week, but courses are mostly settled for second semester.

We also are continuing to receive a number of requests to change courses. Please note that we will not be able to accommodate further course changes for a variety of reasons, with the exception of course changes that will impact graduation or in the case that a student has an incorrect class in their schedule.

As we enter into second semester, not only are we beginning a new set of courses, we are also beginning to plan for next school year. Our Counselling and Administration team, alongside our department head team, have been preparing and planning the course catalogue for next year. Along with our course planning website, we will be hosting a number of course planning presentations for students and families throughout the month of February. Please see the upcoming dates in this newsletter.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Mr. Jeremy Lyndon

Proud Principal



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IMPORTANT DATES

GATOR CAFÉ – Please note that the cafeteria is closed, and will re-open on Thursday, February 6th. Be sure to bring your own lunch or have alternate plans for lunch until then.

Wednesday, February 5	HUB Day 1
Wednesday, February 5	Grade 9 Immunizations & Catch-Up for Grades 8/9/11/12
Friday, February 7	Semester 1 Learning Updates Issued
Monday, February 10	Professional Development Day – Students Do Not Attend
Thursday, February 13	Course Planning Parent Evening @ 7pm
Monday, February 17	Family Day – School Closed
Wednesday, February 19	Catch-Up Immunizations
Friday, February 21	Online Applications for Specialty Programs Closes

IMPORTANT COURSE PLANNING DATES



- February 5 - AP Presentation for interested grade 9-11's during HUB
- February 5 - AP Parent/Family presentation 6pm in the library for parents of interested grade 9/10/11 students
- February 12 - Grade 9-12 course planning virtual presentations
- February 13 - Parent course planning presentations for students going into grade 9&10
- February 13 - Parent course planning presentations for students going into grade 11&12
- February 13 - Open House for Grade 7 into 8
- February 13 - MyEd opens for course request entry
- February 14 – 21 Counselling Centre open at lunch for course planning questions
- February 19 – 20 MyEd help sessions in the library at lunch
- February 21 - Online course selection closes in MyEd
- February 21 - Online Applications for Specialty Programs Closes



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FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

At any time, a WGSS youth or their family member is welcome to contact a staff member for assistance with information about available confidential school and community-based resources and support.

Below is information we wanted to share as we all navigate these times.

ORGANIZATION	INFO	CONTACT	WEBSITE/CONTACT
Langley Christmas Bureau	Call to book an appointment. Currently taking applications for hampers.	604-530-3001 20245 Industrial Avenue, Langley	https://www.langleychristmasbureau.com/client-hamper-application/
Grocery Hampers	Available weekly	Langley Food Bank Sources	https://langleyfoodbank.com https://www.sourcesbc.ca/our-services/sources-langley-food-bank/
Further Food Supports	Gateway of Hope Raphael House		http://www.gatewayofhope.ca https://www.raphaelhouse.ca/
Community Integration Specialist	Assists with connection to housing, employment, income assistance, and community services	604-860-5736/Office 778-359-0105 Kapil Sharma (he/him)	kapil.sharma@gov.bc.ca
211	Income assistance, disability, community living, employment support, housing/shelter, and social supports	211 – Talk to a Navigator 24/7	https://bc.211.ca/agency-details/ministry-of-social-development-and-poverty-reduction-msdpr-9488485/
Breakfast Club at WGSS	Monday-Friday before school. Open to all students	In the cafeteria	Join us for a nutritious meal to start the day



DROP-OFF AND PARKING AT WGSS

We have received some feedback with respect to the parking lot and drop-off and pick-up before and after school. As you know, we have a very large school population. We have over 2200 students attending WGSS this year. Consequently, the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up can be very busy and our school grounds and surrounding roadways become very congested. Based on feedback from students and families, we thought it would be helpful to send a few reminders:

- Please do not drop-off or pick-up students along Walnut Grove Drive. This is unsafe.
- If you can drop-off or pick-up your student in a neighbouring area that is not as busy, that would be helpful.
- If you can stagger your drop-off times (a little earlier) or pick-up times (a little later) that would also help to alleviate congestion.
- Please be mindful of blocking lanes if you are coming through the front of the school:
 - Please make room for our buses to be able to park and maneuver in the parking lot.
 - Please do not park in the lanes in front of the parking stalls; this holds up traffic and prevents cars from leaving the parking spots.
 - Please do not park in the designated bus zones.

As always, the health and safety of our students and families is paramount and we appreciate your cooperation with helping to ensure that our transition times are safe for all our students, families, and staff.

INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOL STATUS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

Snow closures and power outages are an annual occurrence in the Langley School District. So, where do you go to get information about the status of schools during periods of inclement weather? If you can 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 X (formerly 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 student to school based on safety and individual circumstances. If you feel it is unsafe for you or your student to travel to or attend an open school for any reason, please keep your student home and report an absence to the school.

WINTER HEALTH TIPS FROM FRASER HEALTH

Health, safety, and wellness continue to be a priority in our schools. To help support our students and families, we are sharing important information from our community partner Fraser Health about winter health. Please see below for helpful reminders to support your student.

Keeping Your Student Healthy During Winter

As the chilly winter season is upon us, there's a few extra things you can do to help keep your student healthy and well. Navigate this season with these essential tips.

Bundle Up For The Cold

Dressing appropriately for the cold weather is vital in keeping your student comfortable and protected. Wearing multiple layers is a great way to trap body heat and provide insulation against the cold.

Keep a warm hat, gloves, scarves and insulated boots handy. Remind your student to wear these items before heading outside to play or going to school.

Protect Against Winter Illnesses

Winter brings an increased risk of colds and flus. Make sure your student is getting enough sleep, eating a variety of foods and staying hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Ensure your student receives their annual flu vaccine and talk to a health care provider about any additional vaccines that may be recommended. Teach your student good respiratory etiquette such as regular hand washing, covering their coughs and sneezes and staying home when sick. If they are sick and cannot stay away from others, they can wear a mask to reduce the risk of spreading their illness. Learn more about masks here: [Masks \(bccdc.ca\)](https://www.bccdc.ca)

Keep Their Bodies Moving

While colder weather may limit outdoor activities, it's crucial to keep your student active during winter as regular physical activity boosts their immune system and keeps them energized. Encourage indoor play and activities such as dancing, yoga or interactive



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video games that promote movement. Look for winter programs at local community centres or indoor sports facilities.

Find more tips for a healthy winter: <https://www.fraserhealth.ca/health-topics-a-to-z/winter-health>

Grade 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 Students:

Public Health Nurses will be at **Walnut Grove Secondary** to immunize Grade 9 students. Additionally, we will be offering catch-up immunizations to students in grade 8, 10, 11, and 12 who had a letter mailed to their home or have active consent on file.

Grade 8, 9, 11, and 12 students: Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Grade 9 and 10 students: Wednesday, February 19, 2025

If you are unsure of whether you are eligible for vaccines, please call the Langley School Nurse at 604-539-2909.

FROM OUR DISTRICT

Social Media Awareness Family Sessions

ERASE will be holding FREE virtual sessions on social media awareness for parents and caregivers. Here is the link for an upcoming communication with families for them to access these valuable sessions: <https://pages.saferschoolstogether.com/erase-family-session>

LSS Sports Academies Information Night

Are you looking for a way to fuel your passion for hockey, baseball or softball while still achieving your academic goals? Langley Secondary's sports academies may be the perfect fit! These high-performance skills-based programs combine on-and off-field or ice training, strength and conditioning education, and BC school curriculum. Hockey Academy participants will have at least 40 on-ice sessions during the semester, while Baseball/Softball students will spend two blocks every day in academy programming.

Learn more at an upcoming information session, which is scheduled for 7pm on February 11th at Langley Secondary School in the Learning Commons. See poster [here](#) for details. For info on baseball/softball read [here](#) or hockey read [here](#). Please note, this information session does NOT include information on the Langley Secondary Soccer Academy.



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Youth Train In Trades & Academic Duel-Credit Programs – APPLICATIONS OPEN

We are excited to announce that career program applications for the 2025/2026 school year are now available. SD35 offers programs in association with Post Secondary organizations such as: BCIT, KPU, VCC and UFV in Electrical, Automotive Service Tech, Professional Cook, Piping and Plumbing, Hairstyling, Landscape Horticulture, Welding, Carpentry, Early Childhood Education, Biomedical and Health Sciences. Students earn post-secondary credits while still in high school, and tuition is free!

This is an invitation for you to join us for our upcoming event: [**Pathways to the Future: Exploring Langley School District's Trades & Career Opportunities**](#). This parent/student information evening is February 4th, 2025 at the Langley Events Centre (7888 200 Street, Langley) and runs from 6:30pm - 8:00pm (light refreshments will be provided).

There are program-specific Information Sessions ([click here for details](#)) planned between February and March. If you're interested in any of these programs, please connect with your Career Advisors: Lindsey Verbeek or Shalini Bajaj at the **Career Centre in room 250**.

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Report Card
will be published on
Friday, Feb 7

Walnut Grove Secondary School



Upcoming Learning Update

myeducation.gov.bc.ca

Please log in to your **MyEd Family/Student Portal TODAY** to ensure you can access your account now. Learning Updates can be found under **Published Reports**.

Common Errors and Troubleshooting

BEFORE login to MyEdBC, ensure to Disable the Pop-Up blocker

When did you reset your password last time? More than **3 months ago?**



1. **Disable** the Pop-up blocker.
2. **Close** your browser **completely** and try again.
3. Try with a **different browser**. (Chrome, Firefox etc)

Passwords are good for 90 days, at which time after a successful login you will be required to create a new one immediately.

This account has been **disabled**



You can re-enable your account by using the **"I forgot my password"** on the login screen.

Invalid Login



1. Both Login ID and Password are **Case Sensitive**.
2. **Disable** the Pop-up blocker.
3. **Close** your browser **completely** and try again.
4. Try with a **different browser**. (Chrome, Firefox etc)

15 unsuccessful attempts will **disable** your account

*Please use a **Laptop or Desktop** Computer if you have difficulty resetting your password.

Setting security preferences will make it possible to use the **"I forgot my password"** option that displays on the login screen. Enter the following information:

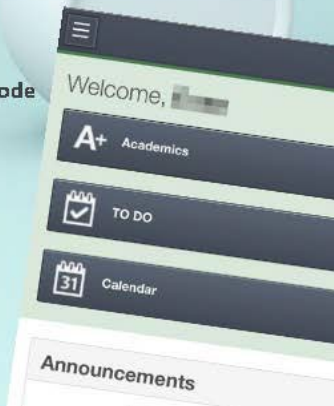


1. After logging in, click your name in the top right corner.
2. Click on **Set preferences**, then click the **Security** tab on the window that pops up.
3. Select a security question and enter your answer.

For more information, please visit our school district website at sd35.bc.ca or scan or click the QR code



Need your login information or a Password Reset?
Scan or click the QR code and submit a Request Form*
*Please note that it may take five (5) to ten (10) business days to process your request.



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LSS Sports Academies Information Night

Baseball Semester 1

Softball Semester 1

Hockey Semester 2

Students can attend
LSS all year or for the
semester of Academy

Langley Secondary School
Learning Commons
Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7pm

This night is an opportunity for students and parents to find out information regarding the Baseball, Softball and Hockey Academies Offered at LSS. For any further information please contact: tbannister@sd35.bc.ca



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SD35 Career Education



PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

Exploring Langley School District's Trades & Career Opportunities

Join us for this family information evening as we highlight the district's career programs and pathways to post-secondary success!



WHEN:

February 4, 2025
6:30 pm- 8:00 pm

WHERE:

Langley Events Centre
7888 200 Street, Langley



LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR FUTURE!!

CONNECT WITH POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS!!

PARENTS & STUDENTS WELCOME!!



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UP TO \$20,000
IN SCHOLARSHIPS



2025 Challenge

Design a culturally sensitive and environmentally responsible solution to reduce human-caused wildfires in the local Harrison Lake area, while minimizing negative impacts on First Nations cultural practices, ecosystems, and wildlife.

More Information



LEARN MORE AND
ENTER YOUR SECONDARY
TEAM AT
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/4E48JEd](https://bit.ly/4E48JEd)





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FROM OUR COMMUNITY



Free Winter Program for Families!

Learn about healthy eating, physical activity, and building long-lasting habits as a family in Generation Health Community. This 10-week program for families with children ages 8 to 12 is FUN and interactive!

Delivered through YMCA BC starting February 2025 on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings.

Families who join this program will receive a complimentary YMCA membership.

Register today!



gv.ymca.ca/generation-health-community
generationhealth@bc.ymca.ca





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Fairy Godmother Foundation

Are you in need of grad wear for prom?

The Fairy Godmother Foundation is here to help! We provide FREE grad wear (dresses, suits, shoes, accessories) to students who may not be able to afford them, ensuring everyone has the chance to celebrate this special milestone.

Who Can Apply?

Any high school student in need of assistance with prom attire.

How to Apply:

Visit your school counselor and let them know you'd like to be considered for assistance.

Once applications are reviewed your councillor will contact you with further details

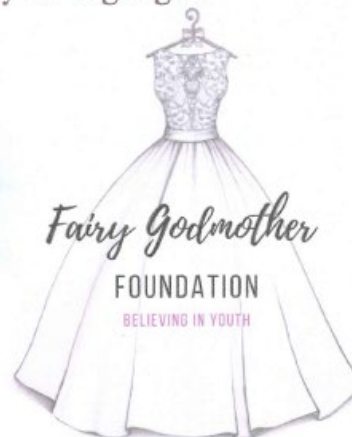
Let us help you feel like the star you truly are on your big night!

Our team is excited to work with you to find the perfect outfit for your prom night!

The Fairy Godmother Foundation –
Where every student deserves to shine!

Apply ASAP as space is limited

For more information, ask your counsellor





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THE HIP INITIATIVE



WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

COLLECTING
UNTIL FEBRUARY
13

All donations will go to the Downtown Eastside
Women's Shelter



COLLECTION BOXES WILL BE IN PORTABLE 3!



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#that **wellness** thing

Join us to learn more about mental health and wellness
at our sixth annual open house & community resource fair!



4:30 PM | Wednesday | 21405A - 56 Ave.
to 7:00 PM | Feb. 26, 2025 | Langley

PRESENTATIONS & INFORMATION TABLES

- Mental Health & Wellness
- Substance Use Resources
- Healthy Living
- Counselling
- Family Support
- Post-Secondary Info
- Employment



For additional information or to
participate as an agency, please
contact Amanda: arawle@sd35.bc.ca

OPEN TO EVERYONE (16+) | NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED | LIGHT REFRESHMENTS | PHOTO BOOTH | OPPORTUNITIES TO TRY YOGA





The four Rotary Clubs of Langley are proud to announce the tenth annual SASSY Awards Langley.

In the previous nine years, SASSY is proud to have awarded just over \$114000.00 to Langley youth. SASSY stands for “Service Above Self” Student Youth. Incorporating Rotary’s guiding motto, the awards aim to recognize and celebrate the leadership achievements of Langley youth who exemplify the ideals of Rotary by making a positive impact in our Langley communities.

Awards focus on students who have shown demonstrated, committed leadership of a group or task. Nominations are now being accepted in seven categories for youth aged 15 to 21 living in, and/or who have made a significant impact in leadership roles within the Township or City of Langley.

The awards will be presented as part of the awards show on Thursday May 8th, 2025, at the Chief Sepass Theatre, located in the Langley Fine Arts School. An applicant must also be available, if chosen for the top three in one of the seven categories, for interviews on Saturday morning, April 12th, 2025.

You must be available and attend both the **April 12th** judging and the **May 8th** Awards Show to be eligible to receive a cash and recognition award. Please put these dates on your calendar!

Each Category Award Winner (one in each of the seven categories) will receive: • \$1,200 Cash Award • SASSY Recognition Award Each of the two runners up in the seven categories will receive a \$600.00 cash award.

More information is available at: www.sassyawardslangley.ca



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WGSS PAC NEWS

Find us on Facebook/ Meta as “WGSS PAC”, or on our website: wgsspac.ca, or email us at contact.wgsspac@gmail.com.

As before, the WGSS PAC would like to ask families to donate if you can. Donations to the PAC can be made through SchoolCashOnline. Your donations help the PAC fund scholarships for graduating students, as well as school projects that benefit students for which we can't use Gaming Commission funds. We are grateful for any amount - every little bit helps us make this school more awesome for our kids.

Here are the dates for upcoming PAC Meetings for the 2024 – 2025 school year.

- Tuesday, February 11th
- March – No Meeting
- Tuesday, April 8th
- Tuesday, May 13th
- Tuesday, June 10th (Regular PAC Meeting and Annual General Meeting)



WGSS DRY GRAD NEWS

We encourage all parents/guardians of Grade 12 students to attend and learn how you can help and get involved in organizing a great and safe event for the Grads of 2025!

You can also find us on Facebook at *Walnut Grove Secondary Dry Grad 2025*.

All meetings will be held in the **WGSS Library from 6:30-7:30PM**

Tuesday, February 18 – SECURITY, FIRST AID & BAG CHECK-IN ONLY

Tuesday, March 11

Tuesday April 1

Tuesday April 22

Tuesday May 20

Tuesday June 3 – LAST MEETING

- Don't forget to donate all your refundable cans & plastic bottles to the Dry Grad Return-it account!! Details here: [Return-It Depot](#)
- Our WGSS Dry Grad Committee is currently running the following fundraiser: [WGSS Dry Grad-Langley School District Foundation](#)
- [Class of 2025 50/50 Fundraiser](#) *New* See flyer below for details!



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OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!!



Walnut Grove Secondary School
Walnut Grove Dry Grad 2025

Winner takes half
OF THE JACK POT

Help support grads of 2025 make their night special



**ORDER TICKETS
HERE TO WIN:**

<https://wgssdrygrad2025.rafflenexus.com/>

OR SCAN QR CODE



Important dates

Deadline: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

Draw date: Friday, March 14, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

**Thank you for supporting dry grad
for our 2025 graduating students**