

Principal's Leaving Letter

June 8, 2023

Dear Laurier Families,

Today, the Vancouver School Board has announced the promotions and transfers of school administrators for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. It is with mixed emotions that I share with you the news of my departure from Laurier Elementary. At the end of this school year, I will be embarking on a new journey as the Principal of Graham Bruce Elementary School in Vancouver.

Writing this message and bidding farewell to the incredible individuals I have had the privilege of meeting and collaborating with over the past five years is undoubtedly challenging. I have truly enjoyed being a part of this vibrant and caring community as we have collaborated and worked together through both challenging and rewarding times. Our primary focus has always been the safety and well-being of our students, and I am proud of the inclusive school environment we have created, where everyone feels a sense of belonging and has access to equal opportunities to grow and develop. We have valued open dialogues and respectful expression. Together, we have embraced the spirit of SOARing, being Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome, and Respectful.

At Laurier, our motto has been 'Learning Never Stops.' We have worked diligently to equip our children with essential lifelong skills through many activities and projects, including our school goals of critical thinking and universal design for learning. We have emphasized the importance of literacy, numeracy, scientific exploration, inquiry-based learning, and outdoor education. Additionally, we have promoted active and healthy living. Laurier is an exceptional Vancouver school that will continue to uphold the highest standards of education. Our students, supported by caring parents and our outstanding PAC executives, have always been our top priority. I have been incredibly fortunate to work alongside a dedicated and nurturing staff, and I will always treasure the time we have spent together as a community at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Ms Geri Gruft, who will be taking over as the new Principal of Laurier Elementary. Ms. Gruft is currently serving as Vice-Principal at Sir Richard McBride Annex. I know this community will extend a warm welcome to her, as she will continue to contribute to the ongoing success of this exceptional school.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the wonderful five years I have spent at Laurier. I will genuinely miss this beautiful community and will forever hold cherished memories of the students, parents, family members and staff.

Thank you all for your support and for making my time at Laurier truly memorable.

Sincerely,
Armin Samiei