

**November
2022**



Dr. George M. Weir Elementary School News

2900 East 44th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V5R 3A8
Tel: 604-713-4771
<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/dr-george-m-weir>

Welcome to Weir



On Tuesday, November 15th, we welcomed all Weir students to the newly rebuilt school. The smiles and looks of excitement on the many faces of students as they took their first glimpse of the school was heartwarming to witness. Noah, a grade four student, exclaimed, “the school is so big and beautiful, I just want to hug it.” His words really capture the essence of what we are trying to create at Weir; a school that feels like a hug. Our gym is also finally ready for use as of Monday, December 5th. Things we love about our new building:

- The big, beautiful, colourful windows in our lobby, gym, and multi-purpose spaces
- The common areas and sliding doors between classrooms
- The new furniture
- The shorter basketball hoops
- Our giant multi-purpose space and beautiful library
- Being together

For the full story and short video, please use the following link:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/dr-george-m-weir/About-Us/news/layouts/15/ci/post.aspx?oaid=a9734e68-ffe-4c6a-8569-1db7af42c9c4&oact=20001>

Weir Open House

Please join us for our open house next week on **Wednesday, December 7th from 5:30pm – 7:30pm**. Please enter through the main doors located on E. 44th avenue. Tours will begin at 5:30pm with speeches and student musical performances beginning in the gym at 7:00pm. Please RSVP using the link here so we can get a sense of numbers (thank you if you have already completed this step). [HERE](#)



The poster is divided into three horizontal sections. The top section has a light blue background with the text 'WEIR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE' in dark blue, flanked by stylized mountain peaks. The middle section shows a photograph of the school building with 'DR. GEORGE M. WEIR' and '44th AVE' visible. The bottom section has a dark blue background with white text. On the right side, there is a red wolf head logo with the word 'WEIR' inside it.

**WEIR
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
OPEN
HOUSE**

**Come see the new
Weir
and learn about
what is
happening.**

**-Wednesday,
December 7th
-5:30 - 7:30 P.M.
-Tours, performances,
fun!
-R.S.V.P. below...**

**Please enter
from 44th
Avenue.**

<https://tinyurl.com/49p25ufs>

Photo Retake Day – Friday, December 2nd

If your child(ren) would like photo retakes, please have your child(ren) bring their proof sheet with them back to school on Friday (see picture).



Artona School Photo Day Login


School	Access Code	Grade
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Student First Name	Student Last Name	Homeroom
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

If you have placed an order, your order is being produced in our lab and will be delivered to you shortly.

Scan with your phone to see all of your images online today or log onto WWW.ARTONA.COM

If you require a retake, bring this handout to Absentee / Retake Day (This is a school requirement).

How can we make this better?



Snow Closure

Clearly winter weather has arrived! On snowy mornings, please check the home page of the VSB website for updated information regarding daily snow closures. School closure decisions due to snow will be posted to the district website by 7:00am. You can also check local radio stations and the VSB twitter account. Mr. McMitchell will also notify all families via email of school snow closures by 7:30am.

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx>



Please Keep Dogs on Leash

Please ensure that all dogs coming onto school grounds remain on leash. We have a number of children and adults who are uncomfortable with dogs and appreciate adult owners managing their leashed animals.

EpiPens

If your child requires an EpiPen, we want to ensure that it is managed effectively in order to keep your child safe. Please observe the following two scenarios:

- **Allergy is Life-Threatening** – Your child needs to wear the EpiPen at all times at school. Please ensure that your child has an EpiPen case or holder that they can wear.
- **Allergy does not pose threat to life** – We will store your child's EpiPen in a labelled, secured drawer in the First Aid room.



Westcoast Weather

In alignment with other VSB elementary schools, Weir has a westcoast weather policy. This means that we expect students and staff to dress for the weather. We will go outside for recess and lunch during light rain and snow conditions. In periods of excessively heavy rain or snow, we will hold inside recess and lunch periods.



Expansion to the Weir School Catchment

The District is seeking input about proposed [boundary changes](#) that affect Carleton, Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale school catchments. The District proposes to reduce the Carleton catchment area and expand catchment boundaries for Cunningham, Weir and MacCorkindale.

As you may know, students who reside in the Carleton catchment area have been attending neighbouring schools since the building was closed following a fire in 2016. The proposed catchment area changes will prioritize convenience and choice for Carleton catchment families by enabling them to easily apply to nearby catchment schools.

Feedback received through this engagement will be provided to the Board for their consideration as per [AP 305](#). Please note that the Board has not yet decided on any catchment changes.

Learn more about the proposed change at an information session:

Information sessions will provide an overview about the proposed changes as well as an opportunity to raise questions for staff to address.

- [In-person info session 1](#): Tuesday, December 6 | 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm at Cunningham Elementary School
- [Online info session 2](#): Tuesday, December 6 | 6:00 – 7:00 pm

You may also send written feedback to engage@vsb.bc.ca to share your input on the proposed boundary changes. All emails received until December 16 will be shared with the Board as part of the final report summarizing What We Heard.

A post-engagement survey will be made available after December 6. Carleton catchment families will be invited to answer specific enrolment questions.

Need more information?

- [Click here](#) to find background information on the proposed school catchment boundary changes.

Reporting Absences from School

When reporting your child(ren)'s absence from school. Please use the following safe arrival number.

Safe Arrival: 604-713-4771 ext 1

Indigenous Focus Day

Our staff had a powerful day of learning on Friday, November 25th where we explored what Truth and Reconciliation looks like in our school. We have committed to quite a few actions to start and others to continue alongside our learners including a morning acknowledgment of the traditional territories.



Where are the Bells?!?!?

Families who drop off and pick up their child(ren) from school might have noticed that we have reduced the duration and frequency of school bells at our school. During the industrial revolution, school bells were used to help transition students into post-graduation jobs in factories that operated on bell systems to start and stop the shifts of factory workers. In addition, bells can also be quite upsetting for our students with extra sensory needs. As an effort to create a more peaceful environment in our school that respects that learning involves patience and time, we have limited our bells to signal the beginning of our day and the end of recess and lunch.



Keeping Ourselves Healthy

We are firmly in cold and flu season at the moment. With the continued presence of Covid, we need to continue to practice disease prevention practices to reduce disease transmission including:

- Wash your hands regularly
- Monitor for symptoms and stay home if you are unwell
- Wear a mask (personal choice)

A Message from Vancouver Parks and Recreation



December News!

Visit your local Community Centre at www.champlainheightscc.ca



Everett Crowley Park Stewardship Event

Saturday, December 10, 10:00am-12:30 pm Free

Get dirty, have fun and help the environment!

Join ECPC for monthly stewardship events to help remove invasive plant species, wild native shrubs, and to learn more about the history & ecology of the 5th largest park in Vancouver. Gloves, tools and light refreshments are provided. Please dress appropriately for the weather and wear sturdy, close-toed shoes.

Weather permitting. Family-friendly with no experience required!

Meeting place: Front entrance to the Champlain Heights Community Centre (3350 Maquinna Dr).



Announcing Winter 2023 Programs

Registration starts Thursday, December 15 at 7pm

We are excited to share our new season of programs and activities.

There is something for everyone!

Check out our website for more details at champlainheightscc.ca

Volunteers Needed

Become involved in what program or community event you and your family or neighbours would like to see happen in Champlain Heights.

Join the Program committee!

Email - andrew.pereda.chca@gmail.com for information.

Champlain Heights Community Centre

3350 Maquinna Drive Vancouver BC, V5S 4C6 | champlainheightscc.ca

Jointly operated by the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and the Champlain Heights Community Association



UPDATED (September 23, 2022) CALENDAR - 2022– 2023

Dr George M Weir Elementary School

School Operation Overview

Number of Days in Session	185
Number of Days of Instruction	179
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	6 Non-Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 30)

Important Dates * School Not In Session

First Day of School for Students	Tuesday September 6, 2022
* National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Friday, September 30, 2022
* Thanksgiving Day	Monday October 10, 2022
* Remembrance Day	Friday November 11, 2022
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday December 16, 2022
Winter Vacation Period	Monday December 19, 2022-Monday January 2, 2023
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Tuesday January 3, 2023
* Family Day	Monday February 20, 2023
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday March 10, 2023
Spring Vacation Period	Monday March 13-Friday March 24, 2023
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday March 27, 2023
* Good Friday	Friday April 7, 2023
* Easter Monday	Monday, April 10, 2023
* Victoria Day	Monday May 22, 2023
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday June 29, 2023
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday June 30, 2023

Professional Development and Non-Instructional Days (school not in session)

Friday October 21, 2022	Professional Development Day (Province Wide)
Monday November 14, 2022	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, November 25, 2022	Indigenous Focus Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)
Monday January 16, 2023	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, February 17, 2023	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Monday, April 24, 2023	Professional Development Day (District Wide)

Parent Conference Dates

Early Dismissal Times

Wednesday, November 2, 2022	2:00 pm
Thursday, November 3, 2022	2:00 pm
Wednesday, March 1, 2023	2:00 pm
Thursday, March 2, 2023	2:00 pm