



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>

Dear Weir Families,

Welcome back to school! It has been an exciting and event-filled first week with students. It was so nice to see so many smiling faces and find out who has grown over the summer months. I wanted to personally thank our families and staff for their patience as we once again navigate school start up over three different school sites.

We should have firm dates for our move back to Weir shortly. I am in regular communication with the project office and have emphasized the importance of providing reasonable notice for families. I will also ensure that the YMCA before and school care for Weir receives the necessary information to start alongside us.

In our opening staff meeting, I described the importance of relationships: with our students, with our families, and with each other. Moving back to our new building will be both extremely exciting and at times, a little bit hectic. We will have plans and routines for many things. However, we also know that we will discover unforeseen issues that will require us to think on our feet. Important at all times but especially in times of transition, is taking care of each other. Our relationships are the glue that ensure we will make this transition successfully. Together, we watched this famous TED talk by educator Rita Pierson to remind us what really counts:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFnMTHhKdkw&t=2s>

Professional Development Day

You may recall that we made the decision to move our first professional development day from September 23rd to either **Tuesday, October 11th OR Monday, November 14th**. This date is dependent on our return to Weir. The move date will be finalized shortly and we will send an updated calendar with the confirmed date of the Professional development day.

- **September 23rd** – Weir Elementary is IN-SESSION
- Professional Development Day will be either **Tuesday, October 11th OR Monday, November 14th**. We will let you know shortly.

Congratulations Ms. Behrenz – Acting Weir Vice-Principal

I am thrilled to announce that long-time Weir staff member, Ms. Nicole Behrenz, has assumed the role of acting Vice Principal. Ms. Behrenz is an experienced resource and classroom teacher with outstanding interpersonal skills and educational knowledge. She is currently completing her Masters of Education in Special Education with Queens University. We are all thrilled to have such a capable person step into the role who already knows our school, our staff, and our students. Ms. Behrenz will serve as acting Vice-Principal until the completion of a Vice-Principal competition later this year.



News from Weir PAC

A warm welcome back after the summer holidays! For our returning families, we are happy to see you again. For all of our new families, welcome! You have joined a great community of children, families, and educators at Weir and we are looking forward to getting to know you this year.

Weir PAC Mailing List: if you haven't already opted-in to this, please hop over to <https://weirpac.weebly.com/> to subscribe and stay connected with the PAC. This mailing list is used for keeping our school community up-to-date on the latest news, including hot lunch, special days, and events at the school and much more. Please note that submitting your email address to the school administration does not get you into this important communication list, so subscribe now and stay in touch with us!

Weir YMCA KidsClub: anyone who is interested in putting their child's name onto the waitlist for this most anticipated before and after school program can now do so at the [YMCA of Greater Vancouver Child Care Registry & Waitlist website](#)

Health and Safety

The Vancouver School District and Dr. George M. Weir Elementary continue to follow the guidance of the Ministry of Education and Child Care, the BC Centre for Disease Control and Vancouver Coastal Health in putting in place measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. The BC Centre for Disease Control updated [guidance](#) for the K-12 sector indicates that, “Transmission within K-12 schools settings accounts for a minority of COVID-19 cases even amongst students and staff.”

Measures that will continue to be in place for the coming school year include reminders to all staff, students, and their families to monitor their health daily and to **stay home if they are ill**. Information about COVID-19 symptoms can be found on the [BCCDC website](#). Students who become ill during the school day will be asked to wear a mask and wait in a supervised area, away from other students, until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.

Staff will continue to remind students of the importance of regular hand washing/hand sanitizing and of coughing/sneezing into their elbow or a tissue. We will continue to ensure school sinks are well stocked with soap and that hand sanitizer is available. Staff will also continue to remind students to be respectful of others’ personal space while going through daily school activities.

Wearing a mask, other than what is recommended by public health, is an important personal health choice for students and families. Some staff and students will choose to wear a mask throughout the day or for certain activities. Others will choose not to wear a mask. Individual decisions around mask wearing will be supported and respected at Dr. George M. Weir Elementary.

Clean air and proper ventilation are important parts of the prevention measures in all Vancouver schools. During the past months, District staff have undertaken the refurbishment and rehabilitation of ventilation equipment in all schools and will continue to install new ventilation and heating equipment in portables. Air filters in schools have been upgraded and are replaced three times per year.

More information on COVID-19 prevention measures in Vancouver schools can be found [here](#).

Never Let a Generous Thought Go Unspoken

How many times have you thought something nice about someone but kept it to yourself? At Weir, one way we are living into our ‘Be Kinder Than Necessary’ motto this year is to make sure that we share the wonderful things we think about each other. Often, we assume that the other person already knows and doesn’t need to hear a compliment. I have challenged myself and our Weir staff to make sure that we never let a generous thought go unspoken. We encourage you to do the same at home.

Dr. George M. Weir Elementary School



2900 East 44th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5R 3A8
(604) 713-4771

SCHOOL FEES for (2022-2023)

Important Information – Please Translate

这是一份重要信息 – 请找人为您翻译

اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ
ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

Важная информация! Переведите, пожалуйста

GENERAL \$35.00 SUPPLY FEE



The Vancouver School Board offers the service of purchasing basic school supplies in bulk at wholesale prices and passing the cost savings on to families. The School Supply Fee for 2022 – 2023 is \$35.00 per student.

This fee covers basic consumable school supplies used for students' personal use such as paper, writing tools, glue sticks, erasers, exercise books and art supplies. Supplies are provided for the full year.

SUPPLEMENTARY FEES

Student Agenda/Planner – \$8.00

Students at Weir Elementary will be using an Agenda/Planner in grades 1-7. School agendas/planners are a valuable tool for teaching children how to organize and plan for school. While students are not required to have an agenda/planner it is designed to assist students with the skills of organization and time management and is a very useful communication tool often used between teachers and families.

Performance/Activity/Program Fee – \$30.00

During the school year, and as permissible under Provincial and District Health and Safety protocols and direction, non-curricular activities may be offered to students with nominal fees. Program fees will be published at that time. We are pleased to enrich your child's learning through a wide variety of performances this year. This supplementary fee supports the school in bringing in talented and professional theatrical and musical performers that align with a particular educational theme. Parent support has made these opportunities possible and we appreciate your continued contribution.

Online Programs – \$20.00

Some classroom teachers may be offering supplemental workbooks which require a fee. Students are not obligated to purchase the workbook and may opt to use their copy as a reference textbook instead, meaning the workbook will be returned at the end of the school year for another student to use in the future. Students opting to use the workbook as a textbook will be responsible for ensuring that it **remains unmarked and in excellent condition** in order to return the workbook at the end of the year.

Field Studies – To be determined throughout the school year at the classroom level

Throughout the school year, and as permissible under Provincial and District Health and Safety protocols and direction, your child's teacher may plan supplementary learning opportunities at locations outside of the school and request monies towards entrance fees, transportation or equipment rental. Your child's teacher will communicate this information to you directly.

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

As a reminder, the Vancouver School Board will not deny a child access to the school supplies required for his or her educational program because of financial hardship. Nor will any child be excluded from activities where a fee is charged. If at any time there is a financial challenge, please contact the school Principal, Mr. Riley McMitchell. All requests will be treated confidentially.

