



# Laurier Elementary School

## January News

2024-2025

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School: 7350 Laurel Street, Vancouver BC V6P 3T9, 604-713-4925

**Principal:** Geri Gruft   **OAA:** Dean Hall   **Director of Instruction:** Chris Wong   **PAC Chair:** Rahul Aggarwal   **Trustee:** Alfred Chien

*With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̅əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).*

### Principal's Message

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! I hope you all had a restful and joyful holiday season. As we step into this new year, I am both excited and optimistic about the wonderful learning opportunities and experiences that lie ahead for our students.

The Laurier Staff have been working hard to prepare for the second half of the school year, and we are committed to providing a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment for all our students. We are excited to welcome **Leiz Almonte-Gagnon**, Office Support, and **Kristin Bjorndal, SSA**, to the Laurier Team.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Wishing you all a happy and healthy new year!

Warm regards,

*Geri Gruft*

Principal

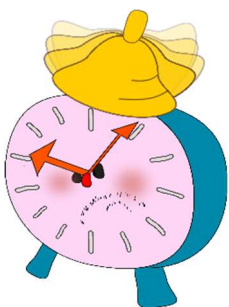
### Student Learning Survey: Grade 4 and 7

The **Student Learning Survey** in British Columbia is an annual online survey designed to gather feedback from students in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12, their parents, and school staff about their educational experiences. The survey aims to collect valuable insights to help improve the educational system. It is voluntary and anonymous. Parents can complete the survey for each child they have in the specified grades. The data collected is used by schools, districts, and government ministries for planning and research. Your participation is highly valued as it contributes to enhancing the educational experiences for all students in British Columbia. Parents of grade 4 and 7 students can participate in the survey by going to this link and choosing our district and school from the drop-down menu.



<https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp>

### Arriving to School On-Time



I would like to remind everyone about the importance of arriving to school on time. Punctuality helps ensure that your child starts their day smoothly and doesn't miss out on valuable learning opportunities and important daily routines. It also sets a positive tone for the rest of the day and helps students develop good habits for the future.

Please contact the **Safe Arrival Line** if your child(ren) as soon as you know your child is going to be late or absent from school: 604-713-5159 (Ext: 44#)

## Generation Health with the YMCA

Generation Health is a **FREE 10-week healthy lifestyle program** for children and their families, delivered through YMCA BC and in partnership with the Childhood Healthy Living Foundation. Program participants will meet virtually or in person to learn about healthy eating, physical activity, goal setting, body image, self-esteem and more!

We have four program days to choose from: Starting in February- Tuesdays (In person at the Tong Louie YMCA) or Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays Virtually from 6:30-8:30 pm. This program requires prior registration through these details: phone 1-888-650-3141 or send an e-mail to [generationhealth@bc.ymca.ca](mailto:generationhealth@bc.ymca.ca) . See attached flyer details.

**Families who join this program receive a complimentary membership to the YMCA.**

## Laurier School Code of Conduct



The start of the new calendar year is a perfect opportunity to revisit the Laurier School Code of Conduct. Our staff is committed to supporting our students in demonstrating SOAR principles throughout the school day. In the coming month, we will be sending home a student-friendly brochure to each Laurier family. We will encourage students to share these colourful flyers with their families to foster a greater understanding and to support our shared values.

## Cold & Flu Season

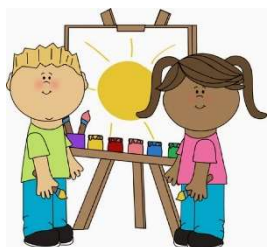
The cold and flu season continues. We would like to remind parents to help keep our community healthy by keeping your child(ren) home if they are not feeling well. Staying home when feeling unwell will reduce the spread of illness throughout our school community and will allow your child to rest comfortably. Thank you for your support in this regard. Our staff appreciate that this is not always easy for families.



## Marpole Oakridge Family Place

The Marpole Oakridge Family Place offers before and after school care to Laurier families, and they currently have some spaces available. They are located at 8188 Lord Street. Staff at the MOFP walk with students to from the center to Laurier in the morning and then from the school to the center at the end of the school day. Please see the attached flyer for additional information.

## Kindergarten Registration for 2024-2025



Priority enrolment to register your child for kindergarten at Laurier or other VSB schools continues until January 31, 2025.

First, register your children online. Second, make an appointment with your catchment school to verify your registration information and documents in person. See link for more details: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5195>

## Important Dates

- Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> – **PAC Meeting** online @ 6:30
- Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> – **Professional Development Day** for Staff. No school for students.
- Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> – **Lunar New Year**
- Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – **Laurier PAC Family Dance Party**
- Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> - **Professional Development Day** for Staff. No school for students.
- Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> – **Family Day Holiday**. School closed.

## PAC News

I hope that everyone had good Winter Holidays. Thank you for all your support in 2024. We hope you were able to get some Purdy's Chocolates, and Laurier Eagles T shirts. We now look forward to our next PAC activity, T shirt sales for Pink Shirt Day (Feb 26) and Laurier Family Dance Party. Please keep an eye out for future news and email notices from the Laurier PAC!

### **Next PAC Meeting - January 21, 2025 at 6:30pm via Google Meets**

Mark your calendar! Our next PAC meeting will take place **virtually via Google Meets on Tuesday, January 21, 2025**. We will share more information including the meeting link and an agenda prior to the meeting. We hope to see you there!

### **Hot Lunch Program**

It's with a heavy heart that we announce that Katy Won and Florence Jang are no longer part of the Hot Lunch Program. We will miss their leadership and thank them for all their support to the Laurier Community and the Hot Lunch Program over the years. Please be sure to say a quick thank you to each of them next time you see them.

We also welcome Felix Li and Brian Ng to the Hot Lunch Program. We look forward to working with them.

We are excited to continue offering our Hot Lunch Program, but we can't do it without your help. To ensure everything runs smoothly, we are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to assist us during school days from 11:25 to 12.

### **Volunteer Responsibilities:**

- Meeting vendors when they make their deliveries
- Setting up area (folding table)
- Checking orders
- Helping distribute meals to students
- Cleaning up

No prior experience is necessary — just a willingness to lend a hand and support our school community! Even an hour of your time makes a big difference. This is a fun way to spend some time at the school and help the PAC's biggest fundraiser!

Signing up to volunteer is easy! Just follow this link: <https://volunteersignup.org/9W8F3> or contact the hot lunch team by email at [laurier.hotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:laurier.hotlunch@gmail.com).

Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a difference in our students' day. Your help is greatly appreciated, and we look forward to working together!

**Family Dance Party**

The PAC is organizing a Family Dance Party to be held on February 12, 2025 from 5pm to 7:30. Families are invited to join their children to this Dance Party. Tickets are available today via your child's SchoolCash account.

The dance is open to Laurier students only – tickets are limited.

All students must be accompanied by a parent, parents also require a ticket.

We're looking forward to a fabulous Laurier community event!

**Laurier PAC Presents**

**FAMILY DANCE PARTY**

**WED., FEB. 12th, 2025**

**5:00 PM**

FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO DANCE  
THE AFTERNOON AWAY WITH  
**ROCK'N'BEAU**

DOORS: 5 - 7:30 PM  
SKIP THE LINE - ADVANCE PURCHASE TICKET  
OPTIONS AVAILABLE