

Secord News

Report Absences: 604-713-5159, ext 74

Volume 1, September 2021

SAFETY CORNER

Among other things, what is September known for at "back to school" time? Hectic, exciting.... and busy with traffic! For the safety of all, please check out page 4 for more safety info. See Page 4.

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Dates to Remember for the Fall

Friday, September 24th	Pro D Day. School not in Session
Thursday, September 30 th	School not In Session- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Monday, October 12th	Thanksgiving
Friday, October 23rd	Professional Day. School not in Session



Welcome New Students... *Bienvenue!*

A warm welcome back to all of our École Laura Secord Elementary families and students

Special welcome to all the new families joining us!

All the staff are very excited to be back and to be with your children



And, Welcome New Staff!

September every year brings change, and that includes our staff. Renald Sans after a wonderful 15 years has moved onto to teach at Secondary School, Jennifer MacDonald has moved to the Island to follow her dream, Trisha Ericson has moved to a new position, as has Rachel Wong our bubbly Office support. Linda Cauchon and Paola Sallusti have retired. We wish them well in their endeavors.

That, of course, leads to the introduction of our new staff! Please join us in welcoming the following new team members.

- Caitlin Feller – EFI Gr.6/7
- Laura Baillis – EFI Gr. Kindergarten
- Shaun Pletsch – Gr. 6/7
- Katy Erwin – Gr. K
- Francesca Carbonneau – FI Resource
- Alison Ho – Office support
- Michelle De Groot -SSA Team



Reminder....

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS:
September 24th Pro D Day
October 11th Thanksgiving

How do you catch a school of fish?

- With a bookworm



The Terry Fox run is back!

Keep your eyes peeled for more information.



Stop Bike Thefts

Nearly 2 million bikes are stolen in North America annually - one every 30 seconds.

In Vancouver alone, 5-6 bikes are stolen every day on average, 9 per day in the summer. Unfortunately, Secord experienced an attempted theft in June last year.

So what can you do?

Secure It - the best way to protect yourself against bike theft is to park your bike in a secure bike parking facility, like many workplace bike rooms and cages, and the lockers and parkades provided at some TransLink stations. Other good choices include monitored parking facilities and locations, and high-visibility racks along retail store-fronts. See **Lock It Well** below!

- **Record Your serial #** - often on the underside of your pedal (crank) shaft - keep this number in a safe place
- **Register It** - use the free 529 Garage registry and app anywhere in Metro Vancouver. It alerts others that your bike is stolen and helps police recover and return it to you.
- **Lock it Well** - watch this helpful video by HUB (and this VPD video) to learn how to prevent bike theft with good locking techniques
- **Report Bike Theft** - if your bike is stolen, reporting it to your local police ASAP is your best chance for safe return (and to stimulate action by the local policing community).
- **Broadcast It** - social networks have been proven to increase the chance of recovery - post a photo and details of your bike theft experience on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- **Look for It** - watch online marketplaces, and report or flag suspicious listings.

Police and RCMP advise you to not attempt a 'sting' operation of your own; while some have been successful, the potential risk to you is far greater than the benefit of recovery. **Always contact your local police for assistance.**

Log It, Lock It...Or Lose It and Free Bike Registry

Here is the VPD Log It, Lock It or Lose It campaign, and recommended bike registry app Project 529 Garage to make it harder for thieves to steal your bike. Project 529 also makes it easier for police to help get your bike back if it's stolen.



Welcome Back to School 2021

Dear Secord Families,

Welcome to the new school year! It is with optimism and gratitude that we welcome you to the 2021-2022 school year. We are optimistic that our school year will be safe, caring, and inclusive and grateful for the opportunities to re-connect and re-engage.

On August 24, Education Minister Jennifer Whiteside and Dr. Bonnie Henry announced B.C. K-12 students will return to school for full time, in person instruction in September. [Updated COVID-19 guidelines for K-12 schools](#) were released from the Ministry of Education, as guided by the Ministry of Health. **Masks will also continue to be required in all indoor spaces for all K-7 staff, visitors and students in grades 4 to 7 in schools and on school buses. Free distribution of masks to staff and students will be done like we did last school year.**

There will be continued emphasis on health measures such as: daily health checks, staying home when sick, hand washing, daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols. Our plans and guidelines will be updated with our Health and Safety staff committee and communicated to parents, students, and staff next week.

Some highlights are:

1. **Masks are required for all staff and students in grades 4-7 – Grades K-3 strongly recommended**
2. **No cohorts**
3. **One bell schedule for the entire school - no staggered entry or split recesses**
4. **ALL Students eat in their classrooms – like last year, eating time will be part of instructional time and supervised by teachers. Homeroom teachers will decide what lunch time is best for their class (before or after lunch recess). Please see attached bell schedule**
5. **Schools are asked to look at the feasibility of hot lunch programs within their communities. We will work with our PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) in the upcoming days/weeks to look at feasibility for our school**

6. Restricted access to the school building: parents/visitors' appointments have to be made

We understand that there may be individuals (students, parents, guardians, employees) who are anxious at the thought of returning to school in September. This is to be expected during a global pandemic. Whether or not your child attended school last year in person you can rest assured that students will be welcomed and accepted at Secord regardless of where they might be at in their learning. We welcome children to school and will facilitate their growth along the continuum of learning. We will meet your child where they are at in their learning.

Parents and guardians can expect that schools will be focusing on individual students realizing their potential in an environment that is safe, culturally aware, and respectful and welcoming of diversity.

Important Procedures for Students New to Secord

All students who are new to Secord including Grade 6 Late French Immersion Students will meet just inside Entrance D on the East side of 10th Avenue (see map attached and look for the “New Student” sign).

New students to Secord will be welcomed by our *Secord New Student Welcome Team* and be given an introduction and a tour of Ecole Laura Secord Elementary. After their tour on Wednesday, they will be assigned to a temporary, grade-appropriate classroom until we move into our 2021-2022 classes. The new students will be shown their new pickup and drop off location for the week before re-uniting with their parents/guardians at the original entrance (D) on 10th Avenue.

Grade 6 Late Immersion Students will proceed to their classroom for the year on Wednesday Sept. 8th and released to their original spot of drop off in the morning with instructions on how to arrive the next day.

New Kindergarten students are not attending school on Sept. 8th. Their first day is Thursday, September 9th. According to the gradual entry schedule below:

Kindergarten Gradual Entry Schedule

Gradual A Schedule		Gradual B Schedule	
Wed, Sept. 8:	No school for new Kindergarten students	Wed., Sept. 8:	No school for new Kindergarten students
Thurs, Sept. 9	9:40 – 10:10 AM	Thurs., Sept. 9	11:00 – 11:30 AM
Fri, Sept. 10	9:10 – 10:10 AM	Fri., Sept. 10	11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Mon, Sept. 13	9:10 – 10:25 AM	Mon., Sept. 13	11:00 AM – 12:15 PM
Tues, Sept. 14	9:10 – 11:10 AM	Tues., Sept. 14	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Wed, Sept. 15	9:10 – 1:10 PM	Wed., Sept. 15	9:10 AM – 1:10 PM
Thurs, Sept. 16 onwards	9:00 – 3:03 PM	Thurs., Sept. 16 onwards	9:00 AM – 3:03 PM

September Enrollment and Reorganization

School organization was initiated last May-June based on the information available to us at that time. There are always new student registrations at Secord with new families moving into and out of the area. Schools often need to reorganize at this time of year based on new information received over the summer. We will be submitting our enrollment numbers to the District to determine if we have to reorganize the school classes and to determine how many classes and students that would affect. If indeed we must move teaching assignments and classes, we will address that in a separate letter to parents. Our goal is to complete that process as quickly and effectively as possible to promote stability. Please help us in reminding your child/children of this process.

Field Studies

As per updated District H&S Guidelines, local day and community outings are permitted by transit, school bus and walking. Destinations/operators must have a Covid-19 mitigation plan that does not contradict or conflict with the school COVID plan. At this time all overnight and out of province outings continue not to be supported.

Athletics

Extra-curricular athletics have been given approval to resume towards the end of September. District guidelines have been created to ensure safety and they will be shared with the community in follow up communications.

Life-Threatening Allergies

There are numerous students at Ecole Laura Secord Elementary School who live with severe allergies which can cause serious anaphylactic reactions. An anaphylactic reaction is an allergic reaction so severe that, in some cases, it can be life threatening.

These children have severe allergies to:

- Eggs (egg salad, hard boiled eggs) or prepared food with eggs such as mayonnaise, baked goods containing eggs, candy containing egg such as nougat, creamy dressings, custard, quiche, etc.)
- Seafood
- Peanuts
- Tree Nuts (Please note: Some products claim to be peanut free but actually contain tree nuts. Please read ingredient lists carefully).

The best approach to creating a safe school environment for these children is prevention/avoidance and parents/guardians play a crucial role in this regard. While we recognize that parents are entitled to decide what goes into their child's lunches and snacks, we respectfully request your help in reducing the risk to our students with these allergies by refraining, wherever possible, from packing the above-named foods.



School Bell Schedule

Ecole Laura Secord Elementary School Schedule 2021-2022

8:55	Warning Bell	5 min.
9:00-9:50	Period 1	50 min.
9:50-10:30	Period 2	40 min.
10:30-10:50	Recess	20 min.
10:50-11:30	Period 3	40 min.
11:30-12:10	Period 4	40 min.
12:10-12:57	Outside	47 min.
12:57-1:32	Period 5	35 min.
1:32-2:12	Period 6	40 min.
2:12-3:03	Period 7	51 min.
3:03	Dismissal	

Bell times:

8:55 / 9:00

10:30/10:50

12:10/12:57

3:03



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School Calendar

Ecole Laura Secord Elementary School Calendar 2021–2022

School Operation Overview

Number of Days in Session	185
Number of Days of Instruction	177
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	7 Non-Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 30)

Important Dates

First Day of School for Students	Wednesday September 8, 2021
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	Thursday September 30, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Monday October 11, 2021
Remembrance Day	Thursday November 11, 2021
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday December 17, 2021
Winter Vacation Period	Monday December 20, 2021-Monday January 3, 2022
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Tuesday January 4, 2022
Family Day	Monday February 21, 2022
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday March 11, 2022
Spring Vacation Period	Monday March 14-Friday March 25, 2022
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday March 28, 2022
Good Friday	Friday April 15, 2022
Easter Monday	Monday, April 18, 2022
Victoria Day	Monday May 23, 2022
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Wednesday June 29, 2022
Administrative/School Closing Day	Thursday June 30, 2022

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

Tuesday September 7, 2021	In-Service Anti-Racism Training Day
Friday September 24, 2021	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 22, 2021	Professional Development Day (Province Wide)
Friday, November 26, 2021	Indigenous Focus Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)
Monday January 17, 2022	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, February 18, 2022	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Monday, April 25, 2022	Professional Development Day (District Wide)

Student Conference Dates

Early Dismissal Times

Tuesday, November 09 th , 2021	2:00 pm dismissal
Wednesday, November 10 th , 2021	2:00 pm dismissal
Wednesday, March 09 th , 2022	2:00 pm dismissal
Thursday, March 10 th , 2022	2:00 pm dismissal

VSBC Grade 8

September 2021

PROGRAMS

All 18 secondary schools in Vancouver offer challenging and comprehensive programs. Many schools have developed their own school-based enrichment programs for a wide range of student interests and abilities. In addition to the neighbourhood school, District programs also offer a set of enrichment programs to meet the needs of students.

Due to COVID 19 there have been changes to District Mini School Application processes. All information nights will be held through online platforms. There is no District Wide Assessment/Test.

Important Dates

General Registry: Apply to the District Mini School General Registry between November 9, 2020 - December 17, 2020 by 3:00pm
<https://govsb.ca/secondary-programs>

Complete Program Application Processes: Connect directly to each Mini School program site to submit required information, and documentation.
 Deadline: December 17, 2020 by 3:00pm

Check our website for the most up to date information
<https://govsb.ca/secondary-programs>

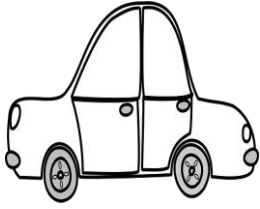


Safe Arrival Program

If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please send a note to the office ahead of time or call our Safe Arrival - Attendance Phone at **604-713-5159 ext. 74**.

Calling this line ensures that absences are received and recorded in our student information system and allows us to account for all student's safety in a timely manner. The school office can be a very busy place in the morning and using the dedicated phone line ensures your message will be received and will allow us to focus our efforts on student safety and office procedures.

Secondly, if you are picking your child up early from school, we also ask that you send a note to the school in the morning. This process is helpful as we wish to minimize interruptions to classes by calling students out during instructional time and helps us get your child to you in an efficient manner.



Back to School Traffic Safety Tips

The first few weeks of back to school is always a hectic and exciting time. Traffic-wise, things can get particularly busy, especially near schools. For the safety of all children we are strongly encouraging everyone to drive carefully and obey traffic signs around school grounds. If possible, we are encouraging everyone to walk, cycle (remember to wear a helmet) or carpool to school. If you must drive, consider parking a few blocks away and walk the rest of the way.

The following are traffic signs that are typically posted around Vancouver schools.



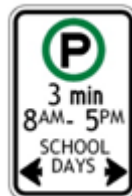
“NO PARKING 8am – 5pm SCHOOL DAYS”

These signs designate the zones for active picking up and dropping off of students. Do not park and leave the vehicle in these zones.



“3 min Parking 8am – 5pm SCHOOL DAYS”

These signs designate the zones for picking up and dropping off of students where parking is permitted for 3 minutes.



School Area Signs

This sign is used in advance of school to warn drivers that children may be walking along or crossing the road. On local streets 30 km/hr signs are posted and the speed limit is 30 km/hr from 8 am - 5 pm on school days.



School Crosswalk Signs

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Second News



Wear Orange on September 30th

The Government of Canada is committed to reconciliation and ensuring that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools is never forgotten.

As you may be aware, the government recently passed legislation to make **September 30th** a federal statutory holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Like all Canadians, this day provides an opportunity for each public servant to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools. This may present itself as a day of quiet reflection or participation in a community event.



RBLBasketball.com

Celebrating our 25th year, over 35,000 boys/girls have played RBL Basketball

RBL Basketball Boys/Girls Fall 2021 and Winter 2022

General Information

- register online at RBLBasketball.com when registration is open, fees indicated are what you pay
- skill development programs are open to all regardless of skill level
- league players can register individually or with a team (reduced fee)
- all players may participate in RBL recreational leagues
- players new to RBL, registering as individuals, who wish to play in a competitive league should contact Richard to arrange for assessment
- no RBL programs take place on Halloween evening or the week prior to public school breaks
- Winter programs resume the first week public schools are in session
- if the time of your program is not listed, you will be contacted just prior to the start
- RBL offers many, highly recommended, grade specific, one-week holiday camps which are the keys to our program
- Private/semi-private lessons – contact Richard (604) 269-0221

Kindergarten/Grade 1/2/3 Boys/Girls

(11)	Sunday - Skill Development	Sept 12-Oct 10	11-15 - 1:15pm (StPats)	\$150
(21)	Monday - Skill Development	Sept 13-Dec 13	5:30-6:45pm (BS)	\$240
(31)	Tuesday - Skill Development	Sept 14-Dec 7	5:30-6:45pm (BS)	\$240
(41)	Friday - Skill Development	Oct 15-Dec 10	5:30-6:45pm (BS)	\$170
(53)	Sunday - Skill Development (K/1)	Oct 17-Mar 6	11:30-12:45pm (JCC)	\$340
(52)	Sunday - Skill Development (2/3)	Oct 17-Mar 6	10:15-11:30am (JCC)	\$340
(54)	Sunday - Skill Development (K-3)	Oct 17-Mar 6	12:45-2pm (JCC)	\$340
(51)	Sunday - League (2/3) selective	Oct 17-Mar 6	9-10:15am (JCC)	\$340

Grade 4/5/6 Boys/Girls

(12)	Sunday - Skill Development	Sept 12-Oct 10	9-11am (StPats)	\$150
(13)	Sunday - Skill Development	Sept 12-Oct 10	9-11am (JCC)	\$150
(22)	Monday - Skill Development	Sept 13-Dec 13	6:45-8pm (BS)	\$240
(32)	Tuesday - Skill Development	Sept 14-Dec 7	6:45-8pm (BS)	\$240
(42)	Friday - Skill Development	Oct 15-Dec 10	6:45-8pm (BS)	\$170
(81)	Sunday - League (competitive)	Oct 17-Mar 6	am/early pm (StPats)	\$270
(82)	Sunday - League (recreational)	Oct 17-Mar 6	am/early pm (StPats)	\$270

Grade 6/7/8/9 Boys

*Many Grade 6 & 7 teams will have a practice, often on Thursdays from 6-7 or 7-8 pm at St. Patrick's

(23)	Monday - Skill Development	Sept 13-Dec 13	8-9:15pm (BS)	\$240
(33)	Tuesday - Skill Development	Sept 14-Dec 7	8-9:15pm (BS)	\$240
(43)	Friday - Skill Development	Oct 15-Dec 10	8-9:15pm (BS)	\$170
(44)	Friday - Skill Development HP	Oct 15-Dec 10	8-9:15pm (BS)	\$170
(71)	*Saturday - League (Gr. 6 comp)	Nov 6-Mar 5	evenings (JH)	\$270
(72)	*Saturday - League (Gr. 7 comp)	Nov 6-Mar 5	evenings (JH)	\$270
(73)	*Saturday - Rec League (Gr 6-9)	Nov 6-Mar 5	evenings (JH)	\$270

Grade 8/9/10 Boys

*Optional drop-in practices are available on Thursdays, Sept 23-Oct 28 from 6-8pm at St. Patrick's

(61)	*Sat pre-season - Gr. 8 League	Sept 18-Oct 30	after 2pm (JH)	\$130
(62)	*Sat pre-season - Gr. 9 League	Sept 18-Oct 30	after 2pm (JH)	\$130
(63)	*Sat pre-season - Gr. 10 League	Sept 18-Oct 30	after 2pm (JH)	\$130
(43)	Friday - Skill Development	Oct 15-Dec 10	8-9:15pm (BS)	\$170
(44)	Friday - Skill Development HP	Oct 15-Dec 10	8-9:15pm (BS)	\$170

RBL Basketball black/white reversible jerseys available for sale at games \$25
RBL basketballs and designer camp t-shirts for sale (order through Coach Blake)

Gymnasiums:

- Jericho Hill Centre Gym (JH) – 4196 West 4th Ave (enter from 4th Ave)
- Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver (JCC) – 950 W. 41st Ave (east of Oak)
- Saint Patrick's Elementary (StPats) – 110 E. 12th Ave (just west of Main Street)
- Blessed Sacrament School (BS) – 3020 Heather Street (north of 16th Ave)

youth basketball
in Vancouver since
1997

Leagues

Skill
Development

Holiday Camps

Private and
Group Lessons

Blake/Richard Poritz
2066 Waverley Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
V5P 1R5

Tel: (604) 269-0221

Dates/Times/Locations/Fees
Subject to change. E&OE



PAC Chairs:

Shahira Sakiyama &
Zahra Esmail

Laura Secord Elementary

2500 Lakewood Dr
Vancouver, BC
V5N 4V1

Phone 604-713-4996

Alison Ogden
Director of Instruction-SS

Estrellita Martin-Gonzalez
Trustee



Vancouver School
Board

School Calendar

[PAC](#)

PAC is on Twitter!

@SecordPAC

Hello Secord Families!

Welcome to the 2021/22 school year.

*This is the Parent Advisory Committee (**PAC**) and every family is a part of it.*

The school puts out a newsletter, as do we, but be aware these are two different lists.

To receive the PAC newsletter and updates email secordpac@gmail.com.

Please save these upcoming dates:

- 1st PAC Meeting, September 22nd, 7-8:30pm ~ this will be virtual, link to come
- AGM, October, 19th, 7-8:30pm ~ tbd

To help us figure out the best way to gather, please answer this [one question poll](#) to inform what would be most accommodating.

The first PAC meeting is helpful to get a snapshot of what happens at the school outside of the classrooms and who is helping our community thrive behind the scenes: Who puts out the great newsletters? What is DPAC? What do English & French Reps do? What is the pumpkin patch? What is a class rep?

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is where we approve this year's budget and vote in a new PAC Executive.

Some positions that need to be filled are:

- Secretary
- Anti-Racism Committee Representative
- Fundraising Representative
- Co-chair

Following up with all the amazing work that happened last year, as things slowly open up in the school, we're excited about what we might be able to do this year as a school community. The Pumpkin Patch! Winter Warmer?

One of the beautiful conversations we had last year at a PAC meeting was around land acknowledgements and inhibitions and opportunities that come with this practice. Uncertainty in how to pronounce the host nations properly came up.

Here's a fun tutorial with Khelsilem on how to pronounce *Skwomesh* and Skwomesh phonetics.

[How To Say Skwxwú7mesh - YouTube](#)

Join us on Friday the 10th 17th before and after drop off for a Welcome