



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear ACSS students and families,

With the first school week of 2022 (with students in session) having now elapsed, we have a better practical understanding of our school day under the new enhanced health and safety measures. While our bell schedule remains unchanged, we have opened more spaces at lunch time for students to congregate (in a physically distanced way) and eat their lunch. We are making regular announcements reminding our school population of the importance of all of us following the health and safety protocols we have in place. We are also looking forward to the onset of better weather so that students and classes may use our fantastic outdoor spaces more often. Thank you to all in our community for your understanding and assistance in working together towards a healthy and safe end of this pandemic.

The end of semester one is approaching quickly. The final day of classes will be Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> will be school days that allow teachers to work with specific groups of students on various end of semester activities. Our intention is to have a good closure to semester one, working hard on completing all classes well, and taking some time to honour and celebrate the excellent semester one work done by the students and staff. Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> will be the semester turnaround day in all SD35 secondary schools – students will not be in session as staff will be collaborating on final preparations for a smooth start to semester two on Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

As you may know, our family members at Betty Gilbert Middle School suffered some water damage at their school over the winter break. While the School District works to restore and repair the affected areas of BGMS, we at ACSS are glad to help by housing four Grade 7 classes. We welcome our younger siblings, and the accompanying BGMS staff, into the school. We are excited to work more closely alongside them.

We are also excited to welcome the following new staff members to ACSS this week:

- \* Ms. Bradford – Hairstylist Instructor
- \* Ms. Holtz – Science Laboratory Technician
- \* Ms. Kaur – SEA

Wishing you a restful January weekend. Thank you for reading this week's newsletter.

Mr. M. Palichuk  
Principal  
Aldergrove Community Secondary School





## Key Upcoming Dates:

PAC Meeting – Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM via Zoom

Wednesday, January 26 – Final Day of Semester One Classes

Thursday, January 27 – Semester Transition Day (Classes Not in Session)

Friday, January 28 – Semester Transition Day (Classes Not in Session)

Monday, January 31 – Semester Turnaround Day (Classes Not in Session)

Tuesday, February 1 – First Day of Semester Two Classes



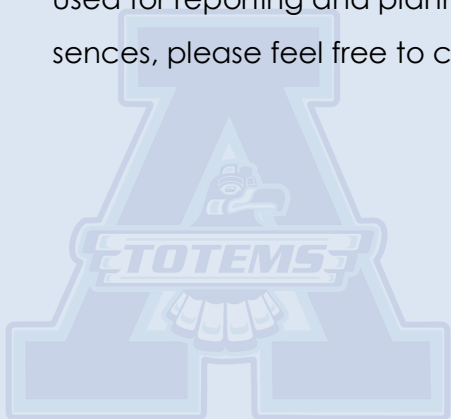


## **Daily Health Check**

A friendly reminder to everyone to conduct the daily health check before coming to school or boarding a bus. Please note, the Ministry is currently updating the K-12 Health Check App, to reflect the current COVID-19 landscape. Students, staff, and visitors are asked to use the Thrive **BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool** until further notice. The District will provide an update as soon as information is made available.

## **Reporting School Absences**

The school appreciates the work of families in following our processes when it comes to reporting student absences. As per Ministry guidelines, students and their families are being asked to indicate if the reason for the absence is due to illness. As per Ministry guidance, students do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related. Providing us with accurate information regarding the reason your child is away, is extremely critical in helping keep our school community safe. This data will help our school, the District, and Fraser Health work together to assess and make decisions about closures which could impact operations and student learning. The attendance information families provide remains confidential, will not be shared, and is only used for reporting and planning purposes. If you have any questions about reporting absences, please feel free to contact the school.





## **COVID Procedures for Managing Illness**

To help students, staff, and families in the weeks ahead, the District is sharing a document outlining information and public health guidance regarding COVID Procedures for Managing Illness. Please see attached.

**SD35 (LANGLEY)**  
**COVID-19 Procedures for Managing Illness**  
January 11, 2022

As shared with the community in the District's Continuity of Learning Plan, Fraser Health's process for contact tracing, case management, and exposure notifications is changing. The former processes that have been in place previously will not continue. This resource will help guide students, staff, and families on public health procedures related to COVID-19. It is important to note, these guidelines/procedures may change.

**1. I am a student or staff who is sick and was at school on a given day. What should I do?**

Stay at home until your symptoms are gone. Seek medical attention if needed. Use the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine guidance and recommendations for testing.

If you have any concerns, feel very sick, or your symptoms are not improving, contact your family doctor/nurse practitioner or call 8-1-1.

Students/staff should report their absence at school/work to their administrator. As per Ministry guidance, students and staff do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related.

**2. I am a student or staff who tested positive for COVID-19 either through a rapid test or PCR test. What should I do?**

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should follow advice from the BC Centre for Disease Control, found [here](#). Please note, guidance and recommendations vary depending on an individual's vaccination status.

As per the BCCDC, if you test positive for COVID-19, you need to do the following:

- ▶ [Complete an online form to report your test result](#)
- ▶ [Self-isolate and manage your symptoms](#)
- ▶ [Let your close contacts know](#)

Students/staff should report their absence at school/work to their administrator. As per Ministry guidance, students and staff do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related.

**3. Why is there no contact tracing or exposure notifications in K-12 schools?**

The Omicron variant spreads rapidly and, as such, contact tracing is a less effective measure in the timely management of COVID-19. Public Health is no longer able to contact everyone who tests positive.

As Public Health is not contacting every person who tests positive, school exposures will not be issued by Public Health for individual cases. In the event of a declared outbreak, Public Health will issue a public notification.

Public Health will continue to work with schools if, for example, there is a significant increase in absenteeism that is atypical for the time of year and actions are to be taken, such as notification to the parents and guardians of the affected grade or school community.



## New School COVID Measures

As we continue to ensure that we are all safe and healthy while at school, we ask that you:

- Wear your mask at all times when in the building (except when you are eating lunch).
- Sanitize your hands whenever you enter or re-enter the building.
- Try to maintain physical distancing in classrooms.
- Do not hang out in the hallways during transitions between classes.
- Wash your hands frequently.

What has been re-instated or changed?

Entrances to the building will be assigned per grade (the same structure as the 2020-21 school year).

- Gr. 9 and 10's must enter through the library foyer doors only.
- Gr. 11 and 12's must enter through the main foyer doors only.
- No other doors are to be used to re-enter the building (unless for an emergency). This includes the main gym foyer doors.
- BGMS students will only be accessing the Art room entrance

\*Students may continue to eat lunch in a classroom, in the hallways (as long as they are sitting and physically distanced) as well as outside.

There will be a limit of two people at a time in washrooms.

Please do your very best to abide by the COVID-19 protocols that are structured for schools to keep you and every one healthy and safe.





**HELLO!**

**THE DRAMNASIUSM IS NOW OPEN  
TO ALL GRADES EACH DAY AS LONG  
AS SEATING IS AVAILABLE.**



**PLEASE WEAR YOUR MASK WHEN  
YOU ARE NOT EATING.**



ACSS January 14, 2022



**PCRS**  
Thriving, healthy communities

# Parent Forum: Vaping 101

Please join the PCRS Prevention Team for an educational forum on vaping amongst youth.

**Tuesday, January 18th**  
**7:00pm - 8:00pm**

We will be hosting a second forum for youth on Thursday, January 20th from 4:00pm - 5:00pm.

E-mail: [jarthurs@pcrs.ca](mailto:jarthurs@pcrs.ca)  
for the Teams invite



## Information About School Status During Inclement Weather

Snow closures and power outages are an annual occurrence in Langley School District. So, where do you go to get information about the status of schools during periods of inclement weather? If you are able to access the internet via computer or smartphone, current information about Langley schools can be accessed on all school websites or [www.sd35.bc.ca](http://www.sd35.bc.ca). Updates are also posted to Twitter @LangleySchools and Facebook at [www.facebook.com/langleyschooldistrict](https://www.facebook.com/langleyschooldistrict). If you don't have internet connectivity but your phone is working, call a relative or friend in an area that has not been affected by the storm and ask them to check the district website for you. Local radio stations are also informed of school status in Langley. Tune in to CKWX 1130AM, CKNW 980AM, Country Radio 107.1FM, Pulse 107.7 or CBC 690AM or 88.1FM for updates.

Please note that Langley District schools are all considered 'open' until a decision to close is required. Decisions on school closures are usually made by 6:30am. As always, it is a parent's decision whether to send their child to school based on safety and individual circumstances. If you feel it is unsafe for you or your child to travel to or attend an open school for any reason, please keep your child home and report an absence to the school.

