



## Dr. George M. Weir Elementary School

2900 East 44<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5R 3A8  
Tel: (604) 713-4771 Fax: (604) 713-4773  
<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/weir>  
[Twitter @WeirSchool](https://twitter.com/WeirSchool)

Principal: Heather Gascoigne  
Vice-principal: Ashwin Prasad  
PAC Chair: Hailey Wong  
Director of Instruction: Ms. M. Kassis

Secretary: Coral Priest - Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri./ Sandy Keenan – Wed.  
Extra-Clerical: Donna Kerr – Fri.  
[weirpac@gmail.com](mailto:weirpac@gmail.com) [www.weirpac.weebly.com](http://www.weirpac.weebly.com)  
604-713-5000

**October 17, 2017**

### MISSION STATEMENT

To create a safe, accepting and challenging learning environment that provides all students with opportunities to build self- confidence to reach their potential and to value learning.

Wed., Oct. 18th & Thurs., Oct. 19th – Early Dismissal – **Please pick up your child(ren) @ 2:00 pm ALL DIVISIONS** – due to Parent Teacher Conferences

Friday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – District Wide Non-Instructional Day – No School for Students

### Dates to Remember

October 18 & 19 – Early Dismissal 2:00 pm – Parent Teacher Conferences  
October 20 – District Wide Non-Instructional Day – No School for Students  
October 26 & 27 – Book Fair - Library  
October 26 – Hot Lunch (for those who pre-ordered)  
October 31<sup>st</sup> – 9:15 Primary Costume Parade  
November 9<sup>th</sup> - Remembrance Day Assembly – 11:00 am  
November 10<sup>th</sup> – Curriculum Implementation NID – No School for Students  
November 13<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Day Holiday  
November 16<sup>th</sup> – Photo Retake Day  
November 20<sup>th</sup> – PAC Meeting – 6:30 – 7:30 pm - Staffroom

**Thank You** to Ms. Joe for doing such a great job with Div. 13. **Welcome** to Mr. Hornberg who is our new teacher for Div. 13 starting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Verification Form** – The Student Verification Form went home. It is very important information for the school. **This Form is for the School Office and is different from any other form you may have received from your child(ren)'s classroom teacher. Please make sure the information is current and correct.** If any information changes throughout the school year, please inform the School Office. Thank you.

### Safe Arrival Program

We really need your help, please call the school before 9:00 am if your child is going to be late or not attend due to sickness. It takes a lot of time for the office to call so many parents.

**Halloween** – Primary Costume Parade is at 9:15 on Tuesday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. Reminder: costumes worn at school need to be age and school appropriate and not include anything that looks like a pretend weapon. As well, it is important that all costumes are culturally sensitive. Reminder: “Culture is not a Costume”. Because of the recent “mean clown” incidents throughout North America, clown costumes are being discouraged (especially ones with a mask or scary face paint). Intermediate students are also welcome to wear an appropriate costume. Please make sure you remind your child (ren) of safety rules so that they enjoy the fun event Tuesday evening.



**If you see persons acting suspiciously around our school, please call 911. Give the name of the school, location, and tell them what is happening.** The Vancouver Board of Education currently spends over \$500,000. per year repairing damage done to schools by vandalism.

**Student Lunches** – Reminder: please send spoons/forks when needed, as we do not have a supply of plastic cutlery in the office. If sending lunch in a thermos, please make sure your child can open it – some are difficult for small hands as they have very wide lids. As well, unfortunately there is a type of thermos that seems to form a vacuum seal when something hot is inside, and they are too difficult to open.

### **Peanut/ Nut/ Scent Allergies**

Please be aware that our school is nut and scent free. Some individuals have severe allergic reaction to scents and various nuts and in order to ensure their safety we must observe these protocols. Thank you.

### **Grade 7 Fundraising Bottle Returns**

Would you consider donating the proceeds from any of your bottle returns to help support Grade 7 Fundraising? Every donation...small or large is greatly appreciated! Thank-you for your support!

#### **How can you help?**

1) Take your refundable returns to:

- a) **Metrotown Bottle Return It Centre** – 4760 Imperial Street, Burnaby – Account: Weir Elementary School
- b) **Vancouver Central Return It Depot** – 2639 Kingsway, Vancouver – Account: #53

2) At the cashier: Please let them know the following information **before** they begin adding up your total.  
School Name: Weir Elementary School.  
The Vancouver Depot would also like the account number: #53.

### **PAC**

PAC is going digital.

It is the goal of PAC to use digital forms of communication and move away from paper notices. This is to enable better communication between PAC, parents/caregivers and school staff.

So far PAC has created its own website <http://weirpac.weebly.com> and launched PAC News, a weekly, email newsletter which goes out every Sunday eve. PAC News will be a reminder at the beginning of each school week of the events happening that week and in the weeks to come. It will also be a way for information to be shared to all parents at Weir easily and efficiently.

Dear Parents & Guardians;

Below is a short summary of the presentation on “Communicating Student Learning Pilot Project” given at yesterday’s PAC Meeting. Throughout this school year our District will be providing more information to parents through various means such as newsletter inserts and letters. During this school year, Weir is participating in the District Pilot in order to have the opportunity to give input until the District is ready to formally revise and adopt an updated reporting policy based on the new B.C. Curriculum (anticipated date: 2018-2019 school year). Our discussion focused on the three significant changes in reporting student learning from previous District policy and practice for Kindergarten to Grade 9 students:

1. A shift from primarily focusing on summative assessment to primarily focusing on formative assessment
  - a. Part of the redesigned B.C. Curriculum
  - b. Ongoing personal feedback embedded in daily instruction and examples of student work are more critical to supporting student learning than simply reporting on student results
  - c. The communication is based on clear standards and expectations and is intended to make learning visible. Students are encouraged to think of the questions: Where am I now? Where am I going? What do I need to do to get there?
  
2. 5 required communications with parents within a school year
  - a. One written progress Report at the end of January
  - b. One written Summative Report at the end of June
    - i. Both including a Student Competency Scale rather than letter grades
  - c. A minimum of three ongoing communications of student learning throughout the school year. Examples include: three-way conferences, electronic portfolio reviews (ie freshgrade), interim report cards, student portfolios, Celebrations of Student Learning events etc.)
  
3. Student Self-assessment of the Core Competencies accompanying the written Summative Report in June

These changes are a response to the new redesigned BC Curriculum. This can be accessed on the B.C. Ministry of Education website which will lead you to “B.C.’s New Curriculum” which includes information on the Core Competencies, How & What Students Will Learn, How Will the New Curriculum Prepare Students for the Future, How Will We Measure Success, and Assessment & Reporting.

\*The Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences being held this week are the first of the five required communications for this school year.

\*The written Mid-Year Progress Report will be sent home on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2018.

\*We will be having school-wide Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences again with 2:00 pm Early Dismissal on March 14 & 15, 2018 (**Note: This is a change of date replacing the previous dates of February 7 & 8, 2018 which was included in our 2017 – 2018 School Calendar**).

\*One other communication (at the Classroom Teacher’s discretion) of student learning (see 2. C. above)

\*The Year-End Summative Report at the end of June, 2018 which will include each student’s “Student Self-Assessment of the Core Competencies”.

# DR. GEORGE M. WEIR SCHOOL - STAFF ROSTER     2017/2018

Ms. Heather Gascoigne, Principal  
 Mr. Ashwin Prasad, Vice-Principal

<u>STAFF</u>	<u>DIV.</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Ms. Lorraine Hsu	1	7	207
Ms. Jillian Lee	2	7	211
Ms. Julie Kuban / Ms. Nicole Behrenz <small>(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)</small>	3	7	213
Mr. Peter Lind	4	6	203
Mr. Tim Eves	5	6	205
Ms. Vanessa Adrian	6	5	264
Ms. Angelina Yu	7	5	261
Ms. Amber Wasyliuk	8	4	164
Mr. Steven Chai	9	4	209
Ms. Janet Lekich	10	3/4	201
Ms. Amy Wou	11	3	263
Ms. Kam Sahota	12	3	262
Mr. Brian Hornberg	13	2	103
Ms. Nancy Khan	14	2	107
Mrs. Kristine Faunt	15	1/2	162
Ms. Pam Leigh-Spencer / Maria Maragos <small>(Monday, Tuesday, every second Fri)</small>	16	1	109
Ms. Brenda Fenton	17	1	161
Ms. June Bennett	18	KF	113
Ms. Dianne Minamimaye	19	KF	101
Ms. Eva Perez	20	KF	111

Ms. Alexandra Carrea <i>(Mon – Thu)</i>	Teacher Librarian / Library Prep.
Mr. Patrick Dodds <i>(Tue. - Fri.)</i>	Prep - Rm.163
Ms. Pam Leigh-Spencer <i>(Wed.)</i>	Prep / Resource
Mr. Ashwin Prasad	Prep
Ms. Nicole Behrenz <i>(Mon., Tue. &amp; Wed.)</i>	Resource - Room 265
Ms. Lena Wan	Resource – Room 165
Ms. Jan Coleman	Resource - Room 265
Ms. Hannah Suk	Resource / Prep - Room 208
Ms. Karen Dixon <i>(no Fri. pm)</i>	Resource - Room 208

Mrs. Grace Lore / Ms. Mary Yeo / Mr. Steve Chow     Supervision Aide  
 Mrs. Coral Priest / Ms. Sandy Keenan / Ms. Donna Kerr     Secretary/Clerical

Ms. Dolly Saran	S.S.S.W-A
Ms. Cherry Bernardino	S.S.S.W-A
Ms. Erica Calla / Ms. Anjeet Thapar <small>(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday)</small>	S.S.S.W-A
Ms. Angela Lester	S.S.S.W-A
Ms. Geetinder Bhinder	S.S.S.W-A
Ms. Rita Grover	S.S.S.W-A
Ms. Sophie Ly	S.S.S.W-A
Ms. Melissa Filiatrault	S.S.S.W-A

Ms. Sara Skolsky <i>(Fri.)</i>	Speech Language Pathologist Rm. 106
Mr. Dave Mori <i>(Mon am. Tue pm, Wed.am &amp; Thu.)</i>	Area Counsellor Rm. 106
Ms. Tiare Laporte <i>(Thu.)</i>	Aboriginal Education Enhancement Worker
Ms. Asifa Kassam	Nurse
Ms. Claudia Vexelman <i>(Tue.)</i>	Psychologist

Mr. Sam Huang	Engineer
Mr. Tom Maric	Custodian