



GRAY SCHOOL NEWS

From the Principal

Welcome back! We are settling into the start of another exciting year with many learning opportunities for our staff and students.

My name is Mr. Zerbe - your new principal at Gray Elementary. Previously, I was a Principal at Gibson in North Delta as well as Holly and Port Guichon in Ladner. I already have a strong first impression of teachers that care and kids that are connected to their school. My initial goal is to get to know you all, to make positive connections with our students and to learn what Gray is all about from staff and parents. I will be listening! I also have some work experience that I want to bring and share.

You may have noticed that I have a strong connection to the outdoors. As well, many of our classes will be integrating the outdoors/environment into their learning and will be frequenting Burns Bog and Mackie Park or working on our courtyards and gardens at Gray. We started West Coast recess and lunch this week and you can read my blog post on our Gray website gr.deltasd.bc.ca to learn more.

I have a passion for sharing good instructional practice with learning targets and assessment and encourage a voice for each child to take ownership for their own learning as they mature through the grades. Another area of interest for myself is instilling a "Growth Mindset" for our students - learning productivity from our mistakes - and not getting stuck into a "Fixed Mindset."

Lastly, this will be our only "paper" newsletter for the year. We will be posting news items and blogging about our learning success stories on our website (see above). We will frequently send out e-mails to you to keep you up to date and our web site calendar will be current. Please take the time to sign all the permissions on Parent Connect for you child this year and ensure that your current e-mail address is updated under the Profile / Demographics so we can keep you informed. For those that use Twitter - our handle is @GrayLearners - where we at times share learning in the "moment."

Individual Student Photo Days

Darby Photos will be here on Thursday, September 20th to take Individual Students Photos. They will be using new "Green

Screen" technology this year so it is recommended that students do not wear Green on photo day.

Gray Elementary

Volume 5 Issue 1

September 2018

Dates to Remember

- ☺ **September 20th**—Photo Day
- ☺ **September 20th** Open House
- ☺ **September 21st** Pro-D Day
- ☺ **September 24th** Terry Fox Fun & Assembly
- ☺ **September 26th** Band Rental Night
- ☺ **September 26th** PAC Meeting - 7pm
- ☺ **September 28th** Orange Shirt Day

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School Organization

Our school continues to expand! This year, we have added another division. However, that meant that the Supportive Learning Primary Program needed to move to McCloskey to accommodate our growth. We now have 555 students in our school. This year we have 24 divisions and a number of new staff members. Here is an outline of our configuration and staff:

Div	Gr	Teacher	Room	Support Staff	
1	7	Mr. Karpluk	102	Ms. Ackerman	LST
2	7	Mrs. Matheson	702	Ms. Bhatti	LST
3	6/7	Mrs. Mondin	101	Mrs. MacKenzie	LST
4	6	Mrs. Vogel	703	Mrs. Wong	LST
5	6	Mrs. Messer	701	Mr. Louie	Librarian
6	5/6	Ms. Dobie	604	Music	Ms. Tseng
7	5	Mr. Reshef	601	PE	Mrs. Roder
8	4/5	Ms. Minci	602	Child/Youth Care Worker	Ms. Au
9	4	Mr. Chhun	504	Counsellor	Mrs. Bradley
10	4	Ms. Lochhead	603	Hearing Support Teacher	Mr. Mccarter
11	3/4	Ms. Randhawa	403	Inclusion Team Teacher	Mr. Klassen
12	3	Mrs. Diotte/Mrs. Dyck	501	Multicultural Worker	Ms. Dhaliwal
13	3	Mrs. Feenan/Mrs. Hodgins	503	School Psychologist	Ms. Woolford
14	2/3	Mrs. Sandham/Ms. Silva	502	Vision Support Teacher	Ms. Northcott
15	2	Ms. Watson	202	Education Assistant	Ms. Adams
16	2	Mrs. Craft/Ms. Bhalru	401	Education Assistant	Ms. Geisbrecht
17	2	Ms. Johal	404	Education Assistant	Mrs. McLeod
18	1	Mrs. Skinner	203	Education Assistant	Ms. Margaritis
19	1	Mrs. Boyd	201	Education Assistant	Ms. Randhawa
20	1	Ms. Hewitt	402	Admin Assistant	Mrs. Turner
21	KN/1	Mrs. Bain	304	Admin Assistant	Mrs. McCallum
22	KN	Miss Hastings	303	Vice Principal	Mr. Klassen
23	KN	Ms. Khun Khun	301	Principal	Mr. Zerbe
24	KN	Mrs. Guloien	302		

Traffic Safety and Parking

Last year the District had expanded our staff parking and moved our Disabled spots to the blacktop area in front of the building. There are now three spots for staff, the Principal, Vice Principal, and Administrative Assistant, and three spots for people with disabilities. I'd like to emphasize that these spots are not open to the general school population. If you have a child in the school with mobility issues, those spots are open for your use. If you have a mobility issue, have a blue, disabled persons' pass in your vehicle, and need to pick up your Kindergarten or Grade One child at their door, those spots are for you.

We request that all other parents park on the roadway spots available and use the pick up and drop off area without leaving their vehicle; please **do not drive onto school grounds at the beginning and end of each school day**. Many of our students and their parents walk up and

down the driveway before and after school, as there is no sidewalk for them to use. It is extremely dangerous to have parents turning into the driveway. The main parking lot is **for staff use only** and cannot be used by parents for dropping off or picking up their children

Lastly, on Wednesdays, when Sands has a later start, we have noticed it being very busy at 8:55 a.m. at Gray - please safety first. Take the time to ensure all students are safe while dropping your child off. We recommend that you arrive earlier to drop off your child, we do provide supervision outside starting at 8:45 am..



Meet the Teacher and PAC BBQ



We will be hosting our annual Welcome Back BBQ on Thursday, September 20th. Once again, the teachers will be available to provide two short information sessions in your child's classroom. This will be an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, see their classroom, and find out what will be happening for your child in their education. Teachers will provide further information about the

sessions to the parents of their students next week. The first session will begin at 4:45 p.m. and the second at 5:00 p.m. The BBQ will begin at 5:30 p.m. as usual.

Grade 6/7 Band Instrumental Rental



As a service to our parents, Tapestry Music will once again be holding a band instrumental rental session. This year, we will be doing this at 6:00 p.m. on September 26th, before the first PAC Meeting. It is our hope, that many parents would already be coming to the school for the PAC Meeting, thus it would eliminate the need for another evening at school for parents.

This is an optional event for parents. You are not obligated to use Tapestry Music if you are renting an instrument for your child. You may also rent from Tom Lee Music, Long and McQuade, or any other store that provides such a service. Of course, if you already have an instrument in the family, there would be no need to rent.

Annual Permission Forms

This week an email was sent home regarding the Annual Permission Forms Process.

Parents are asked to review and respond to all the Permission Forms that are posted on Parent Connect by September 28th.

To access Parent Connect, click on the link below:

<https://cimsweb.deltasd.bc.ca/schoolconnect/parentsloginone.aspx>

Detailed instructions on using Parent Connect are available by selecting the "Help" button on the Parent Connect Sign In screen.

You can now logon to Parent Connect with your email address.

- If you **forgot your password or you are logging on for the first time, click on the Forgot my Password button** and if you have an email address on file the system will email you your password.
- Your **pop up blockers must be turned off** for Parent Connect to work properly
- If you do not have an email address on file please contact Mrs. Turner in the office.

Head Lice

As many parents may recall, at times at Gray we have had a struggle controlling the spread of head lice. Head lice is indeed a pesky problem but it is not a health concern.

However, we would like to remind parents of the importance of checking their child's head on a regular basis for nits and/or live lice. For more information go on dealing with head lice, click [here](#).

If you find that your child does have lice—please contact the school as soon as possible.

If we determine that, as a school, we are having a major outbreak we will have a group of trained volunteers check students heads here at school. If for some reason you wish that your child not take part in these checks please let us know.

Terry Fox Run and Assembly



During the weeks of Sept 17th to September 21th the students at Gray will be collecting money for the Terry Fox Foundation and cancer research. We are asking students to bring in a Tootie for Terry.

The Terry Fox assembly and run will be held on Monday, September 24th., beginning at 1:45 p.m. The Run will start at approximately 2:00 p.m.

School Wide Assemblies

We will be holding several assemblies throughout the year that will showcase student learning success. Assembly times and themes will be posted on our website event calendar. Parents are always welcome to attend, especially if your child is sharing.



Student Accident Insurance Plan

Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services offers a Student Accident Insurance Plan. For more information on this optional insurance plan [click here](#).

Late Arrivals and Absence Reporting



It is very important that all students arriving after the 9:00 a.m. bell sign in at the office and receive a late slip prior to going to their classrooms. Once your child has signed in and picked up a late slip it is not necessary for you to accompany them to their classroom. Your cooperation with this safety measure is much appreciated.

If your child will be absent, **PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL before 8:55 a.m.** The school phone has an answering machine to record messages before 8:30 a.m. and

after 4:00 p.m. Unexplained absences will be followed up by our Parent Volunteer.

To assist us in our efforts to protect your child, **please log on to Parent Connect to ensure that we have your correct phone number for home and work, as well as other emergency contact numbers.**

Sign In /Sign Out Procedures

Please be reminded that **all visitors to the school** are required to check in at the office.

If you are volunteering in the classroom or library we ask that you sign in and out in the Visitor Sign in Book located on the front counter. There you will take a "Visitor" label to wear which communicates to both staff and students that you have business in the school and you are not a threat to any child's safety.

If you are only going to be in the school for a few minutes you still must check in with our office staff and pick up a

yellow Visitor Card, which you can return on your way out.

If you are picking up your child early please ensure you or your child talks to one of the office staff to let them know that you are picking up your child early and also **make sure** you or your child signs out in the back of the Sign In/Out Binder located at the office window.

Please help us keep all of our students safe by following these safety precautions.

Supervision Assistants Required

We are looking for individuals who would be interested in becoming a spare Noon-Hour Supervision Assistant. Supervision Assistants are responsible for monitoring student behaviour and safety and for enforcing school rules, policies and guidelines concerning student behaviour both in the classroom and on the playground. This is a CUPE union paid position, and the hours of work are

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. We have openings for a few casual on-call Supervision Assistants. If you are interested in this opportunity please drop by the office to pick up an application.

PAC News

Welcome Back Message from PAC

A warm welcome to our new parents & welcome back parents of returning students! We are more excited than ever to continue building relationships and strengthening our school community!

Who is the Parent Advisory Council (PAC)?

All parents and guardians of students registered in the school are automatically voting members of the Gray PAC. The School Act gives parents the right, through the PACs, to assume an advisory role in every school.

How Does A PAC Work?

PACs, with strong participation from parents, have an important influence on life at the school and the feelings the community has towards the school and education. There is strong evidence that increased parent involvement in the school results in increased student achievement, accomplishment, satisfaction, and bonding; all of which results in decreased dropout rates.

The Purpose of the PAC is:

To encourage and promote communication between the parents/guardians, teaching staff and administration in our school community;

- To provide parents with the opportunity to gain greater understanding of our school;
- To assist the School Planning Council in carrying out its functions;
- To give input into school-based decisions;
- To improve the sense of community in our school/neighbourhood;
- To monitor and review school rules and conduct, the safety programs, the educational programs, learning material, equipment and our school building;
- To fund additional activities and initiatives that benefit our Gray students to help create a more comfortable learning environment for our children and educators.

Your Involvement:

- Parents are encouraged and invited to bring forth issues, suggestions or ideas by:
- Attending a monthly PAC Meeting
- Contacting a PAC Executive member
- Sending a letter to the school addressed to a member of the PAC Executive
- By attending a PAC meeting you will find that it's a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents and become part of a greater school community. Parents and guardians can make a difference to the quality of their children's education by getting involved in what they are doing in school and by taking part in the school PAC.

The PAC meets on the 4th Wednesday each month at 7:00 pm in our school library (no meetings held in December, March or June).

Last year, we had such fantastic turnouts for our meetings that word got out and other local schools were envious ~ that's because Gray parents are AWESOME!! Let's continue with our strong momentum!!

Our first PAC Meeting of this school year will be held in the school Library on **Wednesday September 26th at 7:00 pm**. Come out and meet our new Principal, Mr. Zerbe and welcome your new PAC reps!! Light refreshments and Cobs Bread treats will be served. We hope to see you there!

Current PAC Executive 2018/2019:

Chair	Andrea Mori
Vice Chair	Amanda Berera
Secretary	Sandra Baumeister
Treasurer	Colin Warde
Hot Lunch Coordinator	Sonja Gustavsen
DPAC & Newsletter	Kristin Unger
Fundraising Coordinator	Jenn Clarke
Emergency Preparedness	Deborah Pettigrew
Events Coordinator	VACANT

We are looking for a fun and energetic parent to join us as our Events Coordinator to help us organize a couple of Gray community events this year! If you would like more information about this role, please join us at the next PAC meeting or contact us at one of the below emails.

Contact any of the PAC Executive members by emailing GrayPac@deltasd.bc.ca or grayelementarypac@gmail.com

PAC FACEBOOK GROUP

If you are on Facebook, search for "Gray Elementary PAC" and join our group! Stay up to date with what's going on at Gray!! This is the HUB where we will continue to post updates and reminders to all Gray events and fundraisers for your convenience. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER

Our Entertainment Book Fundraiser is back!! It is one of our school's most successful fundraisers.

Entertainment Books will be distributed on Wednesday September 12th. Please take a moment to read through the notice in the package as there is important information about this campaign. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

WELCOME BACK BBQ

Join us for our annual Welcome Back BBQ on Thursday September 20th in the Gym!! Pre-order forms will be coming home this week. The order forms have also been posted to the Gray Website. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

YEAR ROUND PAC FUNDRAISERS

- **M&M Food Market School Days Program** - It's back from now until the end of June!! Stop and shop at our local M&M at 112 St. & 84th Ave - mention "Gray Elementary" at check out and they will continue to donate 10% of your purchase back to our school! Let's continue onto our 3rd year of being the top school in Delta that raises the most with this fundraiser!!
- **COBS Bread Dough Raiser Program** - Mention "Gray Elementary" at the Scott 72 Centre location (Scott Road & 72nd Ave) when making your purchase and they will donate 5% of your purchase back to Gray! They have generously donated fresh baked goods at many of our events this year - PAC meetings, Christmas Market, Bingo Night, Playground Ceremony, etc. Click [HERE](#) for a message from our local Cobs owner.
- **Kaboom Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Fundraiser Program** - We are pleased to announce Kaboom Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu has had an overwhelming response from our Gray community! I hope your children are having a fantastic time and their new location is bright and spacious! For new parents, please click [HERE](#) for details!

We have an amazing group of parent volunteers who help plan and execute all our wonderful school events & fundraisers, but we still need more help - many hands make light work!

If you are interested in lending a hand or joining any of our awesome organizing fundraising/ event/ hot lunch committees, please email us at grayelementarypac@gmail.com. We would love to have you on board & hear your ideas!

THANK YOU AND HAVE A FANTASTIC YEAR!!

How to Get Better Grades in School

You can make this your child's best year ever in school! Successful students have secrets. What does it take to be a superior student? The most important secret is a great study strategy! Smart students know how to make their brains pay attention and focus. They get more done in less time. Terry Small's student success system shows your kids how to take charge of their time and succeed! Parents and students attend this seminar together to learn proven strategies and study secrets that have helped 259,000 students to excel.

Guaranteed: better grades, self-confidence, more free time, and fun learning! Good grades have never been more important than today. Come and learn how to get them! You will have fun and be entertained. The seminar is suitable for students of all abilities in Gr. 4 to 12. Get a head start on good grades.

Terry Small is Canada's #1 study skills expert. He is listed in Nationwide Who's Who. His ideas were recently featured on CKNW Radio, BCTV, Global, and in the Globe and Mail and Student Success. Terry speaks internationally.

When: October 16, Tuesday, 2018, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Where: Delta Manor Education Centre, Ladner

Instructor: Terry Small B.Ed., M.A.

{ 39.00 for the whole family. }

To register: Delta Continuing Education - ph. (604) 940 - 5550

* Also available in Langley

www.terrysmall.com

"Study smarter, not harder!"

Community News and Events



FALL BASKETBALL PROGRAMS

BOYS: GRADES 5-7

This program consists of two (2) 1.5 hour practices per week and one game per week, on Sundays in the BC Basketball Metro League. Practices are Mondays and Wednesdays, and games are on Sundays. The season runs from Sept 15/18 until Feb 28/19. Teams may also be entered into local tournaments. A training only option is available.



GIRLS: GRADES 5-7

This program consists of two (2) 1.5 hour practices per week and one game per week, on Saturdays in the BC Basketball Metro League. Practices are Tuesdays and Thursdays, and games are Saturdays. The season runs from Sept 15/18 until Feb 28/19. Teams may also be entered into local tournaments. A training only option is available.



GIRLS/BOYS TRAINING ACADEMY GRADES 8 - 11

The training academy is designed for athletes getting ready for the high school season. The curriculum is focused on skill development in a high intensity and competitive training environment. The program consists of three (3) 2 hour training sessions per week, and runs for 10 weeks, with a total of 30 sessions. One session per week of strength and speed training is also included. Boys and girls practice at separate times. The program runs from September until mid - November, training days will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT DELTA FORCE ATHLETICS

email: jhothi@dccnet.com

cell: 778.228.1899

DM on Instagram @delta_force_athletics

Community News and Events

KIDNEY WALK

The Kidney Foundation of Canada

FRASER VALLEY

Bear Creek Park

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Registration 9 am, Walk 10 am

kidneywalk.ca

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- #1 Sign up at kidneywalk.ca
- #2 Be a fundraiser
- #3 Form or join a team or register as an individual
- #4 Have Fun!!