

Oct 4, 2024

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auguston.abbyschools.ca

Principal's Message



Auguston's Presentation at the Sep 24 Board Meeting

Hello Auguston families – and welcome to Fall! It's a beautiful time of year up here on the mountain and we are ready to thoroughly enjoy some crisp, sunny Fall days ahead, and also some cozy, rainy ones, too.

We have had a great start to our year and it is wonderful to see everyone settled in to their classrooms and routines and working hard at their studies. I feel especially privileged to know so many of our families as I head into my third year here at Auguston. Seeing all of the familiar faces and knowing the stories that make us who we are allows us to strengthen the connections we've made and has helped to make it a smooth start this year. I am enjoying getting to know all of the new faces around our school and look forward to meeting you, too, if I haven't already.

To catch everyone up, here are a few interesting facts about our school this year:

- We currently have 336 students in 15 classes

- We have 24 teachers overall - a number of our classes have teachers that share teaching during the week, as well we have a few others who support us in the gym, library, LLC, etc.
- We also have 8 EAs to support student learning
- We have an extra cohort of itinerant teachers that support our students in other ways like Speech and Language, Indigenous teachings, English Language Learning and Counselling supports, as well as other District specialists assigned to our school
- Our St. John's Ambulance certified Therapy Dog Tess is back with us this year to read with students in the PAWS for Reading program
- We will be moving into our expansion space at some point this year – most likely around Spring Break. The new classrooms and spaces are coming together and it looks amazing!

We have some exciting things planned for the months ahead and are looking forward to a great Fall.

Kris Sward, Principal

Traffic and Parking



Thank you to everyone for being kind and patient with each other out there as we navigate our busiest times of the day - drop off and pickup. In order to move everyone through these busy times safely and efficiently,

we ask that everyone follow a few simple rules around our school:

- 1) We have 'no parking' zones along Stephen Leacock Drive that run from just before the fire hydrant above our parking lot to our crosswalk and bus loop entrance, and then again from just in front of the school drop off area to just past the school property line. These areas are typically blocked off by cones, but we ask that you respect those no parking zones even if the cones aren't out.

These areas of no parking are designated as they lead up to our crosswalks and it gives drivers clear sight lines that allow them enough time to stop safely as crossing. Student safety is a priority for us and we need your help to ensure that students are able to cross safely.

- 2) There is also a 'no stopping' rule in both of our bus loops. A number of people will say 'I'm not stopping' or that they are there 'just for a minute'. If you have to stop longer than the time it takes your child to get in or out of the vehicle, we ask that you do another loop to allow those behind you to get through.
- 3) The busses can slow us down as they take a bit longer to load or off-load, but they usually come a bit before or after the bell to avoid backing things up in our bus loops. Thank you for allowing them a bit of extra grace as they safely pickup or deliver our students.

We appreciate your continued support in this and your kindness in dealing with all of our community safety needs. Bylaw Officers will be doing regular visits and will hand out tickets to cars parked in the 'no parking' areas.

Dress for the Weather



With Fall comes cooler, wetter weather and we need to remember to dress appropriately. We go outside for our breaks in all kinds of weather, so unless it's really cold or heavy, heavy rain, students need to be ready with warm jackets, waterproof shoes or boots, and gloves, hats or umbrellas as needed. An extra change of clothes in their backpacks is a great idea and saves an extra trip to bring them dry clothes!

Parent Teacher Conferences

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES



Coming up on October 23rd and 24th we have two half days at Auguston. Our parent teacher

conferences will be held during that week, with the bulk of them scheduled for the afternoon and early evening on October 23rd from 1-3pm and 4-7pm. Information will be coming home next week about signing up for a conference for a chance to check in on your child(ren)'s early growth and learning this year.

Please note that school will be dismissed at 12:05 on October 23rd and 24th and there is no school for a Pro-D day on October 25th.

Fundraising updates

We are very proud to share that as a school we collected \$700 for both Cops for Cancer and the Terry Fox Foundation this September. What a great show of support for two amazing causes. Way to go Auguston!

Cops for Cancer at Auguston



Terry Fox School Run & Orange Shirt Day



Another cause close to our hearts!

One of our students here at Auguston suffers from chronic respiratory issues and is treated regularly at the Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Clinic at Children's Hospital.



For the month of October, they are collecting donations for the Respiratory Fund and holding a virtual 5k walk/ run on October 27th (anytime/ anywhere) to bring more awareness to the "Just breathe" campaign.

If you are interested in supporting this cause, more information can be found by using the following QR code. The goal of this fundraiser is to spread awareness on PCD (which is a rare genetic disorder) and the funds raised will go directly to the PCD clinic.



FSAs

Students in grade 4 will soon be participating in the Foundational Skills Assessments (FSAs). These province wide assessments provide a snapshot of the reading, writing and numeracy proficiency of our students and will be completed between Oct 1 and Nov 9.

Afterschool programs

We are excited to welcome back the Abby Community School Society to run some great after school programs for students at Auguston Traditional. Our fall sessions have offerings for Basketball skills for grade 4/5 boys, DOVE girls for our grade 4/5 girls, Outdoor Explorers for our K/1 students and Science Explorers for grade 2/3's. Each of these programs run for 6 weeks with students meeting one day a week starting in the end of October. See registration information: [ACSS Fall Programs](#)

Digital devices

At Auguston Traditional we believe in promoting online safety and a focused learning environment. As part of the district's new AP 345 – Student Use of Personal Digital Devices in Schools, our Code of Conduct has been amended to read:

Students are expected to:

- Refrain from inappropriate computer usage and/or multi-media devices
- refrain from using personal digital devices during school hours unless given the expressed permission of the school administrator or their teacher

A personal digital device is any personal digital device that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, such as a cell phone, smart watch or tablet.

An updated Code of Conduct is currently under review and will be shared with our entire school community soon.

Christmas Concert

A Christmas Concert will be happening this year! We haven't worked out the logistics of what this event will look like yet, but we do have staging booked for our Christmas Concert for the week of December 16-20. Concert(s) will take place within the school day and will likely be broken up by grades due to maximum capacity regulations for fitting all of our guests into our gym. Please stay tuned for more information on this exciting event!

Drills



As a staff we feel that student safety is a top priority and part of that means students need to be prepared and know

what to do in the event of an emergency. Over the course of the year, we practice 6 Fire Drills, 2 Earthquake Drills and 2 Shelter in Place Drills. We post the dates of our drills on our PAC Facebook page as well as on our website and always give students and staff a heads up before the drill starts. Students and staff did a great job of evacuating our school in just over 7 minutes during our first Fire Drill of the year.

Hallowe'en

It's almost Hallowe'en and that means we have some fun and festive happenings planned around our school! On October 29th our youngest students will enjoy a pumpkin patch in our very own garden. The PAC has sponsored the event and every student in Kindergarten and

Grade 1 will get to pick the perfect pumpkin to take home. We will have a costume day on October 31st and students are encouraged to dress up for the day as one of our [No-Uni for a Toonie](#) days. Please be mindful of our younger students and ensure that costumes are school appropriate and don't include weapons, blood, gore or scary masks. We look forward to seeing some amazing costumes this year! Payment for the No-Uni day can be made in [SchoolCash Online](#).



Grade 5 Halloween Fundraiser



The Grade 5 Parent Committee is selling glow sticks to get everyone ready for Halloween. These LED foam glow sticks are multi-colour with 3 modes.

Orders will close **October 11th at 4PM**. Purchases will be available for **pick up after school on October 31st**.

See *Munchalunch* to order:

<https://auguston.abbysschools.ca/parentsstudent/s/hotlunch/auguston> then **REGISTER HERE!** For first time users, after creating your account you can return anytime by clicking the "Login Here" button below.

[LOGIN HERE!](#)

Dates

Fri, Oct 4	Kindergarten Supplies payments due
Sat, Oct 5	World Teachers Day
Tues, Oct 8	Cross Country Meet Bateman Park, after school
Wed, Oct 9	Fire Drill
Mon, Oct 14	Thanksgiving Day – NO SCHOOL
Wed, Oct 16	Soccer Game Auguston, after school Auguston PAC Meeting 7pm
Thurs, Oct 17	Earthquake Drill – Great Canadian Shake Out
Fri, Oct 18	Gr. 4 & 5s to UFV for a volleyball game PAC hot lunch
Sat, Oct 19	Election Day – school used as polling station
Mon, Oct 21	Grade 5 bake sale after school
Wed, Oct 23	PAC Treat Day Early Dismissal for Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences at 12:05pm Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences 1-3pm, 4-7pm
Thurs, Oct 24	Early Dismissal for Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences at 12:05pm
Fri, Oct 25	Non-Instructional Day #2 – NO SCHOOL
Mon, Oct 28	ACSS Gr 4/5 Boys Basketball ACSS Gr 4/5 Girls Dove Self Esteem
Tues, Oct 29	Pumpkin Patch in the garden for Strong Start, Kindergarten and Grade 1 students ACSS K/1 Outdoor Explorers
Wed, Oct 30	Grades 3, 4, 5 to the movies to see The Wild Robot – <i>details coming soon!</i> Soccer Game
Thurs, Oct 31	Costume Day – No Uni
Fri, Nov 1	PAC Movie Night – <i>details coming soon!</i>
Tues, Nov 5	Retake Photo Day



*Happy Thanksgiving next
weekend!*



Cross Country Gr. 4/5

This year students in Grade 4 and 5 will be able to participate on the **Cross-Country** team.

[Read more](#)



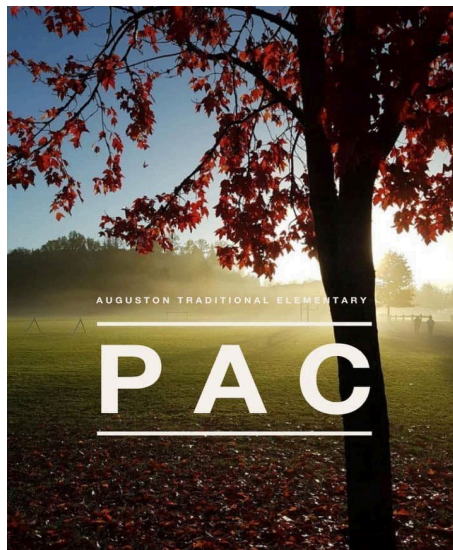
Soccer Gr. 5

This year students in Grade 5 will be able to participate on the Soccer team. Please provide consent in [schoolcash](#) if you would like your child to participate.

Parents are responsible for picking up their child from Games, which will be on Wednesdays: Oct. 16 and 30, with a possible ALTERNATE date of Nov. 6, if one of the other days is cancelled due to poor weather.

Games will take place at Auguston from 3-5pm. Please come in appropriate clothing for playing.

[Read more](#)



October PAC Meeting

Auguston Parents/Guardians are invited to join the PAC Meeting on Wednesday, October 16, at 7:00pm in the Library Learning Commons.

Have questions?

Please email the PAC at augustonpac@gmail.com

Join the PAC Facebook Page for reminders & updates!

[Auguston Traditional Elementary School PAC](#)

Contact the PAC

See the [PAC page](#) on the website or **email the PAC at augustonpac@gmail.com**.



Thank you to the PAC for the delicious lunch for staff for World Teachers Day!

Pay for School Activities and Give Consent Online



Consent forms are **ONLINE** in [SchoolCash](#). Consent includes Request for Email Address Consent, Photograph/Video and Media, Permission off Grounds and for Field Trips.

We would like to encourage **ALL families** at our school to utilize the online option for consent & payments **EVERY** time! We are currently at **98.51%** who have signed up. Let's make it 99 or even 100% Auguston and **PLEASE USE the online option every time!**

- *Email Consent * Off Grounds * Photo/Media *Field Trips - Gr. 4 & 5s to UFV*
- * Damaged or Lost Library Books *No Uni for a Toonie*
- *School Planners *K school supplies *Soccer *Extracurricular School Sports*

Thank you to parents who have set up your schoolcash account and utilize this option. You will be receiving reminders and messages about new items being added to your child's 'cart' when field trips and other items arise. A suggestion is to purchase a **prepaid credit card** to make purchases if you are concerned about online shopping. The district site is a secure site which does not hold account information.

SchoolCashOnline limits the amount of cash/cheques handled in schools, reduces paperwork, and results in more focused instructional time in the classroom. The Abbotsford School District now uses SchoolCashOnline for all schools. With SchoolCashOnline, parents have the convenient and secure option of paying for school items using their credit card online, 24/7. You can pay for school items such as trips, club/athletic fees, and spirit wear. It will save you time too! **Register for Schoolcashonline in 4 simple steps! If you haven't yet done so, please click on the link below to sign up TODAY!**

Pay School Fees Online

Secure credit card payment
24/7 convenience
Easy registration

[Click Here!](#)

SchoolCashOnline

