



Welcome all new and returning Laronde families! The Laronde Parent Advisory Council is the legislated organization in which you, Laronde parents, can have your voice heard on any school related matter. There are many changes happening at school and within the PAC, our goal is to keep you well informed. We encourage all families to attend PAC meetings to stay informed and share your views. The Laronde PAC (Parent Advisory Council) would like to take this opportunity to update you about the following PAC related items.

HOW TO REGISTER ON WWW.LARONDEPAC.CA

The Laronde PAC website is www.larondepac.ca. We use this for school-wide PAC related email communication and for running our hot lunch program. Please register on the system ASAP to ensure you receive all Laronde related emails (which may include class-specific details). Registration is required at the start of every school year, even if you have registered in previous years. If you have already registered on the site in the past week or so, you will need to do so again as we just wiped the whole system of any previously stored data.

HOW TO REGISTER:

1. Go to the registration [page](#).
2. Enter Access code: **LAR2021**
3. Complete the remaining fields, taking special care when entering your email address.

This communication system is different than the Surrey School District Laronde Elementary website. You should also register there to receive the newsletter and other communications from the Principal by signing up [here](#).

INTRODUCING YOUR 2021/2022 PAC EXECUTIVE

Position	Name	Email
Chair	Cynthia Springate	chair@larondepac.ca
Vice-Chair	Katie Corbeil	vicechair@larondepac.ca
Past Chair	Catharine Macrander	pastchair@larondepac.ca
Secretary	Catharine Macrander	secretary@larondepac.ca
Treasurers	Marina Heidt & Caroline Thindal	treasurer@larondepac.ca
Communications	Elisabeth Smith	communications@larondepac.ca
Class Parent Coordinator		classparent@larondepac.ca
DPAC Representative	Michelle Hoffman	
CPF Representative	Julie Elliot	
Members at Large	Tracy Merry, Sophia Lou, Krista Acheson, Jennifer Wright	

PAC MEETINGS

Our first PAC meeting of the school year will be on Thursday, September 23rd at 7:30pm. For the time being, we will continue to hold our PAC meetings virtually on Zoom until we have permission from the district to return to in-school meetings. You will find the login details to the Zoom meeting when you login to: <https://www.larondepac.ca/admin/>

PAC meetings are an excellent opportunity to connect with the Principal, the PAC executive and other Laronde parents. During these meetings, after the Principal's school report, participants will have the opportunity to share any concerns or ask questions. The PAC executive also reports on PAC business and all parents vote on important matters including how we spend PAC funds.

CLASS PARENTS

Our Laronde school community of students, parents, teachers, along with the Principal's Office will be safe, understood, and efficient if we are closely connected regarding school matters and events. The Class Parent plays a **vital role** at our school by being the point of contact between parents and the school. At the beginning of each school year, a parent from each division takes on this role. There can be more than one class parent per division to share responsibilities; however, it is recommended to have a primary contact.

Some of the activities a Class Parent may be involved with include:

1. Attend Parent Advisory Council meetings, dates below (or send designate).
2. Assist the teacher in organizing volunteers for field trips/class events or other activities as required.
3. Prepare a student/parent contact sheet for the class at the beginning of the year using information from the www.larondepac.ca website.
4. Forward information about class-specific events such as the Christmas Hamper program. Any school-wide emails are sent directly to all families registered on the www.larondepac.ca website.
5. Organize classroom volunteers for special school-wide PAC events such as the Bi-annual Spring Fair.
6. Assist the teacher with Scholastic book orders if asked.
7. Organize their teacher appreciation acknowledgment/gift, usually done at Christmas and in June.

If you are interested in becoming a class parent this year or if you have further questions about this role, please email classparent@larondepac.ca

LARONDE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The PAC relies on parent volunteers to organize and run many special events. Some of these events may not be able to run this year, but we will keep you posted. Please consider taking on a role for this year. The following are very brief descriptions, committees, and activities the PAC supports or sponsors. Actual duties vary slightly from year to year, depending on needs.

LOST AND FOUND - Periodically organize and display the lost & found items for collection. Wash and bundle unclaimed items to donate to Forsyth Road Elementary.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE (MARINA H. COORDINATOR) - works with the Principal to address safety concerns; maintains supplies in the earthquake container and the grab and go classroom containers.

YEARBOOK COMMITTEE (TRACY M. COORDINATOR) - works with the École Laronde Community, including administration, teachers, and parents, to collect photos for the annual yearbook. The committee may work with students to put together the layouts for the yearbook. It also works with an online printing service.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE - coordinates with our sister school, Forsyth Road Elementary, on current needs for their students/families by coordinating parent volunteers for events such as food or clothing drives throughout the year.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER COMMITTEE - coordinates with our sister school, Forsyth Road Elementary, on hamper needs for families. This is a school-wide event that requires the help of class parents to coordinate the collection of items in their classrooms.

SPRING FAIR - Every two years, Laronde hosts a Spring Fair in May. This event requires the help of numerous volunteer coordinators various activities and stations to run successfully. Examples of activities and stations are raffle baskets, games coordinator, cake walk, talent show, food, and beverage etc. Our Spring Fair in 2020 was cancelled due to COVID. We do hope to reschedule when possible.

If you have any questions about any of these volunteer opportunities &/or would like to put your name forward to volunteer, please contact Cynthia Springate at chair@larondepac.ca

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

We will likely restart the hot lunch program sometime this fall. Current rules around hot lunch require that all food is individually packaged, and parent volunteers are limited. We do look forward to restarting this program as it is a very successful fundraiser appreciated school-wide by students and parents. Please stay tuned for more details.

PASSIVE FUNDRAISERS FOR LARONDE

Emily Press Labels

Emily Press provides bright, durable, and personalized stick-on labels to help ensure your items return home to you. They will donate up to 20% of our sales back to the Laronde PAC if you order through this link, <http://www.emilypress.com/laronde>

Cobs Bread - Ocean Park location

Our generous neighbourhood bakers at Cob's bread (Ocean Park location only) will donate a percentage of your purchases to the Laronde PAC, all you need to do is mention Laronde when you check out. It's that easy! Tell all your friends and family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 23 – PAC Meeting via Zoom. 7:30pm.

September 27 – Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)

September 30 – Truth & Reconciliation Day (Stat Holiday)

October 12 – Thanksgiving Day (Stat Holiday)

October 22 – Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)

November 11 – Remembrance Day (Stat Holiday)

November 12 - Non-Instructional Day (no school for students)

WHAT IS A PAC?

The School Act gives parents the right, through PACs, to assume an advisory role in every school. PAC is the officially recognized collective voice of parents of their school. A PAC, through its elected officers, may advise the school board, the Principal and staff of the school respecting any matter relating to the school.

PACs are forums within each school community to discuss matters affecting your school and the education of your children. Parents' voices are a tremendous value to their school. They offer a wealth of ideas and support in the challenges that face all public schools.

PACs strive to represent the diversity within their communities and contribute to the benefit of all students by:

- providing opportunities to educate and inform parents about the school
- involving parents in volunteer activities
- openly discussing parents' concerns and aspirations for their schools

Direct from the Laronde PAC Constitution and Bylaws:

The purpose of the PAC shall be:

1. *To provide a forum for discussion of school procedures, programs, and facilities and to recommend changes where needed (subject to the Public School Act and Surrey School Board policies).*
2. *To assist the Principal and staff in creating the safest possible environment for the children in the school and neighbourhood.*
3. *To contribute to a sense of community within the school, and between the school, home, and neighbourhood.*
4. *To advise parents in communicating with teachers and administration about their child's progress or other concerns.*
5. *To encourage and support the involvement of community members in the school as volunteers or as auxiliary resource people.*
6. *To organize, in consultation with the Principal and staff, activities and programs where appropriate.*
7. *To raise sufficient funds and organize volunteers to support these activities and programs.*

PLAYGROUND #2 UPDATE

At the end of the last school year, we held a vote among students and families at Laronde to decide on the design for our new playground. It was an incredibly close vote with the SwingTime design getting 51.5% of the votes to 48.5% Habitat. It was a bit more definitive among the student vote with 55% of students voting for the SwingTime design. We then forwarded the SwingTime design to the district for approval and the order was officially placed in late July. The good news is that a beautiful new playground is on its way to Laronde and is anticipated to be fully installed before the end of 2021.

Here is a photo of the SwingTime design:



Note: Colours shown may not accurately reflect actual colours.

Laronde Elementary - Option 5
layout # A08496-C1 | J06604



COVID TEST REPORTING AND EXPOSURE NOTIFICATIONS

As you may be aware, there have been many changes around COVID notifications in schools. The PHO has announce that they will NOT be issuing exposure notices for single cases in schools. The BC School Covid Tracker has put a confidential system in place where families can share information about COVID positive cases in their homes. This will hopefully enable all families to better assess their individual risk. Should you wish to participate in this system, please see the information below. You can also check their list of COVID exposures at <https://bcschoolcovidtracker.knack.com/bc-school-covid-tracker#home/>

BC SCHOOL COVID TRACKER

HOW TO REPORT A SCHOOL EXPOSURE

1 Get you or your family member **TESTED**, even if symptoms are mild.

2 If the test is positive email your school and BCC or CC us @ **bcschoolcovid@protonmail.com**

3 **In the email include:**

- Confirm that someone in your household as tested positive.
- The date of the positive test.
- Dates of potential exposure (dates you or your family member were in the school while infectious).
- Name of the school.



YOUR IDENTITY WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL ON OUR DATABASE