

1. **Measurable:** Will be achieved when functional website is in place
2. **Attainable:** Yes this change is currently possible
3. **Relevant:** A refresh is sorely overdue, especially as we are still years out from a completely new site

Time: Ideally new site would be good to go for the start of the new school year (Sept. 2020)

Georges Vanier Elementary

A great place to learn and grow!



www.surreyschools.ca/schools/georgesvanier



@georgesvanier36

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Georges Vanier! We hope that you and your child will discover a rich and supportive learning environment.

In this section of the Student Planner, we have included information that we think will be useful and informative. Please read it carefully. If you think of anything we've missed, let us know so we can include it in future editions.

One important component of education is effective home-school interaction. We will do our best to keep you informed about school activities and policies through our school sign, classroom bulletins and telephone calls. There are many ways for you to stay up-to-date as well, through our **Website** and **Twitter**. As a parent, you are your child's first teacher and advocate. You are also an invaluable resource regarding your child as a person and as a learner. Please feel free to contact the school whenever you have any questions, concerns or information to share with us.

We invite your full partnership in challenging our students to become enthusiastic learners.

The Staff of Georges Vanier

Code of Student Conduct – 2015/16

At Georges Vanier Elementary, the goal of our Code of Conduct is to produce responsible, self-directed and cooperative students. Students are expected to follow the guidelines outlined in the Code of Conduct in classrooms, in the school building, on school grounds, and at school functions, regardless of their location. Our Code of Conduct is:

- **Be Safe:** Walk while inside, hands and feet to yourself, be aware of your surroundings.
- **Be Kind:** Share, include others, use appropriate language, and be polite.
- **Be Responsible:** Follow expectations, be accountable for what you do and say.
- **Be an Effective Learner:** Listen in class, try your best, avoid distractions, and use time wisely.

A detailed rubric of behaviour expectations will be reviewed with students in September and posted in each class. Teachers will also review the Code of Conduct with their classes on an ongoing basis.

Students have the ***RIGHT:***

- ✓ To learn.
- ✓ To speak and be heard.
- ✓ To be valued and to be treated considerately.
- ✓ To be safe.
- ✓ To a comprehensive education.

Students have the ***RESPONSIBILITY:***

- ✓ To be ready to learn.
- ✓ To listen courteously when others are speaking.
- ✓ To respect the rights of others.
- ✓ To act in a safe manner at all times.
- ✓ To participate positively in school activities.

Students are expected to follow the guidelines outlined in this Code in classrooms, throughout the school, on school grounds, at school functions, and on the way to and from school. When travelling to and from school, students are expected to respect public property, observe road safety regulations, and display appropriate social conduct.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

Inappropriate behaviour can consist of, but is not limited to:

- Foul Language
- Poor school attendance
- Running in the halls
- Unauthorized leaving of school grounds
- Littering
- Repeated or willful interference with the teaching and learning process
- Rudeness or willful disobedience to any staff member
- Acts or threats of verbal, physical, or sexual abuse (intended or not)
- Violence in any form
- Use or possession of illicit or illegal substances, including cigarettes, matches, or stolen merchandise
- Use or possession of weapons or replicas
- Use or possession of firecrackers or fireworks
- Acts of bullying, harassment, threats, or intimidation
- Acts of racism or discrimination
- Acts of theft or vandalism
- Retribution against a person who has reported incidents

Or Misuse Of

- *Cyberspace/Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Computers* - students are to be aware that they may be subject to discipline (or, if applicable, confiscation of personal property) for misuse of technology if it negatively impacts on the school environment.

REPORTING

It is the student's responsibility to report to persons in authority (parents, staff members, Principal, or Vice Principal) about activities related to the OFFENCES listed above, whether the student is a witness or a victim.

CONSEQUENCES

All students make inappropriate choices from time to time. Our goal is to use these opportunities to promote problem-solving, accountability, responsibility, and learning. Consequences will be applied in a fair and consistent manner, and every effort is made to ensure they maintain the dignity of the student, while being progressive and appropriate to the offence. They *can* include:

- *discussion*
- *noon-hour restriction (Lunch Room)*
- *loss of privileges*
- *home contact*
- *counselling*
- *detention*
- *Think Sheet*
- *duty to the school*
- *in-school suspension*
- *time-out*
- *placement in special program*
- *expulsion*
- *out of school suspension*

There are continual reviews of Think Sheets and referrals to the office and Lunch Room, which result in counselling for student behaviour and/or conduct. During suspensions, every attempt is made to ensure that the student's educational program will continue. After any serious or repeated offence, parents will be notified. All serious incidents will be recorded and may be reported to the School District and, if deemed necessary, to the School Liaison Office.

DRESS EXPECTATIONS

Students and staff are expected to dress in a manner appropriate to establish a positive learning atmosphere at an elementary school. Appropriate clothing allows for active learning and that is not restrictive for engaging in activities. Clothing for school should follow these guidelines:

- *Hats and hoodies are worn outside the school building.*
- *Bandanas may not be worn.*
- *Tops must cover the stomach area. Tops must be long enough to reach the pants, shorts or skirt worn, with no skin showing between the tops and bottoms, even if a student bends over.*
- *Female students may not wear short skirts, short shorts (fingertip length or longer), spaghetti straps, low cut tops, or anything too revealing.*
- *Male students may not wear tight "muscle shirts", undershirts, or tank tops.*
- *Undergarments must not be in sight.*
- *Clothing should be free of alcohol or drug references, or any other inappropriate wording or images.*
- *Heavy makeup and dangling jewelry should be avoided.*

Vanier Staff will use their discretion when enforcing our Dress Code. In the event of an infraction, the issue will be dealt with in a respectful and discreet manner.

BUILDING SECURITY

All outside entrance doors will remain locked during the day, with the exception of the front entrance. Visitors to the school are required to check in at the Office and obtain a 'Visitor's badge'. This badge must be returned to the Office when the visitor leaves the building. Intruders or trespassers will not be tolerated and will be asked to leave the premises by following the Intruder Warning protocol.

ABSENTEE CALL-BACK PROGRAM

Georges Vanier uses the absentee call back program to ensure that children arrive at school safely. **Please call the school at 604-596-1030** if your child will be absent or late. Unless the school is informed, you will be called if your child does not arrive at school.

SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULE - Grades K – 7:

8:30	Welcome bell to line up
8:35	Morning classes begin
10:00	Recess
10:15	Classes resume
11:48	Activity time outside
12:10	Inside - Meal Time
12:30	Afternoon classes begin
2:30	Students dismissed

STUDENT DISMISSAL

Children are not dismissed during the day without parental permission. If you wish your child to be dismissed before normal times, please send a note to the teacher giving your permission and informing us of the time that your child is to be released. Otherwise, we will phone home. Parents who are picking up their child during school hours must sign them out at the office.

Children will be released only to the care of their parent or guardian including designated babysitter or emergency contact. Names of these individuals must be on file at the office or students will not be released to them.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

It is the student's responsibility to be punctual and to attend school daily unless ill or excused by parent(s). Positive school attendance is essential to student success!

EMERGENCY CLOSURE

In the event of an emergency school closure, students will be sent home or to one of the contacts identified on the student registration form. Students will not be released until contact with a parent or a designated adult is made. **Please discuss with your children where they should go in the event of an emergency school closure.** It is important that the information at school be kept up to date. Parents should also listen to the radio station CKNW (AM 980) or CKWX (AM 1130) or RED FM (FM 93.1) for information about school closures.

LOSS OF/OR DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are responsible for all textbooks and library books checked out to them. Students are expected to take good care of all books and to return them at the appropriate time.

Students will be requested to pay for lost, stolen or damaged textbooks, library books, or other school property.

LOSS OF/OR DAMAGE TO STUDENT'S PROPERTY

Students are responsible for their own property. The school does not replace or repair any items brought to school. For this reason, students are encouraged to NOT bring electronics or other expensive items to school.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

At Georges Vanier, we continue to promote positive Digital Citizenship within our classrooms. Digital Citizenship is the ability to use technology in an appropriate, productive and responsible way. Our school has created an "umbrella" statement that incorporates many facets of learning to use technology effectively. We are using the language "Digital Citizenship": There's an APP for that". This mini poster is displayed in every classroom and learning space throughout our school.

Digital Citizenship:
There's an APP for that
Offers Life-Long Benefits
★★★★★

Appropriate use
parental permissions
T.H.I.N.K.
cyber bullying
netiquette

Privacy
Respect for yourself and others
- online safety
- digital footprint
- Golden Rule

Property
Respect your sources
- citations
- fair use
Respect the devices

+ GET

Anna Crosland @crosland_a
App Store design © Apple

STUDENT PLACEMENT POLICY

A great deal of time and effort goes into the appropriate placement of students. When assembling classes, meetings are held which combine input from last year's teachers, the Learner Support Teacher (LST), the Counsellor, the Child Care Worker and the Principal. When students are placed in classes, the following factors are taken into consideration. As each class situation is different, the factors are not in order of importance.

- *Academic Ability* – we try to ensure that each class has students with a variety of ability levels
- *Gender* – attempts are made to form classes with equal numbers of girls and boys
- *Group Dynamics* – based on past experience, some students may not be placed in the same class as they experience difficulties together, while other students may be placed together because they work well together
- *Behaviour* – students with behaviour problems are divided among the classes
- *Teaching/Learning Styles* – some students are placed in classes because the teaching/learning situation will be the most beneficial to them
- *Previous Combined Classes* – we try to avoid placing students in split classes two years in a row, but this is not always possible. Careful consideration is given to who is placed in split classes
- *Teacher Contract Guidelines* – the teachers' contract limits the total number of students and the number of special needs students allowed in each class
- *Parent Requests* – parents often come to the school in the Spring to make placement requests for the next year. If these requests are for educational reasons, we try to honor them if possible

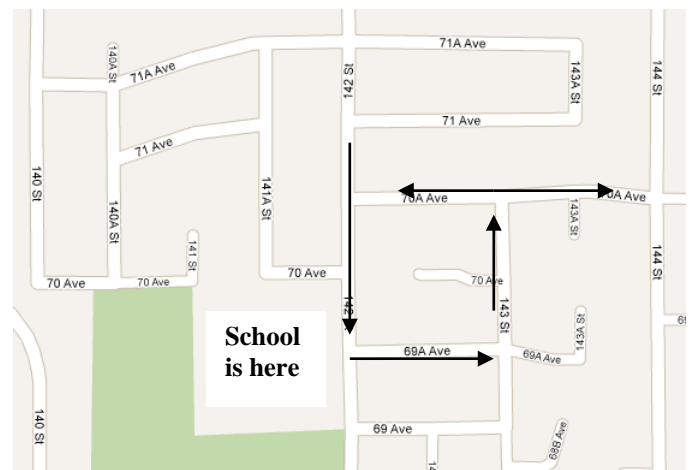
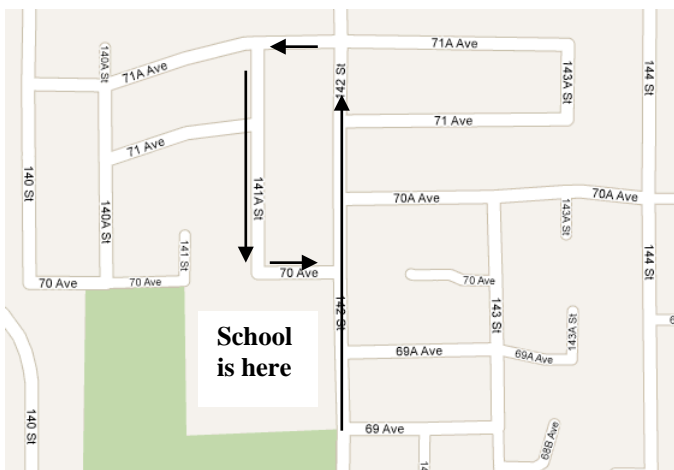
Given the above criteria, our staff works hard to ensure that each class will form a solid and effective learning group. If parents have educational concerns about the placement of their child, they are welcome to discuss them with their teacher and, if agreement is not achieved, with the school administrator.

STUDENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Please obey and respect all posted signs and staff members directing traffic

- ✓ WEAR SEATBELTS
- ✓ Do not leave your vehicle unattended in the DROP OFF zone
- ✓ Only drop student off in the DROP OFF zone, not on the other side of the street
- ✓ Pull to the front of the DROP OFF zone
- ✓ Pull into the DROP OFF zone before your child opens the door
- ✓ Encourage your child to meet you quickly after the final bell if you are picking them up
- ✓ Be patient
- ✓ Walk to school whenever you can
- ✓ If you have to drive, park further away than usual and walk a minute or two
- ✓ Observe school zone speed limits
- ✓ Please do not park in the drop off zone
- ✓ Refrain from doing U-Turns in front of the School

Another strategy that has helped improve traffic flow is creating ONE-WAY traffic along 70th Avenue. Please see below for recommended travel routes:



SCHOOL VISITORS

All visitors to Georges Vanier are asked to register at the office where they will be given a visitor badge to wear. Students from other schools or friends of our students are allowed to visit during the school day if there has been **prior** permission granted by the teacher.

STUDENT TRANSFERS

If your child will be moving from the school, please contact the school in advance. We can then have everything ready for your child when he/she leaves. This would include a transfer form, which will help make adjustment to a new school setting much easier. Please ensure that all Library books, texts, and other school property are returned.

LEARNER SUPPORT TEAM

The goal of the Learner Support Team is to provide academic support and assistance to students from Grades One through Seven. The Learner Support Team Teacher delivers a range of support services to students with diverse learning needs including, but not limited to, students classified as learning disabled, or students requiring support with English as a Second Language. The Learning Support Team Teacher, in consultation with parents and classroom teachers develop an **I.E.P.** to support the students' learning needs.

CHILDCARE WORKER/ABORIGINAL YOUTHCARE WORKER

Child and Youth Care Workers assist in the delivery of programs and services to students identified with behavioural problems that may be coupled with learning, social/emotional difficulties or anxiety. Child Care Workers provide teachers with behaviour management techniques for individual students. They periodically review these techniques with teachers, modify as necessary, and monitor behaviour until results justify a withdrawal of services. Child Care Workers assist in developing an Individualized Behaviour Plan to outline support they deliver to students.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PROGRAM

The Speech/Language Pathologist identifies elementary school children who require support in developing their oral communication skills. Diagnosis, evaluation and intervention are provided as necessary, or if possible. Referrals for support are made through School Based Team meetings. The school speech pathologist attends School Based Team meetings where referrals are discussed and plans for support put in place. Parental support in the home is essential for interventions to be successful.

COUNSELLOR

Did you know that all elementary schools in the Surrey School District have school based counselling services? Seeing the counsellor does not mean that you are "bad", in trouble or "crazy". It means that you are asking for a different kind of help to deal with a problem. Students can self-refer or be referred by administration, teachers or parents and caregivers. Parents are also invited to meet with the school counsellor. Given that time in the school is limited, calling to make an appointment is both helpful and appreciated.

The elementary school counsellor may:

- a) Provide direct counselling to children and families, protecting confidentiality, and consulting as deemed helpful or necessary;
- b) Consult with school staff and parents with helpful strategies;
- c) Act as an advocate for the children and their parents;
- d) Participate as a member of the school-based team; and
- e) Act as liaison with community agencies and allied professionals as required.

TEACHER-LIBRARIAN

Check out the library webpage which is linked from the school website: www.surreyschools.ca/schools/georgesvanier where you will find great reads and research tools.

Two great resources, **Tumblebooks** and **World Book Online**, are sponsored by Surrey Schools. Access these resources by using the following Home Access Login ID and Password:

Home Access Login ID: **SD36-BC**

Home Access Login Password: **SD36**

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Many students participate in District-wide sporting events, including:

• **Soccer** • **Cross-country running** • **Volleyball** • **Basketball** • **Badminton** • **Track and field**

These programs emphasize good sportsmanship and skill development. All age-appropriate players who regularly attend practices have the opportunity to participate in league games.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAMS

Students are invited for breakfast every morning starting at 7:45 a.m. There is no charge for this wonderful program. Student may also participate in the District Lunch Program. There is a cost associated with the Lunch Program, but families are encouraged to pay what they can. Please see the office for further detail.

COMMUNITY-SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP (C-SP)

The goal of the community school model, whether in an elementary or secondary school setting, is to use schools as neighbourhood focal points that weave together an array of local services and resources to provide easy neighbourhood access, and/or link children, youth, families and other local residents to the broader network of community and public services and activities. Schools become centers of the community – safe spaces, caring places that are open to everyone – all day, every day, evenings, weekends and holidays.

Community schools work in partnership with children, youth, families, community residents, community businesses, and community agencies to develop resources and programs. Research indicates that community school activities focus on the following six areas: **Quality Education and Community-based Learning, Youth Development, Mentorship and Leadership, Early Childhood Development, Parenting Resources and Family Support, Family and Community Engagement/Mobilization, Inter-cultural Competence and Community Liveability.** For more information on C-SP, visit the Vanier website: www.surreyschools.ca/schools/georgesvanier

“ATTENDANCE MATTERS” (A.M.) PROJECT

The “**ATTENDANCE MATTERS**” (A.M.) Project aims to make positive connections with students and families who struggle with attendance. This involves phone calls, home visits, classroom touchbacks, and in some cases, driving students to school. Once students arrive at school, the support program includes a breakfast, literacy, and fitness component.

Recent research shows that children who have poor attendance early in their schooling tend to do poorly in first grade, and that children with a history of poor attendance in the early elementary grades have lower levels of academic achievement throughout their school years.

Home-School Connections

STAY IN TOUCH Via our **school website:** www.surreyschools.ca/georgesvanier
Twitter: @georgesvanier36

REPORTING

During the school year, three formal report cards are issued in December, March and June. In addition, two interim reports will occur in October and April; one of these informal reports is in the form of a student-led conference. Parent/teacher conferences are also an integral part of the reporting process. Early dismissal days are scheduled for the purpose of these conferences. Please take advantage of the opportunity to schedule an appointment.

NEWSLETTERS

Last year, we moved away from a monthly newsletter to a weekly blog called the **VANIER NEWS** that is usually published after every week on Saturday or Sunday. You can subscribe on the school website to have a link to the **VANIER NEWS** sent to you. Staying in touch with what is happening at your child’s school is crucial to their success.

PRESCRIBED MEDICATION & LIFE-THREATENING MEDICAL CONDITIONS

If your child requires on-going prescription medication, please obtain the appropriate form at the school office to be completed by your doctor and signed by yourself. This procedure complies with School Board Policy regarding prescription medication to be taken at school.

Also, if your child has any life-threatening medical conditions such as extreme allergies, it is imperative that you notify us so we can be prepared should the need arise.

HEAD LICE

Head lice are an ever-present problem. They are not a major health concern in that they do not spread disease. However, they sometimes become a community concern.

Catching head lice is as easy as catching a cold. We ask that you frequently check your child's head for lice or for their eggs (nits). Frequent head checks and proper treatment will prevent head lice from spreading in our school. Our lice prevention volunteers screen all students in the school several times each year. In addition, volunteers will screen children for head lice if cases have been reported in a classroom.

If your child comes to school with nits in his or her hair, you will be asked to take him/her home for treatment and removal of the nits.

ILLNESS OR INJURY AT SCHOOL

When school-aged children are sick, the best environment for them is in their own home where they can receive proper medical and parental attention. Please do not send your child to school if he/she has a rash, fever, bad cough, sore throat, ear ache, bad cold or a communicable disease.

If a student becomes ill at school, parents will be contacted to come and pick up their child. If an accident causing minor injury occurs to your child while at school, the office will complete an accident report. This form will be sent home with your child to inform you of the accident. In the event of a more serious injury, the school will notify parents at the time of the accident and call 911 if necessary.

GEORGES VANIER PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Georges Vanier has a growing Parent Advisory Council which meets several times throughout the year. All parents are automatically members of the PAC. The council works hard to promote a sense of community among the students, staff and parents. For further information, please contact the chairperson. Notices will be sent home advising parents of meetings and activities. You are encouraged to become an active member of the PAC by attending meetings, participating in activities and supporting the events.

VOLUNTEERING AT VANIER

Volunteers can contribute to the enhancement of the school culture in many ways. They can assist with a variety of tasks such as:

→working with individuals or small groups of children →assisting with field trip experiences →preparing instructional materials

Ask your child's teacher or contact the Office to find out how you can become involved. Please remember that volunteers must hold all matters connected with the school in confidence and may be required to complete a Criminal Records Check by the RCMP.

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are held at the end of every month. Please see our newsletters for details. Students are expected to enter gym quietly and display appropriate audience manners. Parents are always welcome to attend assemblies and other special events at Vanier.

EMERGENCY OR SCHOOL CLOSURE

Sometimes extreme weather conditions or other unusual circumstances can cause class cancellations at a school, or district-wide on short notice. In the event of class cancellations, the Surrey School District will post information on its web site at www.surreyschools.ca and provide updates to the following radio stations:

CKNW (980 AM or www.cknw.com) **NEWS 1130** (1130 AM or www.news1130.com) **RED FM** (93.1 FM or www.vancouver.redfm.ca)

Weather, power, road and safety conditions can change substantially within a few hours, therefore assessments and decisions must be made as close to school opening as possible for the information to be reliable. However, the district will do its best to communicate the status of schools by 7:00 a.m., when possible.

For up to date information about Georges Vanier, please check the school website regularly throughout the day.