

NEWSLETTER

Aurora Elementary Newsletter

June 2021

Important Dates

June	2	School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
	3	Theme Dress Day: Summer Casual/ Hawaiian
	4	PD Day—no classes for students
	17	Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
	25	Last day to return all library books, textbooks, Chrome Books/ iPads
	25	ADD: Sports Wear Last Day of School Term 3 (Final) Report Card available after 4:00 p.m. on-line through Pow- erSchool
	30	Uniform Orders due to Top Marks
August	24	School Resumes for 2021-2022 for Grades 1 to 4 Kindergarten students will get a re- minder email in August with their first day (staggered entry)

Summer!

“Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.”
— [John Lubbock](#), [The Use Of Life](#)

In This Issue

- Important Announcements
- Student Performances: French
- Yearbook News
- Volunteer Appreciation
- AACS Board of Directors
- School Council News
- School Improvement
- Mrs. Healy's Musings
- Mrs. Harman's Musings

Virtual School Council

June 3 @ 6:00 pm

- log in through link on school council website page:
- <https://www.auroraschool.ca/school-council>

Important Announcements

Report Cards

Don't forget to log on to Powerschool to check the final report card!

You will need the same log-in information from the beginning of the year that you have been using with each report card.

Report cards are available online at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 26. Please ensure you log on to your account.

Email nmykytiuk@auroraschool.ca if you lost your log-in information

Yearbook News

Yearbook orders for this year have closed. If you forgot to order a yearbook, please contact the Elementary office ASAP to put your name on the waitlist for extra copies

Parent Survey– coming to your email June 7th

As the school year winds down, we ask that you complete one more survey sent to you by email. These surveys will help us determine how well we are meeting our charter goals and how we might improve our school. Thank you for spending your time completing our survey and for all of your thoughtful Input, it is greatly appreciated.

French Play

We enjoyed welcoming our grade 2-4 parents to watch online as their children performed the annual French play recitals. We were so proud of all the students' hard work!

Our thanks to Mme. Marko-Kwasny for arranging the Google-Meets for parents.

Summer Resources

Worried about bored kids during the summer?
Want extra practice sheets but school is closed?
Don't worry—our website is always open!

Go to auroraschool.ca and press the "Learning Resources" button for links to a hundred different educational websites to keep your children learning and entertained.

There is also a button for "Family and Student Support Websites" that have links to food bank, Employment Insurance and Mental Health Resources.

AACS Board of Directors

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held online at 7:00 p.m. each month during the school year. Anyone who has a student registered at the school is welcome to attend.

Dear families,

June is a very busy month at Aurora. After being at home for two weeks, students are back in class, working hard on their studies and preparing for tests and exams. We are thankful to have students in their seats and are hopeful that the next school year returns us to something akin to normalcy which will permit us to move forward on some exciting initiatives.



One of which is assessment. COVID-19 has disrupted some of our regular school events such as awards ceremonies and special community get-togethers, but, most importantly, student learning has been affected greatly, as has our ability to honestly and genuinely report this learning and progress to you, the parents. Teachers will be working hard in the new school year to evolve our assessment, evaluation, and reporting structures so that you truly understand how well your child is excelling with regard to both student competencies and curricular learning objectives.

We will also be accelerating progress on the work we have done on Safe & Caring Schools, with particular attention to the well-being of students and staff. Special thanks go to Mary Healy who has been our point person in this very important area. This year has been a difficult one and supporting and caring for our people will always be our first priority.

On May 20th, our Board of Directors passed the budget for the 2021-2022 school year. The Board has been working diligently to examine every part of school funding to ensure that students are the prime beneficiaries. I welcome you to look at all of our school documents on our website at www.auroraschool.ca.

Thank you so much for all of your care and support.

Sincerely,

Ian Gray
Acting Superintendent



Updates

Please join us for our monthly meeting on **June 2 2021 @ 6:00pm.**

You can find the link to the meeting [HERE](#) or find it on the auroraschool.ca site under the **PARENTS** tab and click on **SCHOOL COUNCIL**.

*Agendas are updated online before the meeting.

UNIFORMS

If you are in need of some uniform pieces, please email schoolcouncil@auroraschool.ca and we will look to see what is available from our lost and found.

Did you know...

This is the last newsletter for the school year??

School Council would like to wish the Aurora Family a safe a happy summer!

We hope everyone enjoys their time off and we will see you all in August!!

Important Reminders for June:

- June 2nd – Policy Committee Meeting @ 4:00pm.
- June 2nd – School Council and Aurora Fundraising Society Meeting @ 6:00pm.
- June 4th – PD Day – No School.
- June 17th – School Board Meeting @ 7:00pm.
- June 18th - Middle School Science Final Exam.
- June 22nd – Middle School Social Final Exam.
- June 23rd – Middle School Math Final Exam.
- June 24th - Middle School ELA Final Exam.
- **June 25th - Last Day of School!!**

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at:

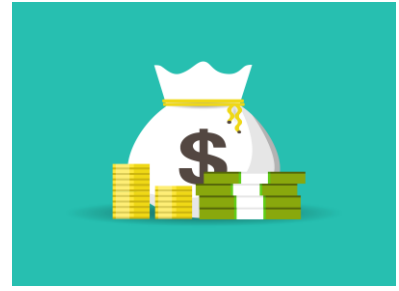
schoolcouncil@auroraschool.ca



please join us on
Facebook "[Aurora School Council](#)"

E-Transfer donations will always be accepted! Thank you to all the parents for their continued support.

Fundraising Society Updates



A big **Thank You** to everyone who has participated in our first 50/50 fundraiser.

Congratulations to **Gordon Collins** who won the \$2500.00 jackpot!

We will be looking to have another 50/50 in the next school year!

Thank you to all of those parents who used FLIPGIVE. We have raised a total of **\$188.00!**

And don't worry! You can still download the FLIPGIVE app to your phone and help Aurora fundraise:

From your computer:

Visit: www.flipgive.com/join

Enter team invite code: **XWK4X6**

Subgroup: **elementary** or **middle school**

Create your account!

Or download to your phone through your phone's app store!

We wanted to give a BIG THANK YOU to **Pd Management & Services Inc.**
They were very kind to donate \$500.00 to the Fundraising Society!
This will be SO helpful for our kiddos!
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

The Aurora Fundraising Society would like to wish everyone a safe a happy summer!
Take time to enjoy the sun and we will see you all in August!

And thank you to everyone who supported AFS this year!!

Reminder:

mabel's labels

campaign.mabelslabels.com and select our school **Aurora Academic Charter School (Edmonton).**

E-Transfer donations will be may be made in lieu of payment for any fundraiser we do!! Thank you to all the parents for their continued support.

Questions or Concerns:

Contact us at:

fundraising@auroraschool.ca



[2018-06-07-19-39-11.jpg \(4778x3185\)](#)



Mary Healy

Assistant Principal
Elementary School
mhealy@auroraschool.ca

Thank-you for your Resilience!

It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of another school year. I hope that the summer brings some relaxation and time with your families, as we move through the next opening stages for the pandemic. I want to thank the parents for all their support throughout the year. You were called upon to be teachers for your children when they were isolating or doing at-home learning. This was not an easy role.

I am so proud of our staff, students and parents/guardians for supporting the school Covid-19 protocols. I believe that our strict protocols and extra safety measures mitigated the spread in our school. As you reflect on the past year, I am sure you will be pleased with how resilient and strong your families have become. I know the challenges were different for each family but we all felt the impact of a very unprecedented year. I am especially proud of how all the students worked so hard regardless of where they were learning.

The summer will afford us the time to re-energize and enjoy a slower pace. Having your child read to you is a great way to spend some time together with the added benefit of increased reading skills for your child. I look forward to being in the role of your elementary principal next year. I am looking forward to all the wonderful opportunities that lie ahead for our school community. As we work alongside each other in a partnership, we will continue to be the school that makes us proud. I wish everyone a safe and joyous summer vacation.

Mrs. Mary Healy,
Elementary Assistant Principal
Incoming Elementary Principal 2020/2021

Keep Going by Edgar Guest.

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must—but don't you quit.

"Edgar Guest (1881-1959) was a prolific American poet – publishing a poem every day in the Detroit Free Press for 30 years. Known as the People's Poet, Edgar Guest wrote easy-to-read poems about many relatable topics. He wrote encouraging life messages about topics such as family and work. This particular poem encourages readers not to give up when they are faced with challenges. Even when things are not going well, keep pushing on. You never know how close you are to success and making it to the other side."

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/keep-going-by-edgar-guest>

Mrs. Harman's Musings



Jacquie Harman

Principal
Elementary School
jharman@auroraschool.ca

Innovation, Hard Work, Empowerment, Respect and Integrity, Empathy and Compassion

This is my last "Musing" as Elementary Principal of Aurora School. Normally, I look to my letters from previous editions for inspiration. This time, I have no precedent to follow.

I would like to devote this space to sharing my thanks for an amazing journey during the last five years. We have accomplished (and overcome) so many things. The first that leaps to mind is, of course, our Covid pandemic response. Our teachers have done an incredible job supporting students as we learn new ways to present material, while holding true to the Aurora expectations. Our parents and students have shown so much support and faith as we navigated these uncharted waters. I know this has not been an easy time, but we have gotten through it together.

We also cannot forget all the other amazing things that we have accomplished in the last five years. Our teachers have worked together to more closely align our program between each grade and we have invested in new textbooks and resources. We have a new elevator, entrance, washrooms, offices, and beautiful entranceway. We undertook a multi-year visioning process to ensure we continued to meet the needs of our stakeholders. We have a 15 year Charter to keep Aurora open as a charter school into 2035. By that time, education may look different (and we even may have flying school buses) but I know Aurora will still be strong and will still hold true to its principles.

Our core principle has always been our relationship with parents. Aurora is special because teachers work with students who have an incredible amount of support at home. We understand that our relationship is a triangle, not a line. Teachers and parents work together to support our students to achieve the top of their dreams. Administration and support staff provide a solid base.

I hope that I have helped to provide that solid base. I know that I am leaving the school in a strong position, with three straight years of Excellent results according to Alberta Education. More importantly, I know that I am leaving you in the very capable hands of Mrs. Healy, our current Assistant Principal, who will be taking over as Elementary Principal next year. She is truly an incredibly talented and caring educational leader, who will provide the support and vision for the next chapter in Aurora's history.

My deepest thanks and gratitude go to the teachers, parents, Board members, and students who have placed their trust in me. I will carry you in my heart forever.

J. Harman, Elementary Principal

Contact Us

Aurora Academic Charter School
12245—131 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T5L 1M8

80-454-1855
Email us at: elementary@auroraschool.ca
Visit us on the web at www.auroraschool.ca



Caregiver Education Team Newsletter

June 2021



AHS, in collaboration with **The Mental Health Foundation**, is proud to offer **FREE** online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth.

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application. A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

Drop-In Series

SEEDS: Growing Parenting Skills

Managing Meltdowns and Shutdowns

Wednesday, June 2
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Helping Our Kids Figure Things Out

Wednesday, June 9
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Effective Consequences

Wednesday, June 16
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Anxiety Part 1: An Introduction

Thursday, June 3
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Anxiety Part 2: Calming Our Bodies

Thursday, June 10
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Anxiety Part 3: Settling Our Minds

Thursday, June 17
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Anxiety Part 4: Overcoming Avoidance

Thursday, June 24
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Sessions at a Glance

Lunch & Learn Webinars

Mindfulness: Benefits for the Whole Family

Part 1 – Monday, May 31
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2 – Monday, June 7
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Parenting Teens in the 21st Century

Part 1 - Wednesday, June 2
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2 – Wednesday, June 9
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Sleep and Your Family's Mental Health – Part 1

Part 1 – Monday, June 14
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2 – Monday, June 21
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Caregiver Education Sessions

Supporting Self-Regulation in Elementary School Children

Tuesday, June 1
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Technology and the Teenage Brain

Digital Wellness for Families
Tuesday, June 8
6:00 – 7:30 pm

More Than Just a Bad Day: Understanding Depression and Self-Injury in Youth

Tuesday, June 15
6:00 – 7:30 pm



Mental Health Foundation



Children, Youth &
Families Addiction
& Mental Health

For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Caregiver Education Sessions

June 2021



These free 90 minute online sessions are intended to provide parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members with introductory information regarding mental health challenges that can affect children and youth.

Supporting Self-Regulation in Elementary School Children

Do you wish you could help children handle strong emotions? This session will look at the development of self-regulation in children.

Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only.

Technology and the Teenage Brain Digital Wellness for Families

Take a look at the teen brain and the risks and benefits of technology use. Tips on effective communication and limit setting are also shared.

Date: Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: Caregivers and youth (Gr. 7-12) can attend together.

More Than Just a Bad Day: Understanding and Supporting Depression and Self-Injury in Youth

This session will help caregivers increase awareness about adolescents who might be experiencing sadness, depression and/or non-suicidal self-injury. Strategies for support will be discussed.

Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades 7-12; for adults only

Registration

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Parent Feedback:

“The time, length, ways or presenting, and speakers all are excellent. Thank you so much.”

“It was helpful and beneficial to include attendees for their input throughout the session.”

“Love these sessions as a parent and teacher... highly recommended.”



Mental Health Foundation

Alberta Health Services
Children, Youth &
Families Addiction
& Mental Health

For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Lunch & Learn Webinars

June 2021

These free 60 minute webinars are for parents/caregivers who are looking to strengthen their child's/adolescent's ability to thrive through life's challenges and discover strategies that can help build resiliency and overall family wellness. Participants are welcome to register for single sessions or the full series.

Mindfulness

Benefits for the Whole Family

These sessions will explore mindfulness as an evidence-based way of supporting empathy, optimism, attention, and self-regulation skills in children, teens, and parents.

Part 1 – Monday, May 31, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Part 2 – Monday, June 7, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Parenting Teens in the 21st Century

Respectful Limit Setting with Adolescents

In these sessions, we will explore the challenges of being a teenager and the importance of the parent/teen relationship. We will continue to look at ways to increase communication and understanding around healthy boundaries with your teen.

Part 1 - Wednesday, June 2, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades 7-12; for adults only.

Part 1 - Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades 7-12; for adults only.

Sleep and Your Family's Mental Health

These sessions will look at the importance of good sleep quantity and quality for overall health, the factors that interfere with sleep, and sleep scheduling. We will look at healthy sleep hygiene strategies and sleep environments that can prepare our children for a good night's sleep.

Part 1 - Monday, June 14, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Part 2 - Monday, June 21, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Registration:

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

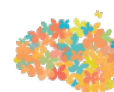
www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Parent Feedback:

"I like going online, I appreciated that I was anonymous, not everyone could see us. The team spoke clearly and got to the point. Very good session."

"The duration of the session was perfect, made it easier to attend and everything was covered in a comprehensive manner."

"So grateful for the work you put into these teachings!"



Mental Health Foundation



Children, Youth &
Families Addiction
& Mental Health

For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Drop-in Series

June 2021

The Support, Education, and Engagement Drop-In Sessions (S.E.E.D.S) are 90-minute drop-in online interactive and educational workshops for parents and caregivers who are looking to strengthen their foundational parenting skills, address parenting challenges, and support their child's healthy social and emotional development. Caregivers will receive practical information, share parenting tips, and participate in group discussion. Parents are welcome to attend one session or join us each week.

Registration

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

SEEDS: Growing Parenting Skills

Managing Meltdowns and Shutdowns

This session is designed to help parents understand the brain science behind a child's meltdowns and shutdowns and strategies we can use to help regulate our minds and bodies.

Date: Wednesday, June 2, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only.

Helping Our Kids Figure Things Out

Do you find that your child struggles to find solutions when problems arise? This session will show you some simple steps for breaking down problems and finding solutions with your children.

Date: Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only.

Effective Consequences

In this session, we will discuss different approaches you can take to address your child's challenging behaviour and how consequences can be a learning tool when offered compassionately and consistently.

Date: Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only.

Parent Feedback

"This was great! Lots of ideas and will be using these in our family."

"I just wanted to say that I love that these sessions are available virtually. I was speaking with a friend yesterday and we expressed what a great option this is for busy families..."



Mental Health Foundation

Alberta Health Services
Children, Youth &
Families Addiction
& Mental Health

For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Drop-in Series

June 2021

Anxiety Series

These free 90 minute online sessions are intended to provide parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members with introductory information regarding mental health challenges that can affect children and youth. In this four-part series, we will look at the difference between helpful and unhelpful stress and anxiety and discuss strategies for identifying and managing anxiety in children and youth. Participants are welcome to register for single sessions or the full series.

Anxiety Part 1: An Introduction

This session will distinguish between normal worries and anxiety that is no longer helpful or productive and will help caregivers to identify signs that a child or adolescent is experiencing problems with anxiety.

Date: Thursday, June 3, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Anxiety Part 2: Calming Our Bodies

In this session, we will review how the body reacts to stress triggers and ways caregivers can help their child to notice and begin to regulate their own stress responses.

Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Anxiety Part 3: Settling Our Minds

In this session, we will look at how anxiety can lead to negative thinking and thinking traps that can hold our children back. Strategies for addressing worries and encouraging realistic thinking will be discussed.

Date: Thursday, June 17, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Anxiety Part 4: Overcoming Avoidance

In this session, we will discuss how avoidance of stressors can increase our child's stress responses. By encouraging our children to face manageable stressors, caregivers can help their child foster effective coping skills.

Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Registration

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Parent Feedback

“Well presented, informative, and positive. We can incorporate the strategies right away. Thank you.”

“Thanks for facilitating all these webinarsthe skills I am learning and practicing had brought so much peace to our family dynamics.”

“It was very nice to learn how to be positive during this pandemic regarding raising children.”



Mental Health Foundation



Children, Youth &
Families Addiction
& Mental Health

For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca