

**Blair’s Week-At-A-Glance (WAAG) for Families:**

**January 13-17, 2025**

Dear Blair Families,

We have had a great first week back to school and loved the positive energy that our students brought with them! Now, we are fully in to Term 2, and are excited about the programming, teams, and special events coming up! Thank you for supporting your child!

-Mr. Livingston

**Highlights For Next Week Include:**

<p><b>Monday</b> Jan. 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12:00 PAC Rice Bowl hot lunch</li> <li>• 6:00pm Parent Information Session: Late French Immersion</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> Jan. 14</p>	
<p><b>Wednesday</b> Jan. 15</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black Excellence Day</li> <li>• Krystle Dos Santos Whole School Musical Performance!</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday</b> Jan. 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7:00pm Blair Band Performance at Burnett Secondary</li> </ul>
<p><b>Friday</b> Jan. 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAC Poke Lunch Day</li> </ul>

Jan 21 6:30pm Hannah Beach Parent Education Session

Jan 27 Pro-D Day – No School for Students

Jan 29 Blair PAC Meeting

*Significant Dates in our Community*  
January is Tamil Heritage Month

- Maghi: Jan. 13
- Mahayana New Year: Jan. 14
- Black Excellence Day: Jan. 15

The banner features a purple flower on the left with the text "Happy Maghi 2025". On the right, there are two smaller images: one for "Happy Mahayana New Year" showing a Buddha figure, and another for "Black Excellence Day" showing a person's silhouette.



## Happy Maghi 2025

Maghi is a festival celebrated in the Indian subcontinent that has multiple meanings and is celebrated by multiple religions:

### Hindu Festival

Maghi is the regional name for the Hindu festival of Makar Sankranti, which is celebrated in Punjab, Haryana, Jammu, and Himachal Pradesh. It marks the transition of the sun from one zodiac sign to another, and the beginning of warmer days and the spring season.

### Sikh Festival

Maghi is a major holy day for the Sikh community that commemorates the martyrdom of the "Forty Immortals". Sikhs celebrate Maghi by reciting the Guru Granth Sahib and performing religious rituals in Gurdwaras. They also gather in Muktsar, Punjab for a fair and to bathe in a sacred pond. A traditional food for Maghi is Kheer, a sweet rice porridge with milk.

### Nepalese Festival

Maghi is also known as Maghe Sankranti in Nepal, where it is a major harvest festival. It is celebrated on January 14 and is considered an auspicious phase in Nepalese culture.

## MAHAYANA NEW YEAR



Mahayana New Year in 2025 is on Tuesday, January 14. It is a Buddhist holiday that celebrates the Buddhist New Year in the Mahayana tradition.

The Buddhist New Year is celebrated on different days by different Buddhist communities, depending on the country or ethnic background.

# BLACK EXCELLENCE DAY

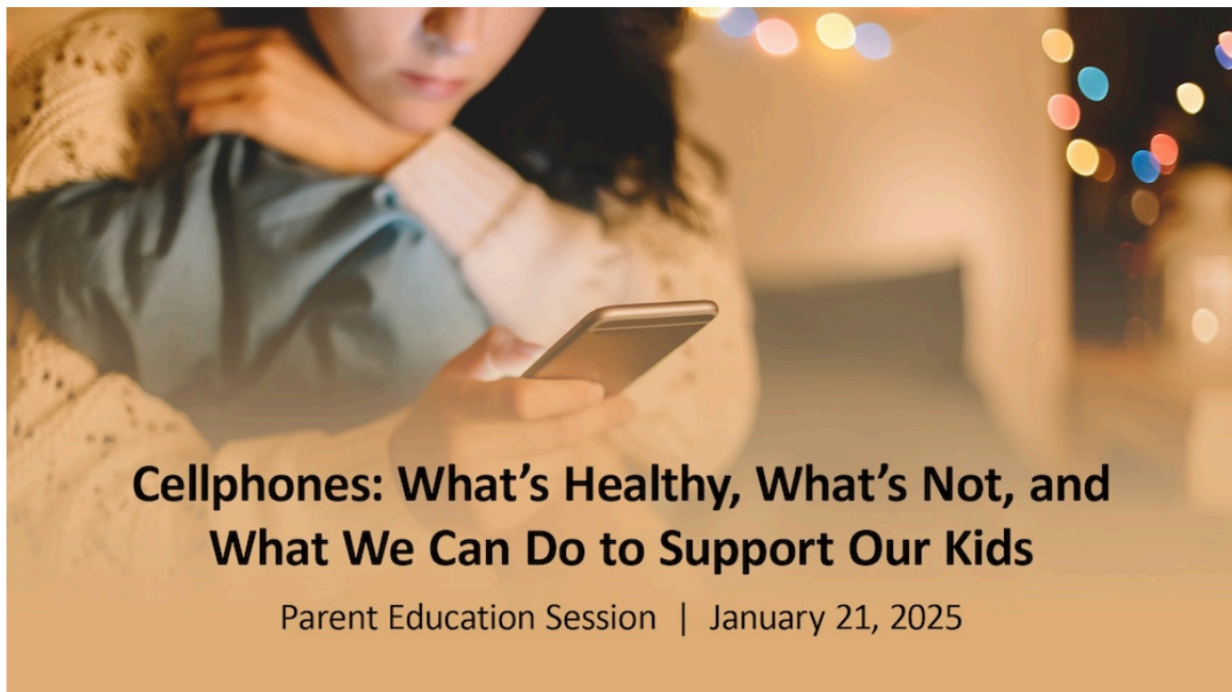


Black Excellence Day celebrates the achievements, resilience, and cultural contributions of Black individuals and communities. It honors accomplishments, promotes representation, highlights cultural heritage, and fosters empowerment and education. The day advocates for equity, inspires future generations, and serves as a reminder of the ongoing pursuit of excellence within the Black community.

## PAC Hot Lunches

January Hot Lunch Orders are available on MunchALunch:

[www.blair.sd38.bc.ca](http://www.blair.sd38.bc.ca)



[\(please read more below!\)](#)

**Presented by Hannah Beach**  
**January 21, 2025 | 6:30 – 8 p.m.**

**Many of our kids are anxious and glued to their phones, seeking endless distraction and feeling isolated and disconnected. Aggressive outbursts have become common and yet others seem to have stopped talking all together. As parents and caregivers, we are increasingly alarmed. We entice, cajole, bribe, encourage, shout, but nothing seems to work long term.**

**Join Hannah for a warm and conversational workshop exploring practical strategies we can use to help our children and youth when it comes to managing devices. This conversation has never been more important as we look at how we can support our children and youth to grow, learn, develop, and reach their fullest potential.**

**Closed captioning in multiple languages will be available for participants.**

**[Click here to register](#)**

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### **About the Presenter** **Hannah Beach**

**Hannah Beach is an award-winning educator, author, emotional health consultant, and keynote speaker. She is the co-author of the best-selling book *Reclaiming Our Students: Why Children Are More Anxious, Aggressive, and Shut-Down than Ever — and What We Can Do About It*.**

**Hannah was recognized by the Canadian Human Rights Commission in 2017 as one of five featured changemakers in Canada. Her bestselling *I Can Dance* book series, supporting the emotional health of children through movement, play, and expression, won a 2017 Gold International Moonbeam Children’s Book Award. You can find her at [hannahbeach.ca](http://hannahbeach.ca).**



## Parent Education Session

### District Program Options

### Late French Immersion

The Richmond School District provides the Late French Immersion program beginning at Grade 6 at James Whiteside and John Diefenbaker Elementary schools. We invite families of current Grade 5 students to join us for a program information virtual meeting.

This informative session will include the following topics:

- Program Overview
- Student Experiences
- Registration Process
- Frequently Asked Questions



**Virtual on Microsoft Teams**  
**Meeting ID: 289 737 577 876**  
**Passcode: FH3pm3Sg**



**Monday, January 13, 2025**



**6:00pm**



**Hosts: Brett Cameron, Linda Chau,  
Brooke Douglas, Regina Vosahlo**

### Microsoft Teams Link



Richmond School District

# Kindergarten

## Registration

November – January



[sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten](https://sd38.bc.ca/kindergarten)

**RICHMOND**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38

### Dress for the weather!



winter coat



rain coat



rain or  
waterproof  
snow boots



mittens



hats



scarf



extra clothing  
including socks



**Date:** January 14, 2025  
**Time:** 6-8 p.m.  
**Where:** Zoom  
**Register:** QR code below

## ONLINE PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE LONG-RANGE FACILITIES PLAN

The Richmond School District invites community members to participate in an Online Public Open House.

This virtual event offers a convenient opportunity to learn about the 2025 Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) and provide input that will help shape the district's long-term facilities strategy.

If you are unable to attend, you can still contribute. Email your questions or feedback to the Richmond Project Team at [planning@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:planning@sd38.bc.ca).

**Scan QR code to register:**



  | [sd38.bc.ca/lrfp](https://sd38.bc.ca/lrfp)

**RICHMOND**  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38



# Richmond School District IPALS Sessions for 2025

## For Families New to Canada with Preschoolers

SD38’s IPALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters in Immigrant Communities) program provides strategies for families to support preschool aged children’s learning in fun and interactive ways.

Sessions focus on learning through play and includes adult learning time with a facilitator with time for children to learn, play and have fun together. This program aims to support the development of language and literacy skills to prepare for school. Caregivers learn to support their children’s learning and benefit from building social networks with each other.



**Woodward StrongStart: 10300 Seacote Rd, Richmond (Room 104)**



**Every Tuesday from January 14, 2025 - March 11, 2025**



**9:00am - 11:30am**


If you have any questions, please contact Megan Zeni at [mzeni@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:mzeni@sd38.bc.ca)


**Register Now!**




<https://forms.office.com/r/bhg7D1BiC2>

**Intake Session**

 Woodward StrongStart

 Tuesday, January 7, 2025

 9:00am - 11:30am



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