



AURORA ACADEMIC
CHARTER SCHOOL



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Middle School Newsletter



November 2022

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AURORA

The Aurora Academic Middle School Newsletter

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November 2022

From the Principal

Fall greetings to everyone!

Without a doubt, the last two years have been extremely challenging. Despite the decline in the pandemic, challenges still remain. The most important focus for us is the safety and health of our students and staff. Although the daily health checklist is no longer required, it is important that everyone monitors their health and be sure to stay home if feeling unwell, no matter what the cause. This is for the safety of everyone else in the building. This is especially important as the weather turns colder and respiratory illnesses increase.

We also turn our attention to academics. Teachers are striving to fill any learning gaps created by the extended online learning situations in the past 2 years while maintaining a high standard of education that Aurora Charter School is well known for. Parents form an important part of this process and it is crucial that they regularly check their child's grades in PowerSchool, communicate with teachers with any concerns, and regularly work with their child on school materials at home. It has been shown that students perform well when parents are actively involved in their school work and grades.

We look forward to working with families for the rest of the year towards student success.

- Peter Dang, Middle School Principal



Peter Dang

Middle School
Principal

November 2022

From the Superintendent

The Aurora Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to take place virtually at 7 PM on Thursday, November 24, 2022.

During the meeting, the Board of Directors will share information related to events and activities that have occurred over the past year; financial statements will be presented, and you will have an opportunity for your voice to be heard.

We truly value and appreciate your thoughts and encourage all parents to attend this very important event. A link to a Zoom meeting will be shared with all parents and guardians prior to the meeting.

Please, at any time, feel free to contact me at igray@auroraschool.ca should you have any questions. Your input helps shape future direction, and you are a part of the fabric of what makes Aurora so special.

Ian Gray,
Superintendent



Ian Gray
Superintendent

November 2022

School Info

Bear Den Leadership Program:



Healthy Hunger is an online fundraiser for the school's new Bear Den Leadership Program. It offers a monthly hot lunch opportunity to students who wish to participate. Parents are encouraged to go to HealthyHunger.ca to sign up and pay for the hot lunches.

Hot lunches should be placed under Aurora Charter Middle School. Orders are placed separately from the Elementary and High School so that means each school may not have a hot lunch on the same day or even from the same vendor.

Please visit the website: healthyhunger.ca to register your account.

Board Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month in the Aurora Academic Charter School Learning Commons.

Meetings begin at 6:30pm. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome.

The next School Board Meeting is scheduled for: November 14, 2022



NO SCHOOL

November 10-Day in Lieu

November 11-Remembrance Day

November 14-Teacher Professional Development Day



Please note that Aurora is a peanut "AWARE" school! If at all possible please try to avoid sending anything that may contain nuts in your child's lunch.

November 2022

PICTURE DAY!!

RETAKES - Nov. 8th

AAC - Middle School

IT'S ALL ONLINE NOW!

View images and order pictures online at smartorders.ca
Ordering information will be sent to home with students
on picture day.

www.smartphotography.ca

View your photos online 3-6 weekdays after picture day.



10121-82 Ave Edmonton, AB T6E 1Z5 780.944.0800
info@smartphotography.ca www.smartphotography.ca

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PARKING GUIDELINES & PICK-UP/DROP OFF

All students will use the new front entrance only. Please look for the colorful windows to find the new entrance on the NW side of the building. Mrs. Sanjana Bali will now be at this entrance.

Please remember if you are dropping off or picking up a student, you must use the FRONT entrance. If you are picking up students for appointments, please ring the doorbell at the front entrance and we will bring your child to the entrance.



TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Transportation fees have been posted to your PowerSchool account. Please login to make your payments to keep your account up to date.

The [EZ EnRoute App](#) is available to all bussed students. If you want to use the app to track your child's bus, please download the EZ EnRoute Parent App from the app store.

Your username is your email address (as listed in your PowerSchool account) and you must reset the password the first time you use it.

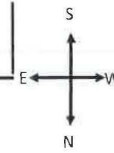


November 2022

B U S L A N E S

Aurora School Bus Lineup AM/PM

122 Ave



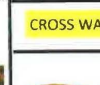
Sidewalk

AM BUS LANE

Bus lane is a defined area between bus signs on 131 St and on 122 Ave for 2 bus lengths.

- **NO VEHICLE PARKING/STOPPING FROM 8:00 AM—8:30 AM ALLOWED IN THE BUS LANE.**
- After 8:30am vehicles are allowed to stop in the bus lane to drop off students.
- When dropping off your child during bus times, **DO NOT** walk between the buses at ANYTIME. Used the designated crosswalk. This is a serious safety issue for you and your child.

Thank you for your assistance to ensure your child's safety.



131 St



CROSS WALK



STAFF PARKING LOT



Sidewalk



November 2022

Nominate A Teacher!

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence:

These awards honour outstanding and innovative elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines for their remarkable educational achievements and for their commitment to preparing their students for a digital and innovation-based economy.

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence in STEM:

These awards recognize inspirational Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teachers at the elementary or secondary school level who keep students engaged in STEM learning and who help develop the culture of innovation that Canada needs today, and in the future.



For more information on this exciting initiative and to nominate the teacher of your choice go to:

<http://canada.ca/pm-awards>

Space Left For Europe 2024!

Attention all students in grades 6-8! There are spaces left on the Europe 2024 trip to Scotland, England and Paris. The trip will take place in March 2024, over Spring Break.

Please see Miss Wilson at the high school or email mwilson@auroraschool.ca for information.

--Miss M. Wilson



November 202&

STUDENT AWARDS

The changes to the distribution of Awards in the Middle School are presented below and will supersede any previously published description and criteria for the Awards.

Term Awards will be given as follows for Grade 5 and higher:

- Outstanding Citizenship: One per class, the recipients will be selected by the teachers.
- Diligence: One per class, the recipients will be selected by the teachers.
- Honors with Distinction: Any student who achieves 90% in the 4 core subjects with no mark lower than 80% (or an "A") in any non-core subjects.
- Honor Roll: Any student who achieves 80% or higher in the 4 core subjects and no mark lower than 70% or a B in any non-core subjects.

The following award will be a year-end award only:

- Principal's Award for overall academics, leadership, citizenship, and sportsmanship will be given to one individual in grade 6 only. The recipient will be selected by the teachers of that grade.

Awards Ceremony:

- Honors with Distinction, Academic, and Character Awards recipients' names will be posted outside office wall and in the newsletter.



Conditions:

- Any student on Extended Leave during that Term is ineligible for an award and Honor Roll in that Term, but is still eligible for awards in the other Terms.
- Any student having an Extended Absence in **ANY** term is ineligible for the Principal Award if applicable
- Any student with a "UA" as a report card grade in any subject is ineligible for any awards that term, including Honor Roll, Honors With Distinction, and the Principal's Award if applicable.
- Any student who misses a Final Exam in June is ineligible for the Principal's Award if applicable.
- All awards and Honor Roll is at the discretion and approval of the Principal.

November 2022

2021-2022 YEARBOOK

Last year's school yearbook is usually available in late September or early October. The 2021-22 yearbook will be later this year and is expected before the winter break.

Books will be distributed to students that purchased them last spring when they arrive. At that time, any extra books will be available for purchase. Please watch for further details. Any questions may be sent to kdanyleyko@auroraschool.ca.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents, please remember to notify the school if your child will be absent or late on any given day.

You can leave a voice message at the school 24/7, or you can email Mrs. Bali at sbali@auroraschool.ca.

ABSENCES CANNOT BE REPORTED TO THE SCHOOL BY STUDENTS.



DRESS APPROPRIATELY

We remind parents to ensure that students are appropriately dressed for the weather as it is getting colder.



Respiratory Illness In Schools:

We would like to remind parents of the recent uptick in respiratory illnesses in schools over the past weeks. While masking is optional, parents may wish to consider masks for their children over these volatile winter weeks.

It is important that everyone monitors their own health daily, and stay home when feeling unwell, no matter what the cause may be.



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Inclement/Severe Weather Procedures

Inclement weather:

Same standards as indoor recess using the weather website Blatchford site: https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/ab-50_metric_e.html

Conditions such as (but not limited to):

- below -21°C (with wind chill)
- dangerous conditions such as high winds, lightning, tornado conditions, heavy rainfall, sleet or hail
- other conditions deemed dangerous for students to be outdoors at the discretion of the principals.

In cases of inclement weather conditions:

1. The Elementary and Middle School front doors will be open for all students at 8:00 AM but everyone must stay in the lobby until 8:20 AM. The lobby will be supervised.
2. The rear Elementary doors and the rear Middle School doors will be opened at 8:15 AM.
3. School bus students stay on buses until 8:20 AM.

Severe weather:

Same as Inclement Weather conditions and procedures, but Severe Weather includes temperature at -40 degrees Celcius and lower (with wind chill).

In cases of severe weather conditions:

- ALL doors are opened at 8:00AM

Continued...

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INCLEMENT/SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURES - continued

Severe Weather/Bus Cancellation

The Transportation Manager, in consultation with School Administration may suspend or cancel school bus service to Aurora School when weather conditions constitute a hazard to the safety of students.

During inclement weather, the final decision to send a child to the bus stop or to school rests with the parents, even if the buses and school may be operational.

It shall be the responsibility of the Transportation Manager to advise the Principals regarding road and driving conditions. The Transportation Manager will solicit advice from the bus contractor and bus operators when preparing the recommendation.

The following factors in combination with each other, shall serve as guidelines for considering cancellation of bus service:

- a) Wind-chill of approximately -40°C , as determined by the https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/ab-50_metric_e.html;
- b) Temperature of -35 degrees Celsius, as determined by the https://weather.gc.ca/city/pages/ab-50_metric_e.html;
- c) Roads and driving conditions

In the event of a busing cancellation a decision will be made no later than 6:30 AM. An automated phone message and EZ enRoute notification will be sent out to parents. Information on bus cancellations will be available on our website at www.auroraschool.ca/students-parents/busing.

Official information released to the public will be broadcast through:

- Corus Entertainment (630 CHED, 880 CHQT, 92.5 CKNG & 103.9 CISN),
- Jim Pattison Group (99.3 CIUP & 102.3 CKNO),
- New Cap Broadcasting (96.3 CKRA & 97.3 CIRK) and,
- Rogers Communication (91.7 CHBN, 101.7 CKER & 102.0 CHDI) radio stations for busing updates.

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Music Program & Music Club

We have had an overwhelming response to our music program and music club. We have almost 60 students wanting to take part in our music club at lunchtime and we are happy to provide instrumental music in our regular music classes now that we have a music room. We are however very short on instruments, so we have created an Amazon Gift Registry with a list of instruments parents can donate to our program. As we get enough instruments, they will be deleted from the registry so you never have to worry if you are buying something we already have.

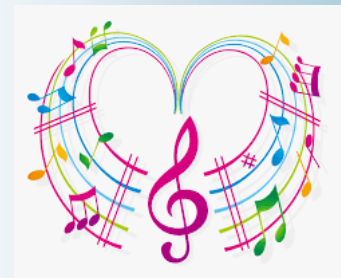
If you would like to donate to our music program, simply follow the link below, put an instrument in your cart, check out, and the instrument will be delivered directly to the school! We would like all of our students to have equal access to music programming and instruments, and would appreciate any donations to this program.



Thank you for your support, and if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mrs. Lund or Mr. Ceilin for further clarification. We look forward to a bright and lively musical year!

[Aurora Amazon Music Registry:](#)

https://www.amazon.ca/hz/wishlist/ls/2NXWDES5EO0I/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2



If you would like a donation receipt, please send your Amazon receipt to **mleganchuk@auroraschool.ca** and this will be provided during tax season.

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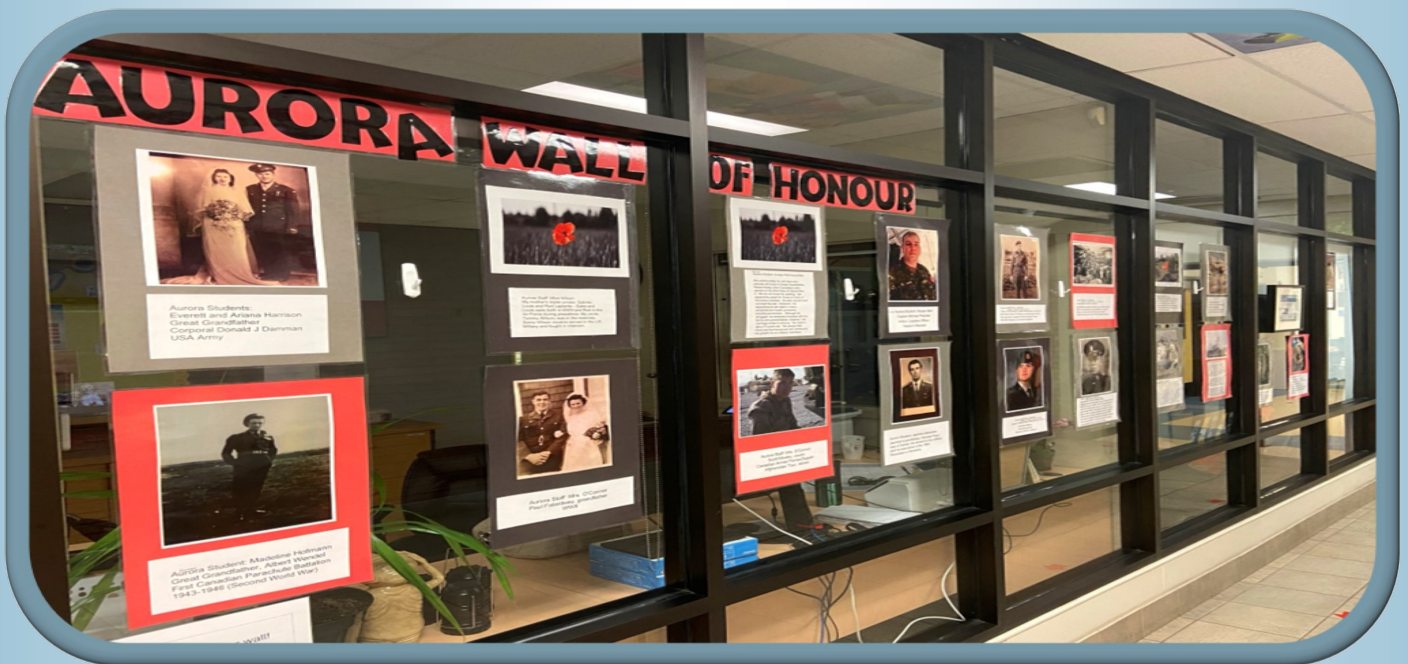
REMEMBRANCE DAY



As we have done for the last few years, we would like to continue to honor current and past serving members of military service from our school families. Our Remembrance Day Wall of Honor will be posted in the Middle School foyer for several weeks in early November.

If you have a family member, past or present, serving in the military, please send any details that you are aware of along with a photo if you have one so that they can be added to our Wall of Honor.

Ensure that you include your student's first and last name as well. These details may be sent to Mr. Dang at pdang@auroraschool.ca.



MARKING REMEMBRANCE DAY

We will be having a guest speaker at our Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 9th as the 11th is a holiday. More details to follow soon!

Poppies are available to staff and students and there is a donation box set up in the office. Students will be writing postcards to honor and thank our veterans, and they will be delivered all throughout Edmonton.

November 2022

Congratulations, to the entire student body in the middle school for their amazing job with selling the World's Finest Chocolates. We sold over 80% of the chocolate cases and this means we generated a sizable amount of money for the school.

The funds raised go directly back to the students through various projects and activities happening with our new Bear Den Initiative. There were prizes given out to the early bird sale winners as well as our top student for chocolate sales.

The following students received a \$25.00 gift card to Landmark Cinemas, a 2 lb chocolate bar as well as a monogrammed Aurora School picnic blanket:



- ❖ Jayden Gill 5C
- ❖ Arnav Hunjan 5D
- ❖ Jaibir Khara 6C
- ❖ Noah Benga 6D
- ❖ Khushi Gill 7A
- ❖ Maria Holik 7C
- ❖ Esohe Amengahawon 8A
- ❖ Gurshan Dhillon 8C



[Our Top Seller was Aikamjot Dhillon in 7B,](#) having sold a total of 6 full cases! She received a \$50.00 gift card to Landmark Cinemas as well as chocolates and a picnic blanket.

The last prize to be awarded will be a pizza party for the the top selling Bear Den (The Polar Bears) for their combined selling efforts of 41 cases in total!

All in all, this was an amazing initiative. Thank you to all the students, parents and teachers for making this such a success.

-Mrs. Leong

November 2022


AREA OF ASSESSMENT

- Kelly Laffin, Assessment Coordinator

One area of focus for Aurora's evolving "Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting" (AER) is the cornerstone upon which Aurora Charter School was founded: "**All Hard Work Yields a Profit**".

Hard Work:

- looks for and acts on new ideas and opportunities for learning;
- demonstrates the capacity for innovation and a willingness to take risks;
- demonstrates curiosity and interest in learning;
- approaches new tasks with a positive attitude.



Critical Thinking - Value fairness and being open-minded; willingness to solve problems and improve

Empowerment - The ability to represent your own interests in a responsible way

Hard Work - demonstrates a positive attitude and willingness to work

Respect and Integrity - Value diversity and equity; advocates for themselves and others

Innovation - generates ideas and shows a willingness to act on them and apply them in different situations

Empathy and Compassion - the ability to share in another's feelings. To show concern for others

November 2022

Alternative Dress Days (ADD)

Friday, November 18th- Casual or **Pink** Shirt Day (National Anti-Bullying Awareness Week)

Thursday, December 15th- Casual or **Winter Holiday Colors** (White, Red, Green)

Thursday, January 26th- Casual or your favourite color

Tuesday, February 14th- Casual or **White, Red, Pink**)

Wednesday, February 22nd- **Pink** Shirt Day

Friday, March 17th- Casual or **Spring colors**

Wednesday, May 3rd- Hats on for Mental Health (casual)

Friday, June 2nd- Casual or Pride Awareness (Any colors on the Progressive Rainbow Flag)

Wednesday, June 28th- Casual or **Summer colors**



Students not participating must be in uniform.

The theme (color) must be visible on the top, be apparent on the piece of clothing, and cannot be covered.

Theme apparent accessories do **NOT** qualify.

Pants/bottoms must match the solid theme color or be solid black bottoms, blue jeans or uniform pants.



Temporary Middle School Secretary:

Please welcome Ms. Amber Roesler, who will be filling in for Mrs. Susan Mallory as temporary middle school secretary until her return.

Ms. Roesler and her family have recently moved to Edmonton from Kelowna, BC. She likes to read and spend time with her family.

She has two children, ages 15 and 7.

November 2022



Updates

Please join us for our online **School Council Meeting on November 16, 2022 @ 6:00pm.**

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

**Agendas are updated online before the meeting.*

Please welcome our new School Council Executive:

Chair – Jacqueline Kossick

Co-Chair – Adedayo Ojeleye

Secretary – Debbie Miller

Thank you for all who attended and welcome to our new members!!

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.

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.

November 2022

Fundraising Society Updates



Please join us for our online **AFS Meeting** on November 16, 2022 after the School Council Meeting!

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**.

Congratulations to the new members of the Executive AFS Team:

President – Jacqueline Kossick
Vice President – Rishma Karmali
Treasurer – Angelina Lishingman
Secretary – Debbie Miller

Thank you to those who supported the Harvest Bundle Fundraiser we were able to raise **\$1677.00** to go towards supporting our children!
We were the top selling School in all of Alberta for this fundraiser.
We also sent **120** bundles of veggies to the **FOOD BANK!!**

Thank you to the parents who volunteered their time to ensure safe delivery of the vegetables.

Volunteers – Please HELP us!!

We are always looking for volunteers to support our initiatives:
Special Events Aides – helps with fundraisers, special events, activities.
AFS Associate Funding Coordinator – Helps organize and run fundraisers.
Chartered Professional Accountant - CPA to review final financial reports once a year.
Associate Secretary – help Secretary with recording minutes.

Please contact the fundraising society if you are interested in any of these positions!!

E-Transfer donations will be accepted in lieu of payments for any fundraising we do! Thank you for all of your support!!

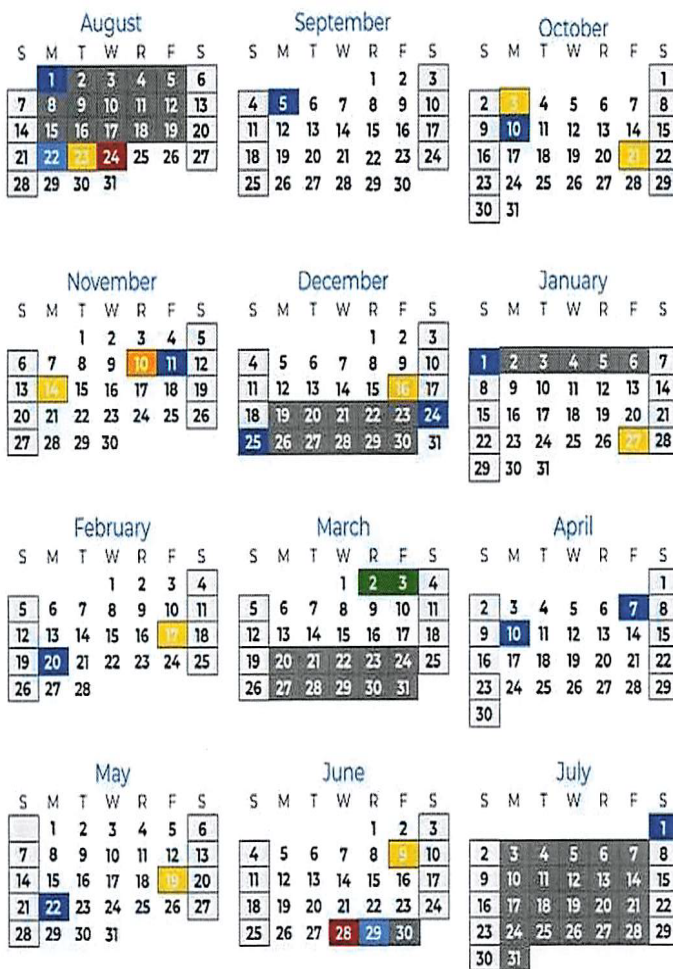
Questions or Concerns:

Contact us at:

fundraising@auroraschool.ca

November 2022

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2022-2023



LEGEND

- Public Holiday (12)
- Professional Development Day (9)
- Day in Lieu (no classes)
- First/Last Day of Classes
- Operational Day (2)
- Teachers' Convention (2)
- Summer/Winter/Spring Break
- Instructional Days (176)

APPROVED HOLIDAYS

Labour Day	SEP 5
Thanksgiving	OCT 10
Remembrance Day	NOV 11
Winter Break	DEC 19 - JAN 6
Christmas Day	DEC 25
Boxing Day	DEC 26
New Year's Day	JAN 1
Family Day	FEB 20
Teachers' Convention	MAR 2 - 3
Spring Break	MAR 20 - 31
Good Friday	APR 7
Easter Monday	APR 10
Victoria Day	MAY 22
First Operational Day	AUG 22
First Day of Classes	AUG 24
Last Day of Classes	JUN 28
Last Operational Day	JUN 29

November 2022



November

- 06 Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday at 2:00am. Turn your clocks back 1 hour!
- 08 Picture Retake Day - Middle School
- 09 Remembrance Day Ceremony.....8:40am
- 09 Policy Committee Meeting (Virtual).....4:00pm
- 10 Day in Lieu - No School
- 11 Remembrance Day - No School
- 14 Teacher Professional Development Day - No School
- 14 School Board Meeting (Virtual).....6:30pm
- 16 School Council Meeting (Virtual).....6:00pm
- 15-18 National Bullying Awareness Week - Theme: "Reach Out"
- 18 Alternative Dress Day - Pink Shirt Day
- 24 Annual General Meeting (Virtual).....7:00pm
- 25 Term 1 Report Card
- 28 Term 2 Begins



Turn your clocks back 1 hour before bed on Saturday night!

AURORA ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL

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