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Helping you to grow to be your best!

LDSS News

Principal – H. Grant

Counsellors – T. Brown and K. Dezamits

Wednesday, April 19th, 2023

Our Principal's Message



Time is marching on and we are looking forward to warm temperatures to accompany the increase in daylight. We are currently engaged in surveys, assessments, academic recognition, and spring activities. Students in grades 10 and 12 have completed the annual Ministry Student Learning Survey. This survey informs our school planning process so we look forward to the initial results. This year we had several classes selected for other surveys and assessments including the Adolescent Health Survey and the Pan-Canadian Assessment Program (PCAP). One grade 8 class wrote the PCAP yesterday, which is a Canada wide assessment. The results

do not come back to the school. Also, this week, three groups will complete the Adolescent Health Survey administered by Northern Health, the health authority receives the anonymous results, and they inform practice. Finally, next week a few students will write Ministry Literacy 10, 12 and Numeracy 10 assessments. This is a make up or rewrite session. A huge thank you goes out to Ms. Karen Isaak and the supervising teachers for managing these activities.

Each year, students who met high academic criteria based on their grade 11 marks, are invited to UNBC. They are offered a free course for next year and were given some university experiences. This event is called UNBC Academic Achievers and was hosted last week. Thank you to Mr. Eric Miller for taking the students on this trip.

There are two events coming later in the spring – Share the Love Day and The Alternative Arts Festival. May 17th is the International Day against Transphobia, Biphobia, and Homophobia. As principal, one of my significant responsibilities is the provision of a safe learning environment for everyone. Every student should feel respected for who they are and feel they are welcome in our school. On May 17th, Share the Love Day, there will be optional activities for students and regular classes. Later newsletters will contain more information. The Alternative Arts Festival is a showcase of visual and performing arts. Students can enter in many categories and there is an array of prizes. This will be the 19th annual (with 3 gap years) festival and it will take place during the school day on Thursday, June the 1st.

Finally, I would like to thank **Ms. Darlene Havens** for her 32+ years' service to School District 91. Darlene's retirement is effective May 1st, 2023. (see next page)

SCHOOL CONTACTS OF NOTE

Athletics – Patti Dube (she can direct you to individual coaches)

Book Club – Karen Isaak

Careers – Patti Dube

Counselling – Kim Dezamits or Tracey Brown

Discipline – Steven Little

Guitar Club – Steve Wilejto

Inclusive Education – Stacie Gray

Lakes Learning Centre – Danny Dell

Student Voice – Amy Dash

Transcripts – TJ Pelletier

happy retirement

We would like to recognize **Darlene Havens** as she prepares for her retirement. Darlene has been an employee with School District 91 for more than 32 years. She has worked in various schools and roles, with the last 22 here at Lakes District Secondary. In her official letter, she noted that during her tenure she has worked with 9 different superintendents and has had the privilege for working with some fantastic Administrators, Teachers, Support Staff, Managers, and Superintendents. She has made many lifelong friends. While at LDSS she has worked in student records, Career programs, and as the Office Manager. Key areas of input and expertise have included:

- School District 91 Projects through the Careers department
- Graduation activities and Commencement
- Photographing school events (always behind the camera; never in front)
- Careful management of school funds
- School and community history

The number of times I have said “that’s a Darlene question” are countless. I hope someone else knows the answers...

We wish Darlene much joy in her retirement. May is a wonderful time to be gardening and travelling; both items are on her list.

Academic Achievers Visit UNBC

Last week some of our students attended the UNBC Academic Achievers Day in Prince George. This trip is to recognize Grade 12 students with outstanding academic achievement in Grade 11 (All A's with no more than 2 B's). These students went on a tour of the UNBC Campus, attended a mock lecture, and participated in an awards ceremony where they received free tuition for a course at UNBC next year. Congratulations to all of you!





Alternative Arts Fest – Thursday June 1st

- 4 categories:
- Grades 8-10 Jr Visual Arts
 - Grades 8-10 Jr Performing Arts
 - Grades 11-12 Sr Visual Arts
 - Grades 11-12 Sr Performing Arts

Prize Money will be awarded.

Entry forms are available from Mr. Wilejto, Mrs. Dezamits, on our website and are also in the library on the counter. Please have them returned by May 24.

LDSS UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

April 19 th – 20 th	Project Firefighter
April 28 th	Pro-D Day – NO CLASSES
May 2 nd	Report Cards Mailed Home
May 3 rd – 4 th	Project Heavy Duty
May 5 th	Red Dress Day
May 9 th – 10 th	Project Forest Management
May 10 th – 11 th	Project Health
May 12 th	Pro-D Day – NO CLASSES
May 17 th	Share the Love Day
May 17 th	ICBC Presentation for Grades 11 & 12
May 22 nd	Victoria Day – NO CLASSES
June 1 st	Alternative Arts Festival
June 6 th	7-Up Day – Grade 8's Stay Home 7-Up Day Parent Meeting in Evening
June 16 th	Commencement Ceremony
June 19 th – 23 rd	Assessment Week
June 21 st	National Indigenous Peoples Day
June 23 rd	"I" Completion Day - (No Regular Classes)

Wild Goose Chase Fun Run!

May 7th at 10:00am

WL McLeod Elementary

3.5km Run, 8km Run, 5km walk

Open to EVERYONE of all ages!

Lots of draw prizes!

Medals for all kids under 8 years old

Must Register On-Line at:

<https://zone4.ca/register/V83K5J/>

(Or go to www.zone4.ca and search "Wild". Email zoewalk@hotmail.com for questions.)

NO DAY OF REGISTRATION!



LOCAL MEDIA

Please be aware that our local newspaper often attends school events for stories and photos. Names are not provided without checking our media release list. Please call the office if you have any questions or concerns.

**LDSS
PAC
Corner**

Next PAC Meeting:

May 30th @ 6:00 pm
@ LDSS

Contact the PAC Chair
(Pam Higginson) at:

ldsspacchair@gmail.com

ldsspacfacebook@gmail.com

Child Care Survey

Open to all parents/caregivers who reside within SD 91 boundaries

SURVEY WINDOW: APR 11-MAY 11

TELL US YOUR CHILD CARE NEEDS (INFANT TO 12 YEARS)

Click here to complete the 5-minute survey.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 91 NECHAKO LAKES