

DSS News Principal - H. Grant

Vice-Principal - T. Fraychineaud

Counsellors - T. Brown and K. Dezamits

Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022

Our Principal's Message



Happy March. It is lovely to see some fresh snow on the ground and to see blue sky and sunshine. This is always a very busy time at the high school as we start to plan for next year while still being very much in this year. In my opening today I will comment on social media use, a Grade 9 career fair, the Student Learning Survey, attendance, In Progress reports and rapid antigen tests.

Social Media can be both a blessing and a curse. It is great to keep in touch with family and friends and to share positive news and events. Many of us rely on social media to stay organized and in touch. Unfortunately, sometimes there are negative posts that are connected to the school or youth. If you come across a negative post, please consider

private messaging the person and suggesting that they contact the school.

Our PAC is working on a set of Career days for grade 9 students for this spring. This is a big undertaking and we are really appreciative of the time they are putting in. We are working to increase the number of our students who transition from school to work or post secondary after grade 12. Knowing what the options are is a factor in that successful transition. Students in grades 10 and 12 will be completing the Student Learning Survey next week. This is an annual survey of grades 4, 7, 10 and 12. Those parents also have access to the parent survey. See the information later in this newsletter. We use this data to inform our school plan. In addition, last week, grade 8s completed a survey called Middle Years Development Index.

Attendance continues to be a concern, although it is slowly improving. If you have friends or family who have drifted away from school, please encourage them to get in touch so we can plan for a gradual, supported return. In progress reports will be mailed home before spring break. You will only receive one if your student is not passing a course or if the teacher has other concerns. In most cases, you will already have heard from a staff member. Please contact the school to set up a plan for success.

In the last few days, students have received a set of five rapid antigen tests from the Ministry of Education. If your student did not receive theirs, please contact the school. As always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Enjoy the longer days!

Thank you to Tandoori Grill

Students and staff were treated to an amazing lunch from the Tandoori Grill on Wednesday, February 17th. It was greatly appreciated by all. A big thank you to the staff from Tandoori (Babbi Singh, Sahajuddin Kahn, Renee Paton and Anuj), Laura Blackwell and LDSS staff and student helpers (Nik Paton, Ellie Nguyen, Zoe Hoffman and Mrs. Hanson). Over 350 lunches were served.



Student Learning Survey 2021/2022

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in 2022, the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 10 and 12, their parents/guardians/caregivers and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an internet connection can be used. Access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section.

The e-survey site will be open until Friday, April 29th.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 250-692-7733.

New Library Items Provided through our P.A.C.

Our PAC donated \$500 to the LDSS Library for the purchase of materials for the school. A selection of books requested by students was purchased along with several classic strategy games with instructional books.

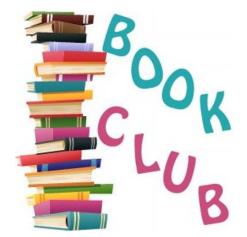






Katrina Lambert (below) was caught by one of our staff members cleaning up the student parking lot after school. Way to show your School Spirit!





Book Club launches March 8th

The senior Library Science class is hosting a book club this semester. The first meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8th at lunchtime in the Library Learning Commons. Interested students are asked to bring a book they like, or are currently reading, to the first gathering. See posters around the school in many classrooms for important information. PAC is supporting this club through the offer to purchase books. We would like to thank the PAC for their support of our students.

UBC Community Field Experience – Hosts Wanted

School District No. 91 is expecting seven student teachers from UBC to visit our district this spring. They are new grads that have requested to be part of UBC's Education Department Community Field Experience program. This program provides an opportunity for interested grads to live in a rural community for three weeks to experience rural schools and small-town life. It is hoped that after their experience they'll be more likely to apply to work in rural school districts.

The secondary school group will be in our district from May 16th to June 3rd, 2022. The elementary school group will be here from June 6th to June 24th, 2022.

We are looking for host families who are interested in taking in one of these student teachers for the duration of their three-week visit. Each host family will be given \$500 in district funds to assist with the costs associated with this visit. The number of students staying in each community will depend in part on the number of home-stays available there.

The student teacher will have completed their training by the time they arrive and will no longer be needing a practicum experience. They want to visit schools, engage with kids on a volunteer basis while getting a taste of your town and local life. Some may want to help coach a team or share some of their skills and interests.

This experience provides districts like ours with a new and exciting way of recruiting. We look forward to working with you to place these students throughout our district.

WorkBC Career Sessions

WorkBC is facilitating free one-hour interactive webinars to help parents and guardians support youth as they explore career options. Sessions held earlier this year have been very popular, so additional dates have been added. The virtual events are designed for parents of grade 9 to 12 students to support career conversations with their youth.

SEE INFORMATION PAMPHLET HERE

March 1st:

- https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_i5 hlLSp4TOy08gNG3TB6Ww

March 10th:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_K
M6qrSw5TaSP|Cod2LeMqw

March 31st:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN O9yptOrFTHqUx8C2hsv81w



DRAFT POLICIES: REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK

At the Board meeting on Monday February 14th, 2022, the following policies were given various readings:

- 205.1 Trustee Indemnity (First Reading)
- 702.3 Assistance for Transportation and Boarding (First & Second Readings)
 Please click the link below to view the draft policies and provide feedback. The closing date

for comments is at noon on March 14th, 2022.

https://www.sd91.bc.ca/apps/pages/policies-and-regulations

DRAFT 2024/2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

At the February Board meeting, the Board of Education released wo options for the 2024/2025 School Calendar for public consultation.

Please click the link below to view the two options and provide feedback:

https://www.sd91.bc.ca/apps/pages/school-calendar

Please send your feedback by 12 noon on Monday, March 14th.

School District No. 91 is Hiring

Please visit sd91.bc.ca and click on "join our team" or call 1-250-567-2284 for more information on any of the external job postings listed below:

All Communities

- Casual Bus Drivers 2022
- Student Groundskeepers 2022

Burns Lake

- <u>016 Relief Learning Support Worker BESS external</u>
- 040 Relief Bus Driver Route 402 BL external
- 057 Relief Learning Support Worker BESS external
- 145 Relief Strong Start Facilitator GRASSY external
- 124 Aboriginal Education Advocate Secondary LDSS external
- 163 Relief Learning Support Worker WKES external
- 176 Bus Washer BL external



There is no WIFI in the forest, but I promise you will find a better connection.

LDSS UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

February 25th - March 4th ...Ski and Snowboard Teams at Provincials

March 9th.....Grad Photo Re-takes

March 14th.....Pi Day

April 15th......Good Friday April 18th......Easter Monday

April 29th......Professional Development Day May 13th......Professional Development Day

May 23rd.....Victoria Day

June 17th......Commencement Ceremony







Spend your Spring Break at the 2022 BKT Tires & OK Tire World Women's Curling Championship!!!

THE 2022 BKT TIRES & OK TIRE WORLD WOMEN'S CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP IS COMING TO THE CN CENTRE MARCH 19TH TO 27TH AND WE WANT YOU TO BE A PART OF THE ACTION!

ALL YOUTH TICKETS (UNDER 18) ARE FREE WITH THE PURCHASE OF AN ADULT TICKET. MAKE IT A FAMILY AFFAIR AND COME CHEER ON TEAM CANADA!!!

CHECK OUT CURLING.CA/2022WORLDWOMEN FOR THE DRAW SCHEDULE, TICKET PRICES, AND GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHAMPIONSHIP!



