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Helping you to grow to be your best!

LDSS News

Principal – H. Grant

Vice-Principal – T. Fraychineaud

Counsellors – T. Brown and K. Dezamits

Learner Services – S. Gray

Friday, June 26, 2020

Principal's Message

I would like to thank you as parents and community members for supporting our students and our efforts during home learning. We know that that has been challenging in many ways. It was great to have learners back in the building during June. Although the focus was on students who required face to face learning to complete their courses, we were able to establish some systems and protocols that we may need to use in the future. Thank you to Karen Isaak and Tracey Brown for conducting tours and activities with small groups of grade sevens to introduce them to our school. We look forward to more transition activities in the fall. Thank you also to the grad parents, and community, and Jim Mellen for supporting a different but rewarding commencement ceremony. As always at this time of year we say good-bye to a number of staff. **Mrs. Jean Vossen** will be the new administrative assistant at Decker Lake School. **Miss Lorien Atkinson** has completed her assignment here and will be at a yet unnamed school in the fall. **Mrs. Melissa Davies** has been elected president of the Burns Lake Nechako Teacher's Union. **Mrs. Tina Giesbrecht** has retired from teaching in School District 91 after 32 years. We are also pleased to welcome **Mr. Vijay Klassen** to teach life skills, photography, and social studies; **Mr. Dave Eggleton** to teach Chemistry 11 in semester 1; **Mrs. T.J. Pelletier** to a clerical position; and we continue to search for a **foods teacher**. Now it is time to wish you a healthy and restful summer. Please watch the news and local social media for information on school opening. The expected date is Tuesday, September 8 for a half day.

Heidi Grant, Principal

Hot off the presses ... and honest-to-goodness in the NEWS!

Students at LDSS have been volunteering their time out in the community for a variety of organizations. At LDSS, students that participate in Student Voice have been involved in WE Scare Hunger (all donations go to "The Link" Food bank in Burns Lake), WE Walk for Water (students choose which country they would like to send their donations to), anti-bullying campaigns, orange shirt day, reconciliation, and a variety of fun activities at the school (pep rallies, dances etc.).

As a result, each year our students get to attend WE Day in Vancouver where a variety of musical artists and incredible celebrities talk to the kids about how they are making an impact.



This year, Daria Strimbold, our own LDSS Grade 12 Graduate, had been selected to represent British Columbia for WE on CTV June 6, at 8 PM: "WE Got this: Celebrating the students who made an impact 2020". We hope you had the opportunity to see her presentation!

Miscellaneous Items

Moose Hide Campaign:

In February our students and staff participated in the Moose Hide Campaign at LDSS. Bannock was shared with everyone and Moose Hide pins were handed out. It was an amazingly well attended and appreciated event.

The campaign represents indigenous and non-indigenous men standing up against violence towards women and children.

Students and staff were seen to wear their Moose Hide pins proudly around school for weeks after.



Snowshoe Weaving:

In Mr. Gooding's and Mr. Williams' class, pre-COVID, students demonstrated their incredible skills in snowshoe weaving. The work created by this student is absolutely exquisite!



PE Class—Leadership:

March 12, Mrs. Dubé's PE Class demonstrated leadership and planning skills for the LDSS Grad 2034 Class kids from CNC Daycare. They planned and set up a series of courses that were lots of fun for the little kids! It was a lot of fun for everyone!

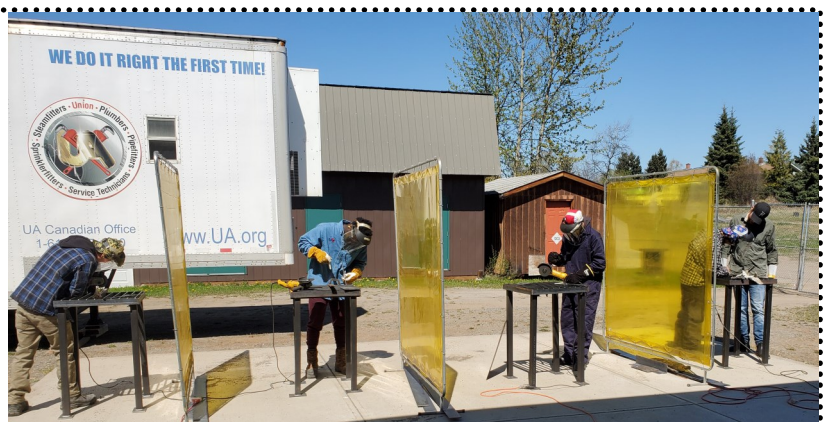
LDSS and Our Community Step Up to the Plate—Literally:

When LDSS learned we would not be returning to regular classes, we knew some of our student families would be affected. With generous donations from Save-On-Foods, Wholesale Club and other donors, LDSS prepared Food Hampers. LDSS staff collected and distributed the food into hampers and then delivered the hampers to student homes.



Welding Classes:

One of our students is getting graduation credits for taking welding classes in Terrace, B.C. as part of our school's joint education program through Careers.



Students continued to participate in learning



Students were given assignments which have inspired innovative COVID response ideas. Catch the few excerpts below that reflect the imaginative, creative and even feasible thoughts surrounding what September could look like.

A few short excerpts of some ideas and thoughts from A. Moore, Gr. 10, from an assignment she submitted to Mr. Dubé:

“COVID-19 has affected everyone around the globe. It has caused schools, businesses, and the economy to shut down and reach a stand still. One of the effects of this virus that has been the most prevalent in my life is schools shutting down. There are no shortage of ideas being thrown around about how school should proceed. Some seem to think that the best option is for schools to return to normal and send all kids back in the hope of “herd immunity”¹. Others believe that no one should go back to school and that education should be 100% online. Yet others think that school districts should mash the two together having children at school sometimes (but not to the normal occupancy) and children at home sometimes.

“I would love to be able to return back to school as normal since I miss my friends and teachers, however that is currently an unrealistic idea. That being taken into account I think that though schools will need to continue to do portions of the curriculum online there should be some face to face instruction. I propose they do this by splitting up the kids by their grade, the amount of academic class’s they have, and offering priority to classes that students need to graduate or get accepted into post-graduation programs and schools. Also I think that the schools should give grade 11 and grade 12 student more options for in class learning as they have more advanced subjects and are in the final push of taking the classes they need to get into the college, university, trade school, or other option of their choice.

“Students would come to school a certain number of days a week according to their grade. Grades 11 and 12 would go to school on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Grades 9 and 10 would come to school on Tuesday. Grade 8 would come to school on Thursday. Grades 11 and 12 would go to school more than the other three grades because they have harder courses and are in the final leg of high school where they are trying to complete all the courses they need to graduate and get accepted into the post-graduation program they would like to pursue. Only some courses will be offered face to face such as Humanities, Social Studies, English, Math, Languages, Sciences, and some shop classes. Students would not be required to go to school nor should they if ill. Students who are not ill would be encouraged to participate in face to face instruction.

“Though these are challenging, scary, and unpredictable times my proposal offers an option of what the new normal can look like. There is an infinite amount of ideas and options about how we can proceed and mine is just one. Though it may make us uncomfortable and upset we need to do whatever will keep the most people safe. Until we can make a final decision of what our “normal” will be let us follow the wise words of Doctor Bonnie Henry “Be kind, be calm, and be safe.”⁴ Together we can find the new normal, are you ready?”

Excerpts from **My Pandemic Proposal**, by J. Illés, Gr. 10, another of Mr. Dubé’s students.

“The Covid-19 pandemic has drastically changed how students around the world are getting educated. In Canada, schools are struggling to teach distance-learning and cater to those who need more support. [...] The best option [...] is to keep the amount of people at schools to a minimum, to keep much of the work online, and to make sure that there is sufficient time for sanitation. There are many things that need to be considered when making a plan to reopen schools, including travel, coordination, instruction, and reducing risks. [...]

“Covid-19 is a respiratory illness first appearing in Wuhan, China in December of 2019. Though there is no known cause of this virus, scientists suspect that the virus may have spread to humans from bats. The elderly and immune depressed are more susceptible to Covid-19 but anyone can catch it and, though less likely, it can be detrimental to the young as well as the old. No one knows when the world will get back to normal. In a CTV News article, *What needs to happen before life can return to normal?*, Erin Stumpf is quoted stating, “Trying to predict a date...is a fool’s errand.”

“Transportation will be a main issue during this time as vehicles are difficult to sanitize and often carry many people at one time. [...]I would suggest that students be spread out across the bus, leaving as much space as possible between each child. This may have to involve extra bus runs as well as encouraging parents to make other arrangements. Busses will have to be fully sanitized after every use and bus drivers should wear masks and be paid extra for the increase in work. [...]

“For families with children in both elementary and secondary schools with different schedules of in-school learning, there should be an option for at-home learning, either work packages or online assignments, for at least part of the time. [...]

“In order to ensure proper social distancing and minimize exposure to the virus, school settings and routines will have to change. In class, the spaces between desks must ensure two meter distancing between students. Hallways need to have a directional flow so that there are no accidental jostles between people. Lunch time students will have to sit at a safe distance from each other [...]and] may have to be staggered. [...]A limited amount of concession foods [...] will have to be properly handled and distributed. Bathrooms can no longer be a “hang-out” location and must be monitored frequently [and] sanitized throughout the day, [...] and students would benefit from scheduled hand washing times so that not everyone is trying to use the sinks at the same time. [...]

“Custodians will have to be hired to be present in the school at all times in order to regularly sanitize the building. Desks should be wiped down after each class. [...]

“Extracurricular activities are an important part of bonding, social interaction and school spirit. However, many of these activities are unsafe in today’s reality. Assemblies will have to be held with reduced numbers and maybe held in duplicate so that all students can participate in a safe environment. [...]”

Thoughtful ideas that are already being used in our school! These kids really have come up with ideas we are actually using in the school!

COVID has been a life-altering event in our lives. It's changed the way we socially interact, the way we receive our essentials, and has brought isolation and loneliness into our everyday. But it has also twiggged the imaginations of our students. We have at least one genius in our midst! This kid's going to be a millionaire...check out this Science 10 project...

Final Project

Science 10
Keaton Hill

Mountain Bike/Lawn Mower



The first thing I did with the mower was to take off the handle bars.



The first thing I did with the bike was take off the front tire and brakes.



Next I put on some newer handlebars I had laying around. Then I put a bolt where the bike tire, axle and hub were; I used some nuts and locked them to all sides of the fork to hold the bolt in place.



My Dad TIG (tungsten inert gas) welded the mower to the bolt attached to the bike. It was pretty tricky to weld, since the bolt was way thicker than the tubing on the mower.



Finally I sanded off the rust where I could and painted the mower.

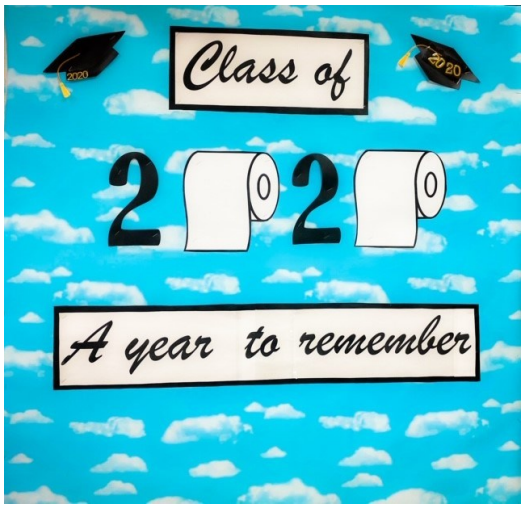


I guess my dog wanted to be in the final picture.

And when students aren't working on school work, they are volunteering in the community with their adults...like these young ladies setting pavers in place and using heavy equipment at the track while maintaining their personal two metre separations. Girl Power!

Julia Hamp on loader, Nicole Hamp, Adrienne Bender, Tephilla Finstad, adults Gabriella Hamp, Melinda Sackney, and if you look very carefully, Randy Hamp.





Blair Bysouth
Nathan Clayton
Aedan Conlon
Cole Cooke
Teij Crouse
Terryn Gavin-Hagen



Leila Adam
Kiara Alec
Brooke Anderson
Colby Bergeron



Jean Daniel Hopegood
Clorese George
Ethan George
Sebastian George
Alex Goertzen
Adam Harms



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020!!!



Julian Helsdon
Myers Illes
Makala Ingram
A.J. Joseph
Sarah Kefeder
Jonas Lagimodiere



Garrett Lambert
Ethan Lazenby
Blake Lowley
Ryan McCrimmon
Stefan Megchelsen
Anthony Obarianyk



Ethan Oman
Jaden Peters
Lucas Phillips
Teslin Pinter
Thomas Plasway
Taija Prentice



Daria Strimbolt
Jared Thiessen
Avril Thom-Lucy
Logan Thompson
Brandon Traxler
Anastasia Troy

Dylan Reimer
Jeffery Robinson
Matthew Sackney
Rivey Sackney
Nolan Sampson
Cameron Stewart



Marcus Tom
Micah Watson
Simeon Weller
Lukas Wilner
Marlee Wilson
Sara Wipfli



Grad 2020 DID happen here at LDSS! To ensure we maintained our social distancing, LDSS Grads had their ceremony streamed online instead! Grads were allowed 2 guests each and the guests were able to watch the ceremony at the school in number-appropriate classrooms with Smartboards. People from as far away as Kenya were able to watch their student Graduate!

