

Dufferin Elementary

June 2018 Volume 9

JUNE DATES

June 13 – 15 – Eagle Bay trip grades 6/7

June 19 - Hat Day

June 20 – Aboriginal parent luncheon

June 22 – Ms. Dalsin's class play

June 25 – School Fun Day

June 28 - Last day students - assembly at

10:30/ dismissal at 12:00

DUFFERIN ROCKS!

At Dufferin Elementary we follow our "ROCKS" matrix. ROCKS stands for:

R espectful O rganized C aring K ind S afe



This month we are working on the entire ROCKS matrix.

Students will be reminded of the matrix expectations regularly and recognition awards will be given out to those students who are consistently following these expectations. Awards will be put up in the hallway at the main entrance to celebrate our students and their hard work in this area.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

PAC meetings are over for the year and our school activities are coming to a close. Thanks to all of the parent volunteers who came out to help make our fun fair a great success! Our PAC executive for next year are:

PAC Chair - Steve Ross

Vice-chair -

Secretary – Sherri Harrison

Treasurer -

DPAC Representative – Brad Gerow

PAC meeting schedule for next year will be published in our September newsletter and on our Facebook page.

LIBRARY

The last day for book sign outs will be Friday, June 15th.

All books will be due back on the following Wednesday, June 20th.

SEPTEMBER KINDERGARTEN

Our district has a "staggered" start up for students who are entering Kindergarten in September. If you have registered with us in the spring and attended our K orientation, you will have received a copy of our start up schedule, and staggered entry groups. The two main things to remember are that Kindergarten students do **NOT** attend on the first day (Sept. 4th) and then we will work up to full attendance on SEPT. 11th. If you were not able to register with us this spring, you are free to stop by to register any time before the end of the year and again the last week of August. At that time you will receive an information package and schedule.

DEN GROUPS

This year, as per the last few years, we will be beginning the school year with Den Groupings. There is a lot of misinformation surrounding Den Groups, so I thought I would proactively clear up as much of this as I can.

Den Groups, or Family Groups as they are called in some other schools, are multi-aged groupings that rotate through our teaching staff, learning all of our beginning of the year expectations. Teachers go over our behaviour matrix and learning skills (organization, attention, cooperative groups, etc). This teaching time around expectations

is invaluable, as it sets the tone for the school year and allows all students and staff to meet. During this time, we also involve our older students in a leadership role, so that our younger students know who they can count on for help or advice.

Despite the fact that students are always eager to receive their new class placements. the first week of September poses some difficulties in doing this straight away. Many time we have new students registering with us that first week and/or students leaving that we didn't anticipate. This creates changes in the class lists we tentatively create at the end of June. Placing students in rooms and then having to make changes can be even more upsetting than a few days of waiting time. Many schools in our district have moved to this type of a start up, with the exception of schools of choice (French immersion/Science school/School of the Arts). There may also be a few of our larger schools who quickly fill up, that start sooner with regular classrooms, however these schools also end up with wait lists sometimes as they have a difficult time fitting in all students who wish to attend.

We truly appreciate parent and student patience during this process and are looking forward to a great school Den Group start up!

LOST AND FOUND

Another reminder to check our school lost and found outside of the gym. At this time of year, we see the clothing begin to accumulate as warmer weather often results in students leaving coats and sweaters outside when they are too warm. Please be sure to check before the end of the year, as we donate left over clothing to thrift.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fun Summer Reading!

Research shows that children who read over the summer maintain or improve their reading skills. Summer reading helps children feel confident and ready for September!

Parents and children might wish to try these ways to make reading fun:

2018 BC Summer Reading Club

Children are encouraged to join the BC Summer Reading Club at their local TNRD Library. This year's theme is Motion Commotion! It runs July 2 to August 19. Children try to read every day and record their reading in a booklet. When they visit the library, they can receive stickers for books read and enter draws for prizes. Registration begins in June. For more information, see page 6 of the Thompson-Nicola Regional Library Programs & Activities Guide.

Bright Red Book Bus

The Bright Red Book Bus (BRBB) will be visiting Kamloops schools and parks in July and August. Children are invited to tour the bus and choose a book each time they come. There are many great new titles! They may keep these books or return them another week. Come to hear a story or read with your child. Children can even get their TNRD Library Motion Commotion! stickers. Visit the bus on Facebook to see the schedule.

Online books

Online books work well when children are on the move, and they can be engaging. Here are some resources that share books for free:

<u>Unite for Literacy</u> is an eBook library for early readers. These books are about real-life experiences and have photograph illustrations. All books are in English, but they can be listened to in many other languages, including French. Registration is not required.

Oxford Owl is an eBook library for ages 3-11. Titles come from Oxford's popular Biff, Chip, and Kipper Stories and Project X, and they include an audio option. Registration is required but free.

<u>Wonderopolis</u> has short, interesting articles about all sorts of scientific wonders older children may have. Each wonder has a brief, engaging video to introduce the topic. Registration is not required.

Happy Summer Reading!

Interior Provincial Exhibition in Armstrong BC.: Singing Contest

This year the Youth Vocal Talent Contest is being held on the Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the IPE, August 30th to Sept 2nd. This contest is a wonderful opportunity for Youth ages 10 to 25 to showcase their talents on the big stage.

There are three age categories with prizes in each category, and could be a life changing experience for these young artists.

For additional details, go to our website at www.armstrongipe.com/youthtalent

BOARD NOTES

April 23, 2018 EDUCATION TOPIC

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM —

The Board heard details of the District's Leadership Development Program (LDP), which provides professional leadership and management training for District teachers. The program runs in cooperation with TRU. Graduates from the program often go on to serve as viceprincipals and principals as well as senior District leaders. Dr. Tory Hansford, the TRU professor leading the LDP training, told trustees that this program is a provincial model that well serves the future management needs of SD 73.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES, PETITIONS AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS CAREER EDUCATION —

District Principal Sheryl Lindquist told the Board about various programs and initiatives in SD 73 designed to help students discover their passions and interests, including through innovative programs such as Maker Days and Inspire events. The Board was also told about the success of SD 73's Trades and Transition program, which was recently honoured by the provincial ITA for the work the program does in helping students find career pathways in trades.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS RURAL SCHOOL PROPOSAL REPORT —

The Board received a report detailing the results of an extensive consultation effort in the communities of Barriere, Chase and Clearwater examining a proposal whether to move Grade 7s from the elementary school to the secondary school to provide enhanced educational opportunities for students. Independent decisions were made in each community:

- For Barriere, trustees voted to proceed with the proposal starting in September 2018.
- For Chase, trustees voted to proceed with the proposal starting in September 2018.
- For Clearwater, trustees voted not to proceed with the proposal; Grade 7s will remain in the elementary school.

WESTMOUNT TRAFFIC UPDATE —

The Board was told about traffic measures to be implemented in cooperation with the City of Kamloops at Westmount Elementary School designed to provide a safer student experience. Westmount has long suffered traffic problems as a result of increasing student population, more traffic and its location at the end of a short cul-desac adjacent to a busy arterial road (Westsyde Road). Measures include a new traffic light, enhanced safety supervision, an improved dropoff lane and safety improvements at a nearby bus stop. The improvements will be in place by September 2018.

STUDENT BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE —

The Board approved the creation of a Student Advisory Board that will provide trustees with an opportunity to access student input and student voice on operational and educational considerations. The Student Advisory Board will operate in a similar fashion as the Student City Council recently approved and created by the City of Kamloops.

SCHOOL CALENDAR AMENDMENTS 2018-2019 —

The Board approved amendments to the school calendar for the next school year. The changes reflect the official BC change of February Family Day statutory holiday as well as the addition of a non-instructional day to facilitate curriculum implementation. The amended calendar can be found on the District website at www.sd73.bc.ca.

SCHOOL FEES SCHEDULE 2018-2019 —

The Board approved a schedule of fees for secondary fees for the 2018-2019 school year. The schedule reflects slight increases in some courses as a result of increased costs of materials and resources. The full schedule of fees can be found in the public agenda.

VAVENBY ELEMENTARY CONFIGURATION 2018-2019 —

Trustees approved a recommendation to include Grade 4 students in the student body at Vavenby Elementary School, a move that will bolster the school's population bringing the total number of students at the school to 10. There are currently eight students in the school.

REPORTS FROM SECRETARY-TREASURER 2018-2019 BUDGET —

Trustees were provided a summary of the 2018-2019 district operating budget, which has been finalized at \$174,190,481. The Board approved the budget after three readings of the budget bylaw.

CAPITAL PLAN BYLAW —

Trustees approved the 2018-2019 capital plan as provided by the provincial government. The total amount of capital funding provided to the District is \$1,428,445, to allow for the purchase of four school buses and to install two new dust collection systems at Westsyde and Sa-Hali secondary schools. District planners were also instructed to provide a project definition report for the proposed expansion at Valleyview Secondary School, a \$22-million project. The report is the first step on the path to a formal funding commitment from government for the renovation and expansion.

The next public meeting will take place at the School Board Office in Kamloops on May 7 at 7 p.m.

May 7, 2018

EDUCATION TOPIC PRESENTATION —

Set to the rhythm and meter of a popular Christmas poem ('Twas The Night Before Christmas), Summit Elementary School students presented the District's strategic plan goals to trustees. The students creatively substituted the words to the poem with new ones sharing the six pillars of the District's fiveyear strategic plan. "I am amazed, I am speechless," said Board Chair Meghan Wade. "It was wonderful to have you here!" The students were accompanied by their principal Linda Hneeda.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES, PETITIONS AND

PRESENTATIONS PRESENTATION —

The Board heard about Farm2School, an agency with a vision to connect schools to local food systems and provide healthy, local food to students. The Kamloops hub Farm2School works with 11 schools locally. More than \$100,000 in money or volunteer time has been donated to those schools since 2014, the trustees were told. School programs encouraged by Farm2School include field trips, cooking lessons, composting systems, microgreens, garden boxes, curriculum connections and community partnerships. Locally, the agency works with community partners such as Interior Health, Kamloops Farmers Market, Community Futures, Kamloops Food Policy and the Learning Abundance Project.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS BOARDS AUTHORITY AUTHORIZED COURSES —

Trustees approved eight Grade 10 secondary courses being offered in District schools, such as DigiPen 10 (Sa-Hali Secondary), Fly Fishing 10 (Clearwater Secondary) and Peer Mentorship 10 (Valleyview Secondary). These courses have been previously approved by the Board of Education but were revamped to better fit directions set by the provincial government in regards to implementation of the new curriculum. Full details of the courses can be found in the public agenda.

The next public meeting will take place at Clearwater Secondary School in Clearwater on May 28 at 5:30 p.m.