



Dear Parents:

We are now nearing the half way point of our school year and well into the curriculum requirements. At this time of year, it is important to check in frequently with your child's teacher to ensure his/her learning is still on track. Our upcoming early closure day (Feb. 6th) would be a good time to do so! As usual, thank you for sending such wonderful children to us, each and every day! Makes our job so much easier!

Mrs. T

JANUARY/FEBRUARY DATES

Jan 9 – Feb 2 – FSA exams for grades 4 and 7

Jan 20 – Pro D Day

Jan 30 – Ministry of Education Presentation on Student Reporting @ Henry Grube Center

Feb 2/3 – Intermediate Ski Trip to Sun Peaks

Feb 6 – Early Closure Day

Feb 6 – PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm

Feb 7 – Young People's Concert

Feb 13 – BC Family Day

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Upcoming Events:

Ongoing events include the hot lunch program, and General Grants bottle returns (account under Dufferin PAC).

Next scheduled PAC meeting is Feb. 6, 2017.

Babysitting can be provided if requested in advance. Everyone is welcome!

Future meetings are scheduled for: Mar. 6th, Apr. 3rd, May 1st and Jun. 5th.

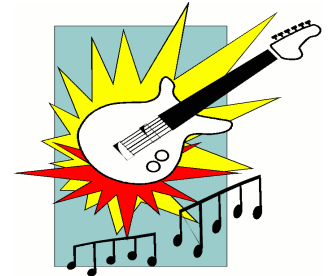
PRO D DAY

This Friday, Jan. 20th is a non-instructional day. Teachers will be in professional learning workshops while students have the day off.

DUFFERIN ROCKS!

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

Respectful
Organized
Caring
Kind
Safe



This month we are going to be working on **playing safely**.

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.

FSA EXAMS

Students in grades 4 and 7 will be participating in annual provincial assessments. These assessments will take place between Jan. 16 – Feb. 10 and include written and computer components. Information has been sent home for families of students in those grades, but please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions or concerns.

STUDENT REPORTING PRESENTATION

The Ministry of Education is holding an information session on student reporting and they are seeking parent input on how parents would like to see student progress being reported. All interested parents are welcome to attend the session from 5-8 pm on Jan. 20th at the Henry Grube Education Center.

INTERMEDIATE SKI TRIP

Students in grades 4-7 will be going on ski trip to Sun Peaks Feb. 2 and 3 (Thurs./Fri.). All forms and monies need to be in to classroom teachers as soon as possible, so trip details can be finalized.

EARLY CLOSURE DAY

Monday, Feb. 6th will be an early closure day for our school. This is a good opportunity to check in with your child's teacher to ensure his/her learning is on track now that we are half way through the school year. Students who are on our late buses will need to be picked up as per the regular routine – a paper indicating your child's pick up arrangements will be sent home soon. (Only for late bus students).

SAFE ARRIVAL SYSTEM

Just a reminder that parents need to use our new safe arrival call in system when reporting absences. The system can be accessed through the web site, free app or the following number: 1-844-350-2647. If you have signed up for email as well as phone, you will receive both when there is an unexcused absence. If the system does call you, please don't hang up! Follow the call prompts until the end, as this is the way to stop further call outs for the day.

COMMUNITY NEWS



BOARD NOTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION – INAUGURAL MEETING

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Please be advised that the Board of Education conducted its Inaugural Board Meeting and election of Board Officers on Monday, December 12, 2016. The newly elected Board Officers are as follows:

Meghan Wade
Chairperson

Gerald Watson
Vice-Chairperson

Kathleen Karpuk
Board Representative to BC School Trustees Association

Gerald Watson
Board Representative to BC Public School Employers Association

From the Board Meeting of: December 12, 2016

1. The Board approved the Consent Agenda which contained the following reports/information:
 - a. Adoption of Regular Public Board Minutes of November 21, 2016;
 - b. Revised Implementation Schedule of the Graduation Years;
 - c. Naloxone Guidelines;
 - d. District Parent Advisory Council Report;
 - e. Parks and Recreation Committee

Report.

2. The Board received a beautiful Strings presentation, introduced by Principal Griffith.
3. The Board approved two Out-of-Province Field Trip Requests from Westsyde Secondary School and NorKam Senior Secondary School.
4. The Board approved an Out-of-Province Field Trip Request from the International Student Program.
5. The Board received a presentation from Manager Pinette on the *Discover the World of Information Technology* conference.
6. The Board received information on the Kindergarten enrolment schedule for 2017/2018 from Director Smillie.
7. The Board received the School Completion Report, presented by District Principal Brar and Teacher Mr. Lowe.
8. The Board approved the Creativity, Innovation and Curriculum Grants presented by Director Robinson.
9. The Board adopted a revised Board Meeting schedule for 2016-2017.
10. The Board approved revisions to Policy 600.1 Code of Conduct and Policy 612.1 Student Dress Code.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday January 16, 2017 at the Henry Grube Education Centre, 245 Kitchener Crescent, Kamloops, BC.