



## Dear Parents:

Another end to another school year is almost upon us! This year seems to have flown by, so it must be true that time flies when you are having fun! I have thoroughly loved my first year at Dufferin and getting to know the Dufferin students and parent community! Thank you all for sending us such wonderful students to work with!

To those grade sevens who are leaving us, we wish you every success in high school and hope that you will fondly remember your time here at Dufferin Elementary.

On behalf of our staff, we want to wish you all a relaxing, fun-filled summer. Enjoy some family time and partake in all the wonderful summer activities that the community of Kamloops has to offer. See you next year!

Mrs. T

## JUNE DATES

- June 8 – PAC fun fair
- June 8 – Grade 7 visit to Sahali
- June 13 – Volunteer Tea @ 11:30 am
- June 14-16 – Grade 7 Eagle Bay trip
- June 19 – Ureka Science Presentations
- June 21 – Aboriginal Day
- June 23 – Ms. Dalsin's class performance @10:40 am
- June 26 – School Fun Day – 8:30 – 12:00
- June 28 – Recognition Assembly @ 10:30
- June 29 – ½ day – Last Day for students – 12:00 Dismissal/ Year End Assembly @ 10:30
- June 30 – No school students/Teachers in session

## VOLUNTEER TEA

This year we will once again be hosting a volunteer tea. This tea is Dufferin's way of saying "thank you" for all that you do as parents. Our grade 7 students will be serving and there will be some class performances to entertain us. The tea will begin at 11:30.

## SCHOOL FUN DAY

Our school fun day will be Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. Our activities are scheduled for the morning (8:30 – 12:00), with a break at recess, where there will be snacks available for purchase at a concession. Please send your child dressed appropriately for outdoor activities and with money if you wish them to partake in any concession treats. They will still need a regular lunch on this day.

## 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. 5<sup>th</sup>) and then we will work up to full attendance on **SEPT. 12<sup>th</sup>**. 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 times 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.

## LIBRARY BOOKS

As we approach the end of the year, we are hoping families and students look around for any library books that are signed out, may be overdue or may have been lost. We would like all library books returned as soon as possible so that we can take inventory and get ready for next year.

## PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Our PAC has worked tirelessly this year to do many things for our students - from special treat days and concessions, to family events like barbecues and dances. A big thank you to all parents who have helped out at events and the PAC executive who've planned these activities for our students and school community.

Our PAC also ran a VERY successful raffle that brought in over \$20,000 towards our goal of a new playground. While we still have a long ways to go, we are pleased with our progress so far.

PAC elections were held at our last meeting (June 5<sup>th</sup>). PAC executive remained the same.

PAC Chair – Steven Ross

Vice-Chair – Shauna Boyko

Secretary – Shari Harrison

Treasurer – Duncan Hendricks/Nicole Clay

DPAC Rep – Brad Gerow

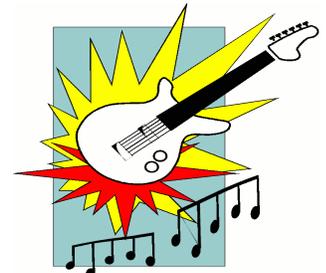
Upcoming events: PAC Fun Fair – 5 – 8 pm,  
Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>

Meeting schedule for next year will be published in the school's September newsletter.

## 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 all aspects of our matrix: Respectful, Organized, Caring, Kind and Safe.

This is something that we work on daily, but will be especially focused on this month. 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, in the form of an inuksuk to celebrate our students and their hard work in this area.

## 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:  
2017 BC Summer Reading Club Children are encouraged to join the BC Summer Reading Club at their local TNRD Library. This year's theme is Walk on the Wild Side! It runs July 3 to August 26. 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 at your public library opens June 12.

**Bright Red Book Bus** The Bright Red Book Bus (BRBB) will be visiting several Kamloops schools and various parks in July and August. Children are invited to tour the cool bus and select 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 pick up their TNRD Library Walk on the Wild Side! stickers here. Visit Facebook to learn more and see the schedule: <https://www.facebook.com/brightredbookbus/>

## 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: Epic! is an eBook library for children up to 12, and it works on most devices. There are a lot of interesting books and some have audio. It offers free access for one month (usually \$4.99) Register here: <https://www.getepic.com/>

Unite for Literacy 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: <http://www.uniteforliteracy.com/> Wonderopolis 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: <http://wonderopolis.org/>

Happy Summer Reading

## BOARD NOTES

### ***From the Public Board Meeting of: May 8, 2017***

1. The Board approved a Consent Agenda with the following items:

- Finance and Planning Committee Highlights
- Policy Committee Highlights
- Education Committee of the Whole Highlights
- Safe Grad Activities for 2017
- *Notice of Motion* - Policy 1103.2 Maintenance of Order

2. The Board enjoyed a presentation from Sun Peaks Elementary School Principal Catherine Gorman and Teacher Tessa Watson on Heritage Fair Stamps and Projects. The Board also heard from a Grade 7 Sun Peaks Elementary School student who spoke on his experiences and the benefits of living in and attending school at Sun Peaks.

3. The Board received a presentation from Disability and Attendance Manager Darlene Doricic relating to Mental Health Week and the "Not Myself Today" Campaign.

4. The Board approved the 2017-2018 Annual (Preliminary) Budget Bylaw.

5. The Board received the Summary Capital Facilities' Report for September 2017.

6. The Board received the Long Range Facilities' Process Report.

The next Regular Public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, May 29, 2017 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

***From the Public Board Meeting of:  
May 29, 2017***

1. The Board approved the Consent Agenda with the following items:

- District Parent Advisory Committee Highlights
- Summer Learning
- Video Surveillance

2. The Board was pleased to recognize the work of Manager of Health and Safety Michelle Marginet as she moves into retirement.

3. The Board received a presentation on Critical Media Literacies, a BAA course, from Principal Brewer, Teacher Jordan Smith, and five students from Four Directions. Alexis Brown was also recognized for her work with this course.

4. The Board received a presentation from the Kamloops Thompson Teachers' Association President David Komljenovic and Aboriginal Education Chair Brenda Celesta regarding Aboriginal education, the Secwepemc language program, and First Nations Worldview.

5. Aboriginal Education Council Administrator Judy Dunn, District Principal Cheryl Sebastian, and Aboriginal Friendship Society President Rick Turner presented the 2015-2016 Annual Report on Aboriginal Students. This marks the twenty-first year this report has been prepared.

6. The Board received and approved a report on the Student Learning Grant by Director of Instruction Lisa Carson which outlines the process for the allocation of grant dollars, as well as the base level and rural enhancement allocations.

7. The Board adopted revised Policy 1103.2 Maintenance of Order.

The next Regular Public Board Meeting will occur on Monday, June 19, 2017 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.