

Dufferin



Elementary

Volume 1

October 4, 2016

Dear Parents:

Time sure flies when you are having fun! It is fall already and students have settled into the routine of learning, nicely. We are quickly coming up to the mid point in our term and as such, will be holding parent teacher interviews this week. Please check the sign up board by the gym if you wish to book a time with your child(ren)'s teacher. We know that student success is enhanced when school and home work together!

Mrs. T

At Dufferin Elementary, our aim is to develop students' knowledge, skills and attitudes so that they can reach their full potential and become contributing members of society.

OCTOBER DATES

- Oct 5/6 – Parent Teacher Interviews
- Oct 10 – Thanksgiving Holiday
- Oct 12 – Earth Rangers Presentation
- Oct 20 – Earthquake Drill
- Oct 21 – Pro D Day
- Oct 25 – Young People's Concert
- Oct 28 – PAC Halloween Family Dance 6-8 pm

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

PAC is planning a family dance on Oct. 28th from 6-8. There will be a DJ, concession and lots of awesome dance moves! Come out and show your Dufferin spirit in a fun, family atmosphere. If you are looking for a quick, easy way to contribute to our school, consider dropping your bottles for return at General Grants under

Dufferin PAC account. Money from the returns will go to the PAC to be used for future school events/ initiatives.

Also, look for information on Blazer's Elementary school night fundraiser on Nov. 11th. More information will be sent home closer to the date. Finally, today marks the first day that our new on line hot lunch ordering system is open! Go to our school district web site (dufferin.sd73.bc.ca) and click the link under Hot Lunch in the top left corner.

SUPERVISORS REQUIRED

We are still in need of supervisors for our lunch break from 12 – 1 pm. An honorarium is provided for anyone interested in helping out.

SCHOOL PARKING

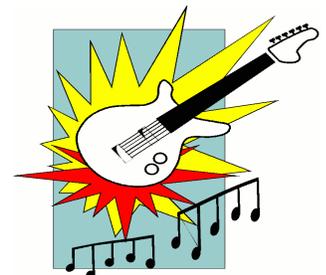
For the safety of our students and to avoid congestion, we would like to remind parents that parking/dropping off students in the ROUND-ABOUT AREA in front of the school is technically restricted to buses only. I am aware that some parents are traveling through our loop for quick drop offs and pick ups, however, we have four buses that bring students to school and pick up after school and it is important that the roundabout area is accessible for buses at all times. Please obey the traffic signs and stop or park only in designated areas.



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 going to be working on **Playing Safely in All Areas.**

Students will be reminded of the safe play 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.

EARTH RANGERS

The Earth Rangers group is coming again to Dufferin on October 12th. They bring some amazing animals and have tons of information for students around animal conservation and habitat.

PHYSICAL LITERACY

Starting this Thursday, our primary classes will be receiving some instruction in physical literacy during their PE blocks. Mrs. Joanne Loader, who is a retired SD 73 teacher and renowned local coach will be teaching this program along with our prep teachers, Mr. Berezowski and Mrs. Tanner.

EARLY CLOSURE DAYS

The purpose of early closure day is for parent and teachers to meet (at scheduled times) and discuss how this school year is going so far. This also enables parents and students to celebrate the things that are going well (and keep them up) and work on the things that are still in progress or developing. We will be holding these interviews this Wednesday and Thursday (Oct. 5 and 6th). There is a sign up board by the gym if you have yet to book a time. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 on these days.

A reminder that students on the Lac Le Jeune bus will need to make alternate pick up arrangements as per the letter that was sent home.

EARTHQUAKE DRILL

In the interest of student safety, Dufferin will be conducting an earthquake drill on Oct. 20th. Regular practices of earthquake drills, fire drills and lock down procedures are required by the school district.

PRO D DAY

Friday, Oct. 21 is a professional development day. This day is dedicated to professional

learning across our province and provides teachers with valuable collaboration and learning time to keep their skills honed. Students have the day off.

SELF REGULATION/PBL

Our school has been working hard over the last few years on our school goals and one of them focuses on Social Responsibility. To help our students meet the expectations of this goal we are working hard on helping them to regulate their emotions and behaviours. When students are regulated, research shows they learn more readily and retain information easier. This year we have a new staff member who has joined us to help focus on this goal. Mrs. Miranda Willie will be working with students on activities and strategies to help their focus and emotional steadiness. As well, Mrs. Willie will be working in classrooms and with teachers to help build in some project based learning opportunities which are helpful with the more open ended, BC curriculum.

NEW STAFF

A big Dufferin welcome to two new staff members: Mrs. Miranda Willie and Mr. Steve Tanner. As mentioned above, Mrs. Willie will be doing Self Regulation/PBL and Mr. Tanner will be replacing Ms. Bains our morning CEA/supervisor.

SCENT POLICY

Just another reminder to parents about our school scent policy. There are many people in the general public who suffer from allergies to scents of all kinds. As such, the school district requires that we limit the use of scents, including those that may be considered natural (ie. Lavender/Patchouli), in school buildings. Indoor use of scents greatly enhances their smell, as air circulation and closed doors don't allow for dissipation as readily as outdoors. We appreciate your attention to this matter.

TERRY FOX

Our Terry Fox run this year was a lot of fun! As usual, Mrs. Sinclair came to lead our warm up and was joined this year by four TRU athletes. The athletes helped out by inspiring students and cheering them on as they completed the run. I was very proud of our students' spirit and sense

of sportsmanship. We raised \$329 for the Terry Fox foundation. Good job, Dufferin!

BOOK FAIR

Our school will be holding a book fair Oct. 18th – 20th. Stay tuned for more information, closer to the date.

HOCKEY

Many of our students enjoy a rousing game of ball hockey during the morning before school, during recess and at lunch. I have noticed that this game can get a little rough some times and as such we will be making some changes. During the morning time, students will no longer be allowed to play hockey. This is due to the fact that we only have one supervisor at this time and he cannot supervise bus students as well as the hockey. Students who play hockey in the morning have been coming in to get the nets but are getting side tracked and also going into classrooms, the gym etc.

During the recess and lunch breaks, students will be allowed to play, but the game will be moved to the field by our back stop. This is to limit the risk to students playing four square, which is very close to the current hockey area, and the risk to staff who are entering/exiting the door near hockey.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT

Our first Young People's concert of the year is Tues., Oct. 25, 2016. Students will be busing to the Sagebrush Theatre to watch a musical performance by the group "Tiller's Folly".

BOARD NOTES

From the Board Meeting of: JULY 4, 2016

1. The Board enjoyed an update from Community Literacy Outreach Coordinator, Fiona Claire, as well as Literacy Outreach Coordinators Barbara Maher (representing Chase), Jill Hayward (representing Barriere), and Kerry Milner Cairns (representing Clearwater).

2. The Board welcomed the following new Senior Administrative Staff that will begin on August 1, 2016:

·Director of Student Support Services: Trish

Smillie

·Director of Instruction: Jamie Robinson

·Associate Superintendent of Human Resources: Shayne Olsen

3. The Board approved the following Board Authority Authorized (BAA) Courses:

·Hairdressing 11D

·Critical Media Literacies 11/12

4. Superintendent deBruijn provided the Board with an update on Street School since its relocation to Northhills Mall.

5. The Board received the annual Anaphylaxis Report.

6. The Board received the annual Video Surveillance Report.

7. The Board adopted the following policies:

·Policy 503.1 Student Records

·Policy 1109.4 After Hours Use of School District Facilities

·Policy 1112.2 Naming of School District Facilities and Grounds

·Policy 1136.1 Travel: Expenses and Insurance

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday, August 29, 2016 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

From the Board Meeting of: August 29, 2016

1. The Board enjoyed a presentation from Lois McNary and Dan Howe of Special Olympics British Columbia. A request was received to have our District partner with Special Olympics BC for the 2017 Summer Games to be hosted in Kamloops July 6-9, 2017.

2. The Board received the annual 2016 Summer Learning Report.

3. The Board received the Projected Regular Enrollment Report for 2016-2017.

4. The Board received the International Education Enrollment Report.

5. The Board received the Graduation Survey Results for 2015-2016.

6. The Board approved Capital Project Bylaw

AFG #127109.

7. The Board adopted the Revised Schedule of Board Meetings for 2016-2017.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday, September 12, 2016 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

From the Board Meeting of: September 12, 2016

1. The Board enjoyed a presentation on Edison Robotics from Principal Jake Schmidt, Teacher Jason Sandhu, and two grade seven students from Pacific Way Elementary.

2. The Board received an update on this year's school start-up.

3. The Board approved the Early Closure Dates for the 2016-2017 school year.

4. The Board received a Projected Enrollment Snapshot Report.

5. The Board received a report on the New Reporting Order and Guidelines, presented by Director Robinson.

6. The Board adopted the Revised Schedule of Board Meetings for 2016 and 2017 for rural communities.

7. The Board approved the addition of 7.72 FTE elementary teaching positions for the 2016-2017 school year.

8. The Board received, reviewed, and approved the 2015-2016 Audited Financial Statements.

9. The Board approved a request from BC Special Olympics to support, in principle, the City of Kamloops hosting the 2017 Summer Games.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday, September 26, 2016 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

From the Public Board Meeting of: September 26, 2016

1. The Board received a request from Christopher Seguin of the Rotary Club (Kamloops) to continue to use the NorKam Senior Secondary cafeteria to provide support for Children in Schools and the Community; and additional support with the Starfish Program that will supply vulnerable students with backpacks filled with food.

2. The Board enjoyed a presentation from Principal Mike Bowden, District Literacy Coordinator Patricia Persad, and a team from Thompson Rivers University, which described a "Customizable Learning Framework Using Technology" to enhance vocabulary learning. The team demonstrated a vocabulary learning app developed for literacy teaching and learning.

3. The Board received a summary of the 2016-2017 Long Range Facilities Plan from Director McDonald.

4. The Board approved the 2016-2017 Capital Plan summarized by Secretary-Treasurer Stretch.

5. The Board approved an increase in the number of members on the selection committee to include a Trustee representative for the OWL Award for Excellence in Public Education, and a change in the deadline for nominations to October 31 of each year.

6. The Board received an analysis from Assistant Superintendent Hamblett on new student enrolments for September 2016.

7. The Board approved the recommendations made by Associate Superintendent Olsen for process and timelines to establish a three-year school calendar for submission to the Ministry of Education by March 31, 2017.

8. The Board approved the Learning Improvement Fund Fall Allocations for 2016-2017.

9. The Board received *Notices of Motion* on the following revised policies:

- Policy 200.1 Board Meetings
- Policy 203.1 Trustee Remuneration
- Policy 506.5 Graduated Adults: Course Fees
- Policy 912.1 Principals and Vice-Principals: Mobility
- Policy 912.2 Principals and Vice-Principals: Process for Appointment
- Policy 1136.1 Travel: Expenses and Insurance

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday, October 3, 2016 at Vavenby Elementary School, 3157 Galiano Road, Vavenby, BC.