

The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School
February, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

You will note that the theme of Graduation is dominant in this month's newsletter. We are definitely at that stage of the year where our focus begins to turn to planning for the end of the school year and for the beginning of next year. There are a number of significant deadlines and milestones for graduation that are occurring in the very near future. Please take note of these and have conversations with your students to ensure that they are ready to meet these deadlines.

For our Grade 8-11 students, the coming weeks will see our first discussion about next year. Counsellors will be visiting classrooms in the first 2 weeks of March to begin programming of students for next year. Students will be guided through selection by their counsellors but they will also be bringing home materials that will allow for discussions at home about course selections. Please engage in discussion with your student about their selections. As students move up in grades, a greater number of courses each year are ones that the student has a choice in. Ideally, as students get older, they gain a better understanding of what they like and where they would like to go in the future. Their course selections should reflect those goals. If you feel that your student is confused about their selections, please contact their counsellor to meet and discuss this.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

We look forward to welcoming you to our Parent/Teacher interviews on March 1st and 2nd. Students will be on the Friday Schedule for those days and be excused at 1:22. The times for each day of interviews are different to allow for parents with differing work schedules to meet with teachers. Interviews will be available during the following times:

- Wednesday March 1st - 5:00pm-8:00pm
- Thursday March 2nd - 2:00pm-5:00pm

Important Upcoming Dates

- Feb 28 – Grad Transitions Books due
- Mar 1 – Scholarship Books released
- Mar 1&2 – Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Mar 8 – PAC Meeting 7:00 ADSS
- Mar 8 – 9 – Van Isle Concert Band Festival
- Mar. 10 – Last day of school before Spring Break
- Mar. 13 – 24 – Spring Break
- Mar. 27 – First Day Back after Spring Break
- Mar 29 – ADSS Prom Committee - Spring Flower order forms going out

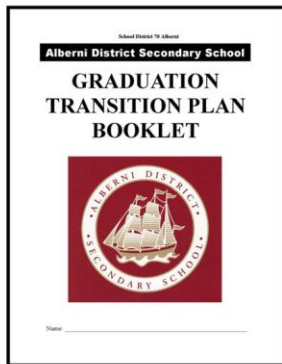
Interviews can be booked by visiting the ADSS website at <http://adss.sd70.bc.ca> and clicking on the Parent Teacher Interview link on the main page. You can also phone the counselling department directly at 250-723-6251 ex. 2412 and ask the secretary to manually book your appointment.

GRADE 12s: GRADUATION TRANSITIONS

Graduation Transitions is a mandatory course for all graduating students. Although it is technically referred to as a course, it is actually more of a project. Students are required to complete the following elements of the course prior to graduation:

- 90+ hours of physical activity during Grade 11 or 12 (Completion of PE11 or 12 covers this)
- 30+ hours of Volunteer Service or Work Experience
- Completion of the Graduation Transitions work booklet
- Completion of Exit Interview

An important deadline for Graduations Transitions is just around the corner. **Student workbooks are due on February 28th**. We have been meeting with students in classrooms and assemblies and advertising the due date around the building to ensure that Grade 12s are aware of it. Please talk with your grade 12 students and ensure that they have completed their work booklet and have plans to submit it prior to the 28th.



Graduation Transition Booklets are due on Tuesday, February 28th.

You must hand in your Graduation Transition Booklet along with a resume to the Career Centre in order to be eligible to participate in the Exit Interview process.

The Graduation Exit Interviews will be taking place on Thursday, May 4th. For more information or to book your interview time please come to the Career Centre.

Copies of the Transition booklets are available in the Career Centre or as a fillable document on the ADSS Website in the Grad section.

GRADE 12s: LOCAL BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the generosity of many citizens and organizations in our community, graduating ADSS students are eligible to receive nearly \$150,000 in financial gifts toward post-secondary education. Every year ADSS publishes a booklet that includes information about every available bursary and the process for applying for those bursaries. The booklet is made available to students on **March 1st** and can be picked up in the Career and Counselling Centre. There is a firm deadline for applications. Students have until March

31st to complete their bursary applications and submit them to the Career and Counselling Centre. Any applications received after **4pm on March 31st** will not be accepted. Students are strongly encouraged to apply for any applicable bursaries. On June 7th we will celebrate all bursary winners at our annual Local Bursary and Scholarship night.

For regularly updated scholarship information and opportunities for provincial, national and institutional awards, check out the ADSS Scholarship Facebook Page. If you have trouble finding or joining the page, please contact Ms. Bill in the library.

CAREER CORNER



ADSS Career Centre
@CareerADSS
adsscareercentre



QUESTIONS ABOUT CAREERS IN THE TRADES?

Course selections will begin soon for next year – if you are in Grade 11 and thinking about a career in the trades and earning credits while still in Grade 12 – come see us now! Bring your questions – we will try to have the answers! There are many opportunities for our senior students to earn high school credits while beginning an apprenticeship in the trades...planning can begin as early as grade 9 and 10. Check out the newly updated ITA Youth Website - <http://www.itabc.ca/youth/programs/>

ADSS YEARBOOK

Yearbooks will only be on sale until Spring Break! Order yours today - \$55 each (\$60 if you want your name on the front). Everyone who purchases a yearbook will be entered into a draw for two tickets to the ADSS Athletics Dept. concert fundraiser – Heroes of Rock on April 8th and two tickets for dinner at Boston Pizza!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Check out the binder in the Career Centre for upcoming opportunities that might need your help – currently help is needed for the Coldest Night of the Year Event, Rock & Gem Show and the Paper Chase Run. Come to the Career Centre for more info!

GRAD TRANSITION BOOKLETS & CAP & GOWN FEES

Please hand in your booklet and \$30 fee to the Career Centre by the end of February. Grad Transitions is a mandated course from the Ministry of Education and must be completed by every Gr. 12 student graduating with a Dogwood Diploma. The booklet is only one of 4 parts of this course – you also need to complete and document 30 hours of work or volunteer experience, 90 hours of physical activity and an Exit Interview (on May 4th – book your appointment after Spring Break in the Career Centre). Come see us if you have any questions.

SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES

The booklet listing the 2017 Local Scholarships & Bursaries will be available from the Career Centre and posted online on the ADSS Website on Feb. 28th. All Gr. 12's are encouraged to apply – see Mrs. Wynans, Mrs. Bill or Mr. McDonald if you have any questions.

ADSS PARENTS GRAD 2017**Grad 2017 Prom Night is June 10, 2017**

Your Prom Committee Parents Group is:

Co-Chairs: Penny Matthews Sharlene Check	Home: 250-724-6972 250-720-5582	Cell: 250-731-5853	rpmjs@shaw.ca checkerson@shaw.ca
Secretary: Karen Kozocari	250-730-5726		kordandkaren@telus.net
Treasurers: Stefanie Weber Maria Charlesworth	250-735-0766 Home: 250-723-2020	Cell: 250-735-3800	s-weber@shaw.ca buckweathoney@shaw.ca
Decorating: Lisa Hagan Serena Love	250-723-4517 250-731-6123		leese.66@hotmail.com loveshack73@shaw.ca
Entertainment: Anna Jack	250-735-1576		doubleajack@shaw.ca
Fundraising: Michelle Cyr	778-421-3486		mbcyr@shaw.ca

Attention Grads and Grad Families:

Graduation is quickly approaching. Based on 200 Grads attending Prom the cost per ticket without fundraising would be \$250 per ticket. CRAZY! And this is without going overboard on expenses. The idea behind fundraising is to decrease the cost of the tickets for Prom. There was an assumption that the Grads and their families would be participating in fundraising which has been all organized by the Grad committee. Unfortunately, this is not happening. Currently there is less than 30% of Grads participating in fundraising. Prom is coming quickly so we need to rapidly increase the amount of volunteers that are participating in the fundraising. There is a Prom table set up every Wednesday outside the Library at ADSS, at lunch, to sign up and receive information. Also, there is an ADSS GRAD 2017 Facebook page for Grads and Parents. Current fundraising efforts are: an amazing raffle (tickets available at the table), Grad clothing orders, and Bulldog Concession volunteers.

All Grad 12 Parents are encouraged to attend Prom Meetings. Also Please join the ADSS Grad 2017 – Parents Facebook Page to keep up on planning, volunteering, ideas, events. etc.

Prom 2017 tickets are now for sale. Last day to get Prom tickets is May 1st. Please contact Michelle Cyr at 250-731-9380 for more information.

- Grad spring clothing order forms are ready to pick up Wednesdays (lunch time) at the grad info table. All clothing orders are due no later than March 8, 2017.

Upcoming Fundraisers:

- Spring flowers order forms will be going out March 29 and will be here on May 3rd in time for Mother's Day.
- Bottle drive coming in April (no date confirmed)

- Appy/Silent Auction Night – Appetizers, buffet and a drink – April 21 at the Howard Johnson. Tickets will be on sale soon!

We are hoping to see as many grads as possible volunteering to meet our fundraising goal for your Prom.

Prom Closet Nanaimo is now making appointments for the 2017 Boutique Event

March 3 and 4, 2017

Prom Closet Nanaimo is in its 3rd year of providing an alternative to the high cost of formal wear for graduating students. Gently used formal wear is offered at no cost to the students who are looking for an alternative to the expenses of new prom gowns and tuxedos. Some students will select items from Prom Closet because they cannot afford other options, and some will come because they have developed a social conscience that makes them reject the high costs of these items. Sometimes the students who can afford gowns have made financial donations to Prom Closet that allow them to support our program while still keeping their costs much lower.

Last year Prom Closet Nanaimo was able to be part of Prom 2016 for over 40 graduating students, from the Cowichan Valley to Tofino.

This year, Prom Closet Nanaimo has even more gowns to offer to the girls, thanks to a very large donation of gowns received before Christmas.

Our "Prom Closet Boutique Event" will be held in Nanaimo on Friday March 3 and Saturday March 4. Appointments are needed in advance, and can be made by completing a simple form that is available on our new website .

For more information - please check out our website <http://promclosetnanaimo.ca/>.

Volunteers are still needed to help with moving the gowns from the storage location to the event. For anyone with questions, wanting to make an appointment or wanting to volunteer, please send an email to promcloset.nanaimo@gmail.com

For more information contact Joan Hiemstra 250-758-3773

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES

Student activity fees for the 2016-2017 school year are \$30 and can be paid in the counseling office. This is not a textbook fee. The fee supports various students' activities and special events throughout the year.

We accept cheques made out to ADSS or cash and have an ATM on site as well. No debit or credit. One cheque can be made to include yearbook and student fees. If \$30 is a bit much to pay at one time, installments can be made over the course of the year.

ADSS DEBATE CLUB NEWS

On January 28th, Liam Allen represented ADSS at the Vancouver Island Regional Championships in Victoria. Liam paired up with a student from Brentwood College and participated in 4 debates against other senior teams predominantly from Victoria high schools. We were all very pleased with Liam's performance; his knowledge, arguments, wit and delivery were most impressive.

The ADSS Debate Club continues to hold weekly practices Tuesdays after school in the conference room. Club members are hoping to increase student participation in the club and to that end are hosting a show debate in the near future. All students are invited to come out and see what debating is all about! Tune in to ABC News for more information.

ADSS TRACK AND FIELD CLUB

ADSS Track & Field will be starting up Wednesday March 8th and Friday March 10th right after school. Practices over spring break are tentative, there will be more info to follow. Practices will then be Mondays and Wednesday at 3:30-5:00pm across the road at Bob Dailey Stadium. All grade 8-12's are welcome. There is something for everyone.... Sprint and distance running, jumping and of course throwing. Come check us out. The NEW ADSS Track Coupons Cards are here and available in the office or by contacting Anna Jack at ajack@sd70.bc.ca.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL(PAC)

We would like to invite parents to attend our next meeting on Wednesday, March 8th @7pm at the school. The meetings are about an hour long and a great way to hear of some of the things going on around the school!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any of our 2016/17 executive:

Marilee Alexander, Chair klubhouseforkids@shaw.ca 250-720-1624

Vanessa Schoen, Vice-Chair vdubord@hotmail.com

Darcy Phipps, Treasurer darcyp@shaw.ca

Karlee Knoll, Secretary tkknoll@telus.net

GET YOUR YEARBOOK!!

Yearbook order forms are available now. The books are \$55.00 this year for the basic book or \$60 for a personalized book with the student name printed on the cover. Order forms are available through the Career Centre. Any questions, please contact Mike Roberts. **ALL BOOKS MUST BE ORDERED BEFORE SPRING BREAK!**

ADSS AGENDA APP

The updated ADSS App is now available for students and parents to download. The App is, at its heart, a day-to-day agenda that allows students to track which classes they have each day. Additionally, the app allows students to record their homework or other notes for each class.

The App is also a communication tool as it allows the school to send notifications directly to cell phones. Those notifications can be limited to important notifications such as school closures or reminders of report card release dates. You can also subscribe to specific channels to receive notifications for areas of special interest such as school teams or Graduation. These notifications will be another way that we can provide both parents and students with timely information updates and reminders.

As well, there is now a button added on the School Contacts tab to report a student absence. From the app side menu, select School Contacts, then select Report Absence. Then fill in the email with student name, date and reason and it will be emailed directly to our school secretary.

The App works on cell phones as well as tablets and iPods and is available from either the Android or Apple App store. A handy user guide for the App is available on the ADSS website.

UPDATED DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

We want to keep our demographic and contact information for students and parents as current as possible. We know that for some students, our parental contact information and mailing addresses may be out of date. Our information is generally inherited from the records that have followed your child from elementary to middle school and then finally to us. If you think your child's contact information may be incorrect, please update us. You can contact the school by phone at 250-723-6251 or by email adss@sd70.bc.ca.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

The Grapevine newsletter is one of our primary ways of keeping parents up to date on info and events at the school. The costs associated with printing 1300 copies of this newsletter are substantial. In order to limit both costs and waste we traditionally send home a printed copy of the newsletter for the first month of the year and then move to emailing electronic copies directly to those who wish to subscribe. If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter via email, please contact our secretary Michelle Bauer mbauer@sd70.bc.ca or at the school 50-723-6251 Ext 2401 and ask to have your name added to our mailing list.

OVERDUE TEXT BOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS

One of the single largest expenses that our school deals with on a year to year basis is related to the replacement of textbooks and library books that have been borrowed but not returned. On average, replacement of lost, damaged or non-returned textbooks costs the school \$25,000 each year. This a very large number and greatly impacts the funds that we have available to support other needs in the school. Students are loaned these books on a yearly basis no differently than from the public library. Once signed out, the books are fully the responsibility of the student. Our expectations are that the books are cared for and returned in the condition they were in when the student received them. Damaged or lost books will result in a repair or replacement fine.

ADSS BREAKFAST CLUB – February update

Thank you everyone for your continued support of the Breakfast Club. The Breakfast Club Room is open daily from 7:35 am until 8:35 am. There are now 19 classrooms throughout the school that offer food for hungry students.

Fun Facts: So far this year, January's food consumption totals: 19,779 pieces of fruit, 7440 bagels and 1728 individual packages of yogurt.

There are a few ways that you can help the Breakfast Club:

- **We are currently in need of Tampax Tampons (regular and sports with plastic applicator). If you are able to donate this item, they can be brought to the school office.**

Please save your Quality Foods receipts for the breakfast club; they are collected, totaled (QF \$5000 before taxes= \$20) and turned into gift cards that are then distributed to at-risk students. Receipts can be dropped at the school office for Melody.

- The breakfast club now has a QF points card if anybody would like to donate their points to it. The points will be used to purchase gift cards for vulnerable students and groceries when needed. You can donate your points at any till to the ADSS Breakfast Club. Thank you so much for your support.
- We are always looking for donations of gift cards from any grocery or clothing stores, hygiene items such as disposable razors, tampons with plastic applicators, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, 2 in 1 shampoo/conditioner, shaving cream, deodorant. Suits, tuxedos, ties and grad dresses are always appreciated.
- The ADSS Breakfast Club accepts monetary donations. They can be dropped off at the ADSS office, just specify that it is for the ADSS Breakfast Club. If you would like to donate \$50 or more and would like a tax receipt, cheques can be made out to SD 70, subject line- ADSS Breakfast Club, if cash (\$50+), please include your name/address information. Please drop them off at the ADSS office or the School Board office. We appreciate any help.

We would like to thank you the following people and community groups for their donations to Breakfast Club and their continued support of our students and program:

- SD 70
- Save On Foods
- The PEAK
- AV Bulldogs
- Circle Dairy
- Swale Rock Café
- Little Bavaria
- Alberni Valley Christian Reformed Church
- Andrew Schneider
- AV Lions
- Anita Oosterom
- Tooth Fairies and Dentists in 6th Ave Medical Building
- Dr. Hughes and Staff


- Chalmers Family
- Mary Anne Creighton
- Beta Rho Masters
- Teresa Monteith
- Salvations Army
- Breakfast Clubs of Canada
- Breakfast for Learning
- Toy Run
- Heather Maddison Studio H
- Western Family
- Rotary Club
- Capital Theater
- Best Western Plus
- Crowning Glory
- AV Lions
- Best Western Plus
- Sharon Reyes
- Nicole Dixon and family
- Allison Dupuis and family
- Nanaimo Grad Closet
- Save On Foods Staff
- Peter and Maureen Lenihan
- HEU Fir Park/Echo Local CUPE 6160
- Catholic Women's League
- Sharanne and Jerry Gaiga
- Kayla Burton
- West Coast Beauties- Joel and Mary
- Dave Ralla and his helpers
- Order of the Eastern Star
- ADSS Parent Advisory Committee
- ADSS Grad Committee
- Orin Rogers
- Kindrey and Mark Kaufmann
- Doug Book of Fairway Foods
- Sydney Reynolds
- Nikki Levasseur
- Preceptor Delta Theta
- Our amazing volunteers: Young Life, ADAPS, Family Guidance, Jeff Cook, Susan and Tom Wall, Pat Bouchard, Camie Sogge, NETP, INEO, Sheila Hvid, Carol Devries, City Council Rep Denis Suave, RBC Staff, NIC, USMA, Crown Prosecutor Christina Proteau, Joe Burton, Marilee Alexander, Life Skills Students, Cathy Cross, PAC parents and ADSS staff.

If we have missed anyone, we are truly sorry, that was not our intention.

Please contact me at (250) 723-6251, extension 2405, if you have questions or concerns about this newsletter.

If you have received this newsletter via email and you no longer wish to receive The Grapevine, please contact school secretary Michelle Bauer at (250) 723-6251 extension 2401 or email her at mbauer@sd70.bc.ca to have your name removed from our mailing list.

Rob Souther
Principal



ALBERNI JUNIOR BASEBALL EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION INFO

DATES: FEBRUARY 14 – 15 – 16 – 17
PLACE: ECHO CENTRE TIME: 6:30 TO 7:30

EARLY BIRD REGISTRANTS RECEIVE A \$20 DISCOUNT OFF REGISTRATION FEES THIS WEEK ONLY

TADPOLE: BORN IN 2008 -09-2010

- Players learn base running, hit off pitching machine, introduction to pitching.
- Season runs from April 24th (weather permitting) to end of June.
- T-shirts and hats are supplied. **COST IS ONLY \$25**

MOSQUITO: BORN IN 2006 AND 2007

- Players pitch, base stealing is introduced, 60' base paths, summer ball is available.
- Season runs from April 27th (weather permitting) to the end of June.
- Uniform tops are supplied. Players are responsible for purchasing grey pants as well as a glove, non metal cleats or running shoes as well as a jock strap (mandatory). **COST \$100**

PEE WEE: BORN IN 2004 AND 2005

- Full base stealing is allowed. 70' base paths, summer ball is available.
- Season runs from April 17th (weather permitting)
- Uniform tops are supplied. Players are responsible for grey pants, glove, footwear and jock. **COST \$110**

BANTAM: BORN IN 2002 AND 2003

- BC Minor rule book rules, 80' base paths, summer ball available.
- Players trying out for any of the regional AAA or AA teams must still register with our Association.
- Uniform tops are supplied. Players are responsible for grey pants, glove, footwear and jock.
- Season runs mid April to the end of June. Inter community team/travel involved. **COST \$120**

MIDGET: BORN IN 1999 – 2000 – 2001

- Rules and dimensions as per Major League Baseball. Summer ball is available.
- Season runs approx. Mid April to the end of June.
- Uniform tops are supplied. Players are responsible for grey pants, glove, jock and footwear.
- Inter community play/travel is involved. **COST \$130**

For more Info call 250 731 6126 * AGM February 23 630pm Echo Centre