

The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School
November, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians:

And just like that...first term is done. Teachers finalized all term 1 marks last week and we will be issuing report cards this Thursday, November 16th. As always, report cards can elicit both pride and fear, depending on what the report says. This is especially the case for our Grade 8's who are entering a whole new world in their first year of high school. At this time of year, I think it's important to recognize a number of things when report Cards come home.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Wed. Nov 15 – Immunizations for Grade 9's
- Wed. Nov. 15 – Band Chocolate Drive
- Thur. Nov 16 – Report Cards issued
- Mon. Nov 20 – Pro Day – no school for students
- Wed. Dec 13 – ADSS Band Christmas Concert
- Thurs. Dec 14 – ADSS Band Christmas Concert
- Fri. Dec 22 – Last day of classes before Christmas break

1. The term 1 report is an update and not a final mark. We are half way through a course at the time of this report. This leaves a lot of time to impact what the final mark will be. Students who are currently in a failing position do not receive the letter grade F on their reports, instead they receive an I, which stands for incomplete. If a student receives an I, they have 2 weeks to meet with their teacher and establish a plan for how they will upgrade their current standing in the course. This is an open invitation to sit down with a teacher and sort out what is not working and find a way to remedy it.
2. Don't assume that a poor mark on the first report card is necessarily the end of the world. We still have a long way to go and teachers would much prefer to help find a solution than assume failure.
3. Counselors and Administrators are here to help. If you or your students is uncomfortable having a discussion surrounding grades in a particular class, please engage one of us. We would be very happy to facilitate a conversation.
4. Percentages and Letter grades are how we indicate the degree to which a student has shown mastery of the course outcomes. Sometimes a student is very strong in a subject area and can meet the outcomes with minimal effort. Other students work much harder but the knowledge doesn't come as easily to them. It is not realistic to assume that every student will get straight A's. We all have strengths and weaknesses. What is often the best indicator of whether your child is doing their best is the Work Habits mark. Many people gloss over the work habits mark and are only concerned with the final mark. I am generally more impressed by a student that achieves a C with Excellent work habits than I am with a student who achieves an A with Satisfactory or 'Needs Improvement' work habits.
5. If your student comes home with a great report card it is a reason to celebrate. It's also a great time to evaluate what has worked well this term. Evaluate what work habits /situations/teachers have enabled your child to achieve at a high level this term will serve as benchmarks to review should they falter later this year or in future years.

GRADE 12 's – GRADUATION AND POST-SECONDARY

Counsellors, Career Centre staff and Administration recently met with all grade 12 students to review information about Graduation and Post-Secondary. This was our second conversation of the year with Grade 12's on this topic as we do our best to keep them focused on the many important steps and milestones that lead them down the road to graduation and post-secondary opportunities.

In terms of graduation, the focus at this point of the year is ensuring that we are in a position to acquire all of the necessary course credits to graduate. For many students, the majority of their credits have already been acquired but for others, there may be a need to pick up some courses that were missed in Grade 11. Counsellors continue to monitor progress in those classes at the end of each term to assure that student graduation plans are still on target. Online courses are a particular concern for us because they are done through another school. We don't have any control or knowledge of student progress in online courses so it is difficult for us to project grad status when online courses are involved. We have encouraged students to work on completing online courses as soon as possible so that final marks can be confirmed well before June. Many universities also have unique mark completion deadlines for online courses, requiring them to be completed in the spring.

While discussing Post-Secondary options with students we focused on the early deadlines that many schools have for application submissions but also spent some time discussing how students will submit their marks to the post-secondary schools that they are applying to. It is important to know that Colleges and Universities don't have automatic access to high school marks. Those marks are private information and cannot be accessed by post-secondary schools unless a student gives the school permission to do so. In years gone by, students would include a copy of their mark transcript in each application they sent out. This was a little problematic in that students would need to send their applications in well before final marks were available in June. To alleviate this problem, the Ministry of Education set up a system that allows students to give Colleges and Universities permission to access their high school marks. This is done electronically by accessing the Ministry of Education website. Directions were provided to all Grade 12 students and additional copies of those instructions are available in the counselling office. Please talk to your student about this and confirm that they have done so. Please visit the Career/Counselling centre if there is any confusion. We would love to do a walk through with anyone who needs help.

CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS

At ADSS, we have a wide variety of different clubs available for our students to participate in. Here is a sampling of some that are currently up and running:

Model United Nations:

Sponsor Teacher: Anne Ostwald

Room 218 days to be determined (Tuesday and Thursday, tentative)

To learn the methods and processes of the United Nations to take on a country and committee at CAIMUN (Canadian International Model United Nations) where students solve pertinent world issues (in Vancouver BC).

Senior Girls Volleyball:

Sponsor Teacher: John Contant

Room: Monday/Wednesday at 3:30 in the Gym

Christian Club:

Sponsor Teacher: Shaun Rust

Room: 213 Wednesdays at Lunch time

The Christian Club is a group of students from Grades 8-12 who are interested in the Christian faith, or attend various churches in Port Alberni. We meet for lunch to socialize, and watch videos, or discuss topics through a “Christian lens”. All are welcome.

Bee Keepers Club:

Sponsor Teacher/Sponsors: Mr. Barber/Ms. Dalton

Room: Room 101 Tuesdays at lunch time

Debate Club:

Sponsor Teacher: Jackie Chambers

Room: Conference Room (Office) Tuesdays from 3:30 – 5:00

Best Buddies and Special Olympics

Sponsor Teacher: Dennine Guenther

Room 123 Wednesdays at lunch time

This group gets together to make new friends, have fun, and engage in sport activities.

Drama Club:

Sponsor Teacher: Stephanie Hopkins

Room: 118 at lunch time (days to be determined). Stay tuned to ABC News for more info!

Wrestling Club:

Sponsor Teachers: Jeanette Badovinac, John McDonald and Russ Bodnar

The Alberni Valley Wrestling Club is an umbrella organization that represents wrestling programs at the Valley Elementary Schools and at Alberni District Secondary School . The AVWC has wrestlers in both female and male divisions from grades 5-12. The high School membership is annually close to 50 students making up a Jr Varsity (Novice –Intermediate wrestlers) and a Sr Varsity (Intermediate- Elite wrestlers) . **Practices begin in November Mondays and Wednesdays at ADSS for the Sr Varsity athletes and Tuesdays and Thursday for the Jr Varsity athletes. All Practice times at ADSS are 3:30-5pm. We also have Tuesday and Thursday nights at A W Neill for Sr Varsity and Alumni club members 6pm- 8pm.** The high season runs from November until March with the club season extending until the end of April to include participation at the National Wrestling Championships.

Colouring Club:

Sponsor Teacher: Laurie Hurst

Room: 113 Mondays at Lunch time All are welcome.

Our club provides students with an opportunity to colour in order to explore their creativity and/or to help reduce stress and anxiety. We offer a variety of colouring materials for students to use. (You do not need to bring anything...)

Gaming Club:

Sponsor Teachers: Tyler Cheetham, Mark Randall

Room: 216 Every Friday after School

The gaming club is a club for people who enjoy role playing games and tabletop strategy games.

Fun Council:

Sponsor Teachers: Ms. Bill and Ms. Hurst

Room: 113 Thursdays at lunch time. All are welcome

The fun council plans activities that make being a student at ADSS more interesting. Fun Council members choose the events they want to do and plan, organize and execute them. The types of events they have organized are theme days, holiday door decorating, a lip sync, flash mob, hot chocolate day, scavenger hunt and photo booth. New members are always welcome.

CAREER CORNER



ADSS Career Centre
@CareerADSS
adsscareercentre



YEARBOOKS

Order your copy of the 2018 ADSS Yearbook today! Only 300 copies will be printed – they are \$55 each and can be ordered from the Career Centre.

POST SECONDARY INSTITUTES VISIT

Mark your calendars - Wednesday, November 1st – ADSS will welcome Advisors from NIC, Camosun, VIU, UVic, UBC, SFU, Trinity Western, Northern Lights College, Thompson Rivers University, Canadian Forces and Royal Military College. They will be making presentations and have displays from 9:00 - 11:00am for our senior students.

FIRST AID

First Aid courses (CPR-C with AED, Emergency Child Care with CPR=B, Standard First Aid and CPR-C/HCP) will be offered to our students for a fee. For more information, see Mr. Hall.

FOOD SAFE

We are hoping to offer a Food Safe Course this fall for students. The Career Centre is taking names, stop by and let us know if you are interested.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Check out the binder in the Career Centre for upcoming opportunities that might need your help – currently we have some community Halloween events.

ADSS CLOTHING

The first order of the year has gone in and will be ready for pick up soon. ADSS Hoodies, T-shirts, Sweatpants, etc. can be ordered from the Career Centre. Another order will be placed prior to Christmas break – these order forms and payments are due by November 24th.

STAY CONNECTED!

Don't forget to "like" us on FB and select the Career Centre channel on the ADSS app to keep up with all the great things happening around our school!

Also Gr. 12's and Parents/Guardians are invited to "like" the Facebook info page about all things Grad and Prom 2018 –



ADSS Grad 2018 – Alberni District Secondary School

<https://www.facebook.com/ADSSGrad2018/?ref=bookmarks>

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES

Student activity fees for the 2017-2018 school year are \$30 and can be paid to Nikki Levasseur in the counselling office. This is not a textbook fee. The fee supports various students' activities and special events throughout the year.

GET YOUR YEARBOOK!!

Yearbook order forms are available in the Career Centre. They are \$55.00 each or \$60.00 to have your name personalized on the front cover. Sales will end December 22nd and quantities are limited so don't be disappointed – order yours today! Any additional sales after December are not necessarily guaranteed and will be at an increased cost. For more information about the yearbook, contact Mr. Roberts. For more information about yearbooks sales, contact Terri-Ann Wynans.

ADSS AGENDA APP

The ADSS App is a free download from the Google Play or iTunes stores. This agenda app is available for students and/or parents and guardians and is a great way to keep track of what's happening at school and your timetable. 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. These notifications are a quick simple way to convey important information 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 band, school teams or Graduation. These notifications will be another way that we can provide both parents and students with timely information updates and reminders.

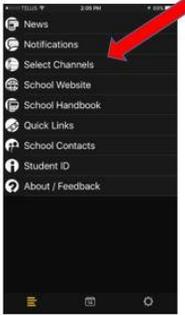
A user guide for the App is available on the ADSS website. If you require further assistance, contact Terri-Ann Wynans in the Career Centre 250-723-1191 (extension 1).

ADSS App – it's as easy as 1 – 2 – 3!

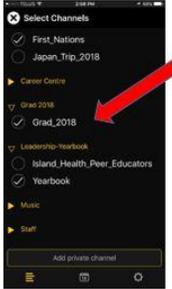
1 - DOWNLOAD



2 - "SELECT CHANNELS"



3 - CHOOSE CHANNELS



GET NOTIFIED!





Stay up to date on school events and important announcements!

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 mbauer@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 250-723-6251 (extension 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. Whether your student attended ADSS, EJ Dunn or AW Neill last year, it would be greatly appreciated if you have a look around the house for any books that belong to the school district. Any books can be returned to ADSS. We will ensure that books belonging to other schools make their way back to the appropriate library.

ADSS Breakfast Club- October /November 2017

The Breakfast Club Room is open daily from 7:35 am until 8:35 am starting Tuesday September 12th. There are 22 classrooms throughout the school that offer food for hungry students. The office staff has a list.

Last Year's totals: June's food consumption totals: 30,962 apples, 7314 oranges, 4455 bananas, 175 1L of cream cheese, 17.952 bagels and 4368 individual packages of yogurt.

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

- **AV Lions Club** will be donating to food programs this year. We are so grateful that the ADSS BC will be one their recipients. So on November 25th, please support the Lions Auction that will be held on Saturday November 25th.
- We are in need of Tampax Tampons (regular and sports with plastic applicator) or Always Infinity Pads (**not liners**). If you are able to donate these items, they can be brought to the school office.
- **NEW****The breakfast club now has a **QF points card** if anybody would like to donate their points to the program. The points will be used to purchase gift cards for vulnerable students and groceries when needed. You can donate your points at any QF cashier and state it is for the ADSS Breakfast Club. **Please** save your Quality Foods receipts for the breakfast club; they are collected, totaled (QF \$5000 before

taxes= \$20) and turned into gift cards for that are then distributed to vulnerable students. Receipts can be dropped at the school office for Melody.

- 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
- Circle Dairy
- Swale Rock Café
- Little Bavaria
- Salvations Army
- Port Alberni Rotary Club
- Breakfast Clubs of Canada
- President's Choice Children's Charity
- PA Toy Run
- AV Lions
- Tracy Glenn
- Bettina Thomas
- Dave and Gina Cullum
- Claudia Wong
- Lindsay Kolba
- Julie Rushton
- Ms. Chambers
- Jal Design
- Class of 1957
- Alberni Fitness
- Bauer Family
- TOPS BC 3402
- ADSS Students
- ADSS Prom Committee 2017
- Heather Maddison- Studio H
- Lyle Marsh
- Brodie Paxton
- Samantha Burton
- Capital Theater
- Brent Ronning

- Sonja Sutton
- Anna Foehse
- Marilyn and Doug Burrows
- All anonymous donors
- Our amazing volunteers: Young Life, Debra at ADAPS, Nancy from Family Guidance, Jeff Cook, Susan and Tom Wall, Pat Bouchard, Camie Sogge, NETP, INEO, Sheila Hvid, Carrie Thorpe, City Council Rep Denis Suave, RBC Staff, Heather McNamee, NIC, USMA Guardianship Team, Joe Burton, Marilee Alexander, Bev Nickerson, Vanessa, Lisa, Colleen, Cedar Room Students, Star Porter and EAs, Cathy Cross, PAC and ADSS staff.

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

WELCOME FROM THE ADSS PAC –OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER 2017

Thank you to those parents and guardians that attended the ADSS PAC AGM on Wednesday, October 11th, 2017. The PAC would like to welcome our new executive for the 2017/2018 school year.

Chair: Marilee Alexander
Vice Chair – Vanessa Schoen
Secretary – Carrie Thorpe
Treasurer – Willa Thorpe
DPAC rep – Helen Zanette

Our meetings take place the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm at ADSS. All parents and guardians of ADSS students are encouraged to attend. We hope to see you all at our upcoming meeting Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 7pm at ADSS.

For more information, leave a message at ADSS at 250-723-6251 and a PAC member will return your call, or stay connected via the ADSS PAC Facebook page to receive invites and updates.

2018 GRAD COMMITTEE

The next meetings for Parents and the Committee will be Tuesday November 21st @ 7:00 PM Tuesday, December 19th @ 7:00 PM. We meet at 4210 Cedarwood Street in the Youth Centre. This is the old Glenwood School. We had originally told the parents that we would be meeting the 4th Tuesday of every month but that isn't going to work out for November and December.

The two Co-chairs are:

Amanda Ruel - Co-chair - ruel_amanda@hotmail.com
Corrie Allen - Co-chair - caeford@telus.net

The fundraising events that we have dates for so far are:

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Right now we have **Chocolate sales, Pointsetta Sales** and **Coffee sales** running. Forms are available at the Wednesday Grad table at ADSS.

Bottle Drives will be - Nov 26, Jan 6, May 24 and they will all run 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

There are 7 **Bull Dogs** games where we will be running the concession. They are Jan 3, 7, 13, 19, Feb 7, 10, 17. There is a sign-up sheet at the Wednesday table for all of these. Times of the games will be available there as well.

We have two **Paint Nite's** - November 28th and November 29th. The one on the 29th is almost sold out and the one on the 28th will be posted soon. The link to the one on the 29th is here <https://www.paintnite.com/events/bear-with-me-at-the-italian-hall-10024581> We have not been given a link to the one on the 28th yet. It should be coming out soon. If anyone is interested they can contact Amanda or myself and we can send them the link, once it is available.

There are a lot of other fundraising events but we just don't have the dates for those yet.

There will be Tag days, QF Bagging, Mother's Day Flower sale, Pub Night, Auction, Samosa Sale and more.

There will be lots of opportunities for all students to do some sort of Fundraising to earn a refund off of the price of their Prom Ticket. And, for ever fundraising event a student attends, they will earn a ballot to have their name put in the raffle for one of the numerous large prizes. Every student will win a prize but we will also have a minimum of three great prizes.

Spring Break 2019 - Italy tour

Travel to Italy at Spring Break and enjoy the sights and culture of Venice, Florence, Pisa, Assisi and Rome. Trip highlights will include visiting the Grand Canal, St. Mark's Square and the Doge's Palace in Venice; The Doumo, Ponte Vecchio, and the Piazza della Signoria in Florence; The Leaning Tower of Pisa; The Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi; and The Colloseum, Trevi Fountain, Spanish Steps, Sistine Chapel, Pantheon and the Piazza Navona in Rome. We will be accompanied by a dedicated tour guide, and we will have walking tours in each of the main cities with a local guide. The tour includes your flight, bus travel, accommodations, breakfast and dinner and admissions to most of the tour highlights. Join us for an amazing tour through Italy to learn the history, language, culture, and to enjoy the flavours that the country has to offer. Students and their parents are welcome to join in on the tour. Ciao!

For further information please contact Laurie Hurst at lhurst@sd70.bc.ca

TOTEM 63 MERCHANDISE



Totem Merchandise is now available. Please see Mr. Roberts to order any Armada merchandise.

- HATS - \$20.00**
- PRO-FIT - \$25.00**
- T-SHIRTS (Adult & Youth) - \$15.00**
- INFANT SHIRTS: \$12.00**
- SWEATPANTS - \$35.00**
- HOODIES/ZIP-UPS - \$40.00**
- TEDDY BEARS - \$10.00**
- LANYARDS - \$5.00**
- SEAT CUSHION - \$10.00**
- SCARVES - \$20.00**
- TOQUES - \$10.00**
- SOCKS - \$12.00**
- PROGRAMS - \$2.00**
- PENS - \$3.00**
- STICKERS - \$1.00**
- TATTOOS - \$.50/each or 3 for \$1.00**

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.

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

Rob Souther
Principal

Attachment: BC Government New Curriculum Implementation Grade 10-12 below



November 3, 2017

Ref: 196911

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Re: Changes to the New Curriculum Implementation Schedule for Grades 10–12

Our government would like to do everything we can to ensure children are ready for the challenges of tomorrow, and that students develop the collaboration, critical thinking and communication skills that post-secondary institutions and employers are looking for. To that end, the Ministry of Education is in the midst of rolling out a new curriculum that benefits students by preparing them with new knowledge, skills and abilities that will be needed in a rapidly changing world.

British Columbia is already a world leader in education—our students regularly rank among the best in international assessments. The new curriculum is ensuring they remain at the top of the class and are fully prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the future. Kindergarten to Grade 9 teachers are already using the new curriculum, and Grade 10-12 teachers are currently trialing it in their classrooms.

In my first three months as Minister, I engaged with many partners in the education sector, and continue to hear overwhelmingly positive feedback on the new curriculum and how it is working in classrooms for students of all ages. At the same time, teachers, parents and educational leaders have expressed the need for more time to ensure the transition to the new curriculum goes smoothly for the critically important graduation years.

As Minister of Education, it is one of my top priorities to ensure all students experience a seamless transition to the new curriculum. That is why we are adding an additional year of transition time to bring in the Grade 11-12 curriculum—now all students will be using it starting in September 2019. The Grade 10 curriculum will be implemented as planned in September 2018.

I am confident teachers, administrators, post-secondary institutions and education leaders all across the province will use this extra time to make sure everyone is ready, including students and parents. Teachers will now have more time to prepare and organize classroom supports and resources, and the new curriculum will be well-aligned with post-secondary admission requirements so students have the best possible chance for future success.

The curriculum and graduation requirements have been, and continue to be, thoughtfully designed and reviewed by hundreds of teachers and in collaboration with education partners across the province.

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Ministry of
Education

Office of the Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

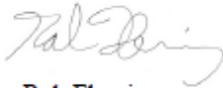
Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria

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With this extra year, we will ensure teachers have what they need to support students as they develop the skills they need to transition smoothly to the post-secondary institutions and jobs of their choice.

Below you will find details on exactly how this change will affect students, including information on the provincial graduation assessments. If students or parents have specific concerns about the new curriculum, the graduation program or post-secondary requirements, I encourage them to get in touch with their teacher or school principal.

Sincerely,



Rob Fleming
Minister

When is it changing?

Grade 11–12 curriculum will be fully implemented in September 2019, one year later than previously planned.

The Grade 10 curriculum will be implemented as planned in September 2018.

The new Provincial Literacy Graduation Assessment will be moved to align with the new Grade 11 and 12 curriculum implementation, with the first assessment scheduled for January 2020.

As previously planned, the Provincial Numeracy Graduation Assessment will be taken for the first time in January 2018 as part of a staged roll-out, with another session in June 2018.

For more detailed information, please visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/graduation>.

How will this change affect me?

Students currently in Grade 9 and younger will continue their learning with the new curriculum throughout their graduation years. Students in this group will participate in the 2018 Graduation Program, and take the new graduation assessments.

Students currently in Grade 10 may take the Provincial Numeracy Assessment starting in January 2018, and they will take the Provincial Literacy Assessment in January, June or August 2020.

Students currently in Grade 11 will continue on the current curriculum and will take the new Numeracy Assessment prior to graduation.

Students currently in Grade 12 will not be affected by these changes, and will continue to work towards completion using the 2004 Graduation Program requirements.