



# The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School

May, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians:

## May 11<sup>th</sup> – Drunk Grad

### Important Upcoming Dates

- Wed May 11 – PAC Meeting 7:00 pm ADSS
- Fri. May 13 – Pro Day (No school for students)
- Mon. May 16 – Pro Day (No School for students)
- Tues. May 17 – Grad Committee 7:00 Smitty's
- Thurs. May 19 – E. J. Dunn Grade 7's at ADSS
- Mon. May 23 – Victoria Day Stat Holiday
- Sat. May 28 – Prom Bottle Drive 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. May 29 – Prom Hot Dog Sale (10 – 1) Save on Foods
- May 31 – ADSS Band Concert
- June 1 – ADSS Band Concerts
- Thurs. June 2 – FN Grad Dinner
- Tues. June 7 – Grad Ceremony Tickets go on sale

Once again we have reached mid-May and I have the unfortunate duty to talk about 'Drunk Grad'. As I have said in past years, I am hesitant to acknowledge this event as the school in no way sanctions it. That said, as a school we need to acknowledge that the event unfortunately exists and be prepared to deal with the fallout that comes with it.

The 'Drunk Grad' celebration happens every year on the evening of the second Wednesday in May. Students meet on the Wednesday night at a predetermined out-of-the-way location, usually a gravel pit or a space in the woods, and spend the night drinking. Some students will stumble home and others will stay out all night and attempt to go to class the following morning. We are thus presented with two concerns – student safety the night of and a safe and orderly school the morning after.

On the morning of May 11th, members of the BC Ambulance Service and RCMP will be speaking with Grade 12 students about safety and the perils of drinking and driving. We will also caution students about the very real concern that not every person that is at the party will be a grade 12 student. Every year people that are much older than the grads show up at the party. They are generally older men and their intentions are often to take advantage of kids who have been drinking. The primary message of this presentation will be preventative but it will also address the issue of 'what to do' if you are in a situation with someone who has had too much to drink and what to do if you need help. We hope that the presentation will help students make better decisions surrounding 'Drunk Grad'.

On the morning of May 12th, ADSS administration and security will be meeting all students at the door as they arrive for classes. We will be enforcing a no tolerance policy for students who elect to come to school under the influence of drugs/alcohol or sporting the customary white t-shirts and faces covered in marker pen. Those who come to school looking like they have just rolled in from a night of partying will be sent home to freshen up. Those that arrive to school under the influence can expect to face suspension just as they would on any other day of the school year.

In short, we expect that students who arrive for school on May 12th are here to learn and participate fully in their courses, not to glorify drinking.

## Dress Code

As the weather warms up and summer comes into view we need to remind students and staff about expectations regarding dress at school. There has been a fair bit of chatter over the past few weeks over how 'unfair' the dress code at ADSS is. The interesting thing is that the dress code is no different than last year or the year before yet it didn't spark controversy in past. In an effort to allow student input, we have met with students to hear their concerns and, as a result of those conversations, we are currently in the process in reworking certain elements of the dress code wording to provide additional clarity. Rewording aside, the intent behind the code remains the

same. The expectations are simple. School is a place where our focus is on learning and we should dress appropriately for that environment.

For the vast majority of our students, there is no concern here. Their attire is just fine. For a handful of students there seems to be a desire to dress in ways that are inappropriate for school. When we say inappropriate this generally means that their clothes are excessively revealing or their clothing features images or words which are offensive, promote hate or advertise illegal activities such as drug or alcohol use. If a student dresses in such a way, and school administration determines that their clothing has crossed the line of appropriateness, the student will be asked to cover up with a jacket or other clothes. If a student does not have other clothes available to them or refuses to cover up, their parents will be contacted and the student will be sent home to change.

The expectations are far from draconian but they are necessary expectations. Dressing in a way that may be perfectly acceptable for the beach or a nightclub is great if you are going to one of those places but not if you are going to a school or work environment. We appreciate your support in helping your student make good choices about their daily fashion statements.

### **Grad Ceremony News**

We are creeping ever closer to the 2016 Graduation Ceremony. In the coming weeks a special supplemental Grapevine will go out to parents of Grade 12 students providing all sorts of information about the ceremony, getting tickets, etc.

Prior to the release of that info package, here are a few pieces of information that should answer a number of the most common questions that we hear at this time of year.

- The ceremony will be on the evening of June 24<sup>th</sup> this year and will happen at the AV Multiplex.
- Tickets go on sale from the ADSS accountant's office on June 7<sup>th</sup>
- Only students on the 'grad list' are able to buy tickets. We get on the grad list a student must be academically in a position to graduate, must have taken care of any unpaid student fees and must have returned any and all overdue textbooks and library books.
- The first edition of the Grad list will be posted outside the main office next week. The list will continue to be amended each week to reflect the addition of students whose graduation status has changed. If Grade 12 students find that their name is not listed on the initial Grad list, they should see their counsellor immediately.
- There will be an initial limit on the number of tickets that students may purchase. That limit is a number that will allow for the number of seats available at the ceremony to be equally distributed amongst the members of the graduating class. At this point, the likely limit will be 8 tickets. If, in the final week before the Grad ceremony, some students have not chosen to purchase their full quota, the excess tickets will be made available for purchase on a first come first served basis.
- Tickets for this year's ceremony will cost \$9
- Graduates do not require a ticket
- The Graduation ceremony is a celebration of the accomplishments of our expected graduates. One does not need to attend the ceremony to graduate and receive a diploma
- Prom happens the evening after Graduation, June 25<sup>th</sup>

### **CLUBS, TEAMS AND GROUPS**

**ADSS Model United Nations Club** – Tuesdays, Lunch time – Activity Room 1 – Oliver Witham, President

**Debate Club** – Meets Tuesdays after school and Wed. at lunch time – Rm. 203 – Mme. Chambers – Teacher

**Drama Club** meets Thursdays at lunch in the DRAMA ROOM (room T-9).

**Bee Keeping Club – TBA**

## **Annual ADSS Band Concerts**

The Annual ADSS band concerts are being held on Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup> in the ADSS Theatre. Doors are open at 6:30 and the concerts start at 7:00 on both evenings. Admission is by donation. The bands featured on each day are listed below:

### **Band Concert May 31**

Gr. 8 Concert Band  
Ms. Dylor's Jazzband 8/9  
Captain Jazzma and the Treble Troopers Combo  
Floctopus  
Music Awakens Combo  
Siete Musico Combo  
Gr. 10 Jazzband  
Gr. 10 Concert Band

### **Band Concert June 1**

Gr. 9 Concert Band  
McNally Jazzband 8/9  
Clarinet Quintet  
Coby Wankenobi Combo  
Bacon Cheeseburger Combo  
Gr. 11/12 Jazz Band  
Gr. 11/12 Concert Band

## **2016 GRAD PROM COMMITTEE**

As the end of the year is quickly approaching, we only have a short time to wrap everything up. There is just over a month left until the Grad Ceremony on June 24<sup>th</sup> and Prom on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at Smitty's. All Grade 12 parents are invited to attend.

To date we have done many fundraisers, with only two left to go. The next two fundraisers include a Hot Dog sale on May 29<sup>th</sup> from 10-1 at Save-On-Foods, and a Bottle Drive starting at 10am on May 28<sup>th</sup>. We still need students and parents to sign up for both of these fundraisers to make them a success.

Prom tickets are available to purchase for \$75 until May 17<sup>th</sup>, and then they will no longer be available. Prom tickets can be purchased at the Grad Info table on Tuesdays at lunch in front of the library until this date.

There are also Prom Parade Registration forms and maps available in the office as well as at the grad table. These forms must be filled out and returned by June 3<sup>rd</sup> to be eligible to be in the parade. The Prom parade will start at the old ADSS on the corner of Burde St. and Anderson Ave. then will continue down 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Roger St. to the front of the Athletic Hall.

If you have any questions regarding prom please check out the ADSS Grad 2016 Facebook page, or Contact Heather Green at [Heather-green71@hotmail.com](mailto:Heather-green71@hotmail.com)

## **ADSS BREAKFAST CLUB MAY 2016 UPDATE**

Thank you to all of our volunteers that donate their time every week. You are very much appreciated!!

**We need your help.** We are looking for donations of some hygiene items such as disposable razors, tampons with plastic applicators, dental floss, 2 in 1 shampoo/conditioner, as well as suits, tuxedos, ties, shoes and grad dresses. All decades and sizes would be appreciated. If you have grad clothing that you would like to donate, we will gladly accept it, please bring it to the ADSS office.

If you can donate any services that a grad may need (free haircuts, dry cleaning services, nails, etc.) please feel free to email Melody at [mjburton@shaw.ca](mailto:mjburton@shaw.ca) or call at 250-724-6115.

The ADSS Breakfast Club accepts monetary donations, they can be dropped off at the ADSS office or at any Scotiabank teller, 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. We appreciate your help

We accept all QF and Fairway receipts; they are collected, totaled (Fairway- \$3000 before taxes and QF \$5000 before taxes) and turned into gift cards that are then distributed to at-risk students. Receipts can be dropped at the school office for Melody.

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:

- Port Alberni Toy Run
- Maggie Hodge Kwan
- Arrowsmith Flooring- Johnny and Kathy Ruissen
- Mel and Bryan Bontron
- The PEAK staff
- Save On Foods
- AV Bulldogs
- Samantha Burton
- Centennial Belles
- Melissa and Brennen Cross
- SD 70
- AV Times
- Peter Mugelson
- Scotiabank
- Heather Mallory
- Amy and Tyler Komjati
- Tricia Knight
- Allana Tweedie and Dr. Fouad
- Nicole Steinbach
- Doug Book @ Fairway Market
- Marilee and Cory Alexander
- Dry Grad Committee 2015
- Circle Dairy
- Neelam Parmar and Family
- Sharon Reyes
- Breakfast for Learning
- Breakfast Clubs of Canada
- Best Western Plus Barclay Hotel staff
- Hospital Employees Union CUPE local 6160 Fir Park/ Echo
- Rodney Rogers and wife
- Bauer Family
- Rotary Club
- Preceptor Gamma Beta
- Nikki Levasseur
- Carl Poole
- Laura Boyce
- Nicole Dixon and Family
- 1977 Grad Reunion Class
- Swale Rock
- Salvation Army
- Don Ferster of Jim's Clothes Closet
- Heather Maddison of Studio H
- Dave Ralla
- Francine Emmonds
- Sandy and Ted Gilbert
- Circle Dairy
- Kathy Horst
- Parks and Rec
- Scotiabank
- Brock Famili
- Little Bavaria
- Mike Cole
- Brodie Paxton
- Karly Blats
- Nanaimo Grad Closet
- Ladies at Bridges
- Laurie Smith
- Tanya Duvall
- Alberni Valley Christian Reformed Church

- Andrew Schneider
  - Our Amazing Volunteers from John and Vonnie and members of Young Life, ADAPS, ACAWS, RCMP, Family Guidance, Jeff Cook, Susan and Tom Wall, Pat Bouchard, Camie Sogge, NETP, INEO, Carol Devries, PA City Council Rep Denis Suave, RBC Staff, NIC, ACAWS, USMA, Myra, Joe Burton, Marilee Alexander, STEP UP Class, Life Skills Students and ADSS staff.
- If we have missed anyone, we are truly sorry, that was not our intention.

# CAREER CORNER



ADSS Career Centre



## **GRAD TRANSITIONS COURSE**

The final set of Exit Interviews are scheduled for the morning of Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Please see the schedule in the Career Centre to check your interview time. This is a mandatory requirement to pass the Grad Transitions Course.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

There are currently many requests for volunteers – come to the Career Centre and check the binder. Parks & Rec Summer Youth Leadership, Wood School Fun Fair, MS Walk, Ty Watson House and typing help to name a few.

As well, volunteers are needed for the Provincial Emergency “Coastal Exercise” to be held in Port Alberni from June 7-10. More info available on our Facebook page and in the Career Centre. Sign up for a morning or afternoon session, or both. We are looking for students to “act” as displaced persons.

## **GRAD LIST**

The first copy of the Grad list has been posted and will be updated regularly. If your name is not on it, please come to the Career & Counselling Office to find out what you have outstanding – school fees, text & library books, courses to complete, etc.

## **YEARBOOKS**

Our Yearbooks are being printed! We managed to order a few more, so if you haven't purchased one yet, come to the Career Centre. They are \$55 each (they can't be personalized anymore). Watch for more info on the Yearbook Launch Party – Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at lunchtime – they will be handed out to those that bought them!

## **Europe's Mediterranean Coast Tour - Spring Break – 2018**

Come join ADSS students and sponsor teachers Mrs. Anna Jack and Mrs. Laura Boyce on a 9 day guided educational trip to Europe's Mediterranean Coast. We will visit Italy, Monaco, France and Spain. Check out the tour online at [eftours.ca](http://eftours.ca).

### **The trip includes:**

- Round-trip flights
- Hotels
- Breakfasts/Dinners
- Full-time Tour Director
- On-tour Transportation and Sightseeing activities

### **Costs:**

- Program Price \$3,410
- Student \$3,210 or \$131/23 months
- Adult \$3,570 or \$147/23 months

**\$200 off** if enrolled by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**\$150 off** July 1 – Oct 31<sup>st</sup>

**\$100 off** Nov 1 – Dec 31<sup>st</sup>

We will be holding an informational meeting May 31<sup>st</sup> at ADSS in the Main Activity Room at 7:00pm.

For more information, /questions please contact:

Anna Jack – [ajack@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:ajack@sd70.bc.ca) or 250-735-1576

Laura Boyce – [lboyce@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:lboyce@sd70.bc.ca) or 250-735-2401

### **STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AND 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.

Student Activity fees for the 2015-2016 school year can be paid to Ms. Levasseur in the counselling office. This fee supports various students' activities and special events throughout the year.

### **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 only 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](mailto:mbauer@sd70.bc.ca) and ask to have your name added to our mailing list.

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](mailto:mbauer@sd70.bc.ca) to have your name removed from our mailing list.



Rob Souther  
Principal