



# The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School

February 5, 2014

**Learners today, leaders tomorrow**

Exam session is over and students are settling into semester two classes. Should you have any concerns regarding your student's timetable please contact the counselling department before the end of the week. Students who need new textbooks for semester 2 have until the end of this week to exchange and pick up new texts. The textbook room will be open before school, at lunch and after school this week Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> -Feb 7th. Students needing textbooks after this date should contact Mrs. Behnke in the main office.

By the end of February counsellors' will begin the programming process for next September. Your student will be bringing home an information course booklet and programming sheet. It is important to be informed about course options available in September. Course selections should be based on student needs that connect to graduation requirements, student interest and importantly, entrance into post-secondary or work. Now is the time to be discussing these issues before the course selection sheet deadline in early March. The Counselling Department and Career Center is available to answer questions.

Please see the letter from Superintendent Pinkerton at the end of the newsletter. Important changes regarding school and grade configurations are being discussed in public consultations at ADSS this week. Please attend if you wish your voice to be heard.

## **Calendar**

Feb 4	SD # 70 Public Consultation – Reconfiguration – 7:00 pm ADSS commons
Feb 5	SD# 70 Public Consultation – Reconfiguration – 4:00 pm ADSS commons
Feb 7	Deadline for Student initiated timetable changes
Feb 10	Family Day - School closed
Feb. 11	Report Cards Issued
Feb 12	PAC meeting 7:00 pm Conference room
Feb 17	Pro-d - School Closed
Feb 19	Grade 11's – Post Secondary Exploration with NIC
Feb 28	Gr 12 Assembly Local Scholarships and Bursary
Mar 7	Interim Reports Sent home



### **What is ACE-IT?**

ACE-IT (Accelerated Credit Enrollment in Industry Training) programs are offered as a partnership between School District 70 and North Island College. The main goal of ACE-IT is to allow students to begin the technical training (in-school) component of an apprenticeship as part of their secondary school education program. ACE-IT students are registered with the Industry Training Authority (ITA) as an apprentice sponsored by the School District.

### **Eligibility**

While ACE-IT programs are open to all students 15 years or older, our District recommends that students enroll in ACE-IT programming during their Grade 12 year.

### **How do students benefit?**

- ACE-IT introduces high school students to industry training programs in British Columbia. See the list of Red Seal and BC Trade programs at [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca)
- Depending on their program choice, ACE-IT students can earn up to 32 high school credits and post-secondary credits from North Island College.
- Upon successful completion of an ACE-IT partnership program, students receive dual credit from Level 1 trade certification from the Industry Training Authority.

### **ACE-IT Partnership Programs**

School District 70 and North Island College, in partnership, offer the following programs at the Port Alberni Campus: Automotive, Carpentry, Culinary Arts, Cabinetry/Joinery, and Welding (other programs are available at the Comox Valley and Campbell River NIC campuses).

### **ACE-IT Funding**

The Industry Training Authority funds the cost of tuition for registered ACE-IT students.

If you have any questions about the ACE-IT program, please contact Mr. Greg Freethy, Career Education Coordinator, at 250 723-1191 or [gfreethy@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:gfreethy@sd70.bc.ca)

## **In Search of the Hidden Apprentice...**

### **Parents, Guardians & Students: Did you Know?**

In an effort to promote the Secondary School Apprenticeship (SSA) program, ADSS and SD70 are searching for "Hidden Apprentices." If your son/daughter is a secondary school student working in a trade area, they may already be eligible to become a Secondary School Apprentice and not even know it. A Secondary School Apprenticeship involves part-time work within a trade – something that they may already be doing. The SSA program provides a smooth transition from school to the world of work. It also offers a quicker route to certification in a trade and to the earning power that goes with it. A student can begin his/her apprenticeship in as early as Grade 10.

As an added bonus, as a Secondary School Apprentice completing all of the requirements can qualify for a \$1000 scholarship from the Industry Training Authority.

To find out more about the Secondary School Apprenticeship Program please contact the ADSS Career Centre @ 250 723-1191 and ask for Mr. Greg Freethy. For more information on apprenticeships and a list of trades that might qualify, go to: [www.itabc.ca](http://www.itabc.ca)

## **ADSS BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS**

The ADSS Breakfast Club would like to thank the following people and businesses for their support of our students;

SD 70

Toy Run	Joe Burton
Susan Addy	Pam Craig
Dave Ralla	Michelle Haggard
Fabricland	2011-12 ADSS Grad Committee
Jesse Bailey	Fairway Market Manager Doug Book
Safeway, Naomi and Kim	Debra Hamilton
Pat Bouchard	Rhonda Doughty
Cami Sogge	Cathy Cross
Young Life volunteers	Bobbijo Basarab
Marla Kjernisted	Francine Emmonds
Janis Almond	Theresa Thompson
Christina Proteau	Heather Mallory
No Frills	Salvation Army
AV Times	Alicia Gaudet
Life Skills Students and EAs	Nathan Stoddart's class
Nancy Hines	Connor Hines
Circle Dairy	Swale Rock Café
Yvonne, Marylee, and Sue from the Fraternal Order of Eagles Ladies Auxiliary	
Bingham Family	Breakfast Clubs of Canada
Chris Tessier	Kim Tuttle
Suki Dhillion	Richy's Plumbing
Rob Cole	Brenda and Darren Oscienny
Young Professionals of the Alberni Valley	Jay's Mens Wear
Ruby and Tom Savard	Melaina Patenaude
Alicia Gaudet	Preceptor Gamma Beta
Corrie and Bob Baron	Allana Tweedie and Dr. Fouad
Tom and Susan Wall	AV Lions Circle Dairy
Jericho Road Church and Unity Basketball Fundraiser	
ADSS Senior and Junior leadership class and Mike Roberts	

## **CAMPELL SOUP LABELS**

We are collecting Campbell Soup Labels once again. Please bring any full labels including the UPC and front panel to the collection bin which is located in the school office. The following are some of the eligible products:

- Campbell's condensed soup all sizes
  - Campbell's Chunky Soup or Chili
  - Campbell's Ready to Serve Soup
  - Campbell's Soup at hand (save lid)
  - Campbell's Gardennay
  - Campbell's Creations
  - Campbell's Easy Cooking Sauce
  - Campbell's Healthy Request Bowls
  - Goldfish Crackers
  - V8 Splash Beverage (save cap)
  - V 8 Vegetable cocktail (bottles – save labels) (Boxes – save UPC)
  - Habitant Soup
  - Campbell's Chunky bowls (save lid)
  - Campbell's Healthy Request Bowls (save lid)
  - Campbell's Hearty Noodles (save lid)
  - V8 Soup
  - Campbell's Ready to Use Broth
  - Prego Spagetti Sauce (save lid)
  - PACE Salsa
  - V8 V-Fusion beverage (save cap)
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- **ALL LABELS ARE ELIGIBLE IF THEY ARE A CAMPBELL'S PRODUCT**

## **News from the PAC re: Alberni District Secondary School PAC**

### **Bursaries 2@\$500**

Discussions at the last PAC meeting suggested that the criteria for the PAC bursary needs to have some focus on what the PAC is and what types of changes has come forth as a result of parental involvement at ADSS. Currently, the criterion focuses solely on a student's school and community volunteering experience.

#### **Current criteria read as follows:**

Awarded to an ADSS student who will be attending any post-secondary institution starting within fifteen months of graduation. Submitted with the application should be a 400-500 word explanation of the student's goals and expectations for the program chosen including reasons why they have chosen this path. Preference will be given to students who have school and community volunteering experience.

#### **Suggested changes read as follows:**

Awarded to an ADSS student who will be attending any post-secondary institution starting within fifteen months of graduation. Preference will be given to the student whose parents, or themselves, have participated in the Parents Advisory Council of ADSS and/or volunteered with the various programs/clubs/events at the school. Secondly, volunteer and community experience will be considered, as well as financial need. Submitted with the application should be a short paragraph describing what the Parents Advisory Council of ADSS has done for students and indicate how the student/parent has contributed to the PAC and/or school community. Student must provide proof of registration in a University, College, Technical, Vocational, or accredited Arts program.

Type of post -secondary programs, length, goals, expectations, and volunteering are already covered in the main application included with each individual bursary. Parents feel it important that students and their families be aware that there is a PAC at ADSS, what their role is, and how they contribute to the school.

Comments/feedback for these changes can be made in person at the PAC meeting on Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. You may also address these concerns via letter to the PAC mail box at the school or their facebook page, ADSS PAC. Discussions and vote on this matter must be done at the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Thank you in advance. Look forward to hearing from you.

The ADSS PAC



## *Excellence in Education*

January 30, 2014

Dear parents and guardians:

I am writing to you about the prospect of school closure(s) in Port Alberni starting in September 2014. These closures will be part of a reconfiguration to a K-7, 8-12 format as approved by trustees at the Jan 28, 2014 Board meeting. School closures would be phased in over the upcoming school years.

At the Jan 28 Board meeting, I delivered a report to trustees identifying the reasons for this option. As you may be aware, trustees have faced difficult financial decisions over the past few years and, for the past five years; reductions in programs and services to students have addressed most of our financial challenges. We are at a point where further reductions to student services cannot be sustained. As well, our forecasted enrolment indicates further decline for the next 7 years. At this time we must consider school closures to reduce our costs.

It is in this context that district management has been tasked with preparing options for possible closure. Identifying schools for potential closure considers a number of factors including low enrolment, under utilization, predicted enrolment trends and the availability of space at neighbouring schools.

Public input will be received and considered through a consultation process that will involve public meetings held during February and March 2014. There will be two phases to our consultation process. During phase one (early February), we will present information for feedback to all stakeholder groups. At the end of this phase, any school(s) identified through phase one will host special meetings at their site to gather additional feedback on the implementation of the specific closure.

A final decision will be made by trustees no later than March 11, 2014 in order to provide families at affected schools with sufficient notice that their child's school will close at the end of the 2013-14 school year.

I respect that the prospect of school closure will be unsettling for many families and that you will have many questions about what may happen. While I cannot offer all of the answers at this time, I can assure you that the school district is committed to conducting an open, and inclusive public consultation process. **Phase one of our consultation will take place at ADSS in the student commons on Tuesday February 4 at 7:00 pm and Wednesday February 5 at 4:00 pm. along with an online survey on our website ([www.sd70.bc.ca](http://www.sd70.bc.ca)).** As well, there will be notices placed on the website, advertising in local media and signs posted at all schools in Port Alberni.

A section on our website will be created to keep the public informed about the school closure process. The section will include related reports; links to the school closure process policy, status updates, decision timelines and information about how to provide input.

We will respect and value your input when the public consultation phase begins next week.

Sincerely  
Cam Pinkerton  
Superintendent