



The Grapevine

**Alberni District Secondary School
November 7, 2012**

Learners today, leaders tomorrow

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Today is the last day of this first term. Not only does that mean that 25% of the school year is over, but it also means that we are now heading into report card time. Report cards will be distributed through TAG on November 15th.

We've just finished a very successful parent/teacher conference time. I'd like to thank all of those parents who attended and students who helped as guides. We had over 600 appointments made with their child's teachers.

It has certainly been an eventful term. Of particular note has been the continued and valuable assistance from the ADSS Parent Advisory Council. On Wednesday of last week, PAC distributed candies and apples to all students as part of their on-going process of asset building. It is an important part of building bridges between our school and its community. Also, the Leadership classes have been extremely busy. Last week they organized what was a very successful Hallowe'en dance. This was the first dance that has been held at ADSS in four years and of course, the first dance in this building.

Governor General's Award

The recipient of the Governor General's medal, as the top academic graduating student from ADSS for the 2011/2012 school is **Steven Davenport**. Steven is now attending the University of Victoria and is in the Faculty of Engineering. We congratulate him and are happy to acknowledge his hard work and achievement.

University of Victoria Scholarships and Grants

Steven Davenport, Morgan Kidd, Tess Lund, Sydney Mieras-Nicholson, Esme Nell, Riley Paddock, Donovan Sneddon, Cortland Thibodeau, Danielle Tolfo, Eric Wu.

Vancouver Island University President's Entrance Scholarship

Derrick VanViegen

Additional ADSS Scholarship Winners

Students who received Dogwood/District Authority awards of \$1000 each were: Donovan Sneddon, Brandon Williamson, Alyssa Randles, Esme Nell, Axel Lajeunesse, Alexandra Wilson, Grant Bernard, Danielle Lessard, Rachel Hansen, Nikelas Little. Andrew Oldale, Devon Girard, Sara Colyn, Alyssa Savard, Sarah Hemmingsen, Brianna Harvey, Cortland Thibodeau, Allison Clark, Remington Fioraso. Most of these graduates are now attending some sort of post-secondary education, although a few of them are either working and saving for further education or have travelled to other parts of the globe. Congratulations to all of these recipients.

PAC News

A huge "Thank You!" to the parents that came to support the PAC and participated in the Annual General Meeting. **All positions are filled!**

We wish to extend our **gratitude to Kelly Hepp** who has been the treasurer of the ADSS PAC for several years. October 10th was Kelly's final PAC meeting of ADSS, her children have graduated. Thank you Kelly for your many years of service.

The new PAC executive for the 2012/2013 school year is.

Chairperson - Natalie VanViegen

Vice Chairperson - Jill Zodichi

Secretary - Michelle McConnell

Treasurer - Karrine McFarlane
DPAC Representative - Michelle McConnell and Lorie Engstrom (alternate)
School Planning Council Representatives - Natalie VanViegen, Danese
McDonald, Jill Zodichi
Member at Large - Deb Hallworth

P.A.R.T.Y Program

This stands for Prevention of Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth. It is a program for grade 10 students across Canada and at ADSS is delivered through the Planning 10 course. This year due to rising costs, decreased donations and increased participation the school is paying a non-refundable \$2/student fee. This cost will help cover the increasing operational expenses for program supplies.

The dates for the up-coming PARTY sessions are:

1. Thursday December 6, 2012
2. Thursday February 7, 2013
3. Thursday March 14, 2013
4. Thursday May 23, 2013

*Time of P.A.R.T.Y sessions: approx 8:45am-12:15pm

GRAD NEWSLETTER

- **GRAD CHECK** – DO YOU HAVE ALL YOUR CORE CLASSES, 4 GRADE 12 LEVEL COURSES? TOTAL OF 80 CREDITS?
- **POST SECONDARY PLANS?** DO YOU HAVE THE COURSES AND MARKS YOU NEED TO FOLLOW YOUR CAREER PATH?
- **FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY DINNER NOV 7** – YOU ARE ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND – MANY POST SEC ADVISORS WILL BE THERE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION
- A **VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY ADVISOR** WILL BE HERE ON NOV 14. IF YOU WISH TO SEE HER PLEASE BOOK AN APPOINTMENT IN THE COUNSELING OFFICE

- NOV 15 IS THE FIRST DAY FOR **APPLYING TO VIU** – SOME PROGRAMS ARE FIRST COME – FIRST SERVE SO APPLY EARLY
- **UVIC** IS STILL ALLOWING SELF REPORTING OF GRADE 11 MARKS (UNTIL NOV 30) IF YOU HAVE APPLIED BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR EMAILS AND MEET THEIR DEADLINES
- **CAMOSUN COLLEGE** IS NOW OFFERING 1ST YEAR ENGINEERING WITH A 2ND YEAR TRANSFER TO UVIC
- INTERESTED IN **UBC ENGINEERING**? THEY ARE HAVING AN OPEN HOUSE ON SAT DEC 1 – YOU NEED TO REGISTER IF INTERESTED
- **PSI -REGISTRATION** – IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND A POST SECONDARY INSTITUTION IN CANADA YOU MUST COMPLETE A PSI REGISTRATION FORM ON THE MINISTRY WEBSITE – YOU NEED YOUR PEN # (ON REPORT CARD) AND AN ACCOUNT – GO TO: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student/ IF YOU CREATED AN ACCOUNT PRIOR TO THIS YEAR YOU NEED THE PASSWORD YOU USED.
- **DEC 6 PSI DAY** – WE ARE HOSTING A MINI-FAIR FOR GRADES 11 AND 12 – 10 POST SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS WILL BE HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS AND PROVIDE INFORMATION – YOU WILL ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND A MORE DETAILED SESSION WITH NIC, VIU, CAMOSUN AND UVIC – MORE INFO SOON
- **GRAD TRANSITIONS** – THE CAREER CENTER STAFF WILL BE PROVIDING INFO IN THE SPRING FOR THE GT BOOKLET AND INTERVIEWS – AT THIS TIME YOU CAN BE CHECKING FOR THE FOLLOWING:
 1. 30 HOURS WORK EX/VOLUNTEER TIME DOCUMENTED THRU THE CAREER CENTER
 2. 90 HOURS PHYSICAL FITNESS IF YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED IN (AND PASSING) A PE 11/12 COURSE OR DANCE. IF YOU ARE COMPLETING THE HOURS ON YOUR OWN PICK UP THE FORM FROM COUNSELING OFFICE OR THE SCHOOLS WEBSITE AND HAND IT IN TO THE CAREER CENTER

3. STUDENT FEES – DID YOU PAY LAST YEAR AND THIS YEAR? – SEE MR. SMITH IF YOU NEED TO CHECK
4. LIBRARY BOOKS OVERDUE? SEE MRS BILL
5. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 10 - MS. LLOYD WILL MONITOR AND CONNECT WITH STUDENTS REGARDING LEARNING OUTCOMES

PLEASE CONTACT MRS. SAVARD OR MISS GRAYDON IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS

GRAD PORTRAITS - November 19 - 23, 2012

Graduation Photos sittings will take place in Activity Rooms 1 & 2. Go to www.lifetouch.ca/qualicum to make your appointment. There is a sitting fee that is payable at the time of sitting. A brochure containing more details is available at the school office.

The photographers will be at ADSS:

Monday, November 19 – 10:30 am to 4:15 pm Tuesday, November 20 - 3:15 to 9:00 pm Wednesday, November 21 – 3:15 to 9:00 pm Thursday, November 22 – 3:15 to 9:00 pm Friday, November 23 – 1:30 pm to 7:15 pm

A grad photo is required for the Yearbook. If you do not wish to receive any proofs and only want a photo in the yearbook the sitting fee is waived but you must advise the photographer at the time of the photo shoot.

Grad 2013 News

Fundraising is underway for this years Grad, starting with poinsettia sales. Grade 12's, please pick up a poinsettia form to help with this fundraiser. Order forms and money are due Nov. 16. Pick-up date is Nov. 29, 3:00 at ADSS. There will be a bottle drive at the end of November. The donation of your Quality Foods points to grad 2013 would be greatly appreciated! Parents of grade 12 students meet every second Tuesday to discuss/plan/organize this year's grad. The next meeting is at 7:15, Tuesday, November 13, upstairs at the multi-plex. If you are a parent of a grade 12 student, please attend. Student grad meetings are every Thursday at lunch. In order to keep informed, please join the facebook group ADSS Prom 2013. <http://www.facebook.com/groups/510125035665816/> . The

more people that come out, the less work for all! Please come and share your ideas for fundraising. See you all at the next meeting!

Book returns:

It is important for parents and students to know that textbooks issued at the beginning of each semester must be returned at the end of each semester or the student becomes responsible for the payment of the textbook.

At the end of the school year letters are sent to parents letting them know how many and the cost of replacement of those textbooks. This must then be cleared up before the following school year.

Textbooks can always be returned to the library or main office and the bookroom is conveniently open before each semester for students to return and pick up textbooks.

The downside of students not being responsible is that often we run out of textbooks when the semester begins and we have to wait to order in new textbooks. This is not a good learning environment for students and is very frustrating for teachers. Also, the cost of textbooks is staggering because most texts cost over \$70.00. In fact ADSS spends approximately \$70,000.00 each year purchasing new textbooks. Hundreds of dollars are lost each school year because of neglect and loss of textbooks.

Please encourage your student to be proactive and return the textbooks. It is a win-win situation for everyone - you don't pay and another student gets their textbook when they need it.

BC PEN student number – This information is for students who will need their PEN number for scholarship information, or entrance into college. This number can be found on your report cards from ADSS, and it is located up in the top right hand corner of the report card. Please make sure you locate this information and keep it documented as you will need it over this next year.

Withdrawal of a Student – Please remember when withdrawing a student from school, the following procedure should take place: Return textbooks, clean out the assigned locker, and fill out a withdrawal form. This form can either be found on our website – www.adss.com , or the parent can come into the

Counseling Department, return textbooks, and fill out the withdrawal form. The next school the student applies to will appreciate that you have done this as it speeds up the registration process.

Important Upcoming Dates

- November 7 – End of Term 1
- November 7 – Term 2 begins
- November 9 – grade 9 immunization forms due
- November 9 – Remembrance Day broadcast
- November 12 – Remembrance Day, no school
- November 13 – Grade 9 immunizations
- November 14 – PAC Meeting, 7:00 pm, conference room
- November 15 – First Term Report Cards issued
- November 19 – Professional Day
- November 19 – 22 – Grad Photos
- November 22 – Band Chocolate Drive
- November 24 – Canadian Open Math Challenge
- November 28 – ADSS First Nation Steering Committee Community Dinner

Please contact me at 723-6251, extension 2404, if you have questions or concerns about this newsletter.

Mike Ruttan,
Principal