



# The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School  
March 8, 2012

**Dear Parents and Guardians:**

This is a busy time of year in preparation for Spring Break, students finalizing applications for scholarships and bursaries, and Interims being issued this week. I hope that all of you have a relaxing Spring Break.

## **Thank-you**

- Thank you to all of our students who, on a rotating basis by class, clean up our school yard
- Thank you to our Leadership class that regularly cleans up the neighbourhood from ADSS to Redford Street and ADSS to 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Thank you to all of our coaches who work tirelessly to give students an opportunity to experience sports, team spirit, and travel
- Thank you to our Band teachers who work so hard to give our students an opportunity to excel, travel, compete, and share in experiences that are significantly above and beyond what's expected
- Thank you to the RCMP who patrols around the school on a regular basis, helping to keep the streets safe, checking for driving infractions, and making a visible presence
- Thank you to PAC for everything it does around the school from giving out candy, to helping with the School Plan, from organizing funding opportunities to managing the Bingo

## **PARENT – TEACHER CONFERENCES**

**FRIDAY, March 16th, 2012**

**TIME: 8:45 AM TO 1:30 PM with a break from 10:55am to 11:20 am for lunch.**

Parents can book appointments online by going to the ADSS website  
<http://adss.sd70.bc.ca>

Just click on registration under the Parent – Teacher date on the top of the webpage.

Or you can go directly by entering [www.schoolappointments.com](http://www.schoolappointments.com)  
Click on TAB – “Schools Using the System”  
Then click on Alberni District Secondary

If you had a previous account, it should still be there.

If you are new to this system then you will have to register a new account.

Any questions or concerns – Call Nancy Bell @ 250 724-3284 – ext 230

Nancy Bell will be taking calls on Tuesday, March 13th to accommodate parents who do not have access to a computer.

## **Alberni District Secondary Takes BC High School Wrestling Combined Crown**

For the third year in a row the ADSS Armada boys and girls wrestling teams combined to win the prestigious BC Secondary Schools Wrestling Championships Aggregate title. This year it wasn't even close as ADSS finished with 88 points well ahead of second place St. Thomas Moore with 62 points.

The performance by the ADSS wrestling teams was one admired by many across the province at this year's BC High School Championships in Abbotsford. Alberni's rich tradition in wrestling added another proud chapter as it is one of the few schools in BC that can boast a well-balanced program with both the boys and the girls teams very strong.

Individually the results were:

Gold – Jordie Bodnar 43 Kg Girls, Daley Forbes 75 Kg Girls, Jesse Wagner 51 kg Boys

Silver – Jordan Wagner 51 kg Boys, Cullen Hines 78 kg Boys

Bronze – Bailey During 64 kg Girls

Fifth – Nolan Badovinac 70 kg Boys, Connor McDonald 84 kg Boys

Sixth – Samantha Anderson 90 kg Girls, Corrine Gough (Neill) 43 kg Girls

The ADSS Girls team was second overall behind Carson Graham while the ADSS Boys team was 4<sup>th</sup> behind Rick Hansen, Burnaby Central, and John Oliver.

Thank you to our amazing coaches and all of the people who support us each and every year. It was awesome to see to many Alberni Wrestling alumni coaching at the BC's for Alberni or for other teams around BC or officiating on the mats.

The Tradition definitely continues!

- Submitted by Tom McEvay

### **Where in the World are They Now?**

Each issue of the Grapevine tries to highlight one person, anywhere in the world, who attended ADSS. If you know of someone who is in this category and you'd like to share what they are up to now, please contact me.

### Message from the Counselling Department

1. Textbooks:

We are having a problem with textbooks being returned.

A reminder that if textbooks are not returned by the end of the school year an invoice will be sent home for the amount owing of the textbooks missing. Your student then runs the risk of not being able to have their texts books **issued** for the following school year. Please have a discussion with your son/daughter to make sure that they are pro-active with their education.

2. Students who are leaving from a school to move to another school/district:

These students are supposed to formally withdraw from the current school that they are attending. Withdrawal forms can be downloaded from the school website or obtained from the school. Textbooks and locks should also be returned to the school prior to withdrawal.

3. Registration of a new student or return of a student:

Parents are now required to have a Birth Certificate, BC ID or passport of the student that they are registering for a school. This documentation is required upon day of registration. This is due to changes from the Ministry of Education (BCesis).

4. BC PEN numbers are information that students and parents need to access at different times. This number can be found on the student's report cards at the right hand top corner of their report card

### Message From the PAC

**We would like to acknowledge and thank the following organizations and businesses who continue to make the Breakfast Club possible for the students of ADSS.**

- **Toy Run**
- **Safeway**
- **School District #70**
- **Lily Diotte at Swale Rock**
- **Port Alberni Rotary Club**
- **CUPE**
- **AV Times**
- **Coffee News**
- **Dennis Jonsson**
- **Starbucks**

**We would also like to express our gratitude to Ms. Lancaster and her students who arrive daily to deliver to all of the Breakfast Club rooms. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers, without you, this would not be possible.**

Huge resource of quick tutorials on hundreds of different topics, using blackboard tools and youtube. <http://www.khanacademy.org/>

This is an interview with the site creator:

☐☐☐ **Online math videos offer students free help**

<<http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/uHAAexiLvTdjvnCiceogBVGnSi?format=standard>>



Former hedge fund analyst Salman Khan now devotes his time to providing free online help for students who are struggling with math. In this interview, Khan talks about his nonprofit enterprise, Khan Academy, which now has 1,200 short instructional math videos posted on YouTube that are accessed by an estimated 100,000 students each month. PBS/Newshour

<<http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/uHAAexiLvTdjvnCiceogBVGnSi?format=standard>> (2/22)

<<http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/uHAAexiLvTdjxgCiceogBVlszG>>

<<http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/uHAAexiLvTdjxhCiceogBVorGt>>

<<http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/uHAAexiLvTdjxiCiceogBVtLoU>>

<<http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/uHAAexiLvTdjxjCiceogBVzZuJ>>

<<http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/uHAAexiLvTdjxkCiceogBVHlaM>>

[www.learnnowbc.ca](http://www.learnnowbc.ca)

### **BC HEALTHY KIDS PROGRAM**

What it means for children

- **Automatic registration**  
once a family is approved for premium assistance by MSP
- **Access to**  
preventable and restorative dental care
- **Up to \$1400**  
of basic dental services every two years
- **Prescription eye glasses**  
once a year



For more information: call toll-free at: 1-866-866-0800 Press 4 and then 2

Or visit the ministry website at: [www.sd.gov.bc.ca/bchealthykids?](http://www.sd.gov.bc.ca/bchealthykids?)

### **RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Do you rent your home? Did you know that you qualify for Rental Assistance if:

- your family has a total household income of \$35,000 or less
- you have at least one dependent child
- you have lived in BC for the past 12 months and have spent at least part of that time working

For more information:

- brochures are available on the Community School information board at the school
- call BC Housing at 1-800-257-7756
- go to [www.bchousing.org](http://www.bchousing.org)

### **HEART PROGRAM – PARKS AND RECREATION**

Family members who meet financial eligibility will be issued a HEART booklet that contains coupons for Parks and Recreation admissions and programs. Some coupons provide free access while others will provide discounts.

For more information:

- pick up a brochure explaining the program at any Parks and Recreation facility

- call Echo Aquatic Centre at 250-720-2514

### **REC-BUCKS – PARKS AND RECREATION**

This program is a partnership between Quality Foods and Parks and Recreation. Quality Foods shoppers can redeem their Quality Food points for Rec-Bucks. Cash in 200,000 points for a \$20 Rec-Buck voucher which can be used for recreation programs, admission passes and facility rentals. Grandparents – what an excellent birthday present for you grandchildren!

### **Grade 12 Information**

#### **GRAD 2011-12**

**GRAD Transitions** – Grad Transitions consists of a grad plan, 30 hours of work experience and/or volunteer work, 90 hours of documented physical activity and an exit interview. Students who are enrolled in the Scholarship 12 course will complete their grad transitions within the course. All other grade 12's will complete this work through the career center. The grad plan document will be distributed to them after spring break in one of their grade 12 courses.

**Language Proficiency Index:** This assessment provides colleges and universities information about an individual's competency in English and could determine which English course you can take in your first year of post secondary. Students who plan to apply to post secondary institutions should see Mrs. Savard to determine if they need to write this assessment. Admission to many colleges and universities is not conditional to writing the exam. However, once a student has been accepted their will be a condition that they have written the exam before taking any post secondary English course. This means students could take the exam in the Fall even after they have started at their post secondary institution. Information is available online at [www.ares.ubc.ca/LPI/index](http://www.ares.ubc.ca/LPI/index). Note that some institutions will do their own English assessment.

**Post Secondary Applications:** Gr 12 students applying to post secondary programs need to be aware of admission deadlines. The middle of May is usually the final deadline for Sept 2012 enrollment. Please check and be aware of their deadlines. Most web sites have an advisor link where people can ask questions. Useful websites for post secondary planning are [www.canlearn.ca](http://www.canlearn.ca) and [www.educationplanner.ca](http://www.educationplanner.ca). A website for post secondary applications is [www.pas.bc.ca](http://www.pas.bc.ca).

**Post Secondary Institutions Forms:** Students need to go online to give post secondary institutions permission to download their marks from the Ministry of Education in May and July. The site is [www.EdAccessStudentSecureWeb](http://www.EdAccessStudentSecureWeb). Students will need to go into their secure site where they have accessed Government Exam marks previously and look for the Post Secondary institutions selections link. Student will need to check off the institutions they are applying to before April 30<sup>th</sup>. Students should see Mrs. Savard for a handout on how to complete this process.

Formal Grad checks: Formal grad checks will be done during the month of March. Letters will be sent home to those students who are not in a position to graduate. Students not eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies will need to see Mr. McDonald or Ms. Graydon for options in order to be eligible to walk the stage in June. All students walking the stage need to be in position to finish all their grad requirements by June 1<sup>st</sup> or have a plan in place that has been approved by the administration.

Eligible to Participate in Graduation Ceremony: Participation in the graduation ceremony is a privilege and not a right. In order to be considered eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony at Alberni District Secondary School a grade 12 student must be a student in good standing and have met the following criteria:

- Must have met all graduation requirements by June 1<sup>st</sup> of their graduating year or have a firm plan approved by the administration.
- Must have fully paid the student activity fee
- Attendance for their final semester
  - Must physically be present in the school and enrolled in ADSS Programs
  - Must have an average of 90% attendance rate for their final term
- Must have returned any overdue books or school supplies and settled any outstanding accounts. Students should see Mrs. Bell or Mrs. Savard to find out if they have overdue textbooks.
- Must be in full compliance with the school code of conduct from the first day of their final month of the year in which the graduation ceremony occurs
- Must have completed the grad transition plan by May 1st or have a firm plan approved by the administration.

Scholarships and Bursaries: Local scholarships and bursaries are now out. Students will be able to download the booklet from our home page during the first week of March and they will need to pick up their diploma verification from Mrs. Bell. Students have until the end of March to hand in their scholarship and bursary applications to the counseling office. Students will be notified if they have won and will then be expected to attend a separate evening on June 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to receive their award. There is a scholarship handbook available on the ADSS website which outlines how to complete a scholarship application. There are also other scholarship applications in the counseling office.

Passport to Education: The top 15% of each graduating class now receive \$500.00. Students will be notified via letter in August and the stamps can be picked up at the main office. They are good for 5 years at any post secondary school in Canada.

### **School Security Protocol**

Because of on-going concerns for the need to update our protocol pertaining to school security, we have implemented the following procedures:

1. If another school is requesting information about a student, it must be forwarded to ADSS on that school's letterhead.

2. If an outside agency such as Youth Probation, MCFD, or RCMP is requesting information about a student, it must be forwarded to ADSS on the appropriate letterhead.
3. If a parent or guardian comes to the school requesting access to the child and office staff does not recognize that parent, we may request photo ID.
4. Visiting professionals will be issued with Visitor IDs.
5. We are happy that all visitors are reporting to the Main Office.

### **How do we parent Facebook users?**

For those parents who are interested in appropriate privacy settings for teens please see below. Just as in your child's offline life, you are key to helping him or her form a positive identity, maintain good relationships, and create a positive reputation on the social Web.

Facebook use is very individual, which is why the No. 1 safety tip is "Talk with your child."

Further information can be accessed through these links: <http://www.connectsafely.org/Safety-Advice-Articles/facebook-for-parents.html> and <http://www.connectsafely.org/Safety-Advice-Articles/facebook-privacy-chart-for-teens.html>

**Recommended Facebook Privacy Settings for Teens**

Facebook's default privacy settings are not for everyone – especially minors – which is why the service allows users to customize their settings. The following chart shows ConnectSafely's recommendations for most teens. We realize that not all teens have the same level of maturity and that not all parents have the same rules for their kids' online socializing, so please review this chart with your teens to help set the right privacy settings for them. For more on Facebook safety and privacy for teens, please see our booklet [A Parents' Guide to Facebook](#).

**Edit Profile Settings - Basic Information**

Setting	Recommendation for teens
Current city	Generally OK
Hometown	Generally OK
Interested In	Leave blank or think about whether the interests you type in reflect positively on you
Looking For	Leave blank
Political Views	Think about how filling this in might affect people’s perception of you and whether it could subject you to bullying
Religious Views	Generally OK, but - as above - filling this in might affect people's perception of you
Bio	Generally OK, but don't go overboard - think about how your info might look to others
Favorite Quotation	Probably OK, but check back in every now and then to see if it still represents you
Profile Picture	An appropriate photo of yourself or an object or cartoon character that represents you; or just leave blank
Relationship Status	Leave blank
Education and Work	Generally OK to list your school. Consider not listing employer
Likes and Interests (activities, music, books, movies, etc.)	Generally OK but think about what you list, how it will be perceived & whether it will subject you to bullying



**Contact Information in Profile**

<b>Setting</b>	<b>Recommendation for Teens</b>
Emails	Generally OK, but make available to Friends Only in <i>Customized Privacy Settings</i>
IM Screen Name(s)	Generally OK, but make available to Friends Only in <i>Customized Privacy Settings</i>
Mobile Phone	Leave blank
Other phone	Leave blank
Address/City/Town/Zip and Neighborhood	Leave blank
Website	Generally OK

Basic Privacy Settings

<b>Setting</b>	<b>Recommendation for Teens</b>
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Basic Privacy Settings Friends Only & click "Apply These Settings"

Customized Privacy Settings (Click "Customize settings" at bottom of page.)

<b>Setting</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Posts by me	Friends Only
Family	Friends Only
Relationships	Only Me
Interested and looking for	Only Me
Bio and favorite quotations	Friends Only
Website	Friends Only
Religious and political views	Only Me or perhaps Friends Only
Places I check into	Only Me
Include me in "People Here Now" after I check in	Disable

**Things Others Share** (Click "Customize settings" at bottom of page and scroll to section in left-hand column below.)

Photos and videos I'm tagged in Friends Only

Can comment on posts Friends Only

Friends can post on my Wall Friends Only

Friends can check me in to Places Disable

### Contact Information

Setting	Recommendation for Teens
Mobile phone	Customize & limit to people they know & trust or “Only Me”
Other phone	Customize & limit to people they know & trust or “Only Me”
Address	Customize & limit to “Only Me”
IM screen name	Friends Only
Email address	Friends Only

### Application Privacy Settings

Setting	Recommendation for Teens
Applications you use	Review apps with your kids and remove any that are inappropriate
Info accessible through your friends	Review list. Disable most. Definitely disable "Places I check into"
Game and application activity	Friends Only & customize to even fewer people
Instant personalization	Uncheck “Enable instant personalization on partner website”
Public search	Disable if enabled (for minors, the default is now “Enable when I’m 18”)

**Block Users and Application & Event Invites from specific user** (Click "Block Lists" at bottom of Privacy Settings page.)

Setting	Recommendation for Teens	Instructions
Edit your (block) list	Block any individuals who are annoying you or who you wish to avoid	Block users you wish to avoid. You can also block application and event invites from specific people and block or unblock specific applications from contacting you or using your contact information

• [SAFEEKIDS.COM](http://SAFEEKIDS.COM) • [SAFETEENS.COM](http://SAFETEENS.COM) • [NETFAMILYNEWS.ORG](http://NETFAMILYNEWS.ORG) © 2011 TECH PARENTING GROUP

### Important Upcoming Dates

- March 9 – Course Selection Sheets due to Counsellor
- March 14 – PAC Meeting, 7:00 pm, staffroom
- March 16 – 8:45 – 1:30, Parent/Teacher Conferences, no school for students
- March 19 – 23 – SPRING BREAK
- March 26 – first day back after Spring Break
- March 30 – Professional Day, no school for students
- March 31 – Last day to submit scholarship applications to Counselling Dept.

Please contact me at 723-6251, extension 222, if you have questions or concerns about this newsletter.

Mike Ruttan, Principal