



# The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School  
November 2, 2011

## Dear Parents and Guardians:

Next Tuesday, November 8, is the last day of this first term. Not only does that mean that 25% of the school year will be over, but it also means that we are now heading into report card time. Report cards will be distributed, through TAG, on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

We will be meeting our statutory obligations under the School Act to produce report cards by the normal distribution dates but because of the current teachers' strike the completeness of report cards is a bit uncertain. For students in grade 12 they will be complete so far as lettergrades. 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 511 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 Monday of this 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.

## Governor General's Award

The recipient of the Governor General's medal, as the top academic graduating student from ADSS for the 2010/2011 school is **Austin Evans**. Austin is now attending the University of British Columbia and is in the Faculty of Engineering. We congratulate him and are happy to acknowledge his hard work and achievement.

## Additional ADSS Scholarship Winners

The following students are recipients of the University of Victoria scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year. **Kurt Behn**, Come to Campus Grant and UVic Excellence Scholarship, **Christopher Galbraith** UVic Entrance Scholarship, **Eric Hiltz**, Come to Campus Grant and UVic Entrance Scholarship, **Harrison Koch**, Come to Campus Grant and UVic Entrance Scholarship, **Chelsea Mulligan**, UVic Transfer Scholarship, **Tyler Onyschtschuk**, Come to Campus Grant and Faculty of Engineering: Dean's Entrance Scholarships, UVic Excellence Scholarship, **Christopher Sander**, Black Press Business Scholarship, **Vanessa Volkman**, Come to Campus Grant and UVic Entrance Scholarship, **Danielle Woppenkamp**, UVic Transfer Scholarship.

Students who received Dogwood/District Authority awards of \$1000 each were: Alex Anderson (Forseth), Chris Anderson (Forseth), Philip Baverstock, Brandi Campbell, Brian Chrysler, Danika Gay (Isaacson), Colby Irg, Jordan Lothrop, Samm Moore, Mellissa Offerein, Tyler Onyschtschuk, Eric

Sasaki, Jonathan Sim, Tia Sogge, Luciano Somerville, Carly Watson, Logan White, Most of these graduates are now attending some sort of post-secondary education, although a few are working and saving for further education or are off travelling. Congratulations to all of these recipients

### PAC News

At the October meeting a new ADSS PAC executive was selected.

PAC Chair - Michelle Dick  
Vice Chair - Vacant  
Secretary - Natalie Van Viegen  
Treasurer - Kelly Hepp  
DPAC Rep. - Kelly Hepp, Nancy Hines (Alternate)  
SPC (School Planning Council) – Michelle Dick, Nathalie Van Viegen, Nancy Hines, Kelly Weber

I'd like to thank Melody Burton for her tremendous leadership last year.

### Grad Photos

Lifetouch portrait studio will be taking professional grad portraits in our school on: [November 21<sup>st</sup>](#) through [November 25<sup>th</sup>](#).

To book an appointment please log in to: [www.lifetouch.ca/Qualicum](http://www.lifetouch.ca/Qualicum)

Scroll down to “How to make an appointment”

Select your school.

Select your sitting session.

I.E. Gold session ½ an hour \$30.00

Bronze session 15 minutes \$20.00

Select your date

Select your time

Reserve your grad session !

Please pick up a grad portrait brochure at the school office with more information on how to prepare for your session. This brochure has a consultation card for students to fill out prior to being photographed. For students bringing this to the photographer they receive 10 mini exchange photos with their order. For questions call Lifetouch @ 250-738-0983.



**ADSS First Nation Steering Committee**  
**Community Dinner/ Post-Secondary/  
Grade 12 Student Success Forum**  
**November 2, 2011**  
**5:00 P.M.**

**Hupacasath House of Gathering**  
**5500 Ahahswinis Dr. (just past Co-op)**

**Please bring your families and come sit and have dinner with us.**

**Post-Secondary Institutes Attending**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Simon Fraser University**  
**Langara College**  
**North Island College**  
**University of British Columbia**  
**B.C. Institute of Technology**  
**Kwantlan College**  
**UNBC**  
**Emily Carr Institute**  
**Vancouver Island Health Association**  
**B.C. Hydro**  
**RCMP**

**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 counseling 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 textbook 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](http://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 7,8 - Provincial Exams (for a few students)
- November 8 – End of Term 1
- November 9 – PAC Meeting, 7:00 pm, staffroom
- November 9 – Term 2 begins
- November 10 – Remembrance Day assemblies
- November 11 – Remembrance Day, no school
- November 13 – Band Tag Day
- November 17 – First Term Report Cards issued
- November 21 – Professional Day
- November 21 – 24 – Grad Photos
- November 23 – Band Chocolate Drive
- November 24 – Canadian Open Math Challenge

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

Mike Ruttan,  
Principal