



NANAIMO DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

355 WAKESIAH AVENUE, NANAIMO, BC V9R 3K5

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October 2018 Newsletter #2

Vision Statement:

Our school provides learning opportunities enabling students and staff to achieve personal excellence and pursue their passions in an inclusive, supportive, and respectful environment. We educate students by teaching skills and modeling attitudes needed to become successful lifelong learners and responsible, caring school and global citizens. Our school honours dignity, purpose, and options for all.

Notre école offre des opportunités d'apprentissage permettant aux élèves et aux enseignant(e)s de réaliser leur propre excellence et de poursuivre leurs passions dans un milieu inclusif, positif, et respectueux. On instruit les élèves en enseignant les habiletés et en modelant les attitudes nécessaires pour devenir des apprenant(e)s à vie ainsi que des citoyen(ne)s scolaires et globales/aux responsables et bienveillant(e)s. Notre école fait honneur à la dignité, aux buts et aux options pour tous et pour toutes.



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@NDSSIslanders
for timely notifications

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello NDSS Community and welcome to our October newsletter. We had a relatively smooth start up and our staff is looking forward to a terrific October. I would like to take my regular space in this newsletter to share a growing concern that I have regarding the use of electronic cigarettes or "vapes" as our students call them.

I am currently in my seventh year as an administrator at NDSS, and it is alarming to me that the use of electronic cigarettes or "Vapes" is rising so dramatically among our students. Our teaching staff and administrative team are seeing the use of vaporizers on a daily basis, on our campus and within our school. NDSS is also receiving complaints from frustrated parents who have had their children approached and pressured to try a vape.

Electronic cigarettes are treated the same as cigarettes within our school code of conduct, and should not be used within our school building, or on our campus. Educating students is our core business and we have had electronic cigarettes on the agenda at all of our grade assemblies this year. We have been consistent with our message to students that these are not to be used on our campus or within our building, yet we still witness and hear of students that are doing this. NDSS has had one fire sensor triggered in September by the use of a vaporizer in a school washroom, which resulted in our building needing to be evacuated. Of course, the inconvenience of vaping within the school is only one aspect of my concern.

We are seeing students as young as thirteen years old with vaporizers, and many of these students seem to be addicted to vaping. It seems obvious to me that that inhaling vaporized "juice" is not a good thing for your lungs. There is an additional health concern that I would raise, as students seem to be acquiring vape juice from each other, which raises obvious concerns. Electronic cigarettes can also be used to vape narcotics and since it is essentially odorless, it is a challenge to know what students are actually vaping.

If you are concerned about your child vaping, Island Health supplied the following article on vaporizers and health concerns: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/teen/substance-abuse/Pages/E-cigarettes.aspx>

I recognize that this is not just an NDSS issue, but feel it is important to promote awareness on this concerning trend with our youth today,

Sincerely,

Geoff Steel

Principal, NDSS

****STUDENT INFORMATION FORMS***

****Google Docs Form****

UPDATED STUDENT INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT

Your student should have brought home an information verification sheet. Complete it with updated contact information, including email address, and return it to the school as soon as possible.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF:

Mr. D. Leverette

SS/PE



Parent Portal
Island Health

Q and A on the "NEW" Family Portal

Q: When are we receiving the Family Portal access information?

A: Between Thursday, October 4th and Friday, October 5, there will be an email sent out to all parents and guardians with information on how to log on to the Family Portal. The email will also include an ID and temporary PASSWORD that can be changed at first log in

Q: How do we access the Family Portal?

A: The Family Portal can be access at the following URL (website link):

<https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen>

Q: Where can I find information on "Getting Started with the Family Portal?"

A: There is a helpful resource available at: <https://nd.schools.sd68.bc.ca/students-parents/myed-bc-family-portal/>. There are links to instructions and video to help you with navigating the Family Portal.

Q: Who do I contact if I am having trouble accessing the Family Portal?

A: If you have any difficulties with access to the Family Portal, please email your questions to:

ND-FamilyPortalQuestions@sd68.bc.ca

STAY INVOLVED! PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Stay involved! The NDSS PAC meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the NDSS Library. The next meeting will be October 2. Parents should park in the rear of the building behind the band shell.

Congratulations NDSS on raising \$768 for cancer research during our Terry Fox run. Thank you to everyone who participated in and contributed to this cause.



GRAD CORNER

Dry Grad—June 21, 2019

Next meeting is October 15, 7pm at Wellington School. Tickets are on sale at the office for \$60.00. Get them soon! The price will increase to \$65.00 on March 1st. Dry grad is always looking for volunteers.



Grad Photos are scheduled from Nov. 26-Nov. 30.

Grad Wear on sale from October 10-24. Sample sizes will be available.

Global Committee/Student Council

The Global Committee of Student Council meets on Thursdays at lunch in room 207. We plan fundraisers and work with local and global organizations that are supporting their communities. Come check it out for more information! In early October we will be selling hot drinks with the proceeds going to promote education in Ethiopia. Come warm up and support a great cause. As Halloween approaches, we will have a can/coin drive for Loaves and Fishes, as well as a delicious bake sale. We will be working with Everyone Deserves A Smile again this year to make care packages for the less fortunate around Nanaimo as the holiday season approaches. We will begin collecting donations toward the end of October through November so look for posters around the school to keep updated!

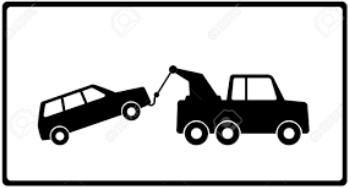
SPIRIT WEAR/GRAD WEAR

Spirit Wear and Grad Wear will be on sale from October 10 – 24. Pick up an order form from the office and check out the samples that will be on display during this time.



STUDENT PARKING

Student parking is ONLY available in the nearest half of the gravel parking lot at Serauxmen stadium, by the Aquatic Center. VIU students will be using the far half of the lot. This parking lot is monitored by the City of Nanaimo and vehicles parking without a parking pass will be subject to towing at owner’s expense. All students must apply for a parking pass through the NDSS office. Staff, RCMP and visitor parking are located in the front of NDSS and are clearly labeled as such. If you park in these areas, you risk being towed. Students should not be parking in the front staff parking lot, or at the NAC.



DANCE

Want to purchase delicious Purdy's chocolate for the holiday season? Interested in helping the Dance program while buying your goodies?

Then order online as part of our current fundraiser:

1 – Login or create a new account at fundraising.purdys.com

2 – A search bar will pop up once your logged in. Type the following number into that bar: 38365

3 – Click JOIN CAMPAIGN

4 – Invite friends and family to help!

Here’s a link to a pdf of the catalogue: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/GnFAssets/Resources/file/2018%20Christmas/2018%20Christmas%20Catalogue%20FUND%20lowres.pdf>

NDSS CALENDAR FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

2018

Oct. 1-10	*OCSL (Gr 8-9) (Gr 10-12) Update Week
Oct. 3 (Wed)	Midway Term One
Oct. 4 (Thu)	School Based Curriculum Day
Oct. 5 (Fri)	Professional Development Day
Oct. 8 (Mon)	Thanksgiving Day
Oct. 10 (Wed)	Parent Teacher Contact: Dismissal 1:46 pm <i>Classroom meetings 3:00-5:00 pm</i>
Oct. 11 (Thu)	Photo Retake Day
Oct. 19 (Fri)	Non-Instructional Day (Prov. PSA Day)
Nov. 9 (Fri)	Term 1 Last Day
Nov. 12 (Mon)	Remembrance Day Observed
Nov. 13 (Tue)	Term 2 First Day
Nov. 21 (Wed)	Report Card Available on MYEDBC, <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i>
Nov. 27 (Tue)	Parent-Teacher Interviews/Gr 8/9 SLC's <i>Dismissal 1:46pm (3-6pm Lg. Gymnasium)</i> Grad Photos Midway Term Two Winter Concert Last Day of School before Christmas Break

2019

Jan. 7 (Mon)	School Re-Opens
Jan. 14 - 16 (M-W)	Grad Photo Retakes (tentative)
Jan. 21 (Mon)	Evaluation of Numeratie <i>(French Immersion Numeracy Assessment)</i>
Jan. 21 - 25 (M-F)	English Numeracy Assessment
Jan. 22 (Tue)	Last Day of Classes for Grades 8-12
Jan. 24 (Thu)	English 12 Prov. Exam 8:30-11:30 am
Jan. 25 (Fri)	Comm. 12 Prov. Exam 8:30-11:30 am
Jan. 25 (Fri)	FRALP 12 & FRALP 12 Prov. Exam 12:00-3:00 pm
Jan. 28 (Mon)	Semester 2 Term 1 First Day
Feb. 7 (Thu)	Semester 1 Report Card Available on MYEDBC <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i>
Feb. 18 (Mon)	BC Family Day
Feb. 25 (Mon)	Non-Instructional Day (District Pro-D)
Feb. 26 (Tue)	Non-Instructional Day (School-based Pro-D Day)
Mar. 4 - 13	*OCSL (Grade 8-9) / Interim (10-12) Update Week
Mar. 6 (Wed)	Midway Term One
Mar. 13 (Wed)	Parent Teacher Contact: Dismissal 1:46 pm <i>Classroom meetings 3:00-5:00 pm</i> Last day of classes before Spring Break
Mar. 15 (Fri)	School re-opens after Spring Break
Apr. 1 (Mon)	Good Friday
Apr. 19 (Fri)	Easter Monday
Apr. 22 (Mon)	Term 2 First Day
Apr. 23 (Tue)	Report Card Available on MYEDBC <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i>
May 1 (Wed)	Parent-Teacher Interviews/ Gr. 8/9 SLC's <i>Dismissal 1:46pm 3-6 pm Lg. Gymnasium</i>
May 2 (Thu)	Non-Instructional Day (School Based)
May 10 (Fri)	Victoria Day
May 20 (Mon)	Midway Term Two
May 22 (Wed)	Aboriginal Graduation, John Barsby (tentative)
May 23 (Thu)	Fine Arts Night
May 30 (Thu)	Grade 10-11 Awards Assemblies, in school
Jun. 5 (Wed)	Grade 12 Evening Awards 6:00 pm Lg. Gym
Jun. 6 (Thu)	Athletics Awards Recognition
Jun. 21 - 27	English Numeracy Assessment
Jun. 21 (Fri)	Last Day of Regular Classes for Grades 8-12 (Tentative)
Jun. 24 (Mon)	Evaluation de Numeratie <i>(French Immersion Numeracy Assessment)</i>
Jun. 24 (Mon)	English 12 Prov. Exam 8:30-11:30 am
Jun. 25 (Tue)	Francais Langue 12 Prov. Exam 8:30-11:30 am
Jun. 26 (Wed)	Comm. 12 Prov. Exam 8:30-11:30 am
Jun. 26 (Wed)	Commencement Rehearsal <i>(Nanaimo Conference Centre) - TENTATIVE</i>
Jun. 27 (Thu)	NDSS Commencement <i>(Nanaimo Conference Centre) - TENTATIVE</i>
Jun. 28 (Fri)	Year End Administrative Day
Jul. 4 (Thu)	Semester 1 Report Cards Available on MYEDBC <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i>

*OCSL = Ongoing Communication of Student Learning

Wrestling

School District 68 has a district co-ed wrestling team/club open to both male and female students from all of our local high schools. Practices are held at Island ConnectEd (4355 Jingle Pot Road). The season starts on **Monday, October 15**, with practices being held on Mondays and Thursdays. For more information, please visit the clubs website: <https://sites.google.com/view/nanaimowrestlingclub/>. If interested in joining the club, a registration link is located on the website!

COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORNER

Flash Food Mob in Room 164 Thursdays from 1:50pm – 2:10pm. Service for students needing food to get them through the weekend.

Jumpstart funding provided by Canadian Tire for children across Canada to participate in physical activities from homes that could use financial support. Please check the website for further info.

<http://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/content/microsites/jumpstart/en/apply.html>

PHOTO RETAKES

Thursday, October 11 is photo re-take day.

First photo packages and student cards have arrived, and may be picked up in the office.



Math Help

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 130 – Ms. Minhas Rm 217 – Ms. Lemoine	Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 130 – Ms. Minhas Rm 217 – Ms. Lemoine Rm 215 – Mr. Begin	Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 130 – Ms. Minhas Rm 217 – Ms. Lemoine	Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 217 – Ms. Lemoine Rm 215 – Mr. Begin Rm 207 – Ms. Cunnian <i>(junior math)</i>	Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 217 – Ms. Lemoine Rm 207 – Ms. Cunnian <i>(junior math)</i>
Lunch	Rm 236 – Ms. Russell Rm 225 – Mr. Tang	Rm 236 – Ms. Russell Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 207 – Ms. Cunnian <i>(junior math)</i>	Rm 236 – Ms. Russell Rm 225 – Mr. Tang	Rm 236 – Ms. Russell Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 207 – Ms. Cunnian <i>(junior math)</i>	Rm 236 – Ms. Russell Rm 225 – Mr. Tang Rm 207 – Ms. Cunnian <i>(junior math)</i>
After School		Rm 220 – Ms. Funk	Rm 165 – Mr. Perkins	Rm 220 – Ms. Funk	Rm 220 – Ms. Funk

Remember you don't have to see your own math teacher for help 😊 Drop into any classroom above when it is open for help!

LIT EVOLUTION

We are pleased to welcome LIT EVOLUTION Presentation "Reel Talk"

October 24 10am

Reel Talk is an 80 minute performance driven presentation that connects themes and ideas found in the movies to real situations in everyday life. Presenter's Matt Dunae and Lyndsay Wells weave together songs, poetry, information, and personal reflection about the importance loving ourselves and refusing to hide who we are. Just as a movie script can be re-written, Matt and Lyndsay are helping audiences understand they too have the power to re-write their own stories. This unique and upbeat school assembly is unlike anything you've ever seen or heard before. Featuring 3 original hip hop songs written exclusively for the presentation, live spoken word poetry, crowd participation, story telling, honesty, and humour, Matt and Lyndsay challenge audiences to look within and "get real" about the way we all think about ourselves. Using quotes and themes from movies, Reel Talk is an action call to positive change and a deepening sense of the importance of self-esteem and self-love.



Foundations for Success Courses - elective courses designed to promote student success
Course Selection and Web Registration Sessions on campus in May
Interdisciplinary Studies- Consider an interdisciplinary approach to meeting your Degree English Requirements
Summer Warm-up Sessions for New Students in August - register now.
Important Dates to know as a student at VIU
VIU Services for Student Success
Register for ROCK VIU- New student orientation

www.viu.ca

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Geoff Steel	Principal, Grade 12s
Mr. Stacy Marusic	Vice-Principal, Grades 8-11, A-K
Mr. Stephen Epp	Vice-Principal, Grades 8-11, L-Z

COUNSELLOR STUDENT ALLOCATION

Ms. Al-Hajj:	A- Culic Francophone, Human Services
Mr. Kral:	Cullon—Kashmere & GTS
Ms.Tomiyama:	Kearns—Parker & GTS
Ms. Smith:	Parkes—Z & GTS
Ms. Pyne:	International Students Scholarships & GTS

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Ms. Prlic:	A-Gray
Ms. Edgar	Graystone-Munroe
Mr. Jones	Murdoch-Z

Orange Shirt Day

The reconciliation youth leadership committee went around and shared a short story of what Orange Shirt Day-Every Child Matters is about.

<http://www.orangeshirtday.org/phyllis-story.html>

