

VISION

**Learning with Purpose
Striving for Excellence
Growing through Community**

At NDSS, our mission is to inspire all to be curious, have confidence, use imagination, and persevere in their learning journey.

June 2020



Newsletter #10

Mid-June NDSS Newsletter – Message from the Principal



The 2019/2020 School Year is finishing during a pandemic and so transitioning to summer break in less than two weeks certainly doesn't feel as momentous as it usually does for our NDSS staff, students and families.

Perhaps some families are experiencing a sense of loss for out of town vacations that were supposed to take place this summer along with anxiousness at the thought of not knowing when normal travel will be possible. Going through cancellation processes and crossing out spring & summer break plans can create an additional stress on top of all the other adjustments to our work and routines as a result of COVID-19.

- [Importance of taking vacation](#) - Allina Health

Lots of us might start to feel as though we're significantly overdue for a meaningful break, so perhaps an idea is to plan a true 'stay-cation' for your family! Indulge me for a moment, maybe you'll read something that inspires you.

Like every good travel adventure, a good 'stay-cation' needs a plan!

When we stay in our normal environment during time off work or school, it's far too easy to get sucked back into work or into the everyday chores of home. One suggestion is to talk through your stay-cation strategy with others living in your household to ensure the time is completely work-free and allows for relaxing, having fun and recharging.

- [Read more here!](#)

Another idea is to be a tourist right here in Nanaimo!

For realistic tips on how to become a tourist in your hometown, while remaining socially distanced and practicing good hygiene, of course - <https://experiencelife.com/article/how-to-be-a-tourist-in-your-own-town/>

- Tour Nanaimo's local landmarks,
- Make a bucket list of fun adventures the family can have right here in town or a short drive away,
- Do your homework about our city's heritage – then go visit historical sites

Whatever your family ends up doing during the Summer of 2020, keep in mind downtime is critical for everyone when it comes to maintaining our mental health and well-being.

Vacations will look different this year. Not better, not worse. Just different.

Adventure and recovery await, regardless of your distance from home!

On behalf of all the Staff at NDSS – Have a wonderful summer break!

Liana Appelt, PhD

Principal, Nanaimo District Secondary School



Images are of the "Not Myself Today" initiative from the Canadian Mental Health Association: <https://mid-island.cmha.bc.ca/>

The last day of on-line classes and in-school support opportunities is Friday, June 19.



**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER:
@NDSSIslanders**

Stay current! NDSS WEBSITE: myndss.ca

811 Call 811 if you are sick. Do not come to school if you or a household member is sick. Only pre-arranged students and staff will be permitted in the school during June, as the safety of all remains of the utmost importance.

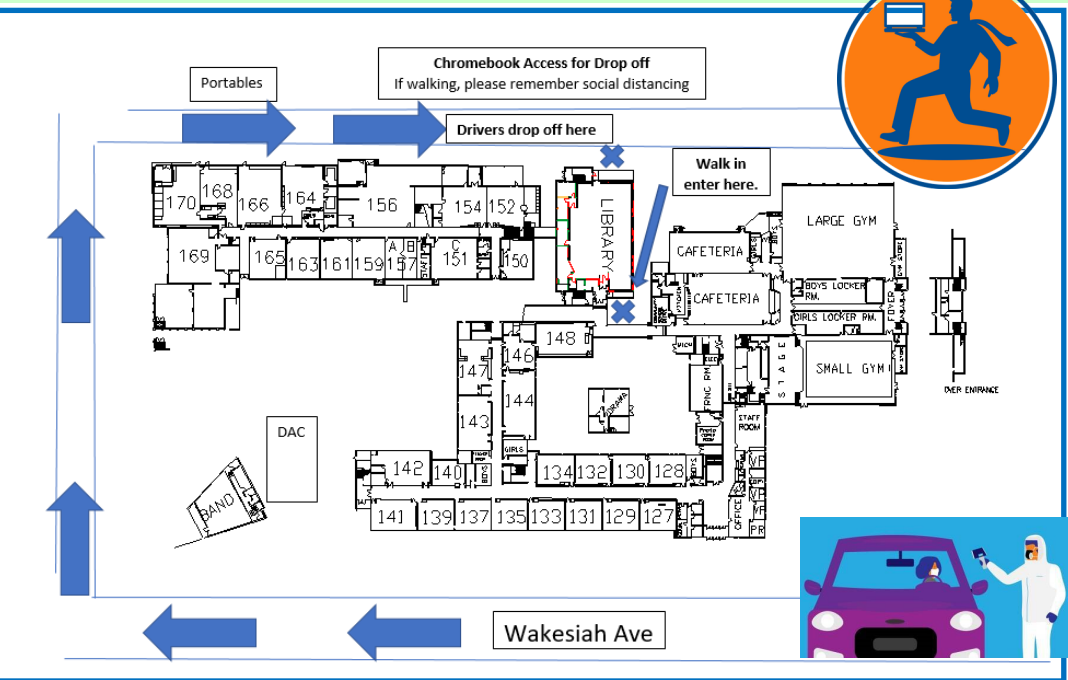
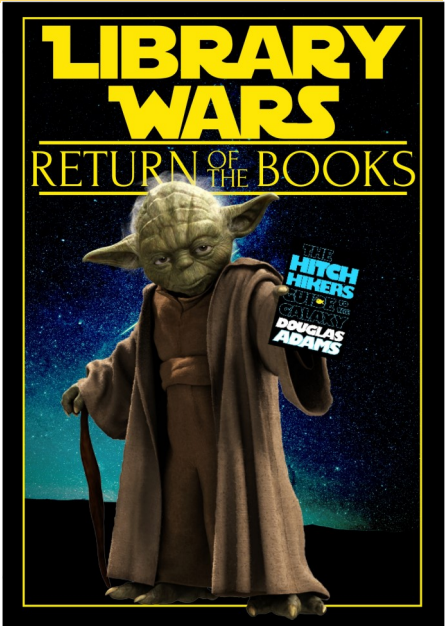
CHROME BOOK & LIBRARY BOOK RETURN JUNE 15-19

Please drop off textbooks, library books, and borrowed NDSS chrome books AND chargers directly to our library *without entering the main building*, on the following days:

- Grades 11-12: Monday, June 15 or Tuesday, June 16 10:00am-11:30am or 12:00-2:00pm.
- Grades 9-10: Wednesday, June 17 or Thursday, June 18 10:00am-11:30am or 12:00-2:00pm.
- Grade 8: Friday, June 19 10:00-11:50am or 12:20-1:46pm.



Students must return borrowed chrome books on the date requested. Students who still require access to technology should set up a schedule with their teacher, to complete unfinished assignments at the school.





DRIVE THROUGH DROP OFF
Drive through drop off is available, as when chromebooks were picked up. Please remain in your vehicle until a staff member comes to assist you.
Walk-in returns, please practice 2-metre social distancing and line up outside the exterior library door until a staff member gives you direction.
Washrooms will not be available for those not attending classes via prior arrangement.

LOCKER CLEANOUT
For NDSS students who wish to return to school for the purposes of accessing their lockers, you may come to the school between 10:00-11:30am or 12:00-2:00pm **on your GRADE DAY**. Please do not come earlier unless you are intending to attend your support class.
Grade 8s may come on Friday between 10:00-11:50am and 12:20-1:46pm. **A reminder that foot-traffic is one-way inside the school and that social distancing is required at all times.**
Items that remain in lockers by end of day on June 19 will be cleaned out by staff and donated to local charities if possible.



Don't forget to return your chrome book charger!



YEARBOOK PICK UP
Yearbook delivery has been delayed. Students and families will be emailed when they are available for pick up. Thank you for your patience!



MASKS PROTECT YOU AND OTHERS FROM THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

GRAD INFORMATION:

VALEDICTORIANS 2020
Niall Jensen and Aidan Kozubal



CONGRATULATIONS!

Niall Jensen, left, and Aidan Kozubal, valedictorians for this year’s Nanaimo District Secondary School’s 2020 graduating class, and their fellow grads will read words of wisdom written for each of them by residents of Berwick on the Lake seniors community. (CHRIS BUSH/News Bulletin)

<https://www.nanaimobulletin.com/news/nanaimo-high-school-grads-will-receive-words-of-wisdom-from-senior-citizens/>

PERSONAL EDUCATION NUMBER (PEN)

Your PEN number is important! This number is your link to your education records. Make certain this number is recorded somewhere safe, as you will need it to order transcripts from the BC Ministry of Education for years to come, or in order to upgrade your education.

STUDENT TRANSCRIPT SERVICE (STS)
HAVE YOU CREATED YOUR ACCOUNT?

June 2019 was the first year that the Ministry of Education did not mail graduates an original transcript for their records upon graduation. Instead, they are encouraging students to create an account and access the Student Transcript Service.

Transcripts will be available for students to print or send on the StudentTranscripts Service. Students are encouraged to create an STS account prior to the release of assessment or exam results.

You can use StudentTranscript Service (STS) to:

- View or order your secondary school transcript
- Send your secondary school transcripts to post-secondary institutions
- Order your graduation certificate
- View your scholarships
- View your provincial exam or graduation assessment results.

Student Transcripts Service: [Click here for website](#)

DID YOU KNOW? STS FREE TRANSCRIPTS

Through STS, current students in Grade 12 or on the Adult Graduation Program can send up to 25 free transcripts to post-secondary institutions for up to six months after they graduate. After that time, past graduates may access additional copies of their transcripts via this service for a fee of \$10 per copy.

Students are also entitled to one free transcript after graduation that can be sent to any address. This transcript is not mailed automatically at the end of the school year but, if desired, must be ordered by the student on STS.

GRADS, DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS?

Your home address is where the Ministry of Education will send important correspondence. Make sure your address on file is correct!

“KEEPER” CAP AND GOWN

The “keeper” gowns have arrived! These can be picked up at the front window here at NDSS.

Monday, June 15 through Friday, June 19, 2020

Last names beginning with:

A – L 9:00 – 12:00

M – Z 1:00 – 3:00

Grad fees of \$150.00 are due at the time of pickup, if you have not already paid them. Gowns will **not** be given to those who have not paid. (Cheque only please) Cash will not be accepted for grad fees due to COVID-19 impacts on banking hours and the complication that cash deposits pose for our staff.

Remember that if Grad fees are not paid, you will not be able to participate in commencement.

GRAD GUEST NAMES MUST BE RECORDED

If you intend to bring guests to your commencement (maximum of 8), we must have their full names on file, should VIHA determine that contact tracing is necessary. If you have not done so, please email heather.cooper@sd68.bc.ca with your list of names as soon as possible!

Yearbooks: The \$80 Grad fee does **not** include the yearbook. The cost for both the grad fees, student fee and yearbook is \$150. If you need the order form, please email: info.ND@sd68.bc.ca



COVID AND VAPING STUDY

One of our grade nine students at NDSS is taking part in a research project by McCreary Centre Society, in collaboration with BC Ministry of Health and youth across BC, to gather information and gain further understanding around vaping in youth and during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are doing this by sharing a survey to reach as many youth in BC as possible. It is completely anonymous, confidential, and voluntary, and I was wondering if you would be willing to add a link to the survey into the schools weekly news letter. It would be a great way to access the age group we are focusing on (youth ages 12-19), and would hopefully interest them in filling out the survey, which would take about 5-10 minutes. I have attached a pdf version of the survey if you would like to look over the questions, and I will attach the link to it below.

<https://form.simplesurvey.com/f/I/YouthVaping1>

Kellie's Corner



*Kellie is back at her window now but because of COVID, there are no sour keys.
She IS accepting air hugs !!*

CONFLITS DU CONFINEMENT

NDSS student Elise Therrien created this beautiful video. She made it for her Francophone program and entered it in a poetry video contest, where it took second place in Canada! Congratulations, Elise!

<https://vimeo.com/414393956>

ATHLETIC BANQUET

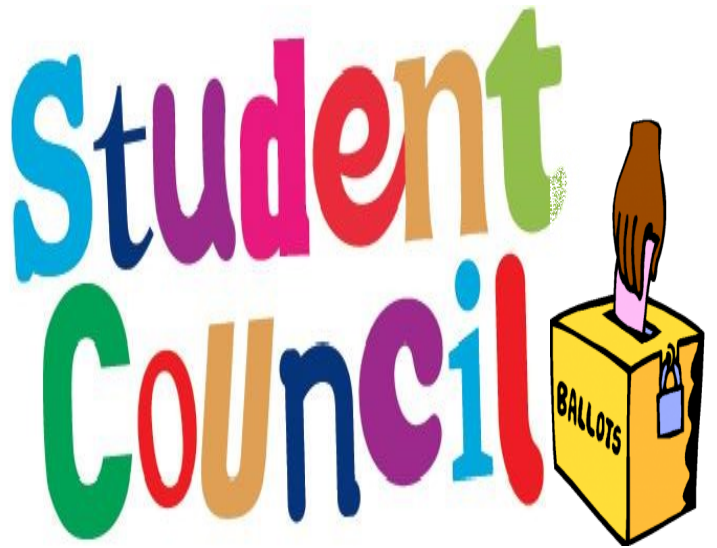
The NDSS Athletic Department presents a slide show that replaces our usual Athletic Banquet due to social distancing. Pull up a chair and enjoy a celebration of NDSS Sports at the link below.

<https://sites.google.com/learn68.ca/ndss-sports-banquet/home>

Thank you – Coach Glenn Johnson



STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS



Results from the Student Council election for the 2020/2021 school year are in! Thank you to everyone who took the time to apply for a position in next year's Student Council and to the students who voted in the election. Congratulations to our elected representatives! Students are always welcome to join Student Council meetings.

President: Ava Alexander

Vice-President: Selsheen Sheikh-Abbasi

Secretary: Portia Gale

Sports Rep: Keira Martin

Spirit Rep: Natalie Dunn

Technology Rep: Dominic Le

Global Committee Rep: Afia Mensah-Agyekum

Senior Reps: River Reid and Isabelle Vandersluis

Junior Reps: Haley Martin and Avery Henderson

WANT TO REPRESENT OUR ENVIRONMENT CLUB?

NDSS is still looking for an Environment Committee Representative.

Please get in touch with Ms. Lisa Cunnian (lisa.cunnian@sd68.bc.ca) or Mr. David Grey (dgrey@sd68.bc.ca) if you are interested in this position.



ENSURE YOUR STUDENT HAS A SEAT ON THE BUS IN SEPTEMBER! You must register online EVERY YEAR.

All Nanaimo Ladysmith Public School (NLPS) bus riders will require a 2020-2021 Z-Pass to ride the bus. Students must produce and scan their pass daily upon entry and exit of the bus for both morning and afternoon routes. Bus passes will be printed and issued once registration has been received and distributed at the school indicated on the registration in September.

Registrations are used to determine bus routes.

For Returning Riders-

Go to <https://www.awinfosys.com/das/sd68/> enter your username and password and you will be prompted to complete the registration. E-mails were sent out April 6 with usernames and passwords from support@awinfosys.com, if you did not receive that information please contact jhannah@sd68.bc.ca and he can provide it.

For New riders (Kindergarten)

To register you will need a student number or PEN number, name, birth date and an e-mail address. Go to: <https://www.awinfosys.com/das/sd68/mdIParentAccountRequest.asp> enter the information required and submit. You will receive an e-mail with a username and password, go to <https://www.awinfosys.com/das/sd68/> enter the username and password and you will be prompted to complete the registration.

If you have already taken the time to register thank you. If you have any questions please contact: jhannah@sd68.bc.ca



Virtual Fine Arts Gallery Show

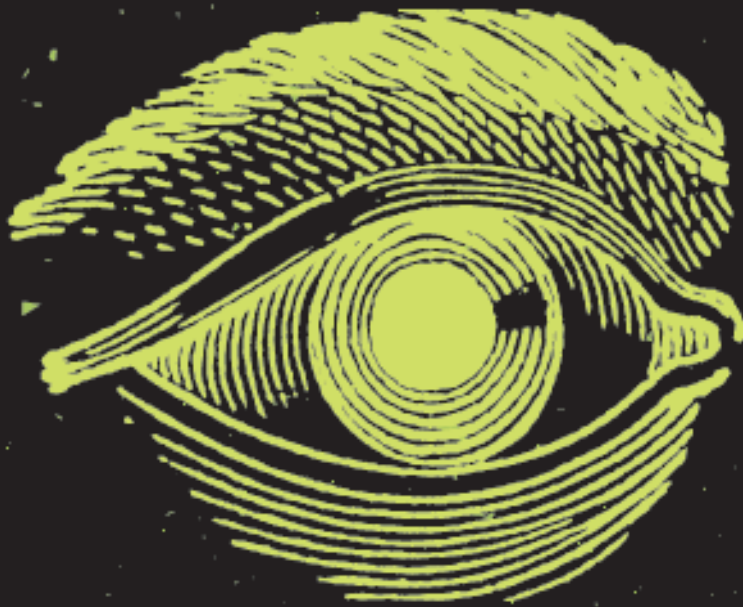
We are all so very proud of this year's students, whose talents and contributions led to a very robust and inclusive demonstration of learning from all Fine Arts Departments: Art, Photography, Ceramics, Drama, Dance, and Musical Theatre students are proud to show off their talents and skills.

We hope you will enjoy this year's e-show!

Enter Here:

<https://sites.google.com/learn68.ca/NDSSGallery>

NANAIMO DISTRICT SECONDARY PRESENTS



Virtual Fine Arts Gallery Show

LIVE NOW!

[SITES.GOOGLE.COM/LEARN68.CA/NDSSGALLERY](https://sites.google.com/learn68.ca/NDSSGallery)

BAND - POTTERY - DRAMA - PHOTOGRAPHY - ART
MEDIA ARTS - DANCE - MUSICAL THEATRE

Ms. Barnum's Genocide Studies 12 students have been examining what they have learned about Canada's colonial history and defending their opinion on whether or not it fits the definition of genocide. With his permission, we would like to share Teagan Thomson's project with you. His examination of our relationship with the people upon whose land we live is incredibly timely.

<https://tthomson7.wixsite.com/canadaandgenocide>

"I did then what I knew how to do. Now that I know better, I do better."

-Maya Angelou

CANADA AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH GENOCIDE

CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH NANAIMO-LADYSMITH

Hello from the Canadian Parents for French Nanaimo-Ladysmith chapter. We would like to thank anyone who submitted a French video for Concours virtuel. Also, as a fundraiser, we are holding a raffle for a gift basket containing delectable food valued at \$75. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Please contact us at cpfnanaimoladysmith@gmail.com if you submitted a video or are interested in purchasing raffle tickets.

FEED HEALTHY FOOD FROM THESE NON-PROFITS:

Nanaimo Food Share is offering a monthly Good Food Box for \$10... full of fresh and seasonal produce.

<https://nanaimofoodshare.ca/>

Non-profit Island Roots Market:

<https://www.islandrootsmarket.com>



YOU CAN'T RUN THROUGH A CAMPGROUND



YOU CAN ONLY RAN,
BECAUSE IT'S PAST TENTS



School Registration 2020-2021

To register your child in Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools, the online, centralized registration will begin on January 8, 2020 at 8 a.m. Pacific Standard Time. The following information will help determine if this process will apply to you.

Take a moment and ask yourself the following questions:

1. Is my child new to Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools?
 2. Do I have a child that will be turning five years old on or before December 31, 2020 that will be entering Kindergarten? **Applications must be received by June 15, 2020 to ensure a placement in your child's catchment-area school.**
 3. Do I want to register my child in Late French Immersion?
 4. Do I want to register my child in Early French Immersion? **Applications will be received until January 31, 2020, at which time student selection will be determined by lottery. Parents will be notified in early February 2020. Late French Immersion Students are placed as space permits.**
 5. Do I want to register my child in secondary academies?

Lottery	Try-outs/ Audition
Hockey	Lacrosse
Soccer	Performing Arts
Beach Volleyball	Jazz
- Applications will be received until March 1, 2020, at which time student selection will be determined either by lottery or tryout/audition. Parents will be notified in May 2020.**
6. Do I want to apply for a school transfer request (out-of-catchment)? **Applications are due March 31, 2020.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE DISTRICT
WEBSITE SD68.BC.CA OR BY EMAILING EREG@SD68.BC.CA



Dear Parents/Caregivers of Students in Grade 5,

Bonjour! Have you ever wished your child were fluent in both official languages? Over half a million Canadians have achieved functional bilingualism through French Immersion. In our school district, one student in 10 is enrolled in French Immersion and will graduate ready to pursue a bilingual career or post-secondary studies in French.



Over the past 40 years, thousands of students in our district have had great success in Early French Immersion (EFI), which starts in Kindergarten or Grade 1.

If your child is entering Grade 6 in September 2020, they are eligible to enroll in Late French Immersion (LFI) and join those graduating from secondary school with bilingual Dogwood certificates. LFI is a fully funded, 2-year public education program with no additional costs.

Please discuss the LFI option with your child and with other parents. Pending sufficient enrolment, LFI will continue this September at École Quarterway Elementary School (www.quarterway.ca). Ideally there will be a class of 29 new Grade 6 students.

Please contact École Quarterway Principal, Arlette Begoum-Kake for more information about Late Immersion entry - 250 754-6845



STAFF EMAILS

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Al-Hajj, Teresa: talhaji@sd68.bc.ca
Appelt, Liana: Liana.Appelt@sd68.bc.ca
Bae, Han: Han.Bae@sd68.bc.ca
Balderston, Martine: Martine.Balderston@sd68.bc.ca
Barnum, Kelly: KBarnum@sd68.bc.ca
Barron, Adam: Adam.Barron@sd68.bc.ca
Bartlett, Ricki: rbartlett@sd68.bc.ca
Becker, Richard: rbecker@sd68.bc.ca
Begin, Stefane: Stefane.Begin@sd68.bc.ca
Bernier, Chantal: cbernier@sd68.bc.ca
Boudreau, Robert: RBoudreau@sd68.bc.ca
Bruce, Aaron: Aaron.Bruce@sd68.bc.ca
Bueckert, Russell: RBueckert@sd68.bc.ca
Chadwick, Theresa: Theresa.Chadwick@sd68.bc.ca
Cizeron, Eric: ECizeron@sd68.bc.ca
Companion, Jeannine: jcompanion@sd68.bc.ca
Cornthwaite, Joanna: jcornthwaite@sd68.bc.ca
Cox, James: JCox@sd68.bc.ca
Crnkovic, Franjo: FCrnkovic@sd68.bc.ca
Cunnian, Lisa: Lisa.Cunnian@sd68.bc.ca
Daley, Kara: Kara.Daley@sd68.bc.ca
Edgar, Megan: Megan.Edgar@sd68.bc.ca
Fellows, Brie: Brie.Fellows@sd68.bc.ca
Funk, Carol: cfunk@sd68.bc.ca
Gill, Nirmal: ngill@sd68.bc.ca
Giske, Graham: Graham.Giske@sd68.bc.ca
Goater, Mary Anne: ma.goater@sd68.bc.ca
Green, Tamara: Tamara.Green@sd68.bc.ca
Grey, David: dgrey@sd68.bc.ca
Hackwood, Lucas: Lucas.Hackwood@sd68.bc.ca
Hall, Kathleen: Kathleen.Hall@sd68.bc.ca
Hartig, Dee: dhartig@sd68.bc.ca
Jackson, Craig: Craig.Jackson@sd68.bc.ca
Janzen, Nick: Nick.Janzen@sd68.bc.ca
Johnson, Glenn: gjohnson1@sd68.bc.ca
Johnston, Caitlin: Caitlin.Johnston@sd68.bc.ca
Jones, Elliot: Elliot.Jones@sd68.bc.ca
Jones, Keith: Keith.Jones@sd68.bc.ca
Kemp, Kari: Kari.Kemp@sd68.bc.ca
Kloppenburg, Jean: jkloppenburg@sd68.bc.ca
Kral, Jim: JKral@sd68.bc.ca
Kruse, Natasha: Natasha.Kruse@sd68.bc.ca
Laforest, Adam: Adam.Laforest@sd68.bc.ca
Le, John: John.Le@sd68.bc.ca
Ledingham, Grace: GLedingham@sd68.bc.ca
Lemoine, Janelle: Janelle.Lemoine@sd68.bc.ca
Les-Strange, Kimberley: KLes-Strange@sd68.bc.ca
Long, Beverly: blong@sd68.bc.ca
Lowry, Heather: Heather.Lowry@sd68.bc.ca
Lund, Tess: Tess.Lund@sd68.bc.ca
Mack, Chris: cmack@sd68.bc.ca
Malenica, Zed: zmalenica@sd68.bc.ca
Martin, Teresa: Teresa.Martin@sd68.bc.ca
McAdams, Jennifer: Jennifer.McAdams@sd68.bc.ca
McKibbon (Bell), Maryah: MMckibbon@sd68.bc.ca
McPherson, Erin: Erin.Mcpherson@sd68.bc.ca
Milligan, Angela: AMilligan@sd68.bc.ca
Minhas, Anoop: Anoop.Minhas@sd68.bc.ca
Moxam, Jen: Jenny.Moxam@sd68.bc.ca

Myhrer, Gunnar: gmyhrer@sd68.bc.ca
Noble, John: jnoble@sd68.bc.ca
Nold, Victoria: vnold@sd68.bc.ca
Orton, Ryan: ROrton@sd68.bc.ca
Parker, Dan: Dan.Parker@sd68.bc.ca
Parker, Martha: mparker01@sd68.bc.ca
Perkins, Donald: dperkins@sd68.bc.ca
Pitre, Roxane: rpitre@sd68.bc.ca
Prefontaine, Louise: louise.prefontaine@sd68.bc.ca
Price, Kelsey: Kelsey.Price@sd68.bc.ca
Prlic, Adriana: Adriana.Prlic@sd68.bc.ca
Punter, Brittney: Brittney.Punter@sd68.bc.ca
Pyne, Joanne: jpyne@sd68.bc.ca
Recalma, Emily: Emily.Recalma@sd68.bc.ca
Richardson, Daniel: Daniel.Richardson@sd68.bc.ca
Rivard, Patricia: patricia.rivard@sd68.bc.ca
Russell, Tracey: trussell@sd68.bc.ca
Schaub, Christoph: Christoph.Schaub@sd68.bc.ca
Seward-Wilson, Gena: GSeward-Wilson@sd68.bc.ca
Shahi, Shawn: Shawn.Shahi@sd68.bc.ca
Smith, Joel: JSmith02@sd68.bc.ca
Smith, Michelle: MSmith@sd68.bc.ca
Stevenson, Nathan: nstevenson@sd68.bc.ca
Tang, Hung: HTang@sd68.bc.ca
Taylor, Bobbie-Jean: btaylor@sd68.bc.ca
Thompson, Megan: Megan.Thompson@sd68.bc.ca
Tolsma, Melissa: mtolsma@sd68.bc.ca
Tomiyaama, Joanne: jtomiyama@sd68.bc.ca
Wagner, Jonathan: Jonathan.Wagner@sd68.bc.ca
Werner, Candice: Candice.Werner@sd68.bc.ca
Wilford, Kevin: Kevin.Wilford@sd68.bc.ca
Zeitz, Sarah: Sarah.Zeitz@sd68.bc.ca

*Have a safe and
happy summer!*

