



Nanaimo District Secondary School

355 Wakesiah Avenue, Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 3K5

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Dear NDSS Students and Families,

Here is the weekly update for Wednesday, January 11th, 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement

As you may be aware, the Ministry of Education has mandated that all grade 12 students must complete at least 4 credits in Indigenous focused coursework to graduate. See the announcement here:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/indigenous-focused-graduation-requirements>

To ensure that NDSS students meet this requirement, we will be offering English First Peoples 12 to all learners signed up for English 12 in semester two this year. The reason for this change is that we have numerous students in grade 11 who have signed up for English 12 who are accelerating their programs, finishing early, attending CTC programs, taking dual credit, and a host of other personal and educational reasons. Additionally, this decision aligns with the school, district, and provincial goals and commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. Next year, the district has made the decision that all grade 12 students will be taking English First Peoples 12 to ensure that this requirement is met.

Please see the course curriculum here: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/english-language-arts/12/english-first-peoples>

Course selection is coming up soon!

Course selection will begin next week for our grade 9-11 students. The online course selection will be available to grade 9, 10 and 11 students and parents on the **My Education Portal** Thursday, January 19th and will close on Friday, February 3, 2023. During this time, students and families will have the opportunity to choose their courses for the following school year. **Grade 9-11 students will be expected to complete course selection online from home, as we are moving toward a paperless course selection method.** If this proves difficult, students always have access to computers in the NDSS library. Grade 9-11 students will be watching a video in their A block class next week to help outline this process. **Students will need access to their MyEd account in order to complete course selection. If you require support in gaining this access, please call the school @ 250-740-2000 for support as soon as possible. Thank you for your flexibility and if you have any questions please let us know.**

Grade 8 students will be completing their course selection with counsellors between February 10th and 13th.

Please check our course offerings here: <https://nd.schools.sd68.bc.ca/students-parents/course-selection/>

Family Affordability Fund: Please see the attached document to this email if your family is in financial need during this difficult time of the year.

Reminder that yearbook sales are currently ongoing. We only have a limited number of yearbooks available for purchase and end of year sales may not be possible due to high demand. We have already sold over 50% of our yearbooks and last year sold out rather quickly. It's advised to pre-order your yearbook to avoid missing out on having one. Yearbooks can be purchased for \$60 online through our cashless system, or with cash at the office. Please see the attachment for how to navigate the online payment system.



Krispy Kreme Doughnuts - The NDSS athletic leadership class is holding a fundraiser to help support our school athletics afford things like new uniforms as well as make it much more affordable for everyone to play. Order by **Jan 15th**. <https://nlps.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/10500/267/False/True>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Thursday, January 19th, early dismissal at 1:46 PM- busses have been scheduled
- Provincial Assessments are coming up:
 - We have Numeracy and Literacy Assessments coming up during the week of Monday, January 23 – Friday, January 27
 - These exams are for grades 10, 11 and 12 and must be completed for graduation requirements through the Ministry
 - All lists and schedules will be posted at the front doors and at the Library starting next week
 - If your child is scheduled to write, you will be receiving an email
 - If you have questions, please contact Katie Marren – Vice Principal
katie.marren@sd68.bc.ca

- Grade 9 Immunizations. Your student will have received a paper consent form. These are due back to the main office ASAP! Immunizations will take place at the school on:
 - **Wednesday, Jan 25** Last Names A-K from 9am-12noon (approx)
 - **Thursday, Jan 26** Last Names L-Z from 9am-1pm (approx – a bit of a bigger group)

Friday, January 27th- Semester turn-around day. Students who are missing assignments should be at school to complete

I hope that you all have a good week!

Sincerely,

Jane

Jane Reynolds

Principal, NDSS