



NEWS

Port Hardy Secondary School

Volume 13 Number 4

April, 2013

Check out our website at www.phss.ca

Home Of The Whalers

Principal's Message

As I write, our fourth term is underway, graduation planning is picking up, and planning for next year is now in process.

The fourth term is a busy time for everyone; as the nicer weather and many seasonal activities begin, it remains important that students continue to focus on school to ensure their success with the school year.

We have a variety of activities planned for students for the next several weeks including the forum, *Roots of Respect*, for grade 8 and 9 students; an ICBC Road Sense presentation; and an All Candidates Forum for senior students. We are pleased, too, to be a part of the upcoming re-dedication of the PHSS canoe.

Our boys' rugby team and girls' soccer teams are practicing twice a week on the school field, and heading off to tournaments. Other travelers in the PHSS community include our travel club whose members had a very successful trip to Belize over Spring Break. The club is already planning another trip for next year. Sponsors D'Arcy Deacon and Lori Walker have worked very hard to put these trips together, and deserve our thanks.

Kudos as well to Kevin McGhee and Malcolm Fleeton, the hard-working sponsors of our Students' Council, which works to keep school spirits high all year long.

Building a timetable for next year, based on a new bell schedule shared between PHSS and NISS, is progress-

ing. Unfortunately, PHSS enrolment again will decline next year, as will our number of professional staff members; we anticipate PHSS will have close to three fewer full-time teaching positions beginning in September 2013. You can see the 2013-2014 bell schedule on page 2.

As always, I am heartened by the enthusiasm of students and their families in such positive support for our school – a place where everyone feels safe and accepted. On behalf of our staff, I invite you to visit our school when you can, and attend a Parent Advisory Committee meeting whenever you'd like.

Steve Gray

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PHSS Grad News

Grads are finding that life is speeding up as June 8, 2013 rapidly draws closer. Scholarship applications are in, fundraising is nearly done. The final fundraiser will be a car wash and BBQ outside Overwaitea on April 27, so come get a hot dog and a clean vehicle. If they haven't already, grads should bring \$25 to Mr. Fleeton to rent their Cap and Gown for the big day. Generous donations are starting to arrive to help support the Dry Grad activities. Planning for decorations, food and entertainment are moving along. Grade 10's and 11's should be talking to grads to secure an invitation if they would like to join in the Dry Grad entertainments.

Tickets will be \$25. We look forward to a happy, safe celebration and invite everyone to the Convocation (Cap and Gown) Ceremony on June 8, 2013 at 11 AM and to the Walking Ceremony at 7 PM that same day.

Next Meeting: May 6 @7pm in Rm. 300 - All Grad parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Geneskool Day - Science 9 and 10

The Science 9 and 10 classes participated in Geneskool on February 7th. Rocky and Robyn mixed genes to make "alien babies" with new genetic traits. Ashley and Jodie cleaned up an oil spill using custom, genetically modified bacteria.



**Port Hardy Secondary School
2013-2014 Student Timetable and Bell Schedule**

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------------|--------------|---------|-----------|----------|--|
| 8:45 | Warning Bell | | | | |
| 8:50 to 9:55 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 10:00 to 11:05 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 11:10 to 12:15 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | Break 11:05 - 11:30 Warning Bell |
| 12:15 to 1:10 | Lunch | | | | 3 11:35 - 12:40 |
| 1:15 to 3:25 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 12:45 - 1:50 |

Upcoming Events

April

23 Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews
7:00 - 8:30 in the Gym

May

14 Interim Reports - Term 4
10 School Based Pro-D Day
20 Victoria Day

June

8 Graduation Day
13 Year End Awards Ceremony
19 Last Day of Classes
20-21 In-Class Exams
20-27 Provincial Exams
28 School Closed

July

4 Semester 2 Report Cards Mailed Home

2nd Annual Plant Sale at PHSS

We have a selection of spring perennials for sale. Any extra contributions of plants to the sale would be appreciated. The proceeds will go to buying seeds and gardening supplies for our school garden. Use the back entrance to the school and see what is growing in the garden already.



2013-2014 Registration

If your child will *not* be attending PHSS in September 2013, please let the office know ASAP to make the transition to his/her new school as smooth as possible.



PHSS PAC News

Next Meeting:
May 16th @7pm
in the Library



PHSS Drama Club

Get excited for the PHSS Drama Club's production of *The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon* on May 9, 10 and 11! Stay tuned for details.



PHSS Travel Club

During spring break (March 15th to 25th) the PHSS Travel Club travelled to Belize in Central America. On the trip the group of 14 students and two chaperones toured ancient Mayan ruins, went caving and zip lining, had close encounters with howler monkeys, and even snorkeled with sharks and stingrays. Everywhere the group went we were complemented on just how polite, respectful and kind PHSS students are. PHSS students, staff and parents should be extremely proud of just how well their school and community were represented.

