



NEWS

Port Hardy Secondary School

Volume 13 Number 3 February, 2013
Check out our website at www.phss.ca

Home Of The Whalers

Principal's Message

Second semester is now underway and, as I write, grad photos are being taken. The second semester will go quickly and it is important that all our students, and particularly our graduates maintain a focus on school as the many graduation preparations now begin.

This spring we will be having four X-blocks – time devoted to students coming together to participate in activities of interest outside of the regular curriculum, with topics focusing on personal health, suicide awareness, and interpersonal relationships. We are grateful to have several local community experts, from beyond the

school, who have offered to support these blocks and lead discussion.

Cathie Poje, our Child and Youth Care Worker, has retired after eighteen and a half years of service at PHSS. Cathie has been instrumental with coordinating and officiating at the convocation ceremony over the years, as well as many other less high profile but very important student and PHSS community endeavours. She will be greatly missed.

On a personal note, the board has chosen to transfer me from Port Hardy Secondary to another district school, effective

August 1. At the end of June, I will have been at PHSS for ten years. I have very much enjoyed my time here and have been proud to be a small part of helping to grow our community's adolescents into successful adults. Malcolm Fleeton, our PHSS vice principal, has also been transferred within district. Lauren Deadman and Frank Maclean, two well-known local educators, will become principal and vice principal, respectively.

Steve Gray
250-949-7443 Ext.3222
sgray@sd85.bc.ca

First Nations Room - 615

Happy New Year everyone! This semester promises to be action packed and exciting for all. In the next couple of months, we will be presenting a workshop to grade 8s and 9s on Anti-Bullying and building self-esteem. While planning this event we will be discussing a title for this presentation –possibly “Roots of Respect”. The workshop will be set up in the same style as the Transformation Celebration. We will have presenters from the community speaking and interacting with our youth on various aspects of bullying. Youth will participate in breakaway groups where they will develop new anti-bullying skills. The presentation will end with a feast.

The diversity group has been involved in a number of presentations and events last semester discussing homophobia, anti-bullying and diversity. Vancouver Island Health Authority, recognizing this, has asked for the group's assistance in designing new language and developing more informed concepts for its programs.

Thank you for your time and I hope everyone has a wonderful year.

Brigette Avione

First Nations Youth Worker

250-949-7443 ext. 3615

PHSS PAC News

Parents can contribute to the life and energy of the school in many ways, including involvement in the PAC. Every parent can participate, and every parent has a vote and a voice at PAC. Involvement with PHSS PAC does not involve any school fundraising projects, although you will get a vote on how the school's Gaming Funds are spent on school projects, teams etc.

School District 85 is beginning public consultations to create a updated Strategic Plan. Everyone (not just parents of school-age children) is encouraged to add their input to the discussion by giving their e-mail address to the PHSS office or the School District office and they will be added to the survey e-mail list. The survey will be conducted using the innovative "Thought Stream" software program.

**Next Meeting: Feb 21st, April 18th, May 16th
@7pm in Library**



Upcoming Events

February

- 11 Family Day
- 15 Professional Development Day

March

- 8 Interim Reports - Term 3
- 13 Semester 1 School Awards Mailed Home
- 18-22 Spring Break
- 29 Good Friday

April

- 1 Easter Monday
- 12 End of Term 3
- 15 Term 4 Begins
- 19 Formal Reports Mailed Home
- 23 Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews
7:00 - 8:30 in the Gym

PHSS Grad News

Floor Hockey Tournament

-Volunteers needed for this committee.

Please contact Lynda Heavenor @250-949-7521
if you are interested in volunteering

Next Meeting - Mar 4 @7pm in Rm. 300

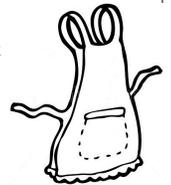
All Grad parents are welcome to attend



Home-Economics Department

The Home-Economics department is asking for any unwanted small plastic containers with lids for donation.

Containers can be dropped
off at the PHSS office.



Vice-Principal's Message

Happy New Year to all the parents and students! Welcome to all the new students for Semester Two. Exams are done for the first semester and the grade 12 students are busy preparing themselves for their final five months of high school life. The Grads are getting photos taken this week and meeting each Tuesday at lunch to discuss plans. Contact Mr. Fyles for info about Grad. The Student Council is planning activities for Valentine's Day as well as organizing a Mardi Gras dance for Friday, February 22nd from 7:30-11:30. I want to pass along a thank you to the Grade 8 and 9 band students who played in front of the whole school the last day before Christmas Break. They will be performing again in March as well as June. It has been great getting music back into Port Hardy Secondary.

The extra-curricular sports program is soon to change seasons with Rugby being the sport of choice for the boys and Soccer for the girls. If you are interested in coaching either sport, please contact me. The basketball teams will be playing their final game of the season against the staff on Thursday, February 14th at 2:00 p.m. Unfortunately the wrestling team has folded this season. Thank you to the community coach Tyler Preece for all his efforts in passing on his knowledge to the students.

I would like to welcome a couple of new staff members to PHSS; Ms. Susan Mork is a Special Education Assistant and Ms. Angie Clair the new Child and Youth Worker.

Please check closely all inserts of the report card as Grade 10 and 12 parents will be receiving letters inviting them to participate in the Satisfaction Survey.

The district Pro-D Day will be held at PHSS on Friday, February 15th with the topic, Aboriginal Education: Reconciliation and Revitalization - A Deeper Understanding. Parents are welcome to attend by contacting VINTA at 250-949-8888.

Malcolm W. Fleeton

Vice-Principal

250-949-7443 local 3223