



NEWS

Port Hardy Secondary School

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Check out our website at www.phss.ca

Home Of The Whalers

Principal's Message

Our new school year is underway. We are very glad to have your students here with us and look forward to a great year of growing and learning together. Please join me in welcoming Joel Dyck, our new woodwork teacher; Adrian Pendergast, returning to us from NISS and teaching science and English; and Sara Child, our Kwak'wala language teacher. Our Introductory Kwak'wala 11 class is new this year; we currently have thirty students working very hard to learn more about this language.

Fall sports' season is already underway. We hope to field teams in volleyball and senior boys' soccer in the next few weeks. We appreciate the support community coaches provide to maintain our sports programs; we can always use additional help, if you are able to give some time in this way.

Parent Advisory Council meetings take place on the third Monday each

month at 7:00 pm in the learning centre/library. The PAC is a real asset to the school and your participation is welcomed and appreciated. Besides allocating funding to various worthy causes around the school, the PAC meeting is a great opportunity for parents to find out what is happening at PHSS, meet with other parents, and to have concerns discussed and questions answered.

September 30 will be a busy day this year. Besides being photo day, we will be serving hot dogs to welcome everyone back. As always, we hope for sunshine.

We continue to work hard to keep students in class, learning. If your student misses a class, you should receive a phone call from our automated system that evening. Please phone the school at extension 6000 to excuse your student. If you would like to re-

ceive, by email, the details of your student's absence, please email dgreenlees@sd85.bc.ca and we will add your email address to our database.

This year students in grades 8 and 9 are responsible for tracking 30 minutes per day of Daily Physical Activity in the same way students in grades 10 to 12 have done for several years. The paperwork to track DPA is in the counselor's office. We are all very pleased to be back in routines. Our garden is growing, just like our kids – come check it out, when you can. You may be aware that there is “work action,” which means, while there may be occasional interruptions to usual processes, our teachers and support staff remain committed to the best daily experiences your children can have.

Here's to a great year of learning and growing together.

First Nations Room

This year is full of promise and growth in our community. We have so many things we are trying to plan and implement into our program and with the help of Esther McLennan our Practicum Student, our generous community members and our students who are eager to contribute - we should be able to find funding and opportunities for every project.

We are in the middle of a campaign to raise funds to feed approximately fifty students a day. Food security is a daily struggle for a lot of our youth and many of the youth say they rely on our program daily to get them by. If anyone has extra produce from their garden, food fish we would appreciate any extra donations.

We are working on a Youth Housing Project and are assembling a youth advisor committee and will be working with the community involved in youth housing. Some of the youth on

this committee worked with me last year due to their homelessness. The need for youth housing is comparable to the need for food security.

We are working on many community development projects so that our students are having a relevant but diverse experience with our culture. Our elders want to develop projects so they can work with our youth over the lunch hour and the youth want to develop projects to educate their younger peers.

The Gay Straight Alliance is starting up again. I've been informed that more people are going to join and we are planning projects that hope to educate our community on human rights. The community is very supportive and wants to be involved in developing this groups' vision.

Gilakasla
Brigette Avoine

PHSS Garden

Hooray! Our garden grew fantastically this year. We ate radishes and lettuce in June and have cut the rhubarb three times through the spring and summer. The students were treated to a small sampling of oven-baked French-fries on the first Friday of school. At the fall fair we won three blue ribbons for our vegetables and flowers. The flower garden continues to bloom into this warm September and provides a beautiful addition to the back of our school. The garden is a continuing project and our new Wood teacher, Joel Dyck, has many ideas to develop a successful garden over the coming years. Many students have helped with the garden and we are especially pleased to see that the garden remained intact over the summer. Please come and take a look at what has been completed already and watch for plant sales in the spring.

IAP Kids Plus Accident Insurance

If you are interested in **IAP Kids Plus Accident Insurance** please pick up an Enrolment Form at the office.

Upcoming Events

October

- 4 Meet the Staff Evening – 6:00 to 7:30*
- 10 Thanksgiving Day
- 14 Interim Reports- Term One*
- 17 Post-Secondary School Visits
- 21 Provincial Professional Development Day

November

- 4 School Photo Retake
- 10 End of Term One
- 11 Remembrance Day
- 14 Term Two Begin
- 18 School -based Prod-D Day
- 21 Formal Reports Mailed Home*
- 24 Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews – **7:00 to 8:30 in the Gym***

* Due to the current job action, some of the above events may be cancelled or be different from usual.

We are pleased to announce that our school has been accepted into the

BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program

If your child has any allergies please let us know in the school office.

Vice-Principal's Message

Welcome back to PHSS for another year. A special welcome to our new students and parents to the school community. I would also like to welcome our new teachers Ms. Sara Child, Mr. Joel Dyck, and Mr. Adrian Pendergast. The school year got off to a bang last Friday that not all people felt, but students and staff reacted well to the earthquake.

Various activities are getting rolling. Senior Girls volleyball members are practicing Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7:30-9:00. The Junior Girls will be starting soon as well. Senior Boys Soccer is happening each Monday and Wednesday after school at 3:30 p.m. Thank you to our various coaches and sponsors for these teams. Student Council is beginning to organize a variety of events for throughout the year.

Congratulations to the Garden club for three first place ribbons at the Fall Fair for potatoes, beans, and a sunflower. The students benefitted from the harvest of potatoes last week with free homemade French fries given away at 15 minute break. It has been a great experience seeing the fruits of their labour for many students in the garden.

Remember that bagels and milk will be available each Wednesday morning before school at no cost to students. Check out the First Nation room each day at lunch for special activities such as soup day on Tuesday.

We are a school community that wants to work together for the safety and positive welfare of all students. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to phone me at 250-949-7443 local 3223 or by email at mfleeton@sd85.bc.ca

If you know your child is going to be away please leave a message on the school phone at local 6000. Regular attendance in all classes is critical to success at school.