



DALLAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

296 Harper Rd Kamloops, B.C. V2C 4Z2 Phone (250) 573-3261

March Newsletter

Grade 7 Parents

There is an information meeting for grade 7 parents at Valleyview Secondary on March 13 at 7:00 pm (in the multipurpose room).

Student Learning Survey

Each year students in grades 4 and 7 complete the student learning survey. There is also a survey for parents of grade 4 and 7 children to complete as well. This year I would like to invite all parents to complete the survey. You can access the survey through the following website. <https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/accessParentAuto.asp> There is also a link on the school website under the parents heading - satisfaction survey

To access the survey, go to the parent portion and use the Direct Access option, you will need to select our school district (#73 Kamloops/Thompson) and then our school (Dallas Elementary). This is a short survey and the information is used to help the school plan and understand how we are doing. There are great questions on school safety, and culture of the school, please take the few minutes and complete the survey.

Student Transfers for 2018– 2019

Requests for student transfers that will commence in September will be accepted starting on March 1, 2018, and ending at 12:00 noon on September 4, 2018. All submissions must be made in writing and forwarded to the receiving school's principal. All decisions regarding student transfers will be in accordance with Board Policy 300.1 School Boundaries and Student Transfer Requests. If you are planning on moving your child for the fall of 2018, please let the office know so that we can make the appropriate arrangements for the student's file

Basketball

This has been a successful season for all of our teams, the tier 1 boys are still in the playoffs with a game this Thursday at St. Ann's. A huge thank you goes out to our coaches and sponsor teachers: Coed Intramurals - Mr. Ruddick, Tier 2 boys – Ms. Saemerow, Mrs Moretti, Tier 2 Girls - Mrs. Mangell, Tier 1 Girls - Mr. Petel, Mrs. Pehowich, Tier 1 Boys – Ms. Brar

School Fees

School fees are reviewed annually by our staff and the Board of Education. Here is a description of some common fees that may be charged at Dallas Elementary School. Currently there is a cost for skating, skiing, grade 7 trip, and the Fine Arts Concert Series (YPC). The form the school completes is shared at the PAC meeting.

Yearbook

Do you have pictures of your children on a Dallas school field trip or at a sporting event? Please send those treasured photos to zeroave@shaw.ca

PAC Meeting

The next PAC meeting is March 9, 2018 at 8:45 am in the staff room. The AGM for the PAC will be held on April 9, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the library.

Kamloops Homeless Mat Project

Dallas is still supporting the Make a Mat Project. The project takes shopping bags and weaves them into mats that help to keep the homeless and their pets up off the ground. If you would like to donate your clean plastic bags to this project, there is a collection bin at the office. Here is a [link to an article](#) on the mats.

School Safety

Parents, for student safety, please abide by the traffic safety rules around the school. Please drop children off at the back of the fence, on Todd Hill Crescent. Thank you for not driving up to the front of the school to drop off students in the morning. Students will enter the building using the back doors. The lineup bell will ring at 8:25 am. Students will be greeted by the teachers at the doors
The gate off Todd Hill Crescent is now open through the school day, please park with care. The district will plow that area when they are able to, it will not be plowed first but it will get cleared eventually.

School Clothing

Winter conditions **require indoor shoes** to wear through the day. Students should not wear winter boots during school time. Barefeet or just socks are not suitable for school due to safety and hygiene requirements. Students are expected to bring **warm** winter clothing to wear outside at recess and lunch.

Allergy Aware

The following safety guidelines are to be followed by all classes at Dallas: Please do not send cakes, cupcakes or cookies for class parties that contain tree nuts of any kind. Please check with the teacher before bringing any food items to school. There are allergies for many items including Dairy, Peanuts, Almonds, and Kiwi. Students will be washing their hands before snack time and lunchtime. We have a no share policy for snacks and lunches. We trust that you understand how important it is to respect and adhere to these guidelines

Important Dates (please check the website for hotlunch dates)

March 9	PAC Meeting (8:45 am)
March 16	Report Cards sent home
March 19 – 23	Spring Break
March 30	Good Friday (no school)
April 2	Easter Monday (no school)
April 9	PAC Meeting (7:00 pm)
April 23	Professional Development Day
May 1	Class photos
May 18	Professional Development Day
May 21	Victoria Day (no school)
June 28	Last day of School (dismissal time 12:00)

RAISING DIGITALLY RESPONSIBLE LEARNERS

This presentation for parents will focus on all things digital



CONNECTING STUDENTS
TO THEIR FUTURE

Thursday March 8, 2018

YOU ARE INVITED

Your child has now entered into their digital media lives, where cell phone ownership doubles, video game use explodes and they dive into the world of social media and hypertexting. Your child is rapidly developing their personal identity with cell phone in hand and you need to be prepared. Family rules, parental controls and developing a family tech plan will be outlined as well as recommendations for monitoring your teen's digital life.

As a parent, you must lead the charge as a digital role model and help your child develop a strong digital citizenship foundation while reminding them that their digital footprint is a reflection of their real and online selves. At this age, they will encounter situations that will challenge their independence, including cyberbullying (and more commonly – cyberexclusion), the dangers of anonymity, privacy, sharing intimate images, and inappropriate websites, and you need to be there to provide support and guidance during this critical period. Finally, to better equip you for your digital parenting strategy, a snapshot of the current trends and concerning apps will be provided.



ABOUT THE PRESENTER

Nick Chernoff's background working in schools started with his role in the Surrey School District in the Safe Schools Department as a Safe School Liaison where he spent five years of his career. He also worked as an outreach worker for youth at-risk of gang involvement with the Surrey WRAP program. Nick has been a member of the Canadian Forces for over five years in the Infantry Regiment and works closely with various Military Intelligence Units.

As a member of the Safer Schools Together team, Nick specializing in Social Media Awareness and Digital Data Collection. As a lead analyst, he collects social media data that is used to assist schools both in Canada and the United States in addressing worrisome and threat-related online behaviours. As a speaker, he provides presentations and workshops to students, staff and parents on social media awareness and online personal and public safety.



NICK CHERNOFF



March 8

6:30pm – 8:30pm
**This session is 90 minutes
with an additional 30
minutes for Questions &
Answers**



HENRY GRUBE
EDUCATION CENTRE

245 Kitchener Crescent
Kamloops, BC

Where do
you want
to go? | We'll
get you
there!



CONNECTING STUDENTS
TO THEIR FUTURE

 **SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(KAMLOOPS-THOMPSON)**
1383 9th Avenue
Kamloops, BC
V2C 3X7

BOARD NOTES

February 19, 2018

CONSENT AGENDA

- Policy Committee Highlights
- Education Committee of the Whole Highlights

Details of the consent agenda can be found in the public agenda.

EDUCATION TOPIC

PRESENTATION TO PRINCIPAL KENT BREWER — Principal Kent Brewer was recognized by the Board following his recent award as one of Canada's Outstanding Principals. The award came from The Learning Partnership, a national not-for-profit organization that works for the improvement of public education in Canada. Kent is the principal of the Twin Rivers Education Centre, which provides alternative education services for adults and teens who need different ways to access education.

SECONDARY ATHLETIC COUNCIL — Sa-Hali Secondary School Principal Sean Lamoureux, chair of the Secondary Athletic Council, told the Board about the value of athletics in schools, noting sports touches a huge portion of the secondary school population across the District. Student Sydney Gould, a Grade 8 student athlete, told the Board she chose Sa-Hali Secondary because of the success of the school's sport programs and the quality of the coaches. Sports helped her to make new friends, learn how to work with others and overcome adversity. Athletics are so important and have the ability to impact the live of students in positive way, she said.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SAFER SCHOOLS TASK FORCE — Supt. Alison Sidow told the trustees about an initiative being launched to explore the difficult but important subject of sexual misconduct, violence and harassment in District schools. Recent events have led her to look closely at District policies and protocols. The *Superintendent's Task Force on School Safety* will look at policies and protocols governing the investigation and handling of these issues with the goal of ensuring the District's policies serve all parties, especially those who make complaints to the District. The task force will provide a report to the Superintendent and to the Board by June 30. "We have a duty to protect our children and we have a duty to stand by them, as a community," Sidow told the Board.

WESTMOUNT ELEMENTARY TRAFFIC UPDATE — The Board was told the District is working with the City of Kamloops to explore solutions to the long-standing issue of traffic congestion at Westmount Elementary School and its impact on student safety. A traffic engineer will conduct an independent study of the problem and propose possible solutions.

REPORTS FROM SECRETARY-TREASURER

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL — The District has received several public complaints this year about snow and ice maintenance at schools. The Board was told that this year has proved to be exceptionally difficult for maintenance staff due to the many snowfalls and the frequent freeze-and-thaw cycles. Changes to improve District response to snowfall and ice removal would ultimately require changes to the budget, which could impact educational funding, the Board was told.

AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW 2017-18 — Trustees approved an amended annual budget bylaw that sets out the estimated revenues and expenses for the 2017-18 fiscal year. The total (balanced) budget for this year is \$176,129,253, the Board was told.

MOTIONS

- Policy 201.1 Board Committees
- Policy 300.1 School Boundaries and Student Transfer Requests
- Policy 303.1 International Student program
- Policy 1136.1 Travel Expenses, Insurance and Cell Phones
- Policy 1012.1 Smoking and Vaping Free Environment

Details of the notices of motion can be found in the public agenda.

The next public meeting will take place at the School Board Office in Kamloops on March 12th at 7 p.m.