



# The Grapevine

Alberni District Secondary School  
February 6, 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians:

## Alberni District Secondary School Replacement Project

The Board of Education proposes to construct a replacement school for ADSS on land adjacent to the Echo Centre. This land was purchased in 1971 as a site for a future school. The approval is subject to a public input process and is also subject to finalization of further technical studies and business arrangements with the City of Port Alberni.

The size of the new school has not yet been determined and will be based on an analysis of future enrolments currently being finalized for consideration by the Board of Education in the near future. Factors under consideration include:

- The population of Port Alberni is expected to experience a modest decline over the next 25 years
- The percentage of the population that is of school age is expected to decline even more than the general population is expected to decline
- The new school will be sized to accommodate expected enrollments in 2017

ADSS will be built to a minimum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold or equivalent certification. This system recognizes leading edge buildings that incorporate design, construction and operational practices and combined healthy, high-quality and high-performance advantages with a reduced environmental impact. The LEED for Schools Rating System recognizes the unique nature of the design and construction of K-12 schools. Based on LEED for New Construction, it addresses issues such as classroom acoustics, master planning, mold prevention, and environmental site assessment. By addressing the uniqueness of school spaces and children's health issues, LEED for Schools provides a unique, comprehensive tool for schools that wish to build green, with measureable results. LEED for Schools is the recognized third-party standard for high performance schools that are healthy for students, comfortable for teachers, and cost-effective.

The School District will now embark on a project development process that will include:

- Engaging the public and other local stakeholders in the replacement and site location deliberations that have taken place to date
- Confirming suitability of the Echo Centre site
- Confirming detailed capital costs and operating cost impacts
- Discussions with the City of Port Alberni to determine how the School District and the City can work together maximize community benefits from the new school

The School District hopes to confirm arrangements for provincial funding by May of this year and then to finalize a construction contract by the end of 2008. The projected opening date is September 2010 which would mean that our current grade 10 students would be the last graduating class from the current building and our current grade 9 students would be the first graduating class of the new ADSS.

There's a tremendous amount of work that needs to be done before we open the doors of a new school, but things are definitely happening and it's a very exciting project for our school, our school district and our community.

### **January 21st – Special City Council Meeting**

A special City Council meeting was held in our auditorium on the last Monday of the semester. Students from Ms. Witham's Social Studies 10 classes presented a proposal to regenerate the uptown core of Port Alberni coupled with the draft of a bylaw. A tremendous amount of time and energy went into this presentation and City Council was certainly impressed with the sophistication of our students.

A response has arrived from Mayor Ken McRae:

"At the regular meeting of Council on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council for the City of Port Alberni direct staff to review the proposed bylaw of the Save Our City Committee and provide a report to outline how it can be implemented and what the implications of the bylaw are for the City and the Uptown Merchants.

As noted in the Clerk's report to Council, the project proposed by the Committee aligns well with the City's initiatives for the Uptown. Staff will provide advice to Council on how the students intentions can be achieved."

This project shows that the focused dedication of a group students can certainly catch the attention of a group that makes decisions impacting on our larger community.

### **Premier's Excellence Award**

The Premier' Excellence Awards have been established to recognize the best all-round Grade 12 graduate in each college region of the province and to encourage talented and dedicated British Columbians to pursue advanced academic studies in British Columbia public post-secondary institutions. Applications will be considered from Grade 12 students graduating in June of each year.

Conditions and regulations

- ✓ Applications will be considered from Grade 12 students graduating in June of each year
- ✓ Only high schools that provide courses recognized toward the standard Dogwood Certificate are eligible
- ✓ Each applicant must be nominated by the school principal based on academic excellence, community service and school service

- ✓ Awards will only be made to students who register for full-time academic studies at a British Columbia public post-secondary educational institution in the school year immediately following graduation
- ✓ Students who are on student exchange in the school year preceding their graduation or who plan to pursue other educational opportunities in the year after completing high school without enrolling in a degree-granting program of studies may be eligible to defer the award for one year
- ✓ Applicants must be Canadian citizens, permanent residents (landed immigrants), convention refugees or protected persons, living in Canada, as defined in the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act
- ✓ The award will be considered in the assessment of any student loan application within the same academic year in which funds are received

Fifteen awards of \$15,000 are given out each year. Applications are evaluated on the basis of academic performance, service to the community, school service and participation. Applicants will also be assessed on the overall quality of their presentations, including supporting documentation.

The deadline for receipt of applications is no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 12, 2008.

Please contact the Counselling Department for further information.

### **Course Selection for 2008/2009**

It's perhaps hard to believe, but it's the time of year when students are beginning to choose their courses for the next school year. There are a few changes coming, particularly when it comes to Physical Education. In order to accommodate the Ministry of Education expectation that students up to grade 9 experience at least 30 minutes of physical activity each day, we are looking at offering PE 9 next year on a linear basis.

This means that each student in grade 9 starting in September will have at least 2 linear, (yearlong), courses.

Counsellors will be working with students starting next week. Please ask your son/daughter to share their programming information with you. Students need to show parents the course selection booklet, review the choices and return the programming forms not later than February 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **University of Victoria is coming to ADSS**

Grade 12 students going to the University of Victoria will have the opportunity to speak with an advisor from UVic on February 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have not yet booked an appointment to do so please see Ms. A. Slomnicki, in the counseling department to book your appointment.

### **Grade 12 Information**

1. **Transition Plan:** **ALL** Grade 12 students wishing to graduate this year **MUST** complete Grad Transitions 12 (GT12), four credits. This is comprised of:
  - a. 30 hrs volunteer work experience-see Mr.Freethy in the Career Centre

- b. 80 hrs physical activity-pick up sheets to document in the Career Centre; if you are in any type of PE11/12 course it is automatically done
  - c. Transition Plan: go to the ADSS website and do the activities listed there. See Mr. J.Wall at lunch in the Flex room on Tuesday or Thursday at lunch if you have any questions or email him at [jwall@sd70.bca](mailto:jwall@sd70.bca).
  - d. Presentation: See Mr. Wall to book your presentation as soon as you can.
2. **Grad List:** To be on the grad list you must be in the right courses and be passing these courses by May 30<sup>th</sup>. If you are taking a VAST or CHOICES course (full course or upgrading) you **MUST** be finished this course by **MAY 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. If you need a VAST or CHOICES full course you will need to see me by March 1, 2008.
  3. **North Island College:** An advisor will be here every second Wednesday to help you with college/university planning. Please book your appointment in the counseling department or phone NIC to make an appointment with Jeff Leese.
  4. **BCUniversity applications:** Deadline for early admission is February 28<sup>th</sup>. All scholarships, except for UBC can be accessed online. See Ms.A. Slomnicki for the UBC nomination criteria if you are going to UBC.
  5. **College/BCIT applications:** apply online for entrance and to receive scholarship information
  6. **Assessment tests:** these can be taken in the Learning Centre. See Mrs. L.Anderson to arrange this.
  7. **Local Scholarship Booklets:** These will be available in the counseling department on March 1<sup>st</sup> and will be due to be handed in to the Counselling Department by March 31<sup>st</sup>.
  8. **Post Secondary Institute Forms:** (PSI Forms) These will be out on February 29<sup>th</sup> and must be signed by March 31<sup>st</sup>. By signing these forms, the colleges and universities will be able to access your final marks. Ms. A.Slomnicki will be coming into classes to get these signed, but you must see her, in the counseling department, if you have not signed this form by March 10<sup>th</sup>.
  9. **April 24<sup>th</sup>:** An advisor from Malaspina University/College will be here for 15 minute appointments to register you for September. You must have sent in your application and be accepted by this time in order to register. Appointment will be booked through the Counselling Department.

### **ATTENTION GRADE 12 STUDENTS**

**It is extremely important to see or contact Mr. Wall about your Transition Plan**

He is available Block C in the Flex Office next to the Library and also by appointment Tuesdays and Thursdays at Lunch (sign up sheet on Miss Slomnicki's door)

Mr. Wall's email [jwall@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:jwall@sd70.bc.ca)

#### **BCIT 2008 OPEN HOUSE:**

BCIT is hosting an Open House on April 11, 2008. Interested students may register online at [bcit.ca/openhouse](http://bcit.ca/openhouse) by February 29, 2008. Hopefully a bus will go from ADSS on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. If

students are interested in going on the trip please sign up in the Career Centre. Explore BCIT's unique educational offerings through interactive student-created displays. Ask students and faculty all the questions you want – win prizes!

**Alberni Valley Employment Focus on Careers** – Information sessions will be held as follows:

February 19 – Careers in Education – Early Childhood Education

March 3 – Careers in Primary/Secondary Industry – Skilled Trades

March 18 – Careers in Hospitality and Tourism

If Grade 10 – 12 students are interested in attending any of the above sessions please come to the Career Centre to sign up.

**Grade 12 Graduation List:**

Letters will be going home in late February to the parents/guardians of Grade 12 students to let them know whether or not their son/daughter will be on the first draft of the graduation list. The student must be in the correct courses required for graduation and must be passing these courses to be on the list and to walk the stage on June 27, 2008. The final draft of the graduation list will be posted in the counseling department on June Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**North Island College visit:**

Jeff Leese, the NIC Advisor, will be at ADSS on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30 pm. Grade 12 students may see Mrs. N.Bell, counseling secretary, to book their fifteen minutes appointment.

**AVID Information Night  
ADSS Auditorium  
Wednesday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm**

Target Audience: Grade 8 parents

AVID is a grade 9 academic elective class offered at ADSS. AVID is designed to provide instructional strategies and support to students who are academically achieving in the middle. The goal of the program is to give them the skills to successfully complete high school, and give them the marks they need to be eligible for post – secondary education.

There will be an AVID Information night at ADSS on Wednesday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the ADSS Auditorium. There will be more detailed information given about the program, and the application procedure will be explained. Application packages will be given out at that time as well. Contact Mike Ruttan or Jean Contant at ADSS @ 723-6251 for more information.

**Special Thanks this Month**

1. To New Orleans Pizza for their contribution to the celebration of the Math 9 class all passing the course last semester. I promised that I would include their name in our Grapevine if they gave me a deal on the pizza.
2. To Wal-Mart for the contribution toward student incentives.
3. To Sue Nye for helping to provide items for dental hygiene.
4. To Scott Kenny of Parks and Rec. for assisting with student incentives.

**North Island College  
Information Session**

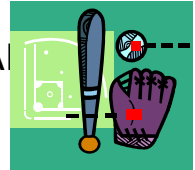
Carpentry and Residential Construction  
Framing Technician Program

**Wed, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm**  
Roger Street Campus

Come and learn more about the Carpentry & Residential Construction program that is starting April 14<sup>th</sup> in Port Alberni. The instructor will be in attendance to answer questions.

**ALBERNI JUNIOR BASEBALL  
2008 REGISTRATION**

**DATES:** TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> AND 27<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:00 PM  
**TIME:** 6:00 TO 8:00 PM      **PLACE:** ECHO CENTER



**FEES:**

TADPOLE	(1999 AND 2000)	\$50
MOSQUITO	(1977 AND 1998)	\$55
PEE WEE	(1995 AND 1996)	\$60
BANTAM	(1993 AND 1994)	\$65
MIDGET	(1990, 1991, 1992)	\$70

Please note: Cheques may be post-dated to March 1st  
All players (except Tadpole) are responsible for their own GREY pants and helmets. These may be purchased through the Association at cost when uniforms are distributed in April. A \$50 uniform deposit is required. Tadpole players receive a hat and t-shirt.

For more information call Vicky Seredick at 723 – 7446.

**EARLY REGISTRATIONS MAY BE  
MAILED TO:**  
ALBERNI JUNIOR BASEBALL, BOX 443,  
PORT ALBERNI V9Y 7M9

**Spring Training Sessions at Glenwood Centre**

Monday	March 3	6:00 pm	Tadpoles and Mosquitos
Thursday	March 6	6:00 pm	Pee Wee and Bantam

PLEASE BRING A GLOVE      NO CLEATS  
PREPARE TO HAVE SOME FUN AND INSTRUCTION

## Dry Grad News

- ***Purdy's Chocolate Sale:*** Parent drivers and student sellers are needed on **Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**...meet in the ADSS lobby at **6pm** to pick up your map and box of chocolates to sell. Sign up by calling Terri-Ann at 724-5465 or at a Grad meeting or on the Grad bulletin board in the hallway at ADSS.
  
- ***Designated Driver Program:*** If you know someone organizing dances and parties, please have them consider using this service to get their guests home safely. Grade 12 students and their parents can be available to drive guests safely home in their own cars. The sponsor of the event or the guests themselves can offer a donation to the Dry Grad 08 Committee which will be used to plan activities for the Dry Grad event in June. Volunteer for just one evening or for several. The only requirement is a graduate with a valid "N" license and a licensed parent willing to help.  
**Call Matt Kelly to request this Service for your event – 724-1863.**
  
- ***Quality Foods Points:*** If you are a Quality Foods shopper you can donate your Q-Points to the Grad Class of 08. Just tell the cashier – it's that easy!
  
- ***Fairway Market:*** save you grocery receipts from Fairway...they can be deposited in the box at the store or in the box at the ADSS main office...Fairway will donate a percentage of total receipt \$\$ collected back to DryGrad.
  
- ***Canadian Tire Dollars:*** Do you have any you would like to donate to Dry Grad 08...there is a drop box in the Main Office at ADSS...all amounts are appreciated!

Any way in which you can help this year's Grad class is greatly appreciated. Please call **Cheryl at 723-9533 or Terri-Ann at 724-5465** for more information or email us at [adssdrygrad08@hotmail.com](mailto:adssdrygrad08@hotmail.com)

MEETINGS ARE HELD EVERY OTHER TUESDAY AT ADSS IN THE LEARNING CENTRE FROM 7-8PM. THE NEXT ONE IS – **FEB. 19<sup>TH</sup>**

### Important Upcoming Dates

- February 6 – Grad Re-takes
- February 12 – Report Cards issued
- February 13 – PAC Meeting, 7:00 pm, staffroom
- February 19 – Pascal, Cayley and Fermat Math Contests
- February 20 – 23 – Band Students to Moscow, Idaho
- February 21, 22 – Global Youth Action Conference
- February 21 – 23 – BC High School Wrestling Championships
- February 22 – Canadian Computing Competition
- February 25 – 29 – Grade 10 and 12 satisfaction survey during Block A
- February 27 – 7:00 pm, student/parent meeting for students going to Whistler to ski/snowboard
- February 28 – Scholarship applications issued
- February 28 – March 1 – Island Basketball Tournament
- February 29 – Grads receive PSI (Post Secondary Institute forms)

Please contact me at 723-6251, extension 222, if you have questions or concerns about this newsletter.

Mike Ruttan,  
Principal

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## Parent Survey

We are trying to determine how best to connect with parents in terms of Parent/Teacher Conference times. In preparation for developing the school calendar for next school year we'd like to ask parents a couple of questions:

- |  |     |   |   |   |   |   |      |
|--|-----|---|---|---|---|---|------|
| 1. How important do you view meeting with your child's teachers? | LOW | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | HIGH |
| 2. Does a 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm time allow you access?              | LOW | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | HIGH |
| 3. Does a 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm time allow you access?              | LOW | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | HIGH |
| 4. Does a 9:00 am to 12:00 pm time allow you access?             | LOW | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | HIGH |
| 5. Would P/T Conferences over 2 days allow you access?           | LOW | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | HIGH |

Please **return** this survey to the Main Office.