



AE PERRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SHERBROOKE AVE KAMLOOPS, BC V2B 1W9
Phone: 250-376-6224 Safe Arrival 25-376-6248

December 2016

PRINCIPALS CORNER

Merry Christmas

From all of us here at AE Perry, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas filled with peace and joy. We want to thank you for sending us such amazing children to work with each day, what a gift!!

The next two weeks are going to be very busy at school. Now more than ever we will need your support in order to make our last few weeks smooth and uneventful. Keeping your child's schedule predictable and ensuring they continue to get lots of rest will go a long way in helping us at school. Finally, we need your children here, at school, every day! What we do at school is important and the next two weeks will be filled with important learning outcomes.

Christmas Concert

Please come out and join us for our Christmas Concert. We will have performances on Wednesday and Thursday at 1:15pm. Doors will be open at 12:45.

Art Starts Performance – December 13th at 8:45am

Stay Driven is a one-hour assembly that combines speaking with live hip-hop performances to engage your students while delivering a solid message. The program is led by Duane Gibson aka D.O. which stands for Defy the Odds. Gibson is an active Hip-Hop artist, a Guinness World Record setting rapper (longest freestyle rap 8 hours and 45 minutes), University graduate, Author, and has been motivating students since 2001. The central program "H.O.L.L.A." is focused on anti-bullying. The acronym stands for "Help, Outlet, Lead, Leave, Assert" – five strategies that can be used to combat bullying. The program is interactive as D.O. gets all of the students involved through call and response rapping. Gibson also calls on volunteers to demonstrate his message. The program has been featured on CBC Metro Morning, MuchMusic and MTV.

Christmas Dinner – December 15th

We are so pleased to be offering a Christmas Dinner to all our staff and students on Thursday, December 15th. Thank you to the Kamloops Rotary and Norkam Secondary for their support in making this event possible for our school.

Report Cards

Your child will be bringing home their report card on December 16. Please make sure you review the report and return the envelope to your child's teacher. If you have any questions regarding your child's progress, please contact your child's teacher.

PAC Meeting

Please join us for our PAC Meeting which will be held on Wednesday, December 14th at 6:30pm in the school library.

LITTLE ELF CHRISTMAS STORE

Come to our store and get all your gifts for Christmas. You'll find our store in Room 1 (Mrs. Telford's classroom) December 12th to December 15th from 12:05pm to 12:30pm everyday. Just a reminder that smoothies will also be sold at the lunch time for \$1.00.

PAC NEWS

AE Perry PAC is hosting its 2nd annual Christmas Craft Fair. We will run the fair, Saturday Dec. 10th from 10am to 2pm, with set up starting at 8:30am. If you have any questions please call Mandy Johnson @ 250-819-4982 to book a table or if you have any questions. Bake Sale Donations Needed. Baking can be dropped off at the Office on Fri. Dec 9th or Sat. Dec. 10th between 8:30 and 11am.

LOST AND FOUND

There will be a table set up the week of Dec 6-Dec 9th of lost clothing. Please come and check out the table if your child is missing some of their clothing.

WINTER CLOTHING

Please make sure your children are coming to school properly dressed so they can enjoy the outdoors. We encourage our students to go outside as much as possible and we want to make sure they are warm and properly dressed. It would also be helpful if all clothing and boots were labelled with first and last names as many boots are going missing

or getting mixed up with someone else's winter gear.

USED SKATES

If you have any skates or helmets that you are looking to pass on, we would be more than happy to take them. We are coming into skating season and many children do not have this equipment on hand.

If you are able to help out, please drop off the equipment at the office.

PARENT-CHILD MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM

We will be running another session of this wonderful program again this year. We have organized it to run from January 11th to March 1st on Wednesday 6-7pm in the Strong Start room. We hope many pre-schoolers will take advantage of this opportunity. Please call the school to register 250-376-6224.

PICKING UP CHILDREN AFTER SCHOOL

Please remember to come through the front door when picking up kids. It is important for us to know who is in the building at all times. Letting other adults in through other doors is defeating the purpose of them being locked. They are locked for your children's safety and we can't stress enough the importance of using the main entrance to the school. We are also asking that you make a meeting spot with your child outside. This will help with congestion in the hallways afterschool. Thank you for your support.

PARKING/PICK-UP

Please pick up and drop off your child on Lethbridge Ave. The parking lot off Sherbrooke is for special needs bussing, deliveries and staff parking.

SCHOOL FEES

Pupil Supply Fees are now due. If they have not been paid, please see Mrs. Brady for a payment schedule.

MEALS PROGRAM

Just a reminder to parents, that meal forms need to be filled out each and every month, even if your child was on it the month before. The payment should be included with the form if it is not please contact Mrs. Brady. Please hand in the forms on the date specified, as the catering company needs the correct numbers to order the food. Please include your child's teacher name on the form. **IT IS CRUCIAL TO HAVE THE FORMS BACK ON THE DUE DATE AS THE CATERING COMPANY HAS INFORMED THE SCHOOL THAT IT WILL NOT BE TAKING ANY ORDERS AFTER THAT DUE DATE. You will need to send your child with a lunch for the first**

week of the program as we won't be able to put them on the meals program until after the 1st week.

LOCKDOWN DRILL

These drills are very similar to our Fire Drills in that they are in place to keep your children safe.

Lockdown drills are important to ensure that all staff and students are aware of what to do in case of an intruder. These drills will be happening and both students and staff will be notified prior to them taking place.

TELEPHONE MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS

Please make arrangements in the morning before your child leaves home if they are to be going somewhere after school.

Also, please ensure your child is in possession of any relevant personal phone numbers they may need in the event he / she wants to contact you at home, work, etc. A great place to store these is in your child's agenda.



BOARD NOTES

*From the Board Meeting of:
November 7, 2016*

1. Principal Grigg, Aboriginal Education Worker Shane Camille, and students of Haldane Elementary School provided the Board with an Aboriginal Education presentation that included a welcome song with dancing and drumming. Packages of sage were also provided to the Board, district administration, and members of the public who were present.
2. The Board enjoyed a presentation on Problem Based Learning from Teacher Telisa Johnston and students from Chase Secondary School.

3. Superintendent Sidow provided the Board with a report on the activities of the Superintendent's Council for the month of October.
4. *Notice of Motion* was provided on Policy 306.3 Assessment: School Completion (Evergreen) Certificate.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday, November 21, 2016 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.

From the Board Meeting of:
November 21, 2016

1. The Board approved the Consent Agenda which contained the following reports/information:
 - a. Finance and Planning Committee Report;
 - b. Policy Committee Report;
 - c. Notice of Motion – Policy 600.1 Code of Conduct;
 - d. Notice of Motion – Policy 612.1 Student Dress Code.
2. The Board enjoyed *'Presentations of Learning in Elementary Math Classrooms'* by District Numeracy Coordinator Amanda Russett, Teacher Lisa Carr, and two grade 3 students from David

Thompson Elementary School.

3. The Board received an Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination presentation from Graham Specht, Diversity Outreach Coordinator for Kamloops Immigrant Services. The Board signed an Anti-Racism/Anti-Discrimination Declaration to show support for programs and initiatives promoting diversity and inclusivity in our communities.
4. The Board approved the District's 2016-2017 Interim School Learning Plan process and the school staff development focus areas for all schools.
5. The Board received and reviewed a report on the 2016-2017 graduation ceremony schedule
6. Superintendent Sidow provided the Board with the 2015-2016 CommunityLINK Funding and Information Report;
7. Superintendent Sidow provided the Board with the Enrolment Comparison Report for their information.
8. The Board received an update from Secretary-Treasurer Stretch on Ministry of Education Rural Education Strategies.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday December 12, 2016 at the School Board Office, 1383 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops, BC.



Update on B.C.'s New Curriculum from Education Minister Mike Bernier
November 29, 2016

Dear Parent,

The world is changing and B.C.'s new curriculum is critical in making sure your child is connected with the skills he or she needs to succeed in this changing world. We have just announced important updates on B.C.'s new curriculum – on how it will be implemented in grades 10-12, and on the Foundation Skills Assessments (FSA) written in grades 4 and 7.

Grade 10-12 curriculum implementation

Teachers, principals and trustees asked for more time to work hands-on with the redesigned draft curriculum in grades 10-12 – and we agree. The extra time means teachers can try out the draft curriculum and provide feedback before it is fully implemented in the 2018/19 school year. The new curriculum is already fully in place in the earlier grades. The extra year makes sense because the graduation years are more complex than the K-9 years. They are tied to provincial exams. They are connected to post-secondary choices. We are making sure that we get the Grade 10-12 redesigned curriculum right for students, ensuring their

future success in post-secondary and the workforce. When it comes to provincial exams, we have mapped out which old exams and new exams will be written and when. The most important thing is that new or old, our standards remain high, testing remains rigorous, and combined with in-class exams we will be thoroughly testing student knowledge. Detailed exam information can be found at:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/gr-education-info>

Foundation Skills Assessments

Along with our new curriculum, we are enhancing our Foundation Skills Assessment that students in Grades 4 and 7 are required to write under B.C.'s *School Act*. The FSA measures reading, writing and math problem-solving skills that students have gained over several years of learning and provides critical information for parents, for teachers, and for the education system.

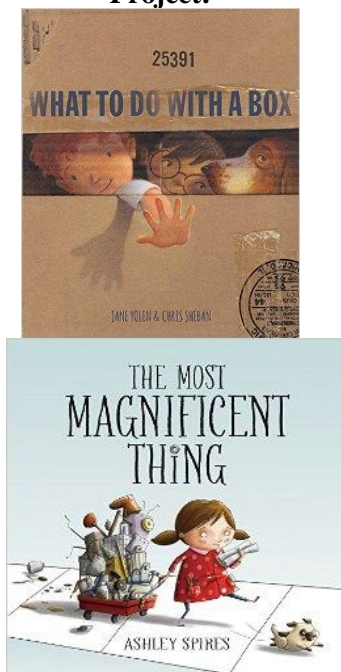
Starting next year, students in grades 4 and 7 will complete their FSAs in the fall instead of the spring. This means you and your child's teacher will get results earlier – and that means any necessary actions can be taken sooner. More information on the new FSA can be found at:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/assessment-reporting/new-foundation-skills-assessment>

Additionally, we will be giving parents like you a snapshot of the FSA results in broader school reports. You deserve to know how your child's school is succeeding on a variety of fronts – and we will include that information to provide a complete picture.

Together with teachers, our new curriculum is making sure that your child learns the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic, while also engaging the collaboration, critical thinking and communications skills they'll need to succeed in college, university, and the workforce. Thank you, Mike Bernier Minister of Education

**A.E. Perry
Elementary School's
Most Magnificent Thing
School
Project!**



December, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you may be aware, this is the first year A.E. Perry Elementary School will be implementing the new curriculum in B.C. While there are many new aspects of this curriculum, in this first year schools are 'starting small' and focusing on one or two areas. Here at A.E. Perry

a key focus for this year will be on **Project-Based Learning** and on **Critical Thinking**, one of the core competencies of the new curriculum. Critical thinking skills -- the need to think deeper and differently about a subject -- are important qualities to instill in children to help them navigate through their learning and their lives. Critical thinking skills will help students learn to interpret and understand information, rather than simply memorizing it.

The three phases of critical thinking are:

- **Analyze** – *reflect on and evaluate thinking, products and actions*
- **Question** – *explore materials and actions*
- **Develop** – *design and experiment with different ways of doing things*

Beginning on **Monday, January 30, 2017**, we will launch our critical thinking focus with a school project called **A.E. Perry's Most Magnificent Thing**. Students will be designing 'magnificent things' out of empty boxes, practicing the stages of critical thinking along the way.

We need your help in collecting supplies for this project.

1. Please donate **craft supplies** to any of the *Magnificent Thing* boxes around the school or to your child's teacher. Spools, cardboard tubes, small wood pieces, sequins, pom poms, ribbon....the

possibilities are
endless!

2. Most importantly,
empty BOXES!

These can be ANY
shape or size - from
shoebox, to tissue box,
to match box to TV
box! You may wish
to set aside some
boxes from Christmas
for this purpose. Send
your child with **at
least one empty box
with their name on
it.** Students are
responsible for
bringing their own
boxes, and they must
be at school by
**Thursday, January
26th.**



**Thank you for your
support!
The A.E. Perry Elementary
Staff**