



Stuart Wood Elementary
245 St. Paul Street
Kamloops, BC
(250)374-1755

Principal: Mr. Blair Lloyd
 www.stuart-wood.sd73.bc.ca

“Working together as a school community in an atmosphere of success and belonging, we have as our goal the development of each student’s fullest potential as a lifelong learner in a changing world”

February 2016

Principal’s Message

February is the month known for love, caring and kindness! S.W.E.S. students work everyday in these areas and continue to be responsible citizens by following the S.T.A.R. Belief Matrix. More information about our social responsibility programs can be found on our school website. February brings many exciting events including Family Day, Pink T-Shirt Day and Valentine’s Day! Along with focusing on various learning goals, the students will have a chance to partake in these events.



The staff spent January 22nd together learning about the new curriculum designed for K-9. 'All areas of learning are based on a “Know-Do-Understand” model to support a concept-based competency-driven approach to learning. Three elements, the Content (Know), Curricular Competencies (Do), and Big Ideas (Understand) all work together to support deeper learning. British Columbia’s curriculum design enables a personalized, flexible and innovative approach at all levels of the education system. All areas of learning have been redesigned using this model.' At Stuart Wood Elementary, the staff will continue to learn more about the new curriculum and look forward to creating classroom environments that engage our learners.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr. B. Lloyd
 Principal

Reconfiguration Update: Second Survey Results

From the data collected from the first survey, a second survey was conducted from January 15 to January 25, 2016. The stakeholders were given the choice of 3 names from the first survey which aligned with school policy 1112.2 Results are shown in the table below.

Survey #2 Results					
	Parents %	Students %	Staff %	TOTAL	Overall Percent
Beattie Elementary	24	54	43	121	40
McGill Elementary	56	37	57	150	50
North Sahali Elementary	20	9	0	29	10

A report has been given to the trustees and they will decide the name of our our new school at the upcoming School Board Meeting scheduled for February 15th at 7 pm. The public is welcome to attend this meeting.

Valentine's Day – Friday, Feb. 12th
Wear Red Spirit Day!

Just a reminder that all students should come in their BEST RED outfit for SPIRIT DAY on February 12th since Valentine’s Day lands on a Sunday this year. Teachers will send home specific information about events in their classrooms and most send home a class list for the giving of Valentine’s.

Lates and Absences

The staff has noticed an increase of students being late or absent from school. I understand that it can be challenging to keep up morning routines but I encourage parents and students to be extra diligent getting to school on time. Students arriving late or being absent miss out on vital learning opportunities and/or disrupt classroom morning routines.

Kindergarten Registration

February 22, 23, 24 25, 26 will be Kindergarten Registration for Stuart Wood. Please bring your child's birth certificate and care card to the office with proof of address and fill out the enrolment package. District forms are also available if you have a child that has any significant social, cognitive or medical difficulties. Only students from our catchment may be accepted at this time and parents need to prove they live in our catchment to attend. Students from other neighbourhoods must register at their catchment school first then bring an "APPLICATION FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENT TRANSFER TO ANOTHER SCHOOL" form to Stuart Wood during the official Kindergarten registration time. Out of catchment students would be put on a waitlist and notified in September if there is room at our school.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OTHER KINDERGARTEN OPTIONS PLEASE SEE THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE BULLETIN FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

10 Reasons to Read to Your Child Tonight

1. When you hold them and give them this attention, they know you love them.
2. Reading to them will encourage them to become readers.
3. Childrens books are so good that they are fun even for adults.
4. Illustrations in children's books often rank with the best, giving children a lifelong feeling for good art.
5. Books are one way of passing on your values.
6. Books will enable your child's imagination to soar.
7. Until they learn to read themselves, they will think you are magic.
8. Every teacher and librarian they ever encounter will thank you.

9. They might turn off the TV or video games.
10. You'll get a chance to read some great books you missed when you were a kid.

From "Better learning - BC's Magazine for Parents & Students", Spring 2000. BC Ministry of Education

Anti-bullying Wear Pink Day – Feb 24th

Across our District on February 24th staff and students are asked to arrive at school in as much pink as they can. By wearing pink, we are recognizing that we need to make schools places where all children feel safe and accepted. At Stuart Wood, we work hard with our code of conduct S.T.A.R. to show inclusion and tolerance of all. We continue to educate students how to solve their problems peacefully and that while we may not want to be friends with everyone, we will show the utmost of respect for everyone in our school.

Peer Conflict, Mean Behaviour and Bullying: What's the difference?

When a child is having a problem with her or his peers, it can be hard for parents to know what is really happening – is it bullying? Or is it something else? Each type of behaviour must be handled differently, to keep children safe and help them learn how to get along with others.

Peer Conflict

Conflict between and among peers is a natural part of growing up. Children will have times when they disagree and can't solve their own problems. They may even become so frustrated that they say mean things or act out physically by hitting, kicking or trying to hurt.

If it's peer conflict you will be aware that these children:

- usually choose to play or hang out together;
- have equal power (similar age, size, social status, etc.);
- are equally upset;
- are both interested in the outcome; and
- will be able to work things out with adult help (after calming down).

Adults can respond by helping the children talk it out, and see each other's perspective. This is often referred to as "conflict resolution".

Mean Behaviour

Children may try out behaviours to assert themselves – sometimes saying or doing mean things – such as making fun of others, using a hurtful name, taking something without permission, leaving a child out, or “budging” in line.

If it is mean behaviour, usually:

- it is not planned and seems to happen spontaneously or by chance;
- it may be aimed at any child nearby;
- the child being mean may feel badly when an adult points out the harm they’ve caused.

When adults see mean behaviour they should not ignore it. Adults should respond quickly, firmly and respectfully to stop the behaviour, to let kids know that their actions are hurtful and to re-direct children to more positive behaviour.

This quick response stops children from developing a pattern of mean behaviour as their way of interacting with peers, and prevents mean behaviour from escalating into bullying. It is a lot easier to correct a child for one nasty comment than to change a pattern of cruelty that grows over time.

Bullying Behaviour

Bullying is serious behaviour that has three key features – all three must be present for the situation to be considered bullying:

- Power imbalance -- One child clearly has power over the other(s), which may be due to age, size, social status, and so on.
- Intention to harm -- The purpose of the bullying behaviour is to harm or hurt other(s) – it’s intended to be mean and is clearly not accidental.
- Repeated over time -- bullying behaviour continues over time, and gets worse with repetition. There is a real or implied threat that the behaviour will not stop, and in fact will become even more serious.

The effect on the child who is being bullied is increased fear, apprehension, and distress. Often by the time adults find out about what is happening, the child has tried many ways to stop the bullying but cannot do so on their own.

Adults must address the bullying behaviour and ensure the safety of the student who has been targeted. They also need to reassure the children who may have witnessed the behaviour that adults are taking care of it.

When schools respond to bullying, staff will also help the child who has been bullying others to take responsibility for their actions, and change their behaviour. They will monitor the situation to ensure the bullying stops, and will support the child who has been bullied to regain confidence and a sense of safety. Staff may follow-up with the students who observed the behaviour to help them learn what to do when they see bullying.

The “conflict resolution” style of bringing the children together is not recommended in bullying situations, until considerable time has gone by and all children are feeling safe enough to talk about what happened so that relationships can be healed.

Ministry Satisfaction Survey

Attention parents of grade 4, and 7 students. During the months of January to April, Stuart Wood Elementary and School District #73 is participating in the 2016 Ministry of Education Electronic Anonymous Satisfaction Survey Project in cooperation with all other school districts throughout the Province. Students will take the online survey at school, while parents will be given the opportunity to complete the survey at home. A notice along with an anonymous access code will be sent home to parents. Parents will be able to access the online survey any time before midnight April 30th, 2016, providing immediate satisfaction level results to the school and the district.

SD73 DPAC News

SD73 DPAC, along with Kamloops RCMP, School District #73 and the City of Kamloops are proud to host a special parent session on Social Media Education and Awareness with renowned expert Jesse Miller on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 7 pm at the Henry Grube Education Centre. Learn how to keep up with the ever-changing world our children are living in. Space is limited, so please register by emailing your name, phone number and school name to registerdpac73@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at this exciting event!

Basketball Season

Basketball is back at SWES and we have three very competitive teams this year. The Tier 2 Boys and Girls teams have had some very close games and each player has put forth a great effort. The Tier 3 team is a combination of girls and boys and continue to gain skills and look to keep the ball rolling. Check out the sports schedule located on the SWES website to see when each team plays next and come cheer on your basketball teams.

Early Closure/Parent Teacher Interviews

Parents are reminded that Friday, February 12th is an Early Closure Day. Please arrange to have your child picked up at 12:30. Should parents want a Parent Teacher Interview on this day, please contact your child's teacher directly to set up a time on this afternoon.

Young People's Concert

We are looking forward to seeing the Foothills Brass Quintet on Friday morning, February 12th. According to their website:

Celebrating 30 years of entertaining audiences, the Foothills Brass Quintet leaves its stamp everywhere they go.

Whether dazzling youngsters with high energy and interactive programs; or enlightening adults to the incredible versatility of the brass quintet, Foothills Brass delivers SERIOUS FUN!



Spring Carnival

The PAC organized Carnival is back by popular demand! It will be held on Thursday, May 12th from 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm. Volunteers are needed to make this a successful event. We need people for 1 to 2.5 hour shifts for set up, manning the booths and clean up. Please contact the office if you can help out.



After School Program

Along with Yoga, and hockey, SWES would like to invite grade 5-7 students to a new after school program from Thursday February 4-25th. Students will be participating in an arts program with instruction in creating their own flip books. A flip book is a small book that becomes an animated movie when you flick

through the pages. It is a fast way of learning how to make animation and storyboarding. Participants will begin with a basic two-panel animation and work toward a more complicated 70-page flip book. Sign up sheets are in the office.

Family Day

Just a reminder the Government of BC has allotted Monday, February 8th as FAMILY DAY! There is no school for students or teachers.

Important Dates

Date	Important Dates
Feb. 3	PAC Meeting
Feb. 8	Family Day
Feb 12	Early Closure at 12:30
Feb. 12	YPC
Feb. 19	Non-Instructional Day
Feb 24	Anti bullying Pink Shirt Day
March 2	PAC Meeting
March 11	STAR Assembly
Mar. 18	Reports Cards out
Mar. 19-Apr	Spring Break
Apr. 4	Non-Instructional Day
Apr. 5	School Reopens
Apr. 6	PAC Meeting
Apr. 15	Early Closure at 12:30
Apr. 18	Non-Instructional Day
May 4	PAC Meeting
May 16	Non-Instructional Day
May 27	STAR Assembly
May 23	Victoria Day
June 1	PAC Meeting
Jun. 29	Last Day of School- Report Cards

VALENTINE'S DAY – FRIDAY, FEB. 12th

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ANTI-BULLYING WEAR PINK DAY – FEB 24th

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MINISTRY SATSFACITON SURVEYS

Grade 4 and 7 students, staff and all parents are being asked to complete the MINISTRY SATSFACITON SURVEY this February. Parents should go to the STUART WOOD WEBSITE to find the link to the survey. A parent can also click on the Parent TOP TAB on the website and then SATISFACTION SURVEY. These surveys give myself, the PAC and the District useful information about the school.

The link to complete the survey is as follows:

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm.

Thanks for your participation! Please complete before Friday, February 26th.

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EARLY CLOSURE/PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS – FEBRUARY 12th

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