



Pitt Meadows Secondary School

Ecole Secondaire Pitt Meadows

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Newsletter #6

June 3, 2024

Dear PMSS Families:

The light at the end of the tunnel is quickly approaching. While we are still waiting on the sunshine, summer *is* near.

For our Grade 12's, this month brings up a wealth of emotions. For some, excitement; for others, uncertainty. High school graduation is one of the most momentous occasions people can experience in their lives. The culmination of 13 years of public education is upon us. While it is true that high school graduation marks the end of a chapter, much of the 'book of life' lays ahead for our Grade 12's. I am excited to celebrate the fact that they have taken a significant step in determining their future. On Friday, May 24th, our Grade 12's celebrated with their **Grad Dinner/Dance** at Swan-E-Set Golf & Country Club. Everybody looked amazing! I was so proud of how well behaved and positive the students were. Afterwards, many of our Grade 12's continued on to **Dry Grad**; a fun-filled night consisting of eating, playing games and watching a hypnotist perform. A HUGE thank you goes out to our **Parent Grad Committee**, especially the Chair, Mrs. Karen Bateson, for *countless* hours of hard work and dedication. The attention to every detail was impeccable and both the Dinner/Dance and Dry Grad were a colossal success.



Thank you as well to the *larger* school community for supporting fundraising initiatives and donating money and prizes thereby ensuring that our Grads of 2024 had this opportunity to come together. We will come together again on Tuesday, June 25th at the Chandos Pattison Pavilion at Pacific Academy for our **Valedictory Ceremony**. Over \$100,000 in scholarships will be awarded to some members of the Class of 2024. I look forward to seeing all our Grads "cross the stage", marking a symbolic end to their time and experience here at PMSS.

On Wednesday, May 22nd, PMSS welcomed our in-coming Grade 8 class with the annual **SD42 Grade 8 Day**. Approximately 200 students from our feeder schools came to Pitt for a tour, experienced some sample classes, enjoyed a BBQ lunch, and a scavenger hunt. It was great to see so many excited new faces. The transition to high school is a fundamentally key event and we work hard as a team to ensure that all of our learners have as smooth a transition as possible. The energy was palpable; I can't wait to see these students back in September.

On Monday, May 27th we held our *final*/**PAC Meeting** for the 2023/2024 academic year. PAC meetings provide an important opportunity for parents to learn more about our school, talk with school administration and other parents, and have any questions or concerns addressed. A HUGE thank you to this year's Executive team:

Karen Bateson – Chair

Louise Meszaros – Treasurer

Amber Potter – Executive Member

Danica Isherwood – Secretary

Before you know it, the month will be over. Looking ahead there are a few key dates to keep in mind. The week of June 10-14, any remaining Grade 10 & 12 students who did not write their **Graduation Literacy and Numeracy Assessments** earlier this year will have the opportunity to complete these. Dates, times and locations will be posted shortly.

Friday, June 21st will be our last day of 'regular' classes. Monday, June 24th is a **Continuous Learning "I" Day**. This day will have *limited* student attendance. Students in need of additional support to complete and demonstrate curricular competencies will be **INVITED** to class for the day or, a period of the day. Please note that NOT every student with an "IE" report or Insufficient Evidence will be invited as one day may not be sufficient to complete or demonstrate curricular competencies. Finally, on Tuesday, June 25th, **the Final Report Cards** will be published and be made available **on MyClass @ 3:00 p.m.** While registration for **Summer Learning** has concluded, "waitlist registration" continues until Friday, June 7th via the Parent Portal. More information can be found at <https://www.sd42.ca/program/summer-learning/>

On January 26, 2024, Premier Eby announced that all school districts have until July 1, 2024, to have policies in place that restrict students' **cellphone use in the classroom**. While many of our students have cell phones and have grown accustomed to regular usage, in September, students will not be permitted to use personal digital devices during instructional time. Supporting our students to use technology appropriately is a shared responsibility of the home and the school. While changing cell phone culture may be difficult, it is necessary to ensure effective use of instructional & learning time. Updates to our Code of Conduct will be made in the coming weeks and the message will be conveyed to students during our opening week in September. We appreciate your support in reinforcing this message with students and helping to develop healthy habits.



It has been an absolute pleasure to work with your students this year. While not without its challenges, this year has been a positive one. It was awesome to see so many of our students find success. It was also just as rewarding to help those that struggled navigate. The staff and students here at Pitt are awesome and I am reminded of that daily.

With that said, I wish you all the best for an enjoyable summer making memories with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming our students back to PMSS in September and I look forward to our continued collaboration in an effort to ensure that all of our students find success. Thank you.

Be well and take care,

Colin Sharpe

Principal