

Good day everyone, I hope this newsletter finds you all doing well. One of my goals for the remainder of this school year is to have consistent communication going out to students, staff, and families. At times, communication will be in the form of longer traditional newsletters, while at other times eBulletins will be sent out via email.

In the short time I have been at USS, I have greatly appreciated all the support that students and staff have given me along with the genuine community feel.

Please take a moment to familiarize yourselves with the information items below. If you have any questions and/or comments, feel free to connect with me at the school.

Take care,  
Drew Ryan  
Principal Ucluelet Secondary School

### **Quarter 2/3 & report card information:**

- Quarter #2 wraps up on Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – **please check-in with your child(ren) to make sure they are on top of their assignments.**
- Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, start of Quarter #3– **students will receive their new timetables during first block homeroom.**
- Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - **report cards distributed from homeroom at the end of the day.**

### **Quarter #4:**

In 2022 our Outdoor Ed and Kayaking 11/12 Program at USS will be offered as a full-time program in Quarter 4. This will be a unique outdoor education opportunity for our grade 11 and 12 students. The students will have the opportunity to earn 16 credits throughout Quarter 4: Outdoor Education 11 and Outdoor Education 12, Kayaking 11, and Kayaking 12. This is 8 more credits (two extra courses) than most students receive in a quarter.

The course will focus on safety, team building, leadership, environmental stewardship, trip planning, marine sciences, local First Nations cultural & community connection and outdoor skills such as wilderness first aid, VHF radio use, weather, navigation/orienteering, surviving & thriving outdoors, and effective communication. Students will receive instruction in stand-up paddle boarding, surfing, hiking, kayaking, and canoeing, with a potential for other opportunities. Students will also participate in several courses, where upon successful completion they can earn certification in 40-hour Wilderness First Aid, CPR-C, Paddle Canada Level 1 Kayaking and Canoeing, Sea Kayaking Guides Alliance of BC Level 1 Guide and Radio Operator Certificate (Maritime).

Please see the attached application form for more detailed information and contact Lana MacInnis at [lmacinnis@sd70.bc.ca](mailto:lmacinnis@sd70.bc.ca) with any questions about the program.

### **School Survey, Code of Conduct, & Lockers:**

As many of you are aware the school conducted a school survey with students, staff, and parents prior to the break. The intention of the survey was to get a better sense of our school's strengths and stretches and build on these areas in a purposeful, planned, and reflective manner.

Some of the items we have already started working on is bringing in Hillary McLeod, Sexual Health and Education nurse, to work with our students around healthy selves and relationships.

*"Ultimately, my hope is to foster spaces of understanding and empathy, which promote curiosity and empower youth to make decisions about and for their bodies that are right and healthy for them."  
(McLeod)*

Our survey results will be posted to our school website and shared with our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) at the next PAC meeting on Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.

Staff has also been spending quite some time on revising our Code of Conduct with the intention of bringing this to students in the near future. Having student voice embedded within our Code of Conduct is essential in continuing to build and maintain a holistic, reflective, and supportive environment.

One of the items that came out clearly in the student survey is the desire to bring back lockers. Therefore, starting in our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter lockers will be available to students on a first come first serve basis. Locks can be purchased for \$5 through the school or students can bring in their own lock from home. As well, students and family need to complete the Conditions of Use agreement that will be sent home with students during the first week of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

### **Dates:**

January 27<sup>th</sup> - End of Quarter #2

January 28<sup>th</sup> - Professional Development Day (no school for students)

January 31<sup>st</sup> - Start of quarter #3

January 31<sup>st</sup> – Grad Photos

February 1<sup>st</sup> – Grad Photos

February 3<sup>rd</sup> – School photo retakes/Group photo

February 9<sup>th</sup> – Report cards go home

February 18<sup>th</sup> - Professional Development Day (no school for students)

February 21<sup>st</sup> – Family Day (no classes)

March 11<sup>th</sup> – Last day of classes before Spring Break

March 14<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> – Spring Break