



BARRIERE SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2018

ENGAGE! ENCOURAGE! EXCEL!

At Barriere Secondary, students and staff will be supported to **engage** in their strengths as individuals, **encourage** to strive for personal academic success, and nurtured to **excel** as members of the school community and beyond.

Belonging Achievement Respect Responsibility Individuality Effort Relationship Excellence

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER CAN BE DOWNLOADED AT OUR WEBSITE AT
<http://barrsec.sd73.bc.ca> (note; no www)

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri., November 30	Jr. Boys Basketball Tourney at BSS
Sat., December 1	Jr. Boys Basketball Tourney at BSS
Mon., December 3	Pro D Day – no school
Tues., December 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PAC Meeting 5:30pm Dry Grad Meeting 6:30pm
Mon., December 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Safe Arrival System up and running TRU Rep at BSS to talk to Gr.12s
Wed., December 12	Christmas Luncheon & Activities & Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
Thur., December 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grad Photos
Mon., December 17	Sr. G & B Bball at BSS 5pm & 6:30pm
Dec 22 – January 6	WINTER BREAK
Monday, January 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School starts PAC Meeting 5:30pm Dry Grad meeting 6:30pm



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Although the weather isn't showing it just yet, December has arrived and in three weeks Winter Break will be upon us. Preparations are being made once again for our annual Christmas Luncheon that is happening on December 12th this year. For those of you new to the Barriere Secondary School community, this is a much-loved event where staff and community volunteers work together to cook turkey and all the fixings for our students so that we can dine together over the lunch hour. We are excited to have our Grade 7 students with us this year, and my understanding is that they have special projects underway with which to involve the entire school at our luncheon. I look forward to connecting with our students and staff (as well as our community volunteers!) at our event this year.



As the holidays approach, I would like to remind our students to ensure they stay focused on their academics in the coming weeks. December is an important month academically as students have recently received Term 1 report cards that serve as a reminder of the work needing to be done in the second half of the semester. Once winter break arrives, students will have only 3 weeks of classes left in January in which to complete assignments and prepare for final assessments; the importance of good attendance and serious effort cannot be overstated. Students, I ask that you ensure you aren't missing classes unnecessarily and continue to work hard to stay on top of your coursework leading up to the holidays.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a combination of academic and athletic success for the rest of December. Happy Holidays to you and yours for winter break - it's just around the corner

PARENT/COMMUNITY SURVEY

In order to build on our successes with Presentations of Learning over the last two years, we are looking at creating a GRIT block (GRIT = Growth, Resilience & Inquiry Time) where students will be involved in teacher-directed inquiry projects. We are seeking input from parents and community members on community values, skills you would like to see developed in our students, and resources which you may be able to offer as a parent or community member. If you have five minutes of time to spare we would really appreciate your input! The link to the 5-minute survey can be found here: <http://bit.ly/bss-grit-survey> (students, this survey is for adults only - the student version will be administered separately to students at school). Thank you!

NEW SAFE ARRIVAL/MESSENGER PROGRAM

We are in the process of setting up our Safe Arrival System through 'School Messenger' (the same system that Barriere Elementary uses). We plan to be **up and running on Monday, December 10, 2018**. Please see the information sheet on the last page of this newsletter.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- You can access the system by calling the 1-844-350-2647 number OR through the free website or phone app.
- If you download the app (iOS or Android) to your device – download the FREE app, not the paid version.
- In order to use the app, the school MUST have your preferred email address on file (we will be sending you a test message soon).
- It is VERY IMPORTANT to report known absences ahead of time (the system is available 24 hours a day), otherwise the system will call you repeatedly until you follow the prompts made to you.
- If you just hang up when the system calls, it will keep calling you back at home and on your cell. To get the system to stop calling, you must respond to the prompts, listen carefully and follow the directions.

PAC NEWS

**PLEASE TRY TO MAKE IT TO OUR
December 4th MEETING AT 5:30PM.**

Please check the school website
<http://barrsec.sd73.bc.ca/> under the 'Parent' menu for
our meeting minutes and contact information or contact
Sandra LeFeuvre at sandrarealff@hotmail.com.

GRADE 7 ACTIVITIES

Our grade 7s are adapting well to their new school and are having fun participating in activities around Barriere Secondary. Mrs. Cruz's drama class is planning a game show and carolling for the Christmas luncheon on December 12th. Two of our grade 7 boys are on the grade 6/7 volleyball team that made the play-offs for the first time in many years. Way to go Matthew and Viore! Thank you so much Mrs. Farrow for the rides! The cafeteria will be run by the grade 7 parents on December 13 & 14th. All proceeds will go to the grade 7 Eagle Bay field trip. Please plan to buy your snack and lunch on those days to support the grade 7s. Fundraising for the same trip will also be supported by proceeds from the drink vending machine for the months of December and January.

We are very proud of our **grade 7 student Bobby-Raye Farrow who has been nominated as Aurora Rotary Club's Student of the Month for December**. Not only is Bobby-Raye a top student, but she also has a respectful attitude, a positive outlook and a great work ethic. She is accomplished outside of school as well as an active, award-winning 4H member. Bobby-Raye will be honoured at the Aurora Rotary breakfast meeting in Kamloops on December 18. Aurora Rotary Club recognizes outstanding students from around the district on a monthly basis based on teacher-nomination.

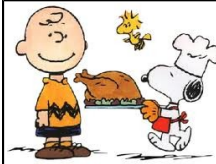
ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AT BSS

Special guest Kenthen Thomas, the District Aboriginal Resource Teacher grades 4-7, presented to the grade 7/8 Drama class on November 27. Kenthen shared Coyote stories and covered the elements of telling stories with the class. Students were taught the difference between community stories and family stories, the importance of citing their source and the importance of following the Secwepemc protocols when story telling.

Kenthen also presented to Mrs. Dolha's Grade 12 English class. He shared a coming of age story as taught to him by Paul Michel.

Bernice Jensen, Cultural Coordinator for the Aboriginal Friendship Society did a dream catchers presentation to the grade 7/8 class. Students made dream catchers with a Christmas theme.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



The staff of Barriere Secondary School are hosting our annual Christmas luncheon for the students on Wednesday, December 12th at 12:30pm.

It is our Christmas wish that the community be involved in bringing more cheer to our students this Christmas season and to express to them that our community cares for them. It is always a great success!

TRADES & TRANSITIONS

KAMLOOPS RCMP YOUTH ACADEMY

Applications are out for the Kamloops RCMP Youth Academy. The camp will take place during Spring Break 2019. Students that are interested in this 5 day 5 night 'Mini-Regina' training camp should pick up an application package from Mrs. Fennell before December 7th, 2018. Completed packages are due back to Mrs. Fennell by December 12th. Training activities will include: take-downs, self-defense, working with police dogs, polygraphs, dispatching, etc.

There is a fee of \$300 which covers food, accommodation, training, T shirts and a track suit. A cheque payable to SD73 must accompany the application.

HEAVY METAL ROCKS

Heavy Metal Rocks – Spring 2019 (dates to be announced): The Heavy Metal Rocks Project will provide opportunities for students to explore the wide variety of rewarding career choices as heavy equipment operators in the construction industry. Students will learn the importance of safety training and will receive mentoring from equipment operators as they learn to operate several different types of heavy equipment. In addition to operating heavy equipment, students will receive training in the following areas:

1. WorkSafe – New Worker / Young Worker
2. Orientation training on various pieces of heavy equipment
3. Construction Safety – Certificate
4. Occupational First Aid – Level 1- Certificate
5. WHMIS Training – Basic – Certificate

Any students who are currently in grades 11 and 12 may apply (sometimes grade 10 applications will be accepted). Please note - priority will be given to students who have completed their Planning 10. See Mrs. Fennell for applications (January 18, 2019 Deadline). A cheque payable to SD73 for \$175.00 must accompany the application.

GRAD NEWS

Poinsettia sales were very successful! Thank you to all those who supported our grads. A big thank you to Lisa Quiding & Sandra LeFeuvre and for looking after all of it!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 4th at 6:30pm.

ATHLETICS

It was a very strong year for our fall sports teams. Boys soccer had a great finish to their seasons finishing 2nd in their league and 7th at Okanagans. Our volleyball teams all represented extremely well in their respected leagues. Our grade 8 girls finished 10th in their league, our Jr. girls finished 5th in their league and our Sr. girls finished 2nd in their league and 5th in Okanagans. We still have our grade 7 boys competing in their playoffs this week. Good luck to Matthew and Viorel in this weeks playoffs finals! A huge thank you to all the coaches and parents who were involved in all fall sporting efforts. A reminder, please ensure that jerseys are washed and returned and all fees are paid.

Winter sports: We have an extremely busy winter sports season ahead. We will have a record 7 teams running out of our gym! We will be offering grade 7 boys and girls, grade 8 boys and girls, Jr. boys, and Sr. boys and girls. Please stay tuned for practice and league schedules which will be distributed in the coming weeks. Important basketball dates for December in our gym are: November 30th/Dec 1st - Jr. Boys Cougar Classic and December 17th - Sr. Boys and Girls vs. Chase. The Sr. Boys and Girls are both in the Fulton Cup in Kamloops this year which runs the Wednesday, Thursday, Friday before Christmas break. We are currently still looking for a grade 7 boys coach. If you are interested please contact Mr. Tommasini at the school.

Fees for basketball will go as follows:

- Grade 7s - \$20 for a team warm up shirt
- Grade 8s - \$100 fees and warm up shirt
- Jrs. - \$150 fees and shirt,
- Sr. Girls - \$200 fees, shirt and some tournament fee
- Sr. Boys - \$250 fees, shirt and some tournament fee.

If you are unable to pay your fees please apply to our hardship fund at the front office. Don't let athletic fees deter your son or daughter from participating in our sporting programs. Also, if you need to, please look for grant applications online at Viasport, kidsports and jumpstart. I would highly recommend organizing a team fundraiser before Christmas to accommodate further tournament expenses.

Thank you again for all involved in this winters sporting efforts. It takes a great deal of time and energy to run our programs and your participation is needed in order to facilitate these opportunities. I look forward to working with all of you this season. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at btommasini@sd73.bc.ca. Another great resource for all schedules is our district sports webpage which is <https://sites.google.com/site/westzoneathletics/home>.

GO COUGARS GO!

SENIOR BOYS FUNDRAISING

Our Senior Boys basketball team will be selling Christmas trees again at AG Foods on Saturday, December 15th from 10am-3pm to raise money for their team activities this year. Your support is greatly appreciated!

- 3ft – 5ft trees are \$15
- 5ft – 7ft trees are \$20
- 7ft – 9ft trees are \$25

For more information or to pre-order a tree please call Jody Schilling at 250-672-9675.

***A HUGE THANK YOU TO MR. KENNY SCHILLING
FOR THE BEAUTIFUL TREES!***

FROM THE COUNSELLOR

Gabby from TRU will be visiting our Grade 12 students on **Monday December 10th** during C block. We will be meeting in the cafeteria.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM GRANT

Thank you to the Adventurer Foundation for Breakfast Program Grant

Barriere Secondary would like to say a huge thank-you to the Adventurer Foundation for their generous support of our breakfast program. The Adventurer Group (www.theadventurergroup.com) is based in Abbotsford, BC and is a partnership among five RV businesses across Canada including **Fraserway RV**. They offer grants for non-profit organizations and have offered significant funding for our free Breakfast Program at Barriere Secondary every Tuesday and Thursday morning.

Thanks very much to the Adventurer Group for their generous support of our breakfast program!

ENCOUNTERS WITH CANADA

From two BSS Grade 11 students: Recently my friend Tyson and I (Cam) attended "Encounters With Canada" in Ottawa. Encounters is a one week program where 100 students from grades nine to twelve from all over Canada meet each other and learn about our country's capital. We were privileged enough to visit Parliament Hill and enter the House of Commons along with many historic churches museums and landmarks. We made many friends from across the nation including two from Newfoundland, three from New Brunswick, one from Saskatchewan, and one from Alberta. We would highly recommend the program to anyone looking to learn more about Canada's capital or make new friends for life.



Frequently Asked Questions

SafeArrival for Families FAQ

What is SafeArrival?

SafeArrival is an absence management system that improves student safety and makes it easy for you to let the school know about your child's absence.

You are asked to report your child's absence in advance whenever possible using one of these convenient methods:

1. SchoolMessenger app (free)

1. If you haven't already provided your email address to the school, please do so
2. Get the app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at go.schoolmessenger.ca)
3. Tap **Sign Up** to create your account.
4. Select **Attendance** from the menu, and then select **Report an Absence**.

2. Web and Mobile Web: go.schoolmessenger.ca

1. If you haven't already provided your email address to the school, please do so
2. Go to the website.
3. Click **Sign Up** to create your account.
4. Select **Attendance** from the menu, then select **Report an Absence**

3. Interactive Toll-free Phone (1-844-350-2647)

1. Call the toll-free, interactive telephone system.
2. Follow the instructions to report an absence.

Absences can be reported in advance:

- 24 hours/day
- 7 days a week
- For any school day in the school term
- Up to the cut-off time on the day of the absence
- Including multiple day absences

Whenever an absence is reported or updated, you will receive a confirmation notice by email and/or text message (assuming you have provided your contact information to the school).

If you don't report your child's absence in advance, the automated notification system will try to contact you (using the communication preferences if you have set them up in the SchoolMessenger app). This may include push notifications to the app, email, SMS text message, phone calls. You will be asked to provide the reason for your child's absence immediately. You may do so using the phone line, website or mobile app.

If you try to explain an absence using SafeArrival, but are then told that it is past the cut-off time. Please contact the school directly.

Note:

The new SafeArrival program will be in effect as of December 10, 2018



FROM THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD November 5, 2018

Elected by acclamation by fellow trustees, **Kathleen Karpuk** is the new **Chair** of the Kamloops-Thompson Board of Education. A Kamloops resident for more than 25 years, she has served as a trustee since 2008 (re-elected in 2011 and 2014). She and her husband have three children enrolled in Kamloops schools.

Rhonda Kershaw, the trustee representing Barriere-Little Fort, was acclaimed as **Vice Chair** at the inaugural meeting for the 2018-2022 Board of Education on November 5, 2018.

"School District 73 has seen excellent governance over the years and it is with great confidence that the staff and students of our District look to you to continue that strong tradition," said **Alison Sidow**, Superintendent of Schools, as she welcomed the new trustees.

"On behalf of all employees, congratulations to each of you. As we move forward together over the next four years, I look forward to working with you all to achieve our collective vision."

Trustees also selected representatives to sit on the two provincial associations.

Trustee **Shelley Sim** was acclaimed as representative for the **BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA)**, while **Rhonda Kershaw** was unanimously elected as representative for **BC Public School Employers Association (BCPSEA)**.

The five trustees elected by majority vote in **Area 1** - Kamloops were:

1. **Heather Grieve**
2. **Kathleen Karpuk**
3. **John O'Fee**
4. **Joseph Small**
5. **Meghan Wade**

The four rural trustees elected were:

1. **Shelley Sim** was elected by acclamation for **Area 2** - North Thompson
2. **Rhonda Kershaw** was elected by acclamation for **Area 3** - Barriere-Little Fort
3. **Diane Jules** was elected by majority vote in **Area 4** - Chase
4. **Cara McKelvey** was elected by acclamation for **Area 5** - Logan Lake