



West Bench February Update



School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

West Bench Elementary will have **full day** kindergarten, starting September 2010. Children born in 2005 are eligible to enter kindergarten in September 2010. Parents, who feel their child is not yet ready for kindergarten, may defer enrollment for one year. Please contact Wendy Hyer (770-7700) at the School Board Office for information on this.

Placement in your neighborhood school kindergarten is based on your address and registration date. The earlier you register, the more likely your child will attend a school close to your home.

Register at your neighborhood school during regular school hours. **A birth certificate and proof of address will be required.**



Friday February 12 is **HUNDREDS** day! On Friday Feb 12 the Wildcats have a lot going on. In the morning we have our Hundreds Day activities and Sing-a-long. In the afternoon, classes will have some Valentines Day activities they will be doing. Boy this is going to be more fun than a bag full of bunnies.

Safe Arrival Program

Let's start the New Year, resolved to attend **school regularly and on time**. However, if due to illness etc., your child is absent, we

would appreciate a phone call to the school (250-770-7698). It saves us time and effort making numerous phone calls.



Guest Speakers:

1. **Cameron Baughen, Composting Expert from RDOS:** Katherine, our parent coordinator for the composting project, invited Cam to speak to PAC about the best way to set up the composting program which will be starting on or before Earth Day. Cam suggested purchasing 2 Backyard Composters as they are simple, cheap and effective. As moved last meeting, PAC will purchase the composters with proceeds from Earth Day hot lunch. Mr. Philpotts will get input from maintenance regarding the best place to locate the composters. Cam gave us a general overview of composting, what to add and how to aerate. Bears are a concern in this area so food compost will be limited to fruit and vegetables only. Anything else will become too smelly and attract bears. He mentioned that Summerland Secondary School has an excellent program in place and would be a good reference source for us. **The Destination Conservation team (DC)** will be heading up this program for all students. Mr. Philpotts will arrange dates for Cam to meet with DC to discuss the composting program with them. Cam will also go class to class with the DC team to present the program to all of the children. This will all be done prior to Earth Day.
2. **Ron Shongrunden, secretary-treasurer of SD67:** Ron says he's the 'money man' with the School District. His position covers the finances, grounds, etc. Ron talked about 2 things – technology and budget. Technology: they have been working for a long time on getting a fibre optic connection to our school but it has been delayed due to things like right of way issues. Until these issues can be resolved, new satellite dishes are being placed between the school and the board office to improve internet and phone connections. Budget: Ron welcomes input and feedback from all sources regarding budget items.

Both speakers were informative and entertaining. Thank you for coming!



Internal Reports:

- Treasurer's report: main account \$7892.74, gaming account \$2222.49.
- Hot lunch report: all is going very well with the program. Daphne will begin emailing the numbers every Friday. As part of the expanded recycling program, Leah is looking into recyclable and/or biodegradable containers to use for HL rather than the current Styrofoam.

Mr Philpotts will confirm with the teachers that holding the February 12th Valentine's Day hot lunch in the gym will be ok. If so, tables/chairs will be set up in last period before lunch.

- Fundraising report: fundraising is going well and as such there will be no cookbook project this year.
- Grants report: For the next meeting Penny will bring a list of eligible items to spend the gaming grant money on. If anyone comes across any potential grant opportunities, no matter how obscure, please let Penny know.

Old Business:

- Silver Lake grade 4/5 trip: 2 items are putting the February Silver Lake trip in doubt. 1) mild weather means mud rather than a frozen lake and snow, 2) camp counselors still haven't provided an agenda. In view of this 2 other options have been identified: 1) go to Silver Lake in May or June rather than February, or 2) go to a separate venue all together.
- Children's Festival: no grant is available to the school for tickets this year, instead the tickets are being offered at 2 for 1. A motion was made for PAC to cover the \$300 cost of the entrance fees for the students this year. Moved by Penny, 2nd by Leah.
- T-shirts and Hoodies: Brigitte has researched prices and is close to securing a deal. More info next meeting.

- Parenting talk: it was determined that a protocol needs to be followed to approach the speakers suggested at our January meeting. Mr. Philpotts will talk with Stacy Kemp to determine the protocol to follow to arrange presentations on 'Worry Bugs' and 'Children and Anxiety'.
- In Still Life program: this inspiring program by Nikos Theodosakis is one we are extremely interested in. It involves curriculum so requires much forward planning to implement. Mr. Philpotts suggested this program be an item for discussion at the School Planning Day in August.

New Business:

- Spring Fling: a tentative date of March 26 has been set, subject to availability of the band. This is a wonderful project and involves a lot of work so will be done by committee this year. Lisa, Darcy, Alexis and Susan Jordan will oversee the project which will focus on a bake sale, silent auction and dance. The merits of making the Spring Fling a PAC fundraiser rather than solely a Grade 4/5 fieldtrip fundraiser were discussed. PAC could then incorporate it into the yearly budget, funds raised could be put toward a number of projects rather than just one and a commitment is then in place to fund the field trip each year. A motion was made to include the Spring Fling as a PAC fundraiser. Moved by Susan Selles, 2nd by Darcy.
- EDI explanation: Mr. Philpotts gave us some info about the 'Early Development Instrument' which is an information gathering tool completed by a kindergarten teacher annually. The results identify vulnerabilities in particular areas or neighborhoods and allow schools to do intervention to assist students from those areas and give them a hand at school. It is not a screening tool or special needs assessment.

Trustee's Report:

Ginny Manning presented her report which included the information that full day kindergarten will be implemented in this district over 2 years with West Bench school being in the 1st wave.

Principal's Report:

Mr. Philpotts covered a number of topics including the 'Honouring Our Families' program, Random Acts of Kindness Hearts, Driver's Abstract and others.

Accelerated Reading Program: at the October PAC meeting it was moved that PAC would fund up to \$1000 of the costs of this program. Heather will ensure a cheque for \$1000 is given to the school.

Olympic Dress Up House Team Challenge: the children will feel like Olympic champions on Monday February 15th when they dress up for assembly as their favorite Olympic sport!

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

**Next meeting date is Wednesday
April 7th**

Satisfaction Survey info for Parents of Grade 4 Students

Satisfaction Survey 2009/10

The Provincial Satisfaction Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in 2010 the Satisfaction Survey will be administered to students in grades 4, their parents, and all school staff. We encourage parents to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

This year, the survey will be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. All that is required is a logon number that the school will provide to participants. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site, without a logon number. Should you not have access to the internet, you are welcome to come by West Bench and log onto our internet or fill out and return the hard copy survey that was sent home. We will enter the data for you.

Every family in Grade 4 will receive a log on number. If you have not received your logon number by February 18th, please contact the school at 250-770-7692.



Parenting Materials:

West Bench Elementary School library is pleased to offer parenting literature and materials to lend out. There are many informative books and we now have an immunization video and booklet for parents of grade 5 students to view.

KVR Middle School

Grade 6 Orientation

THURSDAY, April 22, 2010

9:15 am to 12:00pm

KVR School Gym

We are hosting an orientation event for all Grade 5 students (English and French Immersion) entering Grade 6 at KVR in September 2010.

Objective

- To ease anxiety associated with transition to Middle School
- To familiarize Grade 5's with activities, events and layout of KVR
- To provide inclusion activities that involve all new Grade 5 students to KVR

Format

- This event will include a school tour (facilitated through a Scavenger Hunt)
- It will also include a presentation of events and activities, and a pep rally with games and refreshments.
- Parents are invited to attend and help out.

Transportation

- Carmi and Queen's Park kids will walk to and from KVR
- All other students will need to have parents arrange transportation

We expect this to be a fun, informative, safe event for the kids.

It is our goal to have as many new Grade 6 students attending this event as possible. Parents are welcome to attend this event.

Grade 6 Orientation Parent Night

TUESDAY, April 20, 2010

7:00 to 8:00 pm

KVR Multi-Purpose Room

Prior to the orientation event, we will be hosting a Parent Night for all parents/guardians of students entering Grade 6 at KVR Middle School in September 2010.

French Immersion Parent Night

THURSDAY, April 22, 2010

7:00 to 8:00 pm

KVR Multi-Purpose Room

Parents may attend both sessions if their child is in French Immersion. This evening will focus primarily on issues pertaining to the French instruction.



On February 1st we will be starting our Random Acts of Kindness Hearts again. The students will be sending pink Kindness Hearts to students who have done a random act of kindness for them or for another Wildcat. The hearts will be displayed on each of the classroom bulletin boards. The Hearts will be given out all February. It is another way we get to recognize the good citizenship and kindness of our Wonderful Wildcats.

Coffee Fundraiser

Thank you for your support of our coffee/tea/hot chocolate fundraiser. This fundraiser will be continuing until June. We will be placing orders on the 15th and 30th of each month. An order form is attached to this bulletin.



PLEASE SPECIFY HOW MANY BAGS OF EACH GRADE YOU WANT

COFFEE (1lb/454g bag)	▼	AGTRON ROAST (lower # = darker roast)	Whole Bean	Fine Grind	Filter	Percolator	Espresso	Price	Total
Spitfire Long Bottoms	19	Deep and very, very dark						\$14	
Wanna Double Roasted	24	Delicately dark with a nutty, smoky finish						\$14	
Dog and the Trombone	28	A classic espresso with a thick, sweet crema						\$14	
Mexican Aztec Gold	33	Volcanic blend that blasts the cap, sweet and bold						\$14	
Puerto Columbian	37	Zesty and full with a hint of chocolate						\$14	
Rockets from RoseRite	37	Wakes you up & powers you thru the day						\$14	
West Coast Roasted	38	Balanced for am, pm and fm, too						\$14	
Bolivian Chestnut Brown	38	A rich, spicy flavour is found in this organic						\$14	
Guatemalan Highlands	39	Goes all complex when roasted						\$14	
The Toothless Dog	24	SW Decaf, gentle yet full of character						\$15	
High Cream Dessert Coffee	36	Smooth as the cheek of an Irish lass						\$15	
French Vanilla Dessert Coffee	36	True French, ooo la vanilla						\$15	
Hazel Nutlet Dessert Coffee	38	Nutlet's nuttier than hazel						\$15	

ORGANIC GARDEN TEA		Quantity	Price	Total
Black Tea/Orange Pekoe (25 bags)	So smooth in the cup		\$5.25	
Orange (25 bags)	Put the orange, serve hot or cold		\$5.25	
Earl Grey (25 bags)	Finest Ceylon blend with bergamot oil		\$5.25	
Green Tea (25 bags)	Used for health benefits, pale grassy colour and sweet fragrance		\$5.25	
English Breakfast (25 bags)	A full-bodied blend of Ceylons and Darjeelings		\$5.25	
Lemon (25 bags)	Deliciously tart and fresh		\$5.25	
Ginger (25 bags)	Ginger known as a "wonder" root, has been used for medicinal purposes		\$5.25	
Jasmine (25 bags)	Smooth, exotic and tasty		\$5.25	
Chai (25 bags)	Exotic blend of organic black tea and spices		\$5.25	
Roibos Natural (20 bags)	High in nutrients, with anti-oxidant properties		\$5.25	
Roibos Vanilla (20 bags)	Deliciously vanilla		\$5.25	
Roibos Lemon Mint (20 bags)	Minty, with lemony zest		\$5.25	

COCOA CAMINO ORGANIC CHOCOLATE		Quantity	Price	Total
Hot Chocolate (336g can)			\$7	
Dark Hot Chocolate (336g can)			\$7	
Organic Cocoa Powder (224g can)			\$7	

Grand Total: \$

Customer's name: _____ Phone: _____

Customer's email: * _____

Date: _____ Seller's name: _____ Seller's phone: _____

Please make cheque payable to: _____

*WE AS SELLER WILL IN COMMUNICATE WITH OUR PARTNERS SYSTEM, THESE MESSAGES COULD INCLUDE PROMOTIONAL OFFERS, NOTICES OR SELECT FUNDRAISING ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROVIDING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS, PHONE NO. YOUR CONSENT TO RECEIVE THESE EMAILS, WE WILL BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR PRIVACY AND WE WILL NEVER EVER SELL, LEAD OR RELEASE ANY INFORMATION COLLECTED FROM YOU