

September 2009



Parkland News

“Success Through Perseverance”

Parkland Middle School
1115 – 2nd Avenue South Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 2B4
Phone: (250) 426-3327 Fax: (250) 426-6334
Mr. Brent Reimer– Principal
Mr. Ray Kitt – Vice Principal

Check Out Our Web Site!!

<http://pms.sd5.bc.ca>

All sorts of great information
about PMS right at your
fingertips!

Meet the Teacher

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 15 th	Picture Day
Sept 25 th	Non Instruction Day. Students do not attend.
Sept 23rd	First Parent Advisory Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm - Library
Sept 29-Oct 1	Book Fair @ Parkland School (Library News on Pg 2)
Sept 29th	Open House-meet the teacher @ 6:30pm – 7:30pm
Sept 30 th	Band Information Night @ 7pm in the Band Room

Meet the Teacher Night is Tuesday, September 29th. We welcome everyone to attend.

We will start in the Gymnasium with a brief update and chat, and then send you off through the halls with maps and timetables to meet the teachers.

From the Office

Dear Parents:

Welcome to another new year at Parkland Middle School.

Students and staff are becoming comfortable with the new routines and timetable and are settling into school business.

This year we have a teaching staff of 31 along with a support staff of 16 with a total student enrolment of 465 students.

The staff endeavours to provide the best possible learning environment for the students and hopes that your child has a successful year at Parkland. If you notice any potential problems or if you have any questions concerning your child's education, we would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible. We look forward to getting to know you during the year. Mr. Reimer / Mr. Kitt

Absences and Lates:

Please be sure to contact the office if your child will be away from school or late. This will keep us from calling your home or work. You may leave a message on our voicemail at any time.

The following forms have been sent home with your child:

1. **Student Information:** Please make any corrections and return to your T.A.G. teacher as soon as possible.
2. **Medical Alert Planning:** If your child has a medical condition we need to be aware of, please complete the pink form and return to your child's T.A.G. teacher.
3. **Student Fee Invoices:** please send payment with your child to give to their T.A.G. teachers. Receipts are issued to every student. Payment would be appreciated by September 30, 2009.
4. **Student Locker Policy Form:** to be signed by a parent and the student. Return to your TAG teacher.
5. **Grade 9 Immunization Form:** to be filled out and returned to your T.A.G. teacher right away.
6. **Newsletter Email Form:** to be filled out and returned to your T.A.G. teacher right away.

School Growth Plan
2009-2010

Goal #1 To improve student literacy skills.

Goal #2 To improve students' development of social responsibility.

NEWSLETTER

Please see the attached "Newsletter Email Form" and if you are interested in receiving our monthly newsletter via email please return the form filled out with your child to his/her T.A.G. Teacher.

If you were receiving the Newsletters last year via email **we still need** a new form filled out for this year.

LIBRARY

We are off to a great start to the school year. Over the summer we acquired several new titles including the much anticipated sequel to "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins. "Catching Fire" is already circulating and many are waiting to read about the continued adventures of Katniss!

BOOK FAIR!

Parkland will be having a Scholastic Book Fair running from September 29th to October 1st. It will be set up in the Ping Pong room and will be open before school, at lunch and during the open house on the evening of the 29th. Please support this worthwhile fund raiser for the library!

If you are able to help out in the evening of the 29th please contact Janice Mayer at the school.

LATES

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time. Being punctual is important so students do not miss instructional time and do not cause disruption to the learning environment. The administration and staff appreciate your support in regards to this issue.

POLICY ON DRUGS & FIGHTING

Fighting: On school time, on or off school property. School time is deemed from the moment a student leaves home in the morning to the moment they arrive home after school.

1st offence: 3 to 5 day suspension. Students involved must meet together with the administration and parents prior to being allowed back into regular

classes. This meeting will follow a restorative practices format.

2nd offence: Removal from regular classes. Students may be placed on a home bound program for the remainder of the semester. Access to school resources will be negotiated with the school administration. Students' behavioural history will be taken into account.

Watching or Instigating a Fight:

The consequences may be the same as above.

Drugs or Alcohol:

Includes the possession of or use of any illegal drug, or misuse of prescription drugs. If a student smells like marijuana, they will be deemed to have been using it. It is a student's responsibility to make good choices as to whom they associate with and where they hang out. Giving the excuse 'they were standing beside someone else smoking up' does not work.

1st offence is an Indefinite suspension. The student would require a meeting with the Board to decide the future educational plan for the student. If the educational plan were to allow the student back to school, the student must contact a drug and alcohol counselor and have an appointment set before being allowed back to regular classes. If this is not done, the student may be placed on a homebound program until an appointment has been made.

CELL PHONES

"ARE NOT TO BE USED IN THE SCHOOL"
SECTION 3.33 POLICY Use of Cell Phones and Digital Devices

The Board of Trustees believes that cell phones and other digital devices can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, the ordinary use of cell phones and digital products in school situations can be disruptive to the educational environment and is not acceptable.

Students may carry cell phones or other digital products but they must be turned off and out of sight inside school buildings, on school buses, on field trips, and at any other school-sponsored activities. School Principals may grant approval for students to use cell phones for emergency purposes only. Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action being taken and confiscation of the cell phone or digital device.

Confiscated items shall be returned to the student only after a conference with the parent/guardian, student and school personnel.

MUSIC

Band Parent Information Night on Wednesday, September 30 at 7:00pm in the band room

Have you been missing GREAT coffee all summer? Watch in the near future for the launch of our fall coffee fundraiser...all orders are due to the band room by Wednesday, September 30th.

TOBACCO FREE SCHOOLS

On September 2, 2007 all B.C. schools (K-12), both public and private, became totally tobacco-free ([Tobacco Control Act section 2.2](#)).

This law applies to:

- School Employees
- Students
- Parents
- School visitors, on-site workers & guests
- Anyone in school vehicles
- Anyone in private vehicles parked on school property
- All tobacco products, not just cigarettes
- Anyone attending non-school activities in schools or on school grounds

Why is this law important?

- Because everyone's health is important
- Because most smokers start before the age of 18
- Because tobacco is addictive
- Because these new requirements might help smokers in their efforts to quit

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

I would like to welcome all returning Aboriginal students and all of our new grade 7 students to Parkland. I look forward to building new relationships and continuing already established ones with students and their families. Any parents who would like to come in or give me a call to discuss their child/ren with me, please feel free to do so. I am at Parkland fulltime.

All students who identify themselves being of Aboriginal Ancestry are eligible for Support Services through the Aboriginal Education Program. Examples of support: advocacy, communicating between home and school, home and community, classroom presentations and student support. Every year students with Aboriginal Ancestry (or their parents/guardians) have not identified themselves as Aboriginal because they mistakenly believe they need status or a Metis card. This is not the case. If

you know you or your children have Aboriginal Ancestry (First Nations, Metis, Inuit) your word is all that is required. Please share this information with others to help ensure all Aboriginal students receive support. Please feel free to call or come in if you have any questions or concerns. The Aboriginal Education Department has also developed a Parent Club called Fry Bread and Bannock Parent Club. Workshops and parent gatherings run every month along with free daycare if needed. Watch for dates and times in the school newsletter or a memo sent home with your child.

If you have any questions you can reach Alison Farkvam@ 250 426-3327

DRESS CODE

All students are required to wear clothing that is appropriate to a work environment.

This includes:

- tops
 - with sleeves
 - that cover the midriff
 - that cover the back
 - that cover cleavage
- bottoms
 - that extend to mid thigh
 - that are pulled up to cover entire buttocks
- clothing with no vulgarity or swearing, promoting of drugs, alcohol, hatred, violence, or sex
- shoes must be worn at all times

Dress Code violators will be asked by teachers to comply. If sent to the office for further intervention administrative action will be taken. This could result in the student being sent home for inappropriate clothing.

RAIDER ATHLETICS

We need your help! We are looking for volunteers for our grade 8 & 9 boys Volleyball teams. Contact the PE department if you are interested.

Our Grade 7 house team is up and running. The practice times are Tue & Thurs with the girls at 3:30-5:00pm and the boys at 5:00-6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to come out and play.

BC SCHOOL FRUIT & VEGGIE PROGRAM

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. The students will receive washed and ready to enjoy produce twice every other week at no charge. A form has been sent home with your child to be signed and sent back to our school if you do not wish your child to participate or if you are concerned with allergies.

