



# Arthur Stevenson Elementary

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Principal: Mr. Grant Reilly

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## Principal's Message

It was wonderful to see so many beautiful smiles from the students last week. I trust that families enjoyed some rest and laughter with family and friends during the Winter Break. At the end of November, our school hosted Instructional Rounds. Instructional Rounds consists of a group of educators who visit several different classrooms throughout the morning to collect information on how our students are learning. As a school staff, we asked the educators to investigate our students' willingness to persevere in their learning. The Instructional Rounds team provided school staff with data that can be grouped into three categories: 1. Feedback/language used in classrooms. 2. The type of task students are doing. 3. How students are grouped in the classroom (individual desks/seated at tables). These three areas will be a focus for school staff for the remainder of the year, as we work to build our students' abilities to persevere in their learning, which means giving our students opportunities to experience challenging tasks and not rescuing them immediately if their learning is not automatic.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Grant Reilly".

Grant Reilly

## Kindergarten Registration 2017-18 School Year

It is already that time for the district to begin thinking about student enrolment for the upcoming school year. Kindergarten registration for students attending Arthur Stevenson will take place at the school during the week of February 14th - 17th. Please remember to bring your child's birth certificate and care card when registering. As well, only students who live in the catchment area of Arthur Stevenson will be registered, so please bring a proof of address when registering. Any families living outside of our school's catchment will need to register at their catchment school and then fill out a transfer form should parents want their child to attend Arthur Stevenson. This transfer form should be brought to Arthur Stevenson during the Kindergarten registration period.

### *Kindergarten Roundup Event*

There will be a meeting for parents of children who are entering Kindergarten in September 2017 at the Henry Grube Centre on Thursday, February 9th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Information will be shared about Kindergarten, early learning and child care.

### *Schools of Choice Kindergarten Registration*

Kindergarten registration for schools of choice (French Immersion, Montessori, Science and Technology School and School of the Arts) takes place during the week of January 30th to February 3rd. For more information please visit our school website and follow the Kindergarten Registration 2017/18 link under the District News heading.

## **Cardboard Design Challenge**

Thank you to those families who have sent in cardboard for our upcoming Cardboard Design Challenge during the week of January 30th to February 3rd. If you have some extra cardboard just waiting to be recycled please send it to school!

## **PAC News**

PAC will be hosting a gently used book sale on Saturday, February 18th at Arthur Stevenson Elementary from 10 am to 1 pm. Look for more information to come from PAC asking families to donate any books in good condition that could be used for the sale. The next PAC meeting is scheduled for *Monday, February 6th @ 6:30*. As always, childminding is available.

## **Foundation Skills Assessment**

Foundation Skills Assessment will be administered to grade 4 and grade 7 students between January 16th and January 27th. The Foundation Skills Assessment is a province-wide assessment of grade 4 and grade 7 students in British Columbia. The assessment covers the areas of Reading, Writing, and Numeracy. The assessment provides a 'snapshot' of each child's achievement in the above curricular areas. The information gathered from the assessment is used by school staff in addition to the daily assessment collected by teachers to develop lessons that are responsive to students' learning strengths and needs. Students who have missed any assessment due to absences will make up the assessments they missed during the first week in February. The *Student Learning Assessment Order* (School Act sections 81 and 168) mandates the administration of the FSA to all grade 4 and grade 7 students. As a result, principals do not have the authority to excuse students from participating in the assessments, unless particular students meet specific criteria. Students who are in attendance at school will be participating in the assessment. If you have any concerns or questions regarding the FSA, please contact Mr. Reilly. A sample of test questions can be found here:

[https://www.awinfosys.com/eassessment/fsa\\_sample.htm](https://www.awinfosys.com/eassessment/fsa_sample.htm)

## **Ministry of Education Meeting on Reporting**

The Ministry of Education is seeking information from parents regarding possible changes to student report cards. The Ministry of Education wants parents to share how they want to learn about their child's progress from Kindergarten to Grade 9. To help facilitate this conversation, there is a community meeting on Monday, January 30th from 5pm to 8pm at the Henry Grube Education Centre.

## **Basketball**

The start of January means the start of the basketball season in elementary schools. This year our school will have five teams participating: a tier 1, 2, and 3 boys team and a tier 1 and 2 girls team. Special thanks to our coaches (Mr. Scott, Mrs. Hawkings and Dylan Barrett, Mr. Styles, Mr. Dhaliwal, and Mr. Reilly) for providing our kids with an opportunity to develop their basketball skills and have fun competing against students from other schools.

## **Family Literacy Month**

January is literacy month, a time to focus on the joy of reading and a reminder to be 'present' with our kids in their learning. The Literacy in Kamloops (LinK) organization in association with a number of community partners, including the Kamloops/Thompson school district has organized many activities for this year's Unplug and Play Event during the week of January 21st to 28th. The goal of this event is to raise awareness about the importance of family literacy and finding a healthy balance between sedentary screen time and active family time. To see the schedule of free events and find out more information about Family Literacy please visit

<http://literacyinkamloops.weebly.com>

## **Upcoming Events**

- January 11 - Day's Class Field Trip to Big Little Science Centre (8:30 - 11:00)
- January 13 - Term 2 Overviews sent home to parents
- January 13 - Skating (Zelisko/Hawkings/McLean)
- January 16 - FSAs begin for students in grades 4 and 7
- January 17 - ArtStarts performance @ 11:00
- January 20 - Non-instructional day, school closed for students
- January 21 - Unplug and Play Event (Jan. 21 - 28)
- January 27 - Skating (Zelisko/Hawkings/McLean)
- January 27 - FSAs end for students in grades 4 and 7
- January 30 - Ministry of Education Reporting Meeting for parents @ Henry Grube (5:00 - 8:00 pm)
- January 31 - Recognition Assembly @ 8:45
- February 3 - Skating (Dhaliwal/Bertoncini/Sorensen)
- February 6 - PAC Meeting @ 6:30

## **Board of Education Notes**

### ***From the Board Meeting of: December 12, 2016***

1. The Board approved the Consent Agenda which contained the following reports/information:
  1. Adoption of Regular Public Board Minutes of November 21, 2016;
  2. Revised Implementation Schedule of the Graduation Years;
  3. Naloxone Guidelines;
  4. District Parent Advisory Council Report;
  5. Parks and Recreation Committee Report.
2. The Board received a beautiful Strings presentation, introduced by Principal Griffith.
3. The Board approved two Out-of-Province Field Trip Requests from Westsyde Secondary School and NorKam Senior Secondary School.
4. The Board approved an Out-of-Province Field Trip Request from the International Student Program.
5. The Board received a presentation from Manager Pinette on the *Discover the World of Information Technology* conference.
6. The Board received information on the Kindergarten enrolment schedule for 2017/2018 from Director Smillie.

7. The Board received the School Completion Report, presented by District Principal Brar and Teacher Mr. Lowe.
8. The Board approved the Creativity, Innovation and Curriculum Grants presented by Director Robinson.
9. The Board adopted a revised Board Meeting schedule for 2016-2017.
10. The Board approved revisions to Policy 600.1 Code of Conduct and Policy 612.1 Student Dress Code.

The next regular Board Meeting will occur on Monday January 16, 2017 at the Henry Grube Education Centre, 245 Kitchener Crescent, Kamloops, BC.