



**SCHOOL
DISTRICT
57**

**Quarterly Newsletter
SUMMER 2026**

SCHOOL'S
OUT

**A Year of
Learning, Leading,
and Belonging**



SCHOOL DISTRICT 57 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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A Closing Message from the District Student Advisory Council

As we wrap up the 2025–2026 school year, the District Student Advisory Council would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to students across the district.

To all students, thank you for the energy, passion, and commitment you have brought to your schools this year. Your voices, ideas, and contributions have played an important role in building inclusive, supportive, and engaging school communities.

To our graduating students, congratulations on reaching this important milestone. We are proud of all that you have accomplished and wish you continued success in your future pathways.

To those returning next year, we look forward to continuing this work together. Your leadership and perspectives will remain vital as we continue to grow and strengthen student voice across the district.

Throughout the year, DSAC has been inspired by the creativity, collaboration, and resilience of students. From leadership initiatives to meaningful conversations, we are proud of what we have achieved together.

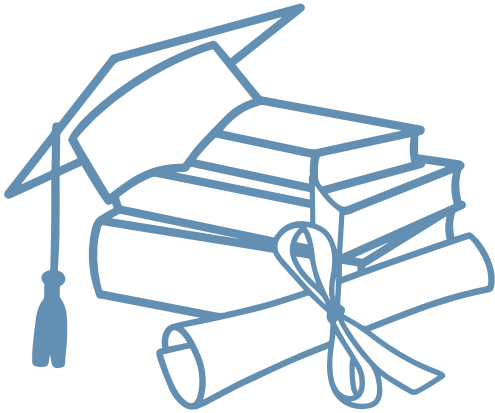
We wish everyone a safe, restful, and well-deserved summer break. We look forward to reconnecting in the fall and continuing this important work together.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of SD57, I would like to extend my congratulations to all of our students for a great year completed. It is our pleasure to serve you in your education journey, and we wish you and all of our families, staff and community a restful and recharging summer.

– Superintendent/CEO Mr. Aziz



Message from the Board Chair

As we move into the summer months, the Board of Education is pleased to reflect on another season of learning, growth, and achievement across School District No. 57.

Our students continue to demonstrate remarkable resilience, creativity, and determination. Whether in classrooms, athletic fields, on stages, in trades programs, or through community service, they are developing the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need for success in an ever-changing world.

We are grateful to everyone whose contributions help create meaningful opportunities for our students every day.

June provides an opportunity to celebrate milestones. We extend our congratulations to our graduating students as they prepare for the next stage of their journeys. Their accomplishments reflect years of hard work, perseverance, and support from those around them.

As a Board, we are proud of the work taking place across our schools and remain committed to ensuring every learner has the opportunity to reach their full potential. We thank our communities for their ongoing support of public education and wish all students, staff, and families a safe, enjoyable, and well-deserved summer.



DSAC Supports Indigenous Sports Day at Quinson Elementary

On April 8, students at Quinson Elementary took part in a meaningful and engaging Indigenous Sports Day, supported by the District Student Advisory Council. The day focused on celebrating Indigenous culture through traditional games, physical activity, and community connection, while giving students the opportunity to learn through hands-on experience.

DSAC was proud to provide support for the event, helping ensure students had access to equipment and activities rooted in Indigenous traditions. Throughout the day, students rotated through stations that emphasized collaboration, movement, and respect, key values reflected in many traditional Indigenous games. The activities encouraged participation from all students and created a fun, welcoming atmosphere where learning extended beyond the classroom.

Indigenous Sports Day also served as an important opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of Indigenous cultures and perspectives. By incorporating traditional games into physical education, the event highlighted the role of sport and movement as a way of passing down knowledge, strengthening community bonds, and promoting well-being.

DSAC's involvement aligns with its ongoing commitment to supporting student voice, inclusion, and reconciliation initiatives across the district. Events like Indigenous Sports Day demonstrate how student-led groups can play a meaningful role in creating authentic learning opportunities and supporting schools in celebrating diverse cultures.

Quinson Elementary staff and students are thanked for their enthusiasm and engagement, and DSAC looks forward to continuing to support initiatives that promote cultural understanding, connection, and student leadership throughout the district.



DSAC Support at the Northern Games

On April 17, the district was proud to host the Northern Games, welcoming student participants from nine schools across the region. The success of this event was made possible through the generous support and partnership of DSAC.

DSAC's contributions were instrumental in ensuring the Northern Games ran smoothly and provided a positive, inclusive experience for all involved. Their ongoing commitment to supporting student opportunities and district initiatives continues to have a meaningful impact on our school communities.

Hosting an event of this scale requires significant coordination and partnership. The district extends sincere appreciation to DSAC for their time, resources, and ongoing commitment to student engagement and district initiatives. Without their support, bringing together nine schools for a shared event would not have been possible.

The Northern Games highlighted the strength of community partnerships and the positive impact they have on student experiences. The district is grateful for DSAC's continued collaboration and looks forward to future opportunities to work together in support of students and schools across the north.





Fourth Annual DSAC Leadership Summit Brings Student Voices Together

The District Student Advisory Council recently hosted its Fourth Annual Student Leadership Summit at Duchess Park Secondary, bringing together students, educators, trustees, and community leaders from across School District 57 for a day focused on leadership, inclusion, and student voice.

The summit opened with remarks from DSAC Chair Emily Clarke and Vice-Chair Areebah Khalid, along with a welcome from Elder Mike Bozoki of the Lheidli T'enneh.

A highlight of the day was the keynote presentation by Kevin Lamoureux, who shared powerful messages about mentorship, belonging, and creating inclusive learning environments where all students can succeed.

Students also heard from School District 57 Board Vice-Chair Erica McLean and Superintendent Jameel Aziz, who both emphasized the importance of student leadership and student voice within the district.

The event provided students with opportunities to connect, learn, and leave inspired to create positive change within their schools and communities.



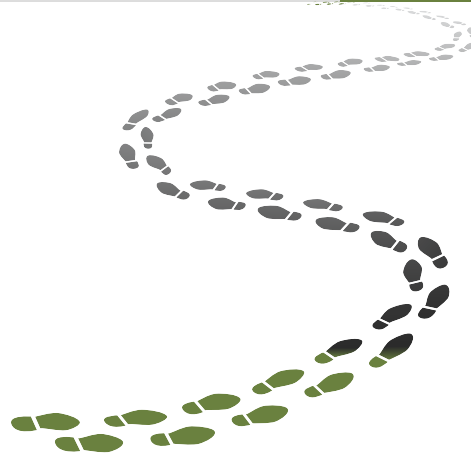
LEADERSHIP



DSAC Supports Hospice Through 8th Annual Colour Walk

Throughout the month of May, the District Student Advisory Council proudly participated in the 8th Annual Colour Walk in support of the Prince George Hospice Palliative Care Society. This meaningful initiative challenged participants to walk 100 kilometres while honouring loved ones, friends, and community members, and raising awareness and support for hospice care in Northern BC.

The Colour Walk is more than just a physical challenge, it is an opportunity to reflect, remember, and come together as a community. Students across the district embraced the spirit of the event, demonstrating compassion, empathy, and a commitment to service.



DSAC members played an important leadership role in promoting the initiative within their schools and encouraging participation. Their collective efforts resulted in \$1,400 raised in support of hospice programs that provide compassionate care and vital services to individuals and families during some of life's most difficult moments.

We are incredibly proud of our DSAC students for their leadership and dedication to making a difference. Their efforts reflect the values of kindness, community, and service that we strive to foster across our schools.





DSAC Students Strengthen Connections Through Rural Outreach Visit

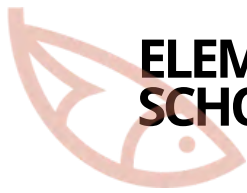
From June 7–9, District Student Advisory Council students travelled to McBride and Valemount to support student leadership, belonging, and school culture across four schools in the Robson Valley.

During the visit, students led a variety of classroom sessions and leadership activities focused on inclusion, wellness, and student voice. At the elementary level, activities emphasized kindness, teamwork, and building positive peer relationships, while secondary sessions encouraged students to reflect on leadership, school culture, and their future goals.

The outreach also provided opportunities for mentorship and relationship-building, with DSAC students working closely with younger peers and engaging school communities in conversations about belonging, leadership opportunities, and ways to positively impact their schools.

This visit highlights DSAC's ongoing commitment to strengthening student voice and ensuring all students regardless of location have opportunities to connect, lead, and feel a sense of belonging within their school communities.

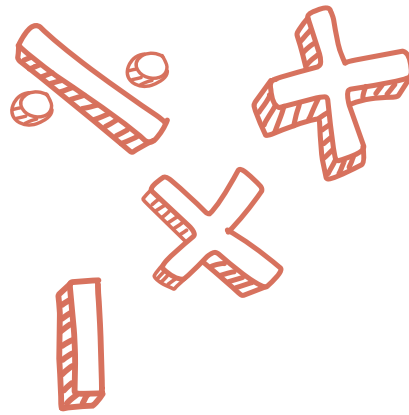




ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

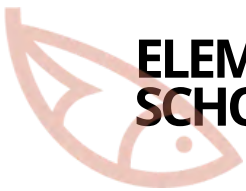
Nusdeh Yoh Elementary's Outdoor Math Mornings

At Nusdeh Yoh, we are aware that learning happens everywhere, even outside of the classroom, and we value the importance of linking land-based learning to curricular concepts. As such, Nusdeh Yoh has implemented outdoor mornings where students take part in a variety of hands-on learning in nature. We have recently expanded the outdoor mornings to include math-focused activities



Some of the activities engage students in creating patterns using items they found in nature, gathering items on nature walks to make estimation activities, and playing a math centered snakes and ladders game. The hands on and learning outside has had a positive impact on student learning and helped increase student achievement in math.





ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



The Heartbeat of Heritage: The Thundering Hawks

This year at Heritage Elementary, a powerful tradition has taken root. What began as an idea to incorporate drumming into the school has grown into the Heritage Drummers. The Thundering Hawks, a group of 44 dedicated students in Grades 4 to 7, complete with their own student-designed logo.

The group practices regularly and has performed at 10 community events, including a UNBC Timberwolves basketball game, the District Employee Retirement event, Indigenous Graduation celebrations, and their own school Talent Show. A highlight was performing at the DP Todd Grad at the Civic Centre.

Beyond performances, the Thundering Hawks serve as leaders supporting assemblies, announcements, and mentoring other schools. Built around goals of confidence, cultural pride, and connection, the group has seen tremendous growth in both leadership and self-confidence.

Led by Mr. Huzar, the Thundering Hawks have truly become the heartbeat of Heritage.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Aubrey's monster reimagined by Rocco



Deandre's monster reimagined by Jessa



Lucas's monster reimagined by Paige



Henry's monster reimagined by Griffin



When High Schoolers Meet Grade 2 Monsters

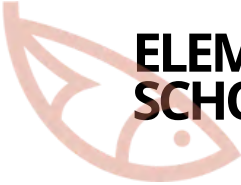
A creative collaboration between Mrs. Anderson's Media Arts class at PGSS and Mrs. Krauskopf's Grade 2 class at Edgewood Elementary brought out the artist in students at both ends of the school journey.

Inspired by The Monster Project, an initiative that pairs children's drawings with professional artists the two teachers joined forces to collaborate. Mrs. Krauskopf's Grade 2 students began by designing their own original monsters, a process that unfolded over several lessons. At this age, it's normal for children to get stuck in perfectionism, so the class explored what monsters could look like, discussed possible features, and participated in a "roll-a-monster" activity to support idea generation. Even with all that scaffolding in place, some students remained critical of their work, despite having completed their creations. That changed when they saw what the high schoolers had done with it.

Using Adobe Illustrator, Mrs. Anderson's students digitally reimagined each monster drawing, their first major project as beginning digital artists. The assignment solved a common challenge for newcomers to digital art: starting with someone else's idea freed students to focus on technical skill rather than concept, building confidence before complexity. Their creativity shone through in every interpretive choice, from the creatures themselves to the worlds they inhabited.

The result was joyful for everyone. Mrs. Krauskopf's class celebrated each other's work and saw their creations transformed into something vibrant and polished, an experience that seemed to shift how many of them saw themselves as artists.

Both teachers hope to grow the partnership to include other feeder schools, strengthening connections and easing transitions as students move through the system. And Mrs. Anderson's class isn't done yet they'll revisit the monster drawings at the end of the semester to measure just how far they've come.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Heritage Fair at Beaverly – Celebrating History Through Student Learning

Beaverly Elementary was proud to host its annual Heritage Fair, featuring the hard work and creativity of Mrs. Lennox and Mrs. Wogan's Grade 4 and 5 students. This exciting event gave students the opportunity to explore topics of personal or historical significance, deepening their understanding of Canada's rich and diverse heritage.

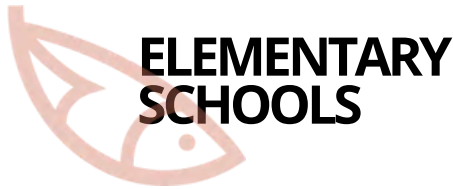
In the weeks leading up to the fair, students selected topics that sparked their curiosity ranging from influential historical figures and cultural traditions to important events that helped shape our country. Through research, critical thinking, and creativity, students developed informative display boards and presentations that showcased their learning in engaging and meaningful ways.

On the day of the fair, the school was buzzing with excitement as students proudly shared their projects with classmates, staff, and visitors. Each display reflected not only knowledge gained, but also the effort and enthusiasm students put into their work. It was wonderful to see students confidently explain their topics and answer questions, demonstrating both their understanding and growing communication skills.

The Heritage Fair continues to be a valuable learning experience that connects classroom learning with real-world history, while fostering a sense of pride in our shared past. We are incredibly proud of our Grade 4 and 5 students for their dedication and outstanding work.

Thank you to staff and families who supported students throughout this process and helped make the event such a success!





Outdoor Learning Flourishes at Pinewood

Pinewood Elementary's new outdoor learning space, installed in May, is already making a positive impact on student learning. This project was made possible through the dedication and support of the Pinewood Parent Advisory Council (PAC), school staff, and the wider school community, creating a space that is now enjoyed by all students.

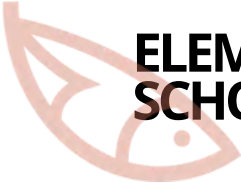
Outdoor learning continues to be an important part of Pinewood's approach, with students regularly engaging in numeracy, literacy, and STEAM activities outside. These hands-on experiences allow students to connect their learning to the natural environment in meaningful and engaging ways.

Recently, students explored creativity through a STEAM project focused on sea turtles. Using colour theory, they designed artwork with wax crayons and applied watercolours to create a resist effect. Students have also been working with natural materials to create mandalas, promoting both creativity and mindfulness.

The outdoor space is also used to support numeracy development. Students have built number lines in the trees, practicing sequencing from one to ten and identifying numbers that are one more or one less.

The space has quickly become a valued extension of the classroom, supporting both academic learning and student well-being through outdoor exploration.





ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Land-Based Learning Brings McBride Students Together

From April 13–15, students from McBride Centennial Elementary and McBride Secondary School had a unique opportunity to learn beyond the classroom walls while participating in a Land-Based Learning Fair held in McBride. Grade 6/7 students from McBride Elementary and Grade 8/9 students from McBride Secondary were joined by peer cohorts from both Valemount schools for this meaningful and hands-on learning experience.

This initiative was made possible through a collaborative effort involving the SD 57 Indigenous Education Department, the Lheidli T'enneh, McBride Centennial Elementary, and McBride Secondary School. Together, partners worked to create an engaging environment where students could deepen their understanding of land-based knowledge and Indigenous ways of learning.



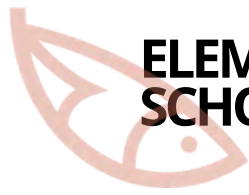
Throughout the three days, students participated in a wide range of experiential activities centered on land-based learning. These included salmon processing, spring pole trapping, plant walks, archery, exploring beaver pelts, and oral storytelling, among many others. Each activity offered students the opportunity to connect learning to the land while gaining insight into cultural practices and traditional knowledge.

Although the weather was cool, the experience was made warm and welcoming. Students gathered with peers around a warming fire, enjoyed hot drinks, treats, and a hot lunch, and shared conversations alongside their outdoor learning. The combination of hands-on activities and community connection created a memorable and engaging experience for all involved.

The opportunity to learn outdoors and alongside peers from neighboring communities was appreciated by students and staff alike.

Experiences such as this Land-Based Learning Fair highlight the value of collaborative partnerships and the importance of learning that extends beyond the classroom, fostering connection, understanding, and respect for the land.





ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS



Beaverly Elementary Welcomes Families for Annual Pancake Breakfast

On Friday, May 8, Beaverly Elementary was filled with smiles, laughter, and the delicious smell of pancakes as students, grandparents, and families gathered for our annual Pancake Breakfast.

This special event provided a wonderful opportunity to bring our school community together. It was heartwarming to see so many families spending time with students and sharing in the welcoming spirit that makes Beaverly such a special place.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our students, staff, PAC, and community members who helped make the morning such a success. From the early morning setup to greeting guests and ensuring everything ran smoothly, the teamwork and dedication on display were outstanding.

We received many positive comments about how welcoming and well-organized the event felt something that truly reflects the care and pride our community brings to Beaverly each and every day. Thank you to everyone for your continued support in making our school such a connected and vibrant community.



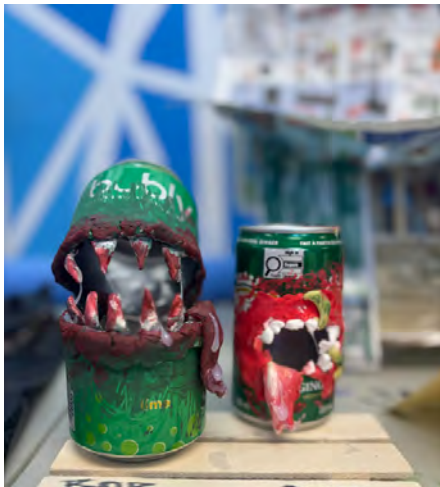
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Harwin Students Showcase Creativity and Environmental Responsibility for Earth Day

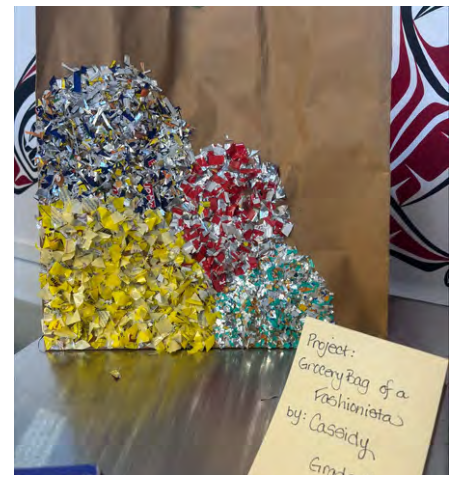
In honour of Earth Day this month, Harwin hosted a recycled art challenge for all students to take part in. The goal was to encourage creativity while also highlighting the importance of reducing waste and reusing materials. Students were asked to build their projects using recycled or reused items, with only tape, glue, string, and paint allowed as new materials.

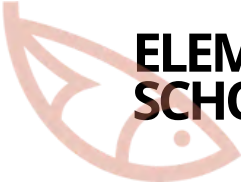
The results were incredible, students created some truly unique projects and showing their creativity and imagination. Using items like recycled pop cans, empty laundry detergent jugs, unused clothing, Kleenex boxes, and other random empty boxes, students transformed everyday materials into imaginative works of art. The finished pieces were showcased in the hallway for everyone to look at and appreciate, making it a celebration of both creativity and environmental responsibility. Thank you to Mrs. Blakely for hosting this popular event.

Earth Day is an important reminder that even small actions can make a big difference in caring for our planet. Along with the art challenge, our school also came together on April 27 for a school grounds and community garbage clean-up. Students worked hard to help keep our environment clean and showed great pride in taking care of the spaces we share.



HAPPY
EARTH
DAY





ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Vanway Elementary Students Bring Business to Life

At Vanway Elementary, learning is coming to life in creative and exciting ways for students in three intermediate divisions. Through an innovative, hands-on project, students are exploring what it means to run a business from developing ideas to creating products and ultimately selling them to real customers.

As part of their learning about business models and entrepreneurship, students design and make their own items to sell. This process allows them to build valuable skills such as creativity, problem-solving, collaboration, and financial literacy, all while taking ownership of their work.

A key part of this experience is the support and mentorship provided by Nick Hatfield, who regularly visits classrooms to work alongside students. His guidance helps deepen student understanding and encourages them to think critically about their products and the business process.

The project has truly become a community effort. Parents provide ongoing support, whether helping students refine their creations or encouraging their participation. In addition, many members of the community visit to purchase student-made items, creating an authentic marketplace experience that brings tremendous excitement and pride to the learners involved.

This initiative highlights the power of experiential learning, showing how meaningful, real-world connections can inspire students and make learning both relevant and memorable.





McBride Secondary Students Give Back on Earth Day

On April 22, Earth Day, the entire student and staff community of McBride Secondary School came together to give back to their local community through an organized clean-up effort throughout the Village of McBride.

Students and staff dispersed across various areas of the village, collecting garbage and picking up litter as a way to demonstrate environmental stewardship and community pride. Their collective efforts helped beautify public spaces and highlighted the school's commitment to caring for both the environment and the broader community.



The students' hard work did not go unnoticed. Their efforts were warmly appreciated by community members and were celebrated with a sweet show of appreciation, ice cream sandwiches, generously handed out by members of the local RCMP Detachment.

This Earth Day initiative was a positive example of teamwork, civic responsibility, and community partnership, showcasing how small actions can make a meaningful difference when everyone works together.





DP Todd Girls' Hockey Students Attend Hockey4Youth National Gathering in Ottawa

In May 2026, a group of students from the DP Todd Girls' Hockey Program travelled to Ottawa to take part in Hockey4Youth's national "Big Gathering" event an experience centered on sport, leadership, and personal growth.

After arriving and settling in at Carleton University, students attended a Professional Women's Hockey League (PWHL) game where the Montreal Victoire defeated the Ottawa Charge. The team later went on to win the Walter Cup, making the experience even more exciting as students witnessed elite women's hockey at the highest level.

Throughout the week, students participated in a variety of workshops and panels focused on resilience, mental health, and leadership. Guest speakers including representatives from the Sullivan Foundation, Ottawa Senators Foundation, and Hockey4Youth shared powerful messages about perseverance and personal growth. Sessions with Jack.org provided practical strategies for managing emotions and emphasized the importance of reaching out for support. Students also explored financial literacy, learning valuable skills for planning their futures, while connecting with peers from across Canada.

In addition to the learning sessions, students had the opportunity to experience some of Ottawa's most iconic landmarks. Highlights included visits to Parliament Hill and the House of Commons, time at the ByWard Market, and a tour of Rideau Hall, where they learned about Canada's history and leadership.

Thank you to Hockey4Youth for providing such a meaningful opportunity to empower young women in sport while fostering confidence, connection, and lifelong skills.





SECONDARY SCHOOLS



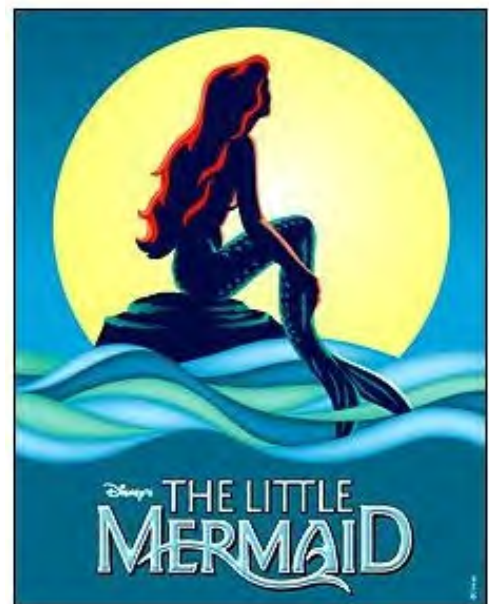
Duchess Park Theatre Company Shines with High School Musical

The Duchess Park Theatre Company recently celebrated an incredible run of Disney's High School Musical, selling out all six performances to enthusiastic audiences and rave reviews each night. The production was a true showcase of student talent and collaboration, featuring 45 students on stage who brought energy and excitement through dance, song, and acting.

Behind the scenes, 35 dedicated student crew members worked tirelessly to ensure every moment ran smoothly, demonstrating the depth of talent and commitment within the program. Supporting the production was a team of 13 teachers who, alongside Ms. Friesen and Ms. Meaney, helped bring the world of East High to life for the Duchess Park community.

Looking ahead, the Theatre Company is already preparing for its next major production. In April 2027, audiences will be invited to journey "under the sea" with Disney's The Little Mermaid. Tickets will go on sale this fall, and updates including behind-the-scenes content and ticket information can be found by following @duchessparktheatre on Instagram.

The team is excited to bring this iconic story to the stage and once again create a memorable theatrical experience for the community.





From Practice to Success: CHSS Students Rise to the Challenge at Eskers Provincial Park

Before heading out on their recent 8 km hiking and fishing trip, students completed a preparatory hike on the Greenway Trail. This “test run” helped set expectations, address challenges, and build the skills needed for a successful outing.

The growth was evident at Eskers Provincial Park. Students demonstrated excellent responsibility, teamwork, and focus throughout the day. They came prepared with appropriate gear, food, and water, shared supplies with one another, and stayed fully engaged putting away phones and working together as a cohesive group.

The hike itself was both physically demanding and educational. As students navigated the rolling terrain of the eskers, glacial ridges that define the landscape, they showed determination and positivity, even in the heat and on steep inclines. Their perseverance and support for one another were evident throughout.

Reaching Camp Lake brought a well-earned sense of accomplishment. Students enjoyed time fishing, eating, and relaxing together on the dock. Although no fish were caught, the experience remained lighthearted and enjoyable.

The return hike tested their resilience once again, especially as water supplies ran low. Students and chaperones shared what they had, ensuring everyone was supported. By the final stretch, a renewed energy carried the group back to the parking area.

The difference between the Greenway hike and this trip was striking. Students rose to the challenge, demonstrating growth in responsibility, perseverance, and teamwork an achievement they should be proud of.





Mackenzie Secondary Hosts Largest Red Dress Walk Yet



On Red Dress Day this past May, Mackenzie Secondary School proudly partnered with the McLeod Lake Indian Band to host its 4th Annual Red Dress Walk a powerful and meaningful event that continues to grow each year. This year marked the largest turnout to date, with students from Morfee Elementary School and many members of the broader community joining in solidarity.

The day began with drumming, singing, and a traditional blessing, setting a respectful and reflective tone. Participants then heard heartfelt and inspiring words from members of both communities, including Mayor Joan Atkinson. Guided by drummers from McLeod Lake and Mackenzie Secondary's own drumming group, the walk made its way to Morfee Elementary School and back, offering a visible and unified expression of remembrance and support.



Following the walk, participants gathered for a circle, ceremony, and fire. Elder Maria Orcherton shared the importance of Red Dress Day and led a deeply moving reading from a book listing the names of missing and murdered Indigenous women and children. As the book was passed around the circle, each participant read a name aloud honouring each individual life while a drumbeat followed every name. The drum itself holds special significance, having been gifted to McLeod Lake by a student last year, symbolizing the strong and growing connection between the school and the community.

The ceremony concluded with a powerful and emotional speech from the daughter of a McLeod Lake Band member. Speaking from the heart, she shared the personal impact of losing her mother, who remains missing. Her words resonated deeply with all in attendance, bringing both reflection and healing to the gathering.

This year's Red Dress Walk was a moving reminder of the importance of remembrance, awareness, and community connection.





Shas-Ti Kelly Road Claims 2026 Principal's Cup Golf Championship

Shas-Ti Kelly Road earned top honours at the 2026 Principal's Cup Golf Tournament, delivering an impressive performance to capture this year's championship title. Competing against strong teams from across the district, Shas-Ti Kelly Road demonstrated consistency, composure, and skill throughout the day to secure the victory.

The tournament showcased outstanding sportsmanship and competitive spirit, with all participating schools contributing to an exciting and memorable event. College Heights Secondary put forth a strong showing, finishing in second place after a solid team effort. Prince George Secondary rounded out the top three, earning third place with a determined performance on the course.

The Principal's Cup continues to be a highlight of the school athletics calendar, bringing together student-athletes for a day of friendly competition and camaraderie. Events like these not only celebrate athletic achievement but also foster connections between schools and promote a lifelong appreciation for the game of golf.

Congratulations to all players and coaches for their efforts, and a special acknowledgment to Shas-Ti Kelly Road for capturing the 2026 championship.





VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES

Prince George Secondary School Celebrates Graduating Class at CN Centre



On June 5th, the Prince George Secondary School community came together at the CN Centre to celebrate the achievements of the graduating class of 2026. The evening was marked by pride, reflection, and excitement as students, families, and staff recognized the hard work and accomplishments that have defined this year's graduates.

The ceremony highlighted a number of students whose dedication and contributions have left a lasting impact on the school community. Among the prestigious awards presented was the Lawson Oliver Fandrey Memorial Award, awarded to Jacen Laycock, recognizing outstanding character and commitment. The Vince Truant Striving for Excellence Memorial Scholarship was presented to Carter Hauk for his perseverance and pursuit of excellence.



Academic achievement was also celebrated, with Emma-Lee Baldry receiving the Academic Excellence Award for her exceptional academic performance. The Polar Academic Award was shared by Amy Kostenuik and Breanne Warkentin, both of whom have demonstrated consistent dedication to their studies and academic success.

Citizenship and leadership within the school community were recognized through the Citizenship Award, presented to Martina Pagnotta and Jocelyn Murguly. Their positive contributions, leadership, and commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive school culture have made a meaningful difference.

The evening's highest honour, the Outstanding Graduate Award, was awarded to Amrit Manhas, whose achievements across academics, leadership, and community involvement exemplify the very best of Prince George Secondary School.



As graduates crossed the stage, the ceremony served not only as a celebration of individual accomplishments but also as a reflection of the collective journey shared by this class. The event concluded with a sense of optimism and anticipation, as students prepare to take their next steps beyond secondary school.

Congratulations to all graduates and award recipients on this significant milestone. The future is bright, and the Prince George community looks forward to the continued success of this remarkable group of young people.



VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES

College Heights Secondary Celebrates the Class of 2026

College Heights Secondary proudly celebrated the Class of 2026 with a memorable graduation ceremony, recognizing a group of students who have made a meaningful impact on the school community.

A highlight of the evening was the valedictory address delivered by Areebah Khalid, whose thoughtful and inspiring words reflected on the shared experiences of the graduating class. Her message encouraged her peers to move forward with confidence, resilience, and a strong sense of purpose.

The ceremony also recognized two exceptional students, Kenzie MacLeod and Aarya Suresh Babu, who were honoured as Most Outstanding Graduates. Both students exemplify excellence in academics, leadership, and service, leaving a lasting legacy at College Heights Secondary.

The graduation ceremony was a fitting celebration of the accomplishments, growth, and contributions of the Class of 2026. College Heights Secondary extends its sincere congratulations to all graduates and wishes them continued success in their future endeavours.





VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES



happy
GRADUATION



DP Todd Secondary Celebrates the Class of 2026

DP Todd Secondary proudly celebrated the graduating Class of 2026 on June 12, recognizing a remarkable group of students whose dedication, resilience, and achievements have left a lasting impact on the school community. The graduation ceremony was a meaningful opportunity to honour the accomplishments of this year's graduates and to celebrate their contributions to school life.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the school's top awards, recognizing excellence across academics, leadership, citizenship, and overall contribution.

The Top Academic Awards for Grade 12 were presented to Katelyn Dawes, Gilbert Kaweesi, and Heidi Bernard in recognition of their outstanding commitment to academic excellence throughout their high school careers. The Art Reed Award was awarded to Ezekiel Mtegha, acknowledging exceptional achievement and dedication.

The prestigious DP Todd Award, which honours an outstanding all-around student who demonstrates excellence in academics, leadership, and involvement in school and community life, was presented to Zelalem Tsega Woubishet. The DP Todd Citizenship Award was awarded to Holly York for her exemplary character, positive leadership, and meaningful contributions to the school community.

The Principal's Award, recognizing personal growth, perseverance, and leadership, was presented to Shawn Papineau and Canaan Woodrow. In addition, the Lions Club Academic Leadership Award was awarded to Katelyn Dawes and Heidi Bernard in recognition of their ability to balance academic excellence with strong leadership within the school.

The Class of 2026 leaves DP Todd Secondary with a legacy of achievement, leadership, and school pride. We congratulate all graduates and wish them every success as they move forward into the next chapter of their journeys.



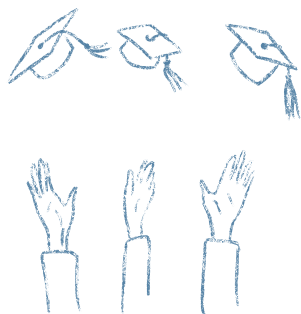
VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES

Strength, Support, and Success: ACP Graduation 2026

The Alternate Community Programs graduation ceremony was a powerful celebration of resilience, connection, and achievement. More than 400 parents, staff, and district leaders gathered to honor the graduating class, creating an atmosphere filled with pride and emotion. The room reflected not only academic success, but the strong relationships that define the school community.

Two beautiful valedictory speeches stood out as the heart of the ceremony. Each student spoke candidly about their personal journeys, highlighting the challenges they had overcome and the unwavering support they received along the way. Both emphasized how their connection to the school and its dedicated staff gave them the confidence to keep going. In particular, they credited ACP as the true difference-maker in their success, noting that without its flexible, student-centered approach, graduation might not have been possible.

The celebration also recognized the remarkable accomplishments of the graduates beyond the classroom. ACP students were awarded over \$18,000 in district scholarships and bursaries, a testament to their perseverance and potential. The ceremony closed with a sense of hope and accomplishment, leaving all in attendance inspired by what can be accomplished when we truly come together as a community.





VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES



A Memorable Send-Off for Duchess Park's Graduating Class

On June 18, the Prince George Civic Centre was filled with pride, celebration, and a sense of accomplishment as Duchess Park Secondary honoured its graduating Class of 2026 during a memorable valedictory ceremony.

Family members, staff, and community guests gathered to recognize the hard work, resilience, and achievements of this year's graduates. The ceremony reflected not only academic success, but also the character, leadership, and contributions students have made throughout their time at Duchess Park.

Throughout the afternoon, graduates crossed the stage to enthusiastic applause, marking the culmination of years of dedication and perseverance. The ceremony provided an opportunity to reflect on shared experiences, celebrate friendships, and look ahead to the future pathways that await each student.

A highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of several major awards recognizing outstanding achievement across a range of areas:

- Citizenship Award – Amalia Owen was recognized for her exceptional commitment to the school community, consistently demonstrating leadership, kindness, and a willingness to support others.
- Principal's Cup and Lions Club Academic Achievement Award – Emily
- Emily was honoured for her outstanding academic excellence and dedication to learning, earning two of the school's most prestigious awards.

These award recipients exemplify the values of Duchess Park Secondary, and their accomplishments serve as an inspiration to their peers.

As the ceremony concluded, the Class of 2026 was celebrated not only for what they have achieved, but for the positive impact they have made within their school and community. With a strong foundation behind them, these graduates now look ahead with confidence to the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Congratulations to the Duchess Park Secondary Class of 2026!





VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES

Mackenzie Secondary Celebrates Graduates

Mackenzie Secondary School honoured its graduates with two meaningful events in June.

On June 12, Indigenous seniors gathered at Alexander Mackenzie Landing for the annual Nachoughajetl celebration. Joined by family, staff, and community members, students were recognized through drumming, singing, and heartfelt words of support. Each graduate received a gift package, and the afternoon concluded with food and time together. Thank you to Mrs. McCourt, Mrs. Oliver, and Mr. Ratcliffe for organizing, and to Associate Superintendent Pam Spooner for attending and sharing her support.

On June 20, 43 students took part in the Valedictory Ceremony. Zack Kroll, this year's valedictorian, delivered a heartfelt speech recognizing his teachers and classmates. Eleven students received awards, scholarships, and bursaries totaling \$31,763.88, including over \$20,000 from local donors. The school extends its sincere appreciation to the community for its continued support of graduates.



VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES



McBride Secondary Celebrates the Class of 2026

On June 19, McBride Secondary School proudly celebrated the graduation of the Class of 2026 in a heartfelt ceremony that brought together students, families, staff, and community members. The evening was filled with pride, reflection, and celebration as graduates were recognized for their achievements and contributions during their time at the school.

A highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of several prestigious awards that recognize academic excellence, leadership, and community involvement. The UNBC Scholar 2025 Award was presented to Meesha Hurry, acknowledging outstanding academic achievement and dedication to learning. This honour reflects Meesha's commitment to excellence and her bright future as she transitions to post-secondary studies.

The Four Rivers Co-operative McBride Bursary was awarded to Bella Alspaugh, recognizing both academic effort and contributions to the school and community. Bella's perseverance and involvement have made a meaningful impact at McBride Secondary.

The Prince George District Teachers' Association Minor Scholarship was presented to Micah Keim by Janice Mercuri, celebrating Micah's hard work, character, and commitment to his education. These awards are a testament to the strength and potential of the graduating class. Each recipient represents the values of McBride Secondary hard work, resilience, and community spirit.

As the Class of 2026 prepares to embark on new journeys, the entire McBride Secondary community wishes them continued success in their future endeavors. Congratulations to all graduates on this significant milestone!



VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES

Valemount Secondary Celebrates the Class of 2026

Valemount Secondary proudly celebrated the Class of 2026, recognizing students for their accomplishments and contributions to the school and community. The ceremony highlighted the hard work, perseverance, and success of this year's graduates.

A number of students were honoured with scholarships and bursaries. James Stone received the Marguerite Gagnon Memorial Award, while Tanushri Bholah earned the Cinnamon Legacy Bursary. The Terri Hovde Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Megan Pawliuk, and Boden Gee received both the Emil Anderson Maintenance – Brock Maguire Memorial Bursary and the Four Rivers Co-operative Bursary.

Additional recipients included Emma Mintz (Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Bursary), Madelynn Bricker (Orville Brown Memorial Bursary), and Eli Taylor, along with Rozina Shaw, who both received District/Authority Scholarships.

Rozina Shaw was further recognized with several prestigious honours, including the Prince of Wales Scholarship, the BCPVPA Student Scholarship, and the BC Excellence Scholarship, highlighting her outstanding achievements.

Congratulations to the Valemount Secondary Class of 2026, and best wishes as they move forward into their next chapter.





VALEDICTORY CEREMONIES

A Milestone Worth Celebrating: Shas-Ti Kelly Road Secondary Graduation 2026

On June 17, Shas-Ti Kelly Road Secondary proudly celebrated the graduation of the Class of 2026 in a memorable ceremony that recognized the achievements, perseverance, and contributions of this year's graduates. Surrounded by family, friends, staff, and community members, students marked an important milestone as they reflected on their educational journey and looked ahead to exciting new opportunities.

The ceremony highlighted the many accomplishments of the graduating class, including several prestigious student awards. Taylor Kelly was honoured with the Citizenship Award in recognition of their positive impact on the school community, leadership, and commitment to helping others. Through their actions and character, Taylor exemplified the values of kindness, respect, and service.

The Academic Leadership Award was presented to Abigail Lloyd for her outstanding academic achievement and dedication to learning. Abigail's commitment to excellence, combined with her ability to lead by example, has inspired both peers and staff throughout her time at Shas-Ti Kelly Road Secondary.

The school's highest student honour, the Principal's Cup, was awarded to Kaitlin Konwicki. This award recognizes a student who demonstrates exceptional leadership, school involvement, academic commitment, and personal character. Kaitlin's contributions to the school community have left a lasting legacy and made her a deserving recipient of this distinguished award.

As graduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas, the celebration served as a reminder of the growth, resilience, and accomplishments that have defined their high school years. The staff of Shas-Ti Kelly Road Secondary extend their sincere congratulations to the Class of 2026 and wish them continued success as they pursue their future goals and aspirations.

Congratulations, graduates! Your hard work and determination have brought you to this moment, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact you will make in the years to come.

