

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)  
**RECOGNITION OF STUDENT/SCHOOL SUCCESS**  
January 12, 2009



School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) extends congratulations to the following students/groups for these outstanding examples of success for December:

**CARMi ELEMENTARY**

- Carmi's Christmas Concert, *The Littlest Reindeer* was a huge success. Both the afternoon and evening performances were very well attended. All K-5 students took part in the musical. Grade 5 students took the lead with their awesome acting in various roles:



The grade 5 students also did the introductions and helped to look after sound and lights. They did a fantastic job!! Each class was featured doing a song and when *Santa Got Stuck in the Chimney* grade 4 line dancers also joined in the show!! Many thanks go out to the whole staff for making the performance possible.



Rehearsing for the Concert



- Students from Mr. Nickel's grade 3 class and Mrs. Bingham's grade 2 class brought Christmas cheer as they sang for *Extended Care* residents. Mrs. Guest's grade 4's and Mrs. Clarksons grade 4/5's also sang at the *Cherry Park Retirement Residence*.
- Ms. Babiak's *Kids Helping Kids* UNICEF campaign 2008 was another huge success with \$500.00 going out to help equip schools in Africa. Grade 1/2s and their grade 5 big buddies helped to make the campaign happen.
- Grade 5 students celebrated their positive leadership by going to the amazing *Seussical* performance put on by Princess Margaret Secondary, which was enjoyed by all. Many thanks go out to Princess Margaret for putting on the performance and also to Penticton Secondary leadership students who fundraised to take five of the Carmi students Christmas shopping.
- Many thanks also go out to the *Big Sister* mentors for their fun Christmas party with the students, to PAC for hosting the Christmas Craft Day for all K-5 students and to the Scholastic Book, volunteer, Mrs. Castle, for making sure each of the students received a free book this Christmas.
- *Action Schools* and many sporting activities also continue at Carmi.
- Without a doubt Christmas cheer and *good will towards all* spread through the whole school this December.

## **COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY**

- Columbia Elementary School's Intermediate choir were very busy performing in this winter season. They sang at the 'Tots to Teens' toy drive, at the Cherry Park Retirement Centre, and Starbucks. The choir was even featured on the radio after the toy drive. A special thanks goes to Ms. Forsyth, who (in her spare time as she prepares for the winter concert) has spent many hours after school and during the weekends to provide these opportunities for the young singers!



## **GIANT'S HEAD ELEMENTARY**

- The December Special Events Ambassadors are Spencer Boerboom, Palvi Bardwaj, Linden Gove, Sierra Poznikov, Jaedyn Foley and Megan Avery. These children have a very busy month ahead as they promote and encourage students to take part in the two big seasonal charity events: Toys and Toonies for Tots and Teens and the collection of non-perishable items for the Summerland Food Bank.

## **KALEDEN ELEMENTARY**

Here's a few of the highlights for Kaleden - for a short month, it sure was packed with fun and excitement!

- The staff and students brought in over 450 items for the Kaleden Cares food bank. The school's social responsibility focus in December was compassion. The students showed great understanding and adopted the spirit of giving. Each of their color house teams brought in more than 70 items each. How's that for healthy competition for a good cause!
- The concert "Paint the Town December" was a wonderful success for students and their families. They packed the house and were delighted that Trustees Manning and Van Alphen were able to attend and enjoy the event.





- Everyone had a wonderful time playing hockey with the Vees, working with their buddies to make gingerbread houses and other crafts.

### **KVR MIDDLE SCHOOL**

The staff and students at KVR are very proud of the activities around the school goal of social responsibility:

- On Thursday, December 4th. 135 KVR students participated in 'Hoops for Heart.' These students raised \$7,363.23 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.
- KVR students have put together 139 care packages through *Operation Shoebox*. These packages contain all kinds of non-perishable food and gift items for children in developing nations in both Africa and Central America.
- KVR Leadership students are currently running a canned food drive. They have the goal of raising over 500 items to be presented to the food bank on the last day of classes before the holidays. In conjunction with this the Leadership students are also running a Winter Dance and concession. Funds raised from these events will also go towards helping out a local charity.

### **McNICOLL PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- *Junior Achievement:* On December 11<sup>th</sup> the grade 8 students culminated their Junior Achievement activity. Each group of students created an idea for a retail business and by working together - turned it into reality. The Challenge for students was to build and execute a strong business plan and then generate profits that they donated to a local charity of their choice. The program was designed for students in grade 8 and acts as a fun and exciting way for youth to develop their awareness of how businesses operate in the real world. The end result was excellent and the grade 8 classes raised close to \$1200.00 for charity. Well done grade 8 students!

## NARAMATA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- On December 1<sup>st</sup>, Naramata Elementary School honoured former teacher, Mike Townley. Mike retired from School District No. 67 a number of years ago but he continues to serve the students of the district by organizing the Naramata Run each year. Mike works hard to ensure that everything is in place for the annual elementary cross country event which has become a top event in the district. A huge thank you goes out to Mr. Mike Townley for all the years of service to the Naramata School community.



Mr. Mike Townley (wearing a new Rattler hoodie)  
honoured for years of service in organizing the Naramata Run

- On December 10<sup>th</sup> the Naramata school held their annual Winter Concert and Play. This year's production of "Jingle All the Way" was a huge success with close to 300 people in attendance including family, friends, and community members. Thanks to the efforts of staff & students.



- On December 19<sup>th</sup>, Naramata Elementary had their annual Holiday Skating Party at McLaren Park Arena. Students listened to holiday music as they enjoyed skating with their friends & family. Thanks to the PAC for providing special treats for the event.

## **PARKWAY ELEMENTARY**

- The local Black Widow Precision Skippers performed for the school in December and really inspired the students. They were great!
- Everyone enjoyed an excellent Metis dance presentation from students from the grade 3/4 and grade 4 classes. The Metis children also took part and observed the wonderful dances!
- The school Choir performed on the road this week to some very grateful audiences. They did a wonderful job! Thanks to all to participated.
- Parkway Elementary started work on their School Progress Report and will be sharing it with staff and parents over the next few months.
- The Pac Playground raffle took place on the weekend at the Cherry Lane Mall as well as Walmart. Thanks for all the donations and support from everyone.
- The intermediate students put on an excellent Christmas Concert before a full theatre.
- The construction at the front entrance way is coming along very nicely.

## **PENTICTON SECONDARY SCHOOL**

This past weekend, the Fine Arts Department at Penticton Secondary accomplished the following in four days:

1. Russ Stasiuk's students won the Zoomfest for their wonderfully humorous entry, "Wheel Barrow". Such a great entry! Zoom Fest is a BC film festival that challenges Grade 7 to 12 students to produce an original short film in 48 hours which is based on an assigned theme and prop. This year's topic was "To Err is to be Human" and the basic prop was the wheel. An awards ceremony was held for Zoom Fest in Vancouver on December 6 and students from Mr. Russ Stasiuk's media class (Grade 11 students Rylan Kinnin, Kevin Manning, Hayes Richards, and Tayler Thompson, and Grade 10 student Jordan Findlay) walked away with top awards (Best Screen Play and Best Overall) for their video "Wheel Barrow". Kevin Manning and Jordan Findlay presented the video and described many of the highlights of preparing the video. In addition to the five trophies awarded during the recognition banquet, the students received two \$20,000 scholarships to the Vancouver Film School.
2. Remax contractors were thrilled with the "Best Christmas Pageant Ever" performance on Friday and have renewed their contract for next December. They rent the theatre and pay expenses. We helped raise thousands of dollars through their silent auction for the Miracle Wish Foundation.

3. Cleland Theatre Management & Technicians said that the PHAME Productions students were by far the most professional and co-operative school group that has ever worked their theatre. Megan Rutherford, Pen High's director, was thrilled with their response.
4. Waking early Saturday morning, actors volunteered for the Community Disaster Animal Response Team's (CDART) bake sale at the Penticton Lakeside Resort and raised thousands of dollars for animal emergency relief to be used internationally.
5. Hours later, on Saturday afternoon, actors participated in the Santa Claus Parade accompanying the Critteraid Animal Sanctuary float, winning First Prize! They were still energetic and in the holiday spirit!
6. Monday morning, Best Christmas performed for Glenfir students, OHA guests, as well as members of the schools hard-working Recycle teams, raising \$150.00 for the Vancouver Children's Hospital Fund.
7. Fantastic Music Department concert last night! Well done as usual!

### **QUEEN'S PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

- Queen's Park classes, Kindergarten through grade 5, participated in a wonderful Winter Concert and dress rehearsal. The gym and mezzanine were packed with parents and grandparents as well as people from the community, all anxious to see the show.
- Five Queen's Park families 'graduated' from the nine week S.A.F.E. program. Friends, grandparents and others were on hand to witness the finish of this term's program. Students and their parents were very proud of their certificates.
- Eight teams of students from Parkway and Queen's Park took part in the annual Fall Floor Hockey Tournament. Students from grade one to 5 played while Queen's Park Alumni students officiated and coached.
- The children of Queen's Park donated enough canned and dried food to supply 8 hampers to needy families in the community. They still had enough food left over to donate a few boxes of food to other charities.
- Students from Queen's Park grade 5 classes were joined by grade 5 students from West Bench and Uplands to take part in a Leadership day. With organization from the Penticton Recreation Department and school staff the students spent the day in workshops and forums relevant to grade 5.

### **SKAHA LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Skaha Lake Middle School has had a busy December:

- On December 9<sup>th</sup> - DARE Grade Ceremony for grade 6 classes. Each division selected a representative to read their essays about why they will say no to drugs and alcohol.



- Annual Winter Band Concert on December 10<sup>th</sup> - 172 students took part showcasing the three concert bands, one jazz band and the new school choir. The gym was packed with parents and family.





- On December 12 – 13: Skaha Lake hosted the 8 team boys' and girls' basketball tournament in the gym. Both boys' and girls' teams sported a 2 win one loss record.
- On December 18<sup>th</sup> - The annual Winter Dance took place during afternoon classes for grade 7 and 8 classes. The grade 6 classes participated in "Winter Interlude" activities organized by the grade 6 teachers while the dance took place.
- *Accelerated Reader Program Term 1 Summary*

Literacy Goal- 85% correct school-wide

Grade 6 classes - 84.8% correct	Total points - 4983.3
Grade 7 classes - 87.5 % correct	Total points - 9203.0
Grade 8 classes - 85.2 % correct	Total points - 5806.7

Skaha Lake is currently on track to surpass 2007-2008 point totals and % correct despite having 22 less students in the school this year.

## **SUMMERLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- The Annual Bannermania Assembly was held in December and once again resulted in a positive experience for all students. The planning for the banners began in October and students worked in Advisory Classes choosing the theme, layout of the banner, music and costumes for the event. The banners are "unveiled" as each class has the opportunity to march to their music of choice, reveal their banner and explain how the theme was chosen. Students stress themes that are unique and reinforce relationships, cooperation and the uniqueness of their Advisory Class.



Ms. Robertson's Grade 7  
Advisory Class



Mr. McCallan's Grade 6  
Advisory Class

- Summerland Middle School Band Teacher, Mr. Stan Sabourin, took the bands *great band sounds* into the community. The last few days before Christmas 'Break the Bands' toured the streets and businesses in Summerland and spread the Christmas spirit. These photos show the students have a great time overcoming obstacles such as snow and frozen instruments!



Community Spirit  
with Music!



## SUMMERLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

- Students from Summerland Secondary School created a large painting which has been sent to Canadian soldiers serving in Afghanistan.

Karyn Holinaty had mentioned to art teacher, Donna Cowles that her brother was serving in Kandahar and really missed the landscape of the Okanagan – especially the lake. Others serving in Afghanistan have talked with him about how much they miss Canada and how much they enjoy hearing from friends and family. The art students were approached and that is when this idea came into place.

The painting was completed by art students at the school featuring Okanagan Lake through the four seasons. The border around the image is signed by students at the school. Much of the work was done by two Grade 10 art students who designed and sketched the picture (Josie Von Krosigk and Shannon Leardo). The painting was then completed by art students in grade 11 and 12. The students had their photo taken for the Summerland Review and were also featured on CHBC News.





- Art students from Summerland Secondary School (some students are missing from this photo that were involved with the project)

### **TROUT CREEK ELEMENTARY**

It has been a busy, productive month for staff, students and parents at Trout Creek Elementary – some highlights were:

- Strong student achievement shared in reports cards with each home.
- Performance of Dr. Seuss enjoyed by several classes.
- Grade 3 students offered a Yoga Club for other primary students every Thursday at noon.
- Successful Penny Lane fundraiser by the PAC.
- Conclusion of the first One to One Reading Tutorial program; thank you volunteers and Co-coordinator Mrs. Mercer.
- A Big thank you to everyone for donating \$77.00 in turkey bucks and \$62.10 in Canadian Tire money; items will be purchased to support the food bank and Toys for Tots.

- Everyone enjoyed two performances by the Trout Creek Choir. Thank you to the Choir Directors and the dedicated students for their efforts:

Katrina Kirschman	Dominique Bowell	Zoe Martell
Juliana Paraig	Navi Hughes	Laska Hughes
Delaney Sorensen	Bremah Wahl	Zaria Jenkins
Justina Durand	Maria Raitt	Gracey Cowles
Becky Rodriguez	Carolyn Kont	Faith Steele
Selena Raab	Katie Portman	Olivia Faith Corps
Jenna Mercer	Helena Mott	Hannah Marsh de-Boer
Jacqueline Mansiere	Zareen Dulay	Mini Raab
Stella Siemens	Sydney Chick	Jessica Fischer
Ruth Kast	Jaeda Yurkiw	Colby Yurkiw
Brandon Dewitt	Catie Critchelow	

### **WEST BENCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

- The West Bench Wildcats performed a fabulous Winter Concert at the Cleland. Its "December in Our Town" was appreciated by parents, family and friends. The West Bench Guitar Club and the West Bench Jingle Singers opened the concert with Silent Night and Jingle Bells. It was wonderful.
- West Bench had their Primary Craft Day in which leadership students and parents helped the Kindergarten to grade 3 classes make beautiful Holiday crafts.





- The West Bench Aboriginal Committee met. The committee discussed how best to serve the needs of aboriginal students at West Bench.
- The Wildcats had their second annual Pancake Breakfast and Pajama Day. Students and their families had delicious pancakes and dressed in their finest Pajamas. The gym was beautifully decorated by the Leadership Classes. After recess the students were treated to a movie.

