

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)
RECOGNITION OF STUDENT/SCHOOL SUCCESS
February 11, 2008



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

CARMI ELEMENTARY

Lots of events going on in January for Carmi Elementary:

- Panagos home reading program
- *Stop, Drop and Read*: Jan. 28th – Feb. 1st
- *Read In /Spelling Bee* on Feb. 1st
- Pentiction Veas Read and Succeed: The Veas read to the students. They also had their Annual Carmi versus Veas Floor Hockey Game in January
- Grade 4/5 basketball and Open Gym are off to a great start and soon they will be playing basketball games with other schools
- Grade 1-5 skating
- Grade 3 swimming program
- K-5 *Action Schools* (whole-school fun exercises to music/video)
- Block X (social responsibility activities for students in cross-graded/family groupings)
- Assemblies and Student of the Week
- Parent involvement in the early childhood/literacy programs (i.e. Ready, Set, Learn on Feb. 7th and PALs – Parents as Literacy Supporters on Jan. 24th)
- Student leadership continues in so many ways and they now have a Destination Conservation Team at the school.
- School Progress Report is updated (great to see how both the students and school are achieving)

At Carmi, they are pleased to see the students engaged in learning, achieving and having fun at the same time. This involves the dedicated staff, caring families, students, PAC, community and District working together to make it happen.



Veas Read & Succeed
And
Floor Hockey



Action Schools Program
Whole – School Exercise and Fun!



COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY

- A number of grade 4 and 5 Columbia students had the opportunity to visit Uplands Elementary School, where they participated in a half-day 'Destination Conservation' workshop. The focus of the workshop was on conserving electricity in school and in the home. Students discussed everything from new types of lightbulbs, turning lights and computers off when not in use, turning off a bank of lights rather than using full lighting, forming organized clubs to investigate other strategies, and much more. Two grade 5 students that attended the workshop were Kiera Chycoski and Hannah Knight. The grade 4 students who attended were Aiden Hutcheson, Austin Stephens, and Cole Lowe. With their leadership, they hope to start an electricity reduction campaign in the school.

Destination Conservation



GIANT'S HEAD ELEMENTARY

- The Special Events Ambassadors at Giant's Head have been very busy during January and have more plans for February. Riley Ledoux, Connor Wardly, Brayden Jones, Jacob Schatz, Nicolas Felker and Taylor Ledoux prepared excellent performances to help kick off our Bully Prevention Focus at an assembly. They planned skits to depict ways you can stop a Bully and shift the power away from the bully. They are also holding a "Bully Stopper Challenge" each morning over the announcements. Two of the boys each day read a scenario of an altercation with a bully and asked which Bully Stopper strategy did the student use to stop the Bully. A name is drawn each day from every grade level and the correct answer gets a Bully Stopper certificate!



- Giant's Head School is doing an experiment with saving energy called Destination Conservation. The Logo is GHDCT, which stands for Giant's Head Destination Conservation Team. Being part of the team means that they go around to the different classrooms to see if the lights are turned off if they are not needed, the students check before school, recess, lunch and at dismissal. They have been keeping track of which class is the best at this and at the end of each month the winning class gets the a recyclable trophy made out of 3 tin cans, tinfoil and a burnt out light bulb (trophy made by Taylor Ledoux).

The whole school will be rewarded with a smaller light bill. The money saved could go to a field trip!

- Five members of the GHDCT along with Ms Balzer, Mr. Kennedy and Mrs. Hoole went to the Destination Conservation Conference in January to learn more about how to save energy in the schools and at home. We learned some interesting things. Did you know that you still use a lot of electricity even if you turn off the lights? If you leave the house you should unplug the microwave, toaster and other things because they are still using electricity, even if they are off. Did you know that if you use one of those curly florescent light bulbs in a dimmer, or tri-light it could explode?
- The school staff and students will be having more 'Walk to School Days' by demonstrating this they hope to send a message to others to be concerned about the environment and that walking is a lot healthier.

HOME LEARNERS' PROGRAM

- This month, the Home Learners' Program students hit the slopes to take in some downhill skiing and snowboarding. Students from Kindergarten to grade 11 took part in the day of instruction and activity. They were a weary group by the end of the day.



KALEDEN ELEMENTARY

Everyone has been very busy at Kaleden. Here are some of the highlights for January:

- Hug a Tree and Survive presentation
- Grade 3 swimming lessons
- School wide skating
- School wide tubing at Apex
- Open gym activities
- Grade 4/5 basketball season in full swing
- Celebrating Family Literacy Week
- Hosting our first session of Parents of Literacy Supporters





KVR MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Young Writers Poetry Contest – These young writers from KVR will have the opportunity to have their poems published in the Young Writers Annual Anthology called *Puppy Dogs and Roses* which will be out by the end of May 2008. The students could also have the opportunity to win prizes for the region or perhaps the school.

Reid Noble-Hearle
Sage Fanstone
Seanna Zintel
Shayla Ritchie
Wes VanCamp
Kerrick Lannon-Paakspuu

Sunny Jhaj
Jordan Schalm
Brooklyn Wilson
Madison Galloway
Steffi Caron
CJ Day

Jackson Preston
Shereen Lacey
Jean-Luc Chetner
Keenan Findlay
Falyne Gold

- Pam Withers visited KVR Middle School in January to share her thrilling adventures and to promote literacy. Pam has written more than a dozen, bestseller books, written especially for youths. She incorporates adventure, suspense, and hair raising experiences that often deal with extreme sports. Pam resides in Vancouver, BC. It was a wonderful experience for the students.



New Rules Exhibition ~ KVR Middle School Art Students

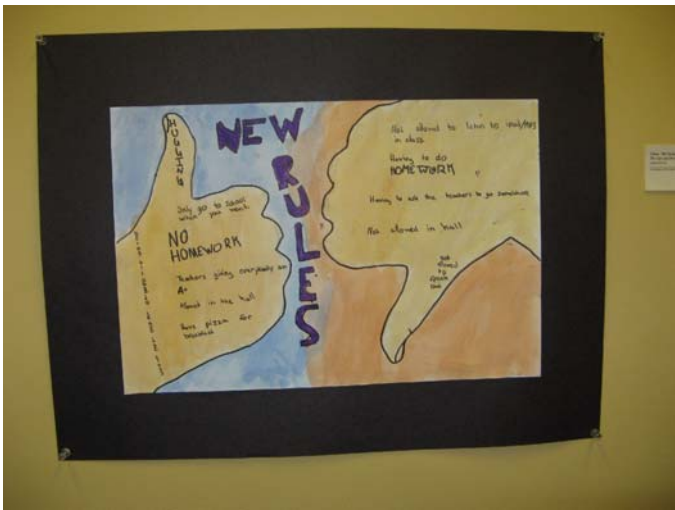
January 18 – March 9, 2008

- The Art Gallery of the South Okanagan was pleased to present the creative and artistic vision of the students of grades 6, 7 and 8 from Penticton's KVR Middle School. This school is unique in Penticton as it offers its students an education in both English and French Immersion. In organizing the exhibition New Rules, the students were asked to consider the rules that guided their actions both at home and at school. They were then asked to compile a list of these rules and divide them into two groups, the rules they liked and the rules they disliked. Working from these lists, they were given the challenge of re-writing the rules they disliked and created a picture of what the world would be like if they were in charge.



In keeping with the spirit of this project, the scope, direction and interpretation of the task was purposely left open ended in order to provide each student with a sense of freedom not normally afforded them. In learning to harness this new found freedom the students were forced to make adjustments in the way they approached the project, wrestling with the many questions and feelings of uncertainty of how and where to begin. But once the students began working, the ideas began to flow allowing them to explore the issues and questions presented. The challenge proved to be a liberating and stimulating experience and the resulting exhibition is the creative culmination of the students' feelings around the rules which govern our society.





NARAMATA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Naramata School Steps into Action

- Thanks to a grant from ACTNOW BC through the Naramata Parks & Recreation Commission, Naramata School received one hundred pedometers. According to Bob Pope, from the Penticton Community Centre, Naramata Elementary is the first and only school in British Columbia where every student received a pedometer to use to keep track of their steps. At this point, students are learning to use their pedometers appropriately and have begun to keep track of their steps at school as well as setting goals to increase their daily step count. The pedometers are also improving the students' ability in numeracy as they try to say those large numbers from their daily step count using the language of mathematics. The school hopes to have a school-wide walking event sometime in the early Spring.

PARKWAY ELEMENTARY

- Parkway grade 3 and 4 students have been learning skills away from the school campus. The grade 3 students have been taking swimming lessons at the community pool and the grade 4 students have been skating at the McLaren Park Arena. The great success of these events has not just been the learning that has occurred but the great reports that we have been receiving, from bus drivers, facility personnel and volunteers, about student attention and behavior.
- The final tally came in for December and January given by the students (and staff and community). Parkway donated close to 50 boxes of gifts to needy children overseas, a car full of food items to the local food bank and gifts and hampers to a number of families in need around the community.
- Grade 4 students each received a book from the Rick Hansen Foundation and a dictionary from London Drugs and the Rotary Club. Students were most thankful to receive these worthwhile materials.
- A number of students completed the One to One Reading Program and the Early Literacy Program with great results. Hard work pays off.

PRINCESS MARGARET SECONDARY SCHOOL

- One of the grade 11 students, Scott Myres, was selected to attend the 'Forum for Young Canadians' to be held in Ottawa March 1 to 8, 2008. Scott will be in attendance with students from across Canada in this parliamentary setting. One of the expectations to attend this forum is that the students are expected to pay for some of their expenses by fundraising in their local community.

PENTICTON SECONDARY SCHOOL

- **Penticton Secondary School's AP Students Are Well Prepared for University!**
In January, the Ministry of Education announced that "British Columbia students taking college-level courses while still in high school placed first in North America according to the results of the latest advanced placement exams." According to the College Board, which administers these exams, AP grades are reported on a 5 point scale, and a score of 3 or higher on an exam indicates that a student is qualified to receive college credit or advanced placement for that subject. BC's average score on these exams was 3.65, well above the Canadian average of 3.40 and the U.S. average of 2.88.

Penticton Secondary School's results on advanced placement exams last year were very encouraging. Thirty-nine grade 12 students at Pen High wrote a total of 84 advanced placement exams, achieving an average score of 3.68.

The College Board recognized the achievement of 12 of our graduates who earned outstanding results across several exams:

Seven Pen High graduates qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams, with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are **Joshua Arlitt, Naemi Fiechter, David Nixon, Andrea Pellegrino, Kei Quinn, Sierra Stephens and Neil Surkan;**

Four Pen High graduates qualified for the AP Scholar with Honour Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, **and** grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are **Liam Butters, Wesley Hopkin, Alexander Lasinska and Neil McCann;** and one Pen High graduate qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, **and** grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. This student is **Alyosha Pushak.**

These students gained a great deal from their participation in the Advanced Placement Program. In the past, the returning graduates have often commented on how well their participation in AP classes had prepared them for their post-secondary studies. We are proud of their success.

- **Chelan Egilson was selected as this year's Penticton Youth Citizen of the Year.** She is being recognized for her service through cadets, at Penticton Regional Hospital, running the school store, running the school's Global Awareness Group, travelling to India to work in an orphanage, travelling to Ecuador with Penticton Secondary and raising money for the families who lost their homes in the Wilson Place fire last spring. She is one of the Rotary outbound students and will be travelling to Bolivia for a year's exchange.

QUEEN'S PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

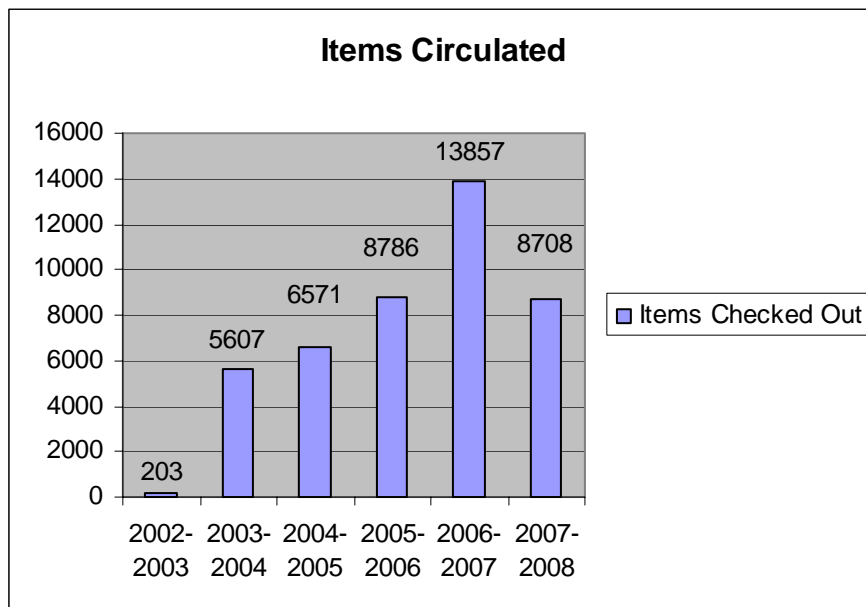
- For the school Spirit Day they had over 90% of the students and staff show up in their PJ's. It was an incredibly fun day at Queen's Park for everyone.
- Queen's Park had a great community turnout for Movie night with over 100 parents and their children in attendance.
- The Family Reading Picnic was very well attended on the afternoon of Family Literacy Day.

- The Kindergarten teacher at Queen's Park held a K Open House - the turn out was incredible.
- Queen's Park started their second Annual Parenting Wisely Course in January. The course was well attended as over 20 parents joined in and signed up.
- Baby Songs and Rhymes started up again in January on Fridays in the Primary pod for parents and their babies from 0-15 months. Julis Cox from the Library is once again running this wonderful program.
- The grade 3's have started their swimming lessons at the pool.

SKAHA LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Attached is a graph of the latest circulation figures for the library. The school is on track for over 16,000 items this year. In Accelerated Reading Skaha Lake students have read and passed quizzes on over 4000 books (an average of 8 books per student), they have read over 162,000,000 words and they have obtained over 23,000 points (on track for 50,000 points - a new SLMS record)!

School Year	Items Checked Out
2002-2003	203
2003-2004	5607
2004-2005	6571
2005-2006	8786
2006-2007	13857
2007-2008	8708



- Grade 5 students, Mr. Loewen (teacher sponsor), Mr. Brunelle (principal) and Mr. Dunstan-Adams (custodian) attended the middle school “Destination Conservation” workshop on January 15th at KVR Middle School. The “DC Team” learned about electrical energy and how to plan a campaign to educate students and staff about saving energy. Students will conduct a school audit of the current electrical use and then build a campaign to reduce energy consumption. Finally, the team will evaluate effectiveness of their campaign.
- The grade 6 Team conducted their “Can-Spell” spelling bee. Each grade 6 class held their own spelling bee and nominated 2 students to represent their division in a grade-wide spelling bee that took place on Friday, January 18th. Congratulations to **Julia Ludington** for being the top grade 6 speller.



Julia Ludington
Top Grade 6 Speller!

- SLMS hosted a district basketball play day for grade 7 girls on January 19th. They had teams from all the middle schools in the district.



- Pam Withers, author of "Take It to the Extreme" of wonderful children's books will be speaking to all the grade 6 classes on Friday, January 25th in the library.

SUMMERLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

- Millenium Motion Tour - Free the Children - Presented to all the grade 9 and 10 students on January 15th. The remainder of the day was spent with 30 leadership students.
- The exciting final preparations for 'Grease' is taking place! The production will take place in February the week of the 19th.
- 2007 Learning and Action: Celebrating Innovation in BC Schools. The Step-Up Program (for at-risk students) presented in Vancouver at the recent BC School Trustees Conference received 'Notable Standing' at the presentation.

TROUT CREEK ELEMENTARY

- The Intermediate house games began in January – 'Health Hustle' for Kindergarten to grade 5 students which got all the students exercising every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.
- Grade 4 students attended a Destination Conservation workshop recently to learn more about energy conservation. It was a very informative meeting and it gave students some great ideas and concepts on how as a school, and individually, they can do their part to be environmentally friendly.
- The Kindergarten to grade 5 students took part in a 'Stranger Danger' presentation that the RCMP put on. The RCMP talked to the students about how to be safe from strangers when at home and also when they are out in public.

UPLANDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- On January 30th, the *Two Pianos at the Dream Cafe* event was a huge success! Many thanks to Mrs. Maria Nordlund for her support and for organizing this evening of entertainment. Bravo to Justin Glibbery and Dennis Nordlund for their exceptional piano playing. They were joined by the talented bass player Stefan Bienz and expert drummer Scotty Gamble who added a wonderful dimension to the performance. Thank you to the Uplands PAC for their support. Thank you to Rick Jurgens for stepping as the Master of Ceremonies. This event and the raffle raised close to \$9000.00!

WEST BENCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- The staff and students of West Bench have begun their Random Acts of Kindness activities. Students have generated lists of Random Acts of Kindness in their classrooms that they can do at home and at the school. They have begun giving Wonderful Wildcat cards for those students who have done a Random Act of Kindness and their names and their deeds are announced every morning for all of the students to hear. West Bench Elementary are beginning to build a Random Act of Kindness line made out of those cards that they hope will stretch from one end of the school to the other!

- West Bench's Destination Conservation Team went to a workshop and learned a great deal about saving energy for the school and reducing pollution for the world. Athena Bonneau, Sarah Mayer, Sab Takacs, Brendon Taylor, Mr. Philpotts and Mr. Allen (parent member) did West Bench proud! The entire school is very excited about starting their Destination Conservation project soon.
- On January 25 West Bench celebrated Family Literacy Day by having Buddy Reading in the gym. Parents were invited to read with the group. Muffins and apple juice were served – as reading can make you hungry & thirsty! After refreshments - they had a fabulous sing-a-long session. The Wildcats' voices were marvelous and they sang some of their favourite songs, including "I Think You're Wonderful" which is the theme song for the Random Acts of Kindness activities. Afterwards, parents, staff and students all went to the pool to celebrate the great job that they are doing with recycling. It was a fabulous day for everyone.
- The West Bench Soccer Team played Carmi's soccer team. Everyone enjoyed themselves. Carmi Elementary students & staff made them feel welcome and were wonderful hosts. Both teams did their schools proud.

WILTSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Staff and students have participated in a number of exciting events at Wiltse during the month of January. These highlights support the Literacy goals with an emphasis on the new oral language component.

- Pentiction Valley First Vees "Read and Succeed" Program for all grade 5 students
- P.A.L.S. session 3 for Kindergarten students and their parents/guardians
- Literacy in Action sharing session for Intermediate teachers
- New resource implementation "Literacy Place" in grade 3
- Six staff members attended the SMART Demonstration sessions
- Destination Conservation – 5 student leaders and 2 staff attended a hands-on workshop

