



Summerland Secondary School

March 2019

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Summerland Secondary School Mission Statement
 To educate students in a supportive, diverse, and challenging learning environment where every student develops the knowledge and skills to be self-advocating and reflective lifelong learners, and a healthy, productive member of society.
 EMPOWERMENT ENGAGEMENT & ENLIGHTENMENT



Principal's Message

This month I was introduced, through You Tube, to 15 year old Greta Thunberg from Sweden. She is a somewhat unconventional environmental spokesperson. If you haven't heard about her, take a moment to listen to her speak and perhaps you will agree with me. Her insight and style are quite compelling. A few of these clips begin with the phrase "Our house is on fire". She is referring to the critical state of the environment. She claims that scientists believe that the earth has only twelve years before the damage to our environment is irreversible. It's hard not to be convicted by the urgency of her activism. My reaction is a combination of shame, and guilt, and an overwhelming sense of futility. Greta's burning house analogy continues to resonate in my thoughts even a month after I first heard her speak it, and still it's a challenge to adapt my behaviour to do my part in saving the planet. As with so many issues, it is convenient to yield to the feeling that someone else will take care of these problems, and the belief that I have little to offer.

Students from around the world have heard her rallying cry. Our house is on fire and we have nowhere to go. Despite feelings of inadequacy and surrender we know this is our shared responsibility.

Schools and curriculums are all about empowerment. You do not have to look very far at Summerland Secondary School to find examples of students taking control of their learning and their lives. Last week saw the conclusion of a very successful run of the student performance *Legally Blonde*. It's a spunky, catchy musical with a potent message for teenagers related to empowerment. It involved two casts and a crew of close to eighty students. Twenty-five percent of our student population was involved. I stayed after the last show to listen to the entire cast and crew debrief and reflect on the experience. The validation, the vulnerability, the confidence, the emotion, the exhilaration, the recognition, the pride, and the joy were all evident in their sharing. As a witness to these deeply personal shared experiences it becomes evident quickly that participating in this event was life altering.

The learning was intense and profound, and yet most of the students would not associate the hours and hours that they invested in this process with curriculum and instruction. However, there is evidence that this kind of learning is happening everywhere at Summerland Secondary School. Step into the Cafeteria, the Gym, the Science lab, a Math class, an AP English class, an Animation class, or the Shops. Better yet, listen to the students regale you with their exploits in Bamfield or at sports tournaments and you will hear students who are completely immersed in extending their learning experiences beyond the fundamentals. Why? It's because of our teachers and their commitment to the belief that they are the facilitators of the learning experience that occurs here. We want them to learn how to make decisions for themselves and to learn about their responsibility to others and to the planet. Greta presents as special and unique but also as a typical, normal teenager. It is an interesting paradox that applies to so many students her age. There are Gretas everywhere including Summerland Secondary School. Their creative energy, their honesty, their thinking capacity, and the collective, social conscience that defines their generation offers us hope. Perhaps when you combine their intention with science and technology it is possible to smother the flames and mitigate the damage to our house. As teachers and parents we can inspire them and we can be inspired by them. One of our responsibilities is to ensure that we optimize and nurture these qualities. Maybe this is one way to renew and restore our house. I am optimistic that this generation may be able to save our planet by convicting the rest of us to reframe our thinking and move to action just like Greta has done.

Entrepreneur Club

Entrepreneur Club is now in full swing and the students will be attending the Start Up in Kelowna over Spring Break. There are six students in the club, each of whom is working towards getting their own businesses up and running. If you have any questions or are interested in mentoring one of our students, please feel free to contact Raja Gupta at rgupta@summer.com

SSS Careers Center

Careers in the trades and how to get a head start during high school

YOUTH WORK IN TRADES

**formerly named SSA*



Is your daughter or son working at a job site where a Red Seal Trades person is working? If so they are eligible to begin a [Youth Work In Trades](#) apprenticeship.

Students can start the work-based training of their trade apprenticeship while they are still in high school. Thanks to this partnership between ITA and the BC Ministry of Education, students can earn 16 credits towards their high school diploma and 480 hours towards their trade credential.

<http://youth.itabc.ca/educators/youth-programs/work/>

Apprenticeship Basics

If you've been thinking about a career in the trades, an apprenticeship can help you get there. Check out our Apprentice Overview video and Apprentice Guidebook: <https://www.itabc.ca/about-apprentices/apprenticeship-basics>

Upcoming Careers Events

There are a number of both new and annual programs coming up in the Careers Dept. Be sure to talk to Mr. Lay in the CAVE if you are interested in taking part in any of these opportunities.

Experience OC in Penticton: Wednesday May 8th

ERASE = Expect Respect & a Safe Education

The Ministry is pleased to announce the [new erase website](#) is now live. In addition to bullying and violence prevention, the new *erase* site includes information and resources on online safety, mental well-being, substance use, and sexual orientation and gender identity. The site was created following extensive consultation with students, parents and educators. Please visit the new *erase* site at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase> and explore the tools and information it contains.

Not too late to buy a YEARBOOK

There is still time to Purchase a SSS 2019 YEARBOOK. This is going to be one of the best yet.

Also if you or your business would like to purchase an advertisement in the yearbook and support this student run publication please email ksands@summer.com for further information. We can design any ad of any size you would like!

School Fees

School Cash Online is our **PREFERRED** method of payment for school fees. Online payment options are Credit Card, eCheck or myWallet. The portal also allows you to stay informed and keep track of which school fees are outstanding and require your attention. ****Parents can now make partial payments online.**

<https://sd67.schoolcashionline.com/>

Student fees can also be paid by cash or cheque at the Office. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

We recognize that it can be a difficult time with an abundance of fees for student activities and would be happy to arrange a payment plan option should the need arise. Please contact school administration



directly to discuss this. All students must be in good standing in order to attend school events.

- Annual School Activity Fee, \$50
- Textbook Deposit, \$50 (one-time fee for students enrolling for the first time)
- Grad Fee, \$140 due April 16/19.
- PE 9-10, \$30
- PE 11-12, \$60
- Multisport 9-12, \$60

Keep Us Up-to-Date

We ask that all families keep us up-to-date with your current mailing address, email address, phone numbers, emergency contacts and/or changes to legal or medical situations as they arise. Please notify us of any changes via email at sss@summer.com.

Pikes Summer Swim Club

Interested in joining a Summer Swim Club? The Penticton Pikes Summer Swim Club is an excellent opportunity for your child to learn swimming skills in a fun, encouraging way while promoting personal development and team spirit in an atmosphere of family involvement. Opportunities to attend swim meets are offered to all participants. Our season begins May 1st. Registration is on Sun., April 7th from 4:30-6:30pm at Penticton Community Centre. Find out more at <http://www.pentictonpikes.com>



SSS Cafeteria News



Forks, please!

Did you know that the SSS Cafeteria serves over 80 students and staff every day in the Cafeteria? We are proud of the high level of skill shown by the students and staff in the Cafeteria. We are also proud of all the plastic we have stopped from going into the landfill by using real cutlery! Do you have any unwanted forks at home? We would gladly put them into good use through the cafeteria! Please send them to the school with your child to pass along to the Cafeteria.

Does your child take Foods Studies, Cafeteria or Textiles at SSS? Are you interested in seeing what goes on in the Home Ec department? Check out our Instagram account for updates on all things Home Ec! Follow us at: [sssfoodsandtextiles](#)

Europe Trip 2020

Europe Trip 2020! Come to Europe next spring break! We will be visiting London, Paris, Amsterdam and the Normandy region of France! If you are interested in finding out more about this exciting adventure come to a meeting on Monday, April 29, 2019 at 7 pm in the library of Penticton Secondary School. This meeting is intended for both students who are interested in the trip and their parents. If you want more information before this date, contact Mrs. Stel (Pen Hi teacher) at kstel@summer.com.



Summerland Secondary Breakfast Club

We are very fortunate to have many supporters of our Breakfast Club. Supporters include: Peters Bros. Construction Ltd., Lynn Tait, Garnet Valley Gang Society, Kiwanis Club of Summerland, London Drugs, Valerie

Wright, Giant's Head Breakfast for Learning, Mrs. Allanson, Mrs. Ayers and Mr. Cougny and many Leadership students including Rayman, Hanna, Katarina, Faith, Tessa, Saki, Sage, Monique, Jessica, Abbie and Evan. Thank you to everyone that supports this amazing Club. It wouldn't be possible without the generosity of all.

Bamfield Trip 2019

Students from Summerland Secondary School have had the opportunity in Grade 11 and 12 to visit the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre in Bamfield, B.C., over the past 29 years. The facility is operated by five western universities (UVic, SFU, UBC, UofCalgary, and UofAlberta) and conducts research associated with marine and coastal ecology. They also have an education branch that allows students, such as ours, to experience the isolated beauty of the west coast; engage with researchers; and, take advantage of various labs and excursions offered by the marine centre. The days are long, the activities are unique and engaging, and the trip is a very rewarding experience for those who are able to participate.

Unfortunately, over the years the cost for the trip has risen and what was once less than \$100 per student has risen to \$750 (in 2019). This charge includes transportation, food and housing, plus all the excursions that the students take part in while at Bamfield. It also covers costs associated with coverage while the teacher (Mr. Northcote previously; Mr. Gupta currently) is away. All in all, the cost has become a barrier for many students who would otherwise benefit from the experience.

In order to assist students with these costs, community organizations and other parents have periodically stepped forward to assist in getting a student to Bamfield or in reducing the overall costs to the entire group. If you would be interested in helping to alleviate some of the costs associated with this trip or have any questions regarding the Bamfield Marine Science Centre, Mr. Gupta would be more than happy to speak with you.

The next trip to Bamfield is scheduled for fall of 2019.

Spring Fashion Show



Mark your calendars, on May 4th SSS Fashion and Sewing students will be working with the Summerland Art Center to put on a Spring Fashion show. The show will showcase stores from around town as well as the garments our students have created. For more information and tickets, please contact the Summerland Art Center!

SSS Winter Sports

Summerland Secondary had a very busy, successful winter with 43 athletes participating in two sports. We had athletes participating in basketball and gymnastics from November to the middle of February.

In gymnastics, Olivia Dunley-Owen won the overall level three provincial title by finishing 2nd on vault, 3rd on bars, 3rd on beam and 8th on floor. Fabulous performances, Olivia!

In basketball, our senior boys played in the south/central league as well as four Okanagan tournaments. Their skill and knowledge growth throughout the season was well recognized as they played very good teams to within a few points by the end of the season. The senior girls team played several tournaments in the Okanagan with one trip to Vancouver. They experienced mixed success with several wins by a wide margin and some defeats as well. The junior boys had a solid season finishing with a record of 18 wins and 7 losses while winning the south zone championships. They were composed of 10 grade 9's and two grade 10's so there will be many returning players next year. The junior girls had a successful season as well finishing as south zone champions and hosting the Okanagan Valley Championships.

Overall, the basketball season was a great success with lots of hard work and cooperation resulting in relationship bonds that will last a long time.



Well done athletes of the winter sports!!! Spring is around the corner and it will be time to get our athletes back onto the fields.

Dry Grad News

Get your \$10 ticket before they are sold out for a chance to WIN a \$6000.00 Travel gift card. Tickets can be purchased in Summerland from the high school office, Yaki's Pizza & Subs and Rustic & Refined.

For ticket purchases during spring break, please email – lwilson@ttaned.com for special arrangements.

Tickets available until April 10th or until they are sold out. Draw date will be held April 13th at the Dry Grad Dinner

held at the Legion Hall. The winner does not need to be present to win. Only 2000 tickets have been printed.

Dry Grad Fundraiser

The 2019 SSS Dry Grad Committee has organized an 80's Themed Fundraiser Dinner at the Legion on April 13/19. Doors open at 5:30, dinner is at 6:30. There are lots of fun activities and prizes and the TIMBRE WOLVES will be playing. The \$6000 Vacation Gift Card raffle ticket will be drawn at 9:45. It will be a great night. Hope you can attend.

PAC Meeting Update

Our final two meetings are scheduled for:

Tuesday, April 23rd (**changed from April 16th**), and Tuesday, May 14th – both at 7 pm in Room 3 at the school.



SUMMERLAND HEALTH & WELLNESS SERIES

Please join us on **Tuesday, April 16th** from **7:00 to 8:30 pm** at **Centre Stage Theatre** for a presentation and panel discussion on

CANDID About Cannabis & Vaping

Learn tips to talk to your youth. Learn facts about cannabis. Tap into available resources. Empower your youth to make informed decisions. An expert panel will deliver brief presentations followed by a moderated question & answer period. The target audience is all community members, parents and interested youth. Guest panel and presenters: Dr. Kyle Stevens MD, CCFP, Constable Jacques Lefebvre (RCMP), Mr. Alan Stel (Principal, SSS), Dr. Bryn Bentham N.D, as well as Interior Health, District of Summerland and UBC Okanagan representatives.

This is a free event and no preregistration required. Support for this series has been provided by the following organizations:

Watch for information on the next event in the Health & Wellness Series: Tuesday, May 14th



Summerland Child and Youth Committee and other partner groups.



Summerland Alumni Roots Run Deep

This is one of the many photos that the school received from former student Robert (Bobby) Metters, class of 1957. Mr. Metters and his wife Kay were doing a bit of spring cleaning and came across photos dating back to grade 6 as well as a copy of the 1956 Campus Chaff (student annual) and of the SSS Reunion of 1996.

In a letter, Mr. Metters shared his fondness of growing up and attending school in Summerland. This photo, along with the student annual and reunion booklet will be added to the archival documents in the school library. Currently, we have student annuals dating back to 1937.

If you or your family has any SSS memorabilia tucked away and uncertain what to do with it – we would love to add it to our collection!



EARTH DAY CELEBRATION 2019

SUNDAY, APRIL 28th 10am – 12pm

Summerland Wastewater Treatment Plant – 7630 Dunn. St

Celebrate nature in Summerland!

FREE family event to create a dryland, natural habitat around the perimeter of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.



- **Join in to plant native trees and shrubs.** Help increase insect and bird diversity!
- **Book a guided tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.** Learn what happens to wastewater and what actions you can take to help the environment.
- **Visit our display booths to learn more about our local flora and fauna.**

*Please bring a shovel and reusable water bottle. Call 250-494-0447 to book a tour of facility.
Water and free gloves will be provided to volunteers. Or Email: recreation@summerland.ca*



**Summerland Environmental Science Group
Okanagan & Similkameen Invasive Species Society**