



## Summerland Secondary School Newsletter AUGUST 2011

Telephone: 250-770-7650

Fax: 250-770-7756

Email: [sss@summer.com](mailto:sss@summer.com)

### **Welcome Back Everyone**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and offer a welcome back to the students of Summerland Secondary for the 2011 – 2012 school year. It feels a little strange to be offering a welcome back given that myself, my wife and our four children have just recently joined the Summerland community ourselves; however, we have already felt such a warm reception in the community and we are so excited to be a part of such a great place to live and work.

For the past 12 years, I have been working in the Central Okanagan school district as a teacher and administrator. It is a fundamental belief of mine that schools and students are most successful when students, staff, and parents work together in the best interest of learning and achievement. The staff of Summerland Secondary has such a wide range of expertise and demonstrates such a commitment to teaching and learning that I am confident this year will be one of the best. It is an honor to be coming to Summerland and serving as the Principal of this fine school and you have our commitment to work collaboratively to build both short term and long term student success.

Please take the time to read the information enclosed in this newsletter, and, if you have any questions or concerns at any point throughout the school year, do not hesitate to contact us at the school. As well, please remember to check the school website (<http://sd67.bc.ca/schools/sss/>) on a regular basis to stay up to date on the latest developments at SSS.

The school year begins on September 6<sup>th</sup> and I look forward to meeting each of you as the year proceeds. I wish you all a successful 2011-2012 school year.

Sincerely,

Chris Van Bergeyk  
Principal, Summerland Secondary

### **Start Up Info for Students and Parents**

Counselors will be available for course changes and registration on August 31<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

### **Opening Day Times and Routines**

Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> is a day dedicated to orienting our students to their classes and our school routines. The Grade 9 class will begin with an assembly in Centre Stage Theatre at 8:45 am, while the other grades will begin with their homerooms at 10:00 am. Following homeroom, students will rotate through each of their classes and meet their teachers.

Students should have a pen or pencil and paper for the first day. Their teachers will let them know if there are specific supplies they will need for their respective classes at that time.

- Grade 9 students will attend from 8:45 am – 12:00 pm
- Grades 10 thru 12 will attend from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Homeroom lists will be posted in the lobby outside the office.

Busses will be available at the end of the morning.

### **School Fees – Deadline September 14th**

Fees will be collected during homeroom classes which will occur at the start of each day until September 14<sup>th</sup>. Once the fees are paid, students will be provided with the use of a locker. Students must be in good standing in order to attend school events.

### **School Activity Fee**

The school activity fee of \$50.00 is payable for each student. The school fee covers student agendas, locker usage, cultural presentations, and school wide activities (often organized by our leadership classes).

The student agenda is an excellent resource for everything you need to know about the school. The agenda outlines everything from helpful hints in reading your timetable to student expectations. We encourage every student to utilize the agenda on a daily basis.

### **Textbook/Resource Deposit**

Every year lost and damaged textbooks cost SSS thousands of dollars and we have had a very difficult time recouping these losses. In an attempt to decrease the costs to the school we have implemented a textbook/resource deposit of \$50 to be paid by all students at SSS. Students enrolling at SSS for the first time are required to pay the textbook/resource deposit (grade 9 students and new enrollments in grades 10 -12). This fee is to be paid once and will be reimbursed when the student leaves school if they have no outstanding fees from lost or damaged textbooks/resources incurred in their time at SSS. For your information, there has been a significant rise in the cost of school resources (for example the cost of a biology textbook now exceeds \$100).

### **Yearbook**

The Summerland Secondary yearbook is only \$55. This year's book is in full colour and includes autograph pages, a page ribbon, and custom dust jacket. Any students wishing to purchase a yearbook can pay for it at the same time as they pay their school fees. \*Yearbook is not included in our mandatory school fees.

### **Fees Envelope**

We have included a fees envelope with this newsletter. If you have more than one student in the school and wish to submit one cheque, please document the names of each student and the fees you are submitting payment for.

If you are submitting fees for previous years or for lost textbooks, please include the fees due statement sent to you with the June report card or clearly specify what charges you are paying on any available space on the fees envelope. Doing so will assist us in applying payments accurately. **Please note that payment for student fees will be applied to the most outstanding fees first.**

If you have concerns regarding these fees, please contact the Principal.

### **Computer Consent/Release of Information**

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find the Consent for Student Access to District Technology Systems and Services Form. We ask that both you and your son/daughter read and sign the form. The Parental Consent to use personal information is on the reverse side. Both forms must be signed.

As computer use is an integral part of a wide variety of courses, please return the consent form as soon as possible, but no later than September 14<sup>th</sup>, so that your child can begin to use the school computer. Forms can be submitted with the student fees.

**Once the signed form has been received, a computer password will be provided.**

### **Keep Us Up-to-Date**

Please keep us up-to-date with your contact information. Changes can be made by emailing [sss@summer.com](mailto:sss@summer.com) or by contacting the main office.

### **Medical Conditions**

It is the primary responsibility of the parent/guardian to inform the school of their child's medical alert condition. Please contact us to complete a Medical Alert Planning form. If you have previously completed this form, please note that you are required to review the Medical Alert Planning Form each September and at any time there is a change in your child's condition.

### **Legal Alerts**

If there is a legal situation that the school needs to be aware of, please contact the principal or a school counsellor.

### **Bus Information**

Information regarding Summerland bus schedules can be made by telephoning Barry Cowan at 250- 494-9587. Please leave a detailed message if he is unavailable to take your call.

Additionally, if your child takes the bus, please let the school know which bus he/she rides and whether it's to and from school or morning or afternoon only.

### **Messages for Students**

We would appreciate if appointment reminders are made prior to coming to school and written in the student agenda by a parent/guardian. We are unable to disrupt classes to forward messages.

### **Important Dates to Keep In Mind**

#### **PAC Meetings**

Our PAC meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month (the 7<sup>th</sup> of September for the first month). Our Parent Advisory Council and our School Planning Council have a significant impact on the direction that we follow as a school. We are always looking for more active members and hope to see you there.

#### **Grade 9 Parent Meeting**

Parents of our grade 9 students (the grad class of 2015) are invited to come out to an informational evening on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in Centre Stage Theatre. We are excited to welcome this class.

#### **Grade 12 Parent Meeting**

Our first organizational and information meeting of the parents of our grade 12 students (the grad class of 2012) will be held on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm in Centre Stage.

#### **School Photos**

School photos will be taken on September 13<sup>th</sup> with retakes on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Grad Photos**

Grad photos will be taken November 1<sup>st</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>. Retakes will take place on January 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Academic Achievement**

#### **Passport to Education**

The Passport to Education Program recognizes and rewards student achievement in Grades 10 to 12 in a broad range of academic and non-academic areas according to guidelines set out by the Ministry of Education. The intent of the program is to motivate all students to study consistently during the years leading to graduation, and to encourage secondary school students to pursue further education through post-secondary institutions and job-training programs. Passport awards are used to further students' post-secondary education and job training. Please visit the Ministry of Education website at [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/awards/passport/](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/awards/passport/) for more information.

**Summerland Secondary received 23 passport stamps per grade** from the Ministry of Education. Letters have been sent to those students who were awarded this significant achievement.

### **Governor General's Award Winner**

For more than 125 years, the Governor General's Academic Medals have recognized the outstanding scholastic achievements of students in Canada. Over the years, they have become the most prestigious award that students in Canadian schools can receive. The Governor General's Bronze Academic Medal is presented to the student in the graduating class who achieves the highest average **upon graduation from a secondary school**. **The average includes** all grade 11 and grade 12 courses.

Allyssa Hooper has won the Governor General's Award for the Summerland Secondary School Grad Class of 2011. Congratulations Allyssa on this accomplishment.

### **Provincial Scholarship Winners**

The Graduation Program Examination Scholarship rewards graduating students for academic excellence in their provincial examinations.

Congratulations to Simon Bambey, Daniel Bergmann, Connor Bohlken, Steven Brownlee and Graham Zagrodney who all received scholarships.

### **Personalized Learning**

Over the past nine months, the Ministry of Education has been involved in developing the themes and ideas to support Personalized Learning here in British Columbia. More than 2000 teachers, administrators, parents and students have participated in conferences, workshops and meetings and have offered comments and insights that have helped refine those ideas. The next step is sharing those ideas more widely across the education sector. For that reason, an interactive discussion guide has been designed to allow people to learn about the directions the school system may possibly take and to provide feedback on those possibilities. This feedback will help the Ministry of Education to create more concrete plans over the coming year. Please visit [www.personalizedlearningbc.ca](http://www.personalizedlearningbc.ca) to access the Personalized Learning Interactive Discussion Guide.

### **Provincial Exams – Important Changes**

As of the 2011/12 school year, optional provincial exams will no longer be offered. All five required provincial exams remain in place and continue to form part of the graduation program.

To learn more:

[http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2009-2013/2011EDUC0066-001023.htm](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2009-2013/2011EDUC0066-001023.htm)  
[www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/)  
[www.bced.gov.bc.ca/awards/](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/awards/)

**Student Development and Post-Secondary Success**

Summerland Secondary will continue to implement the work habits rubric that was shaped by staff and students. The qualities outlined in the rubric are sure to help students in their post-secondary endeavors whether in the work or academic sphere.

The rubric is to guide students into areas that they can work on in terms of works habits and to highlight where the student has strengths. Good work habits and citizenry will certainly affect grades but the rubric is not attached to academic grades.

Summerland Students Rubric						
People Skills	0	1	2	3	4	People Skills
Disrespectful						Respectful
Impolite						Courteous
Argumentative						Disagrees appropriately
Avoids interaction (distant)						Culturally appropriate eye contact
Undermines discussion						Encourages discussion
Negative body language						Appropriate body language
Excludes others						Tries to involve others
Hurtful, manipulative and judgmental						Diplomatic
Prejudicial						Empathetic
Acceptance of Self and Others	0	1	2	3	4	Acceptance of Self and Others
Negative participant						Positive participant
Insulting						Supportive
Discouraging						Encouraging
Close minded						Open minded
Excludes others						Willing to work with all
Isolates self						Inclusive
Blames others						Takes responsibility for one's action
Personalized Learning	0	1	2	3	4	Personalized Learning
Unaware						Self reflective
Intolerant						Accepting
Does not care (apathetic)						Curious
Uses excuses and avoids consequences						Takes initiative
No motivation						Self motivated (intrinsic)
Work never completed						Self Advocating
Avoids interaction (verbal)						Speaks with confidence & purpose
No follow through						Demonstrates follow through



BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)  
 425 Jermyn Avenue  
 Penticton, BC V2A 1Z4  
 Telephone: 250-770-7700  
 Fax: 250-770-7730  
 www.sd67.bc.ca

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

<b>APPROVED</b> <b>SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)</b> 2011-2012 STANDARD SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ALL SCHOOLS	
Schools Open	Tuesday, September 6, 2011
Thanksgiving Day – schools closed	Monday, October 10, 2011
Professional Development Day – schools closed	Friday, October 21, 2011
Remembrance Day observance – schools closed	Friday, November 11, 2011
Schools close for Winter Vacation	Friday, December 16, 2011 (last day of school)
Schools Reopen	Tuesday, January 3, 2012
Schools close for Spring Break and Teachers’ Professional Development Days	Friday, March 16, 2012 (last day of school)
Schools Reopen	Monday, April 2, 2012
Good Friday – schools closed	Friday, April 6, 2012
Easter Monday – schools closed	Monday, April 9, 2012
Victoria Day – schools closed	Monday, May 21, 2012
Administrative Day (students not in attendance)	Friday, June 29, 2012

Number of Days in Session: 193

Number of Days of Instruction: 186

Number of Non-Instructional Days: 6

Number of Administrative Days: 1

**Notes:** \*School District No. 67 schools are closed for the provincial spring vacation week, March 19 through March 23, 2012 and for the following week, March 26 through March 30, 2012. This second week of spring break occurs as a result of four teachers’ professional days and one school improvement planning day, normally taken throughout the school year, being taken prior to the beginning of the school year.

**2011-2012 Secondary Provincial Examination Schedule:**

Monday, January 23 through Friday, January 27, 2012

Wednesday, June 20 through Thursday, June 28, 2012

**2012 Middle School “T” Days:**

Middle School (Grades 6 – 8) pupils excused from attending school except for “I Day” assigned time(s) (June 25, 26 and 27, 2012). Students attend school on Thursday, June 28, 2012.