

Principal’s Message

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”
— Malcolm X

Did you know that Tuesday, May 3rd is National Teacher Appreciation Day? This day aims to acknowledge the teachers for all the challenging work they do for learners and their communities. Our school is fortunate to have such a dedicated group of teachers and I hope they know how much we appreciate them every day!

Here are some Teacher Appreciation Day Facts:

- According to the *Canadian Ministry of Education*, in 2020, there were 85 538 elementary teachers and 40 927 secondary teachers.
- According to Glassdoor, the median salary for teachers in Canada was \$68 000 in 2022.
- Our school district is in high demand of elementary and secondary teachers.

Our school will treat the staff to a luncheon on May 3rd as a small token of appreciation for our teachers.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Kelemen, Principal

DLES PAC EXECUTIVE 2021-2022

Co-chair: Shawna Abietkoff
250-304-8398
Co-chair: Shawna Belcourt
250-691-1094
Secretary: Amy Dash 250-691-1612
Treasurer: Dallas Matson
250-692-0516

Our amazing **PAC** has managed to raise funding for DLES to replace our gym mats—valued at over **\$11,000!!!** We are getting **NEW mats!!!** No more ripped, torn and patched up mats! Thank you DLES PAC! **Thank you so much!**



Decker Lake Celebrates!!!

Decker Lake Elementary has some wickedly amazing entrepreneurial talent!

Check this out:

We have a kindergarten — yes, you read that right — *kindergarten!*— student at our school who wanted to open a business! With the help of his family, he has opened an honour-system egg and general sales roadside kiosk!

Watch out Mr. Elon Musk! You’ve got a young, up-and-coming competitor!

Kieran McDonald has successfully organized the #TeamSeas fundraiser and raised an impressive \$168.35 through our DLES community for this very worthy cause! Thank you for all the donations to meet and exceed his \$160.00 goal!

Mark your Calendar

April

29 Pro D Day—No School

May

- 3 National Teacher Appreciation Day
- 5 Red Dress Day
- 9 Sausage Factory Orders arrive
- 10 PAC Meeting 7:30 PM
- 11 Flower Pick Up Day
- 12 Moosehide Campaign
- 13 Pro D Day—No School
- 17 Share The Love Day
- 23 Victoria Day—No School
- 26 Dress as Your Future Career Day

May 5 marks the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit people (MMIWG2S) in Canada. It is also known as **Red Dress Day**.

It is a day where red dresses act as a visual reminder of all the missing women, girls, and Two-Spirit people. It is a day about building awareness of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

This is about building awareness of this ongoing harm and honouring those we have lost and their families.

DLES will mark the day by wearing red shirts.

If this is triggering for families affected by MMIWG loss, you can call the support line at 1-844-413-6649.

May 12 is Moosehide Campaign Day.

Its purpose is to help end violence in families, to help create safe spaces and communities, to encourage healthy masculinity, and to promote cultural sensitivity and anti-racism.

Decker Lake will be recognizing Moosehide Campaign Day with free pins, and if students and staff desire, fasting for this day.

Wearing the pin shows a commitment to honour, respect, and protect women and children in our lives, and to end violence towards them. It is also a tangible connection to Indigenous culture.

Fasting is an important Indigenous practice to deepen our personal commitment to prevent violence in the home.

Decker Lake Informs...

Draft DLES Dress Code

At DLES, we ask that staff and students dress in a manner that is weather appropriate, reflects pride and personal judgement, a positive attitude towards school, and respect for all others.. The clothing should be comfortable, conducive to learning and in accordance with the individual's gender identity. Clothing worn at school should be free from inappropriate, violent, or vulgar depictions and in accordance with the Human Rights Code so an inclusive learning environment is supported for all. Should something be seen as inappropriate school attire, the person will have a conversation with the school principal and spare clothing may be provided to wear for the remainder of the day.

The BC Health Ministry is revamping how food is delivered at schools.

Look up "BC School Food Guidelines" or go to (Ctrl + right click) this link to the current guidelines: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/healthyschools/2015_food_guidelines.pdf Then select [healthyschoolsbc.ca > uploads > 2022/03 PDF](https://healthyschoolsbc.ca/uploads/2022/03/PDF), or go to this link to the proposed changes to the guidelines: <https://healthyschoolsbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/BC-School-Food-Guidelines-Confidential-Draft-for-Consultation.pdf>

The changes may affect what our PACs will be able to sell and what bakes sales will have for sale, or what families can bring as birthday or other celebration foods to classrooms, etc. Here is your chance to tell the government about what you think regarding these proposed changes by going to this survey. **This survey closes April 30, 2022, at 11:59 PM.** https://survey.moh.health.gov.bc.ca/public/survey/bc-school-food-guidelines-feedback-survey?fbclid=IwAR0nRN_5AXFNrdmYYkBySUgQtafM8XMNx_q4WAtdYD4yV0TxJF6PTEIzNPFE&utm_source=tri-city%20news&utm_campaign=tri-city%20news%3A%20outbound&utm_medium=referral

Showcasing our Communities—for \$ Cash \$!

7 student teachers from UBC will be visiting our district. They are new grads and have requested to be part of UBC's Education Department Community Field Experience program. This is a 3 week opportunity to experience rural schools and small town life. After their experience we hope they'll work in our school district!

The secondary group will be in our district from **May 16 to June 3, 2022**. The elementary group will be here from **June 6 to June 24, 2022**.

SD91 is looking for **host families** to take in these students for their 3 week visit. Each host family will receive **\$500** to assist with the costs associated with this visit. The number of students staying in each community will depend on the number of home-stays available.

They will want to visit our schools, and get a taste of our towns and local life. Some may help coach a team or share skills and interests.

This experience provides districts like ours with an exciting way of recruiting! We look forward to working with you to place these students locally! If you're interested in hosting, please contact Donna Benson at 250.692.7782.

SCHOOL DISTRICT
91
NECHAKO LAKES



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of April 11, 2022

Superintendent Manu Madhok presented his 'Superintendent's Report to the Board' at the April 11, 2022, Board Meeting.

Please go to the link below to view the report:

<https://www.sd91.bc.ca/apps/news/article/827775>

SCHOOL DISTRICT
91
NECHAKO LAKES

Draft Policies – Request for Feedback

At the Board meeting on Monday, April 11, 2022, the following policies were given various readings:

501.5 – Homeschooled Students (2nd Reading)

602.3 – Special Education (2nd Reading)

Please click the link below to view the draft policies and provide feedback. The closing date for comments is May 16, 2022, at noon.

<https://www.sd91.bc.ca/apps/pages/policies-and-regulations>



RAFFLE TIME!

The students in Mrs. Benoit's class have been busy! Each of them has sewn one or more of the blocks in the above quilt under the direction of Mrs. Benoit and Ms. Payne. Mrs. Benoit then pieced and quilted their work for a bright and cheerful result! The quilt features and warm and fuzzy backing, perfect for a lap quilt or a young child. The proceeds will be split; a portion will be donated to the Red Cross for Ukrainian refugees, and the rest will be used for year-end celebrations/filled trip.

Suggested donations of \$2 or more for tickets will be very appreciated!

First Prize –
lap/crib sized quilt

Second Prizes –
one of three
quilted bags

Third Prizes –
home made Dish
cloths

Draw date: June
24th

TO PURCHASE TICKETS

See a grade 7 student or
contact
Mrs. Benoit or Ms. Payne
250-698-7301

Tickets \$2 each or by
donation

DLES QUILT RAFFLE			DLES QUILT RAFFLE		
PROCEEDS TO THE GRADE 7 CLASS			NAME: _____		
1ST PRIZE QUILT	2ND PRIZE BAG	3RD PRIZE DISH CLOTHS	PHONE: _____		
TICKETS BY DONATION			EMAIL: _____		
			DRAW DATE JUNE 24TH		

And the last word goes to:

All of DLES's Teaching Staff:
Adrienne Hiebert, Eleanor Giesbrecht,
Elishia England, Jordan Williams,
Lisa Mason, Monica Benoit,
Shawnese Trotter, Stacey Lee, and
Wendy Shelford!
Thank you for your dedication!!!