

APRIL 18, 2005

ABBOTSFORD TRADITIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- IMPORTANT DATES AT WWW.ATSS.CA
- IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT CHANGES IN THE CHOICE SCHOOLS PROGRAMS IN ABBOTSFORD

INFORMATION MEETING
7:00 P.M. WED,
APRIL 27
W. J. MOUAT
SECONDARY
SCHOOL
32355 MOUAT DRIVE,
ABBOTSFORD

- NEW WEBSITE FOR STUDENTS TO GET HELP WITH THEIR HOMEWORK — www.fvrl.bc.ca
- COURSE CHOICE FORMS FOR NEXT YEAR ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE — CHECK OUR COURSE SELECTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR
- SCHOOL WEBSITE LOTS OF GREAT INFORMATION



District Announces Innovative Plan for Choice Schools in Sept 2006

Abbotsford District Trustees and Superintendent Des McKay are very excited to advise ATSS students, staff, and parents that the Ministry of Education has recently announced it will provide \$9.8 million in funding to reconfigure five of the District's forty-nine schools. In September 2006 the Abbotsford Senior Secondary School, Simpson Traditional Middle and the Fine Arts School (grade 6 - 12 section) will have new campuses.

In brief, the plan includes:

- a) The Career and Technical Centre (CTC) will move to Abby Senior campus. The programs offered all CTC courses the International Baccalaureate (IB) program.
- b) The CTC campus will be upgraded with an addition that includes a classroom block, second gym, multi-purpose room, etc. (part of a \$9.8 million commitment by the Ministry of Education). Simpson Traditional Middle School will move to the new addition at CTC.
- c) The remainder of the CTC campus will be renovated and updated (the other portion of the \$9.8 million dollar commitment). ATSS will move to the newly renovated CTC building.
- d) The middle and senior division of the Fine Arts School will move to our current building on Lower Sumas Mountain road.

This move is a location issue only – the programs at all of these schools will remain the same, with the exception of an expansion in the range of courses based on the larger, more complete facilities at each location.

For an information letter from the Superintendent and the School Board of the Abbotsford District, please read the inside of this newsletter.

District Information Letter

Planning Schools for the Future

INFORMATION SHEET



In March of 2005, the Abbotsford Board of School Trustees and senior administration identified the opportunity to improve educational programs and services for students by reconfiguring the delivery of several programs. Opportunities were also identified to renovate and upgrade existing facilities. The reconfiguration affects five (5) of forty-nine (49) schools in the School District, and involves the relocation of students and programs, as well as a capital construction program.

On April 14, the District received significant funding for the plan from the Ministry of Education. Following a comprehensive plan to fully inform parents, staff and students about the changes, the restructuring will get underway. These changes will be initiated at the end of the school year (June 2005) and be complete by September of 2006.

The purpose of this plan is:

- To offer a better educational experience to students by enhancing career technical, traditional and fine arts programs.
- To relieve overcrowding at two schools, and enhance Abbotsford Senior by increasing enrolment and upgrading the school.
- To create stand-alone schools in each of the fine arts and traditional streams, which preserves opportunities for choice, creates less disruption to students over the long-term and increases convenience for parents and students.
- To improve infrastructure and maximize available resources.
- To help secure a strong future for educational programs and develop organizational capacity. Currently facilities are unable to support the growth and development of several educational programs.

“This plan evolved from ongoing input from parents and schools. We are re-engineering the schools to meet the needs of the future. This initiative will build capacity, excitement and energy in School District No. 34 (Abbotsford). It will be a legacy for all.”

Des McKay, Superintendent

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To find out more, visit the website at www.sd34.bc.ca or call the District office at (604) 859-4891

The Plan In Brief



Program Changes	Highlights
<p>Career Technical Centre:</p> <p>Career Technical Centre programs move from their current site to Abbotsford Senior Secondary School.</p> <p>Timing: September 2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • centralizes and integrates career programs in the District • offers CTC in a multi-track environment. • increases capacity for enrolment in CTC programs, reducing wait lists • has support of the UCFV and BCIT as partners
<p>Abbotsford Senior Secondary School</p> <p>Abbotsford Senior Secondary will undergo extensive upgrading and receive the CTC programs and students. Fine Arts students and program will move to the Abbotsford Traditional Secondary site.</p> <p>Timing: September 2006/Construction 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhances Abbotsford Senior Secondary School by increasing enrolment • improves infrastructure • creates a central, convenient multi-track school
<p>Traditional Programs:</p> <p>Middle and Senior Traditional programs move from their current sites to the Career Technical Centre site.</p> <p>Traditional K-5 remains at South Poplar, King and Auguston schools. Simpson, a converted elementary school, will be closed and the property will be sold.</p> <p>Timing: September 2006/Construction July 2005</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improves infrastructure for traditional stream students – shops, playing fields and gym • creates a stand-alone traditional school (Grades 6-12) in a convenient, central location • significant contribution of capital money to renovate and improve the site
<p>Fine Arts Programs:</p> <p>Fine Arts programs from North Poplar (Grades 6-8) and Abbotsford Senior Secondary (Grades 9-12) will be relocated to the Abbotsford Traditional Senior Secondary site.</p> <p>The Fine Arts K-5 program remains at North Poplar.</p> <p>Timing: September 2006</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creates a stand-alone Fine Arts school (Grades 6-12) • relieves overcrowding at North Poplar • increases capacity for enrolment in Fine Arts K-12, reducing wait lists

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What Does Love Mean?

A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds, "What does love mean?" The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined.

What do you think?

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."
- Rebecca - age 8

When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth."
- Billy - age 4

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired."
- Terri - age 4

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make -
- Danny - age 7

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."
- Bobby - age 7

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate."
- Nikka - age 6

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well."
- Tommy - age 6

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night."
- Clare - age 6

"Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken."
- Elaine - age 5

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford."
- Chris - age 7

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day."
- Mary Ann - age 4

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her ++ old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones."
- Lauren - age 4

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you."
- Karen - age 7

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget."
- Jessica - age 8

And the final one — Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.

The winner was a four-year-old child whose next-door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his Mother asked what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."

Course
Selection
Sheets

Course
selection
sheets for
grade 8, 9,
10, 11 and
12 are
posted on
our school
website.

Check out
the
courses
for next
year - with
our larger
population
we will
have more
course
choices
including
advanced
courses
from
grade 9
and up.

