

The Titan Tribune

Abbotsford Traditional Secondary School

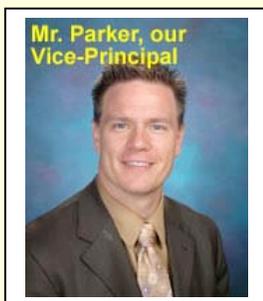
atss.ca

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Principles Message

2272 Windsor St.
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604-850-7029, fax: 604-850-7028



Secretaries:

Mrs. Suderman local: 1000
TBA local: 1001
Mrs. Mangat local: 1002

Counselor:

Mr. Abernethy local: 1107

One-to-One program:

David Ennis local: 1202

Dear students and parents:

I would like to personally welcome all of our students and staff back to ATSS this year. It has been a busy week as our summer vacation has ended and we have all returned to a school schedule. Many are looking forward to the return of routines, while others will be missing the relaxed days of summer. It's hard to believe that we moved into our facilities only a year ago. Comparing last year to this year, it has been so nice to have our building ready and sparkling in preparation for our students' arrival. Our numbers have increased this year by almost a hundred students. It has been encouraging to see the growth continues in the Traditional School program as a result of the hard work and dedication of all of our staff at ATSS. Growing numbers do increase the opportunities for course selections for our students. This has led to some larger classes in our lower grades as we struggle to fit everyone in. We still have a waiting list in grade 9, unfortunately where our space is the most limited.

We do have several new teachers joining us as we want to congratulate some of our staff who have elected to begin or increase their families this year. Joining us are Mr. Brock for Science, Law 12 and Planning 10, Mr. Lane for Technology and Business, Mrs. Mihalech for English, and Ms. Flagg for French. We have assembled a strong teaching staff and are looking forward to further developing our program excellence in all areas.

Please take special note of our "Meet the Teacher" night this Wednesday from 7:30 to approx. 8:45 pm. This will coincide with the Middle School evening which begins at 6:30 pm. Our parents are invited to meet in the ATSS gymnasium at 7:30 for a welcome and some updated information on laptops etc. After this you will be dismissed to follow your child's timetable for a 5 minute presentation by each classroom teacher, introducing class outlines and expectations. We will have individual parent teacher interviews later in November. Your child should bring home on Wed. a block schedule for you to follow with their teacher's name, course and room number.

We will be assembling parent e-mail addresses so that we can e-mail the newsletter to you as many of the paper copies seem to not make it home. If you haven't already and would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail, please let the office know along with your e-mail address.

Just a reminder, especially for Gr. 9 parents, that if your child is going to be away from school with your permission, please be sure to contact the office right away and let us know. You can call any time of the day or night and leave a message. With more teachers and rotating classes, it is essential that this contact be made.

We are waiting for a number of uniform items but everyone should now be arriving, if not in full dress code, at least with the right pants/shorts as these can be purchased most anywhere and should have been by now.

If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me and let me know. You can do so by phoning the office and asking for an appointment or return phone call or just drop by, my door is usually open.

I wish all of us a great year. full of success

Notes from our Vice Principal

Introducing The ATSS Podcast/Blog

Students, teachers and parents are invited to visit our new podcast/blog. You can access atss.podcastpeople.com through the school website (atss.ca) or go to the link directly. The purpose of this site is to provide a forum for answering your questions about the school, providing information on Traditional School culture and seeking feedback to improve our programs. Current topics on line include; "How is Traditional School Different?" ad "Student Uniforms". We invite you to visit the podcast and post your questions.

Warmest regards,

J. Parker (ATSS - VP)





Faculty:

<u>Dept Heads:</u>	<u>Local</u>
Mr. Fedyna Math/Science	#3256
Mrs. Neufeldt Humanities	#3137
Mr. Ennis Perf Arts/Tech	#1120
Mr. Laity PE	#5107

Teaching Staff

Mr. Barden	#1103
Mr. Currie Science	#3252
Mrs. Faber	#3256
Miss Flagg	#3140
Mr. Friesen	#3138
Miss Hunt	#5107
Mrs. Kehoe	#3134
Mr. Lane	#3248
Mr. Macphail	#5173
Mrs. Mihalech	#3240
Mrs. Myers	#3235
Miss Vandalfsen	#3136
Mrs. VanKleeck	#3237

Learning Assistance	#3135
Mrs. Collins	
Mrs. Hiebert	
Mrs. Silzer	
Mrs. Botkin	

Library	#3152
Ms. Malmas	

Course Changes

Next Friday the 14th is the deadline for course changes. See Mr. Abernethy before that time.

Remember to call the office if your student is going to be away or late. Thankyou.

How is Traditional School Different

At first glance, a traditional secondary school might not look that different from any other high school. Students show up in the morning, attend classes, struggle through exams, make friends, enjoy or don't enjoy their day, participate in extracurricular events, etc...

There are, however, some very distinct differences that make ATSS stand out from other schools. Firstly, there's UNIFORMS. Some like the convenience of knowing what they will wear to school each day and recognize the importance of dressing for success. Others don't like the fact that everyone looks the same and are starved to express their individuality.

Secondly, you should find that there is a HIGHER EXPECTATION in terms of behavior and LEVEL OF RESPECT between staff and students and students themselves. The overall school size is typically SMALLER THAN OTHER SCHOOLS (currently 380), so people get a chance to know each other. For better or worse, no one should be anonymous at ATSS. You get MET IN THE MORNING at the front door with a handshake before you enter; teachers are waiting in the hallway for your arrival to class and everyone expects that they will be greeted with a handshake and/or friendly salutation.

It may seem that unimportant things get noticed at ATSS, but we believe it's the "little things" that make a difference. From paying attention to professional dress, to STANDING TO SPEAK your mind or greet a formal visit to class, to sharing space in the hallways or being expected to help out wherever and whenever you can, ATSS attempts to foster a family-like environment where the safety and well-being of all is cared for.

In the end, it's the PEOPLE that MAKE A DIFFERENCE in our programs. Our teaching staff is inspired and dedicated. Indeed, when they aren't engaging students in teaching they are dedicating their extra time to interacting with students through intramural activities or providing extra help with academics. One wonders, when they ever get a chance to rest! Our students, as well, you will find are confident speaking with almost anyone, confident, polite and helpful. They are key in creating an atmosphere where people feel welcomed and respected. We hope ATSS is a place where they feel they belong.

To be sure, we have only just begun at our new facility. But what a great home we have! A new gym, art room, foods lab, metal and woodwork shop, as well as, larger fields, courts and areas for meeting with friends make for the perfect learning environment.

Our 121 LAPTOP PROGRAM makes us unique in the district and in British Columbia. All students 9-12 are issued a laptop to assist in their studies. Teachers have tablet PC's. Many offer their entire course on-line so that students can stay atop their studies virtually should they be away from class. Almost all rooms are now equipped with laser projectors to aid in the presentation of materials. Prices of laptop rental are modest, considering that they include a 100% spill/drop warranty. I haven't even raved about our MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAM that hosts first class stage performances involving students from across the entire school or our GROWING ATHLETICS PROGRAM.

We look forward to growing our programs to maximize their current strengths, as well as, identifying areas that still require improvement. That is why, we would like you to answer the question, "How is Traditional School Different?". What's great about ATSS and where do you think we need to improve. Remember, we encourage everyone to express their views and trust that they will do so in a way that is respectful.

I look forward to reading your comments.



Warmest regards,
J. Parker



Kudo's to some of our students

On June 8th, a number of ATSS Social Studies 11 students ran a car wash and hotdog sale fundraiser at Otter Co-op in Aldergrove. They were very successful and raised \$238.00 dollars, which is being given to Grace Academy Orphanage in Zambia, an orphanage opened by the Chalkias family.

These funds will be used to provide children with items they need for school, such as pencils, paper and books.

The enthusiasm, compassion and work of these students has made a significant difference in the lives of needy children. A big thank-you to these students for representing our school and Canada so well.

Those involved were Sarah Baddock, Kelsea Burnson, Brydan Chalkias, Meghan Larsen, Karen Vandervelden, Teddy Verrault and Kirstie White.





Travel with ATSS this Spring

Are you interested in traveling to a new and exotic destination? For information on the spring break 2008 field trip to Japan, see Mr. Fedyna.

Travel to the land of the rising sun for a unique and life enriching experience

Meet the Teacher Night

September 12th

We will be having a Meet-The-Teacher Night here at the school in our Main Gymnasium at 7:30-8:30 p.m. All our Teachers will be in the gym where you can visit with them all. No appointments are necessary.

Friday Night Basketball

Registration takes place on Saturdays, September 8 & 15 at MEI Secondary (4081 Clearbrook Road) from 10:00-4:00. The 2007/2008 league runs from October-March on Friday nights (excluding district wide ProD Days and a 3-4 break at Christmas). Registration is \$135. It is for boys & girls from Pre-school to Grade 12. See the brochure that was sent home with your child for further details. If you have any questions please call Barb Hill at 604-850-8698

If you need to email a teacher simply write their full name with an underscore in-between at:
John_doe@sd34.bc.ca



ATSS School Year Calendar

September 4	School Opening
September 12	Meet the Teacher Night
September 21	Non Instructional Day
September 26	Post-Sec. Info Night
September 28	Homecoming
October 4	Photo Day
October 8	Thanksgiving Day
October 19	Non Instructional Day
November 8	End of Term 1
November 9	Non Instructional Day
November 12	Remembrance Day off
November 28 & 29	Early Dismissal Days
November 30	Non Instructional Day
December 21	Last Day before Christmas
December 24-Jan 4	Winter Vacation
January 7	School Reopens
January 15-19	Musical "Alice in Wonderland"
January 25	End of Term II
January 28-Feb 1	Provincial Exams
January 30 & 31	In-School Exams
February 1	Semester Turnaround Day
February 15	Non Instructional Day
March 17-21	Spring Vacation
March 21	Good Friday
March 24	Easter Monday
March 25	Day in lieu of Good Friday
March 26-28	Days in Lieu – Not in session
March 31	School Reopens
April 16 & 17	Early Dismissal Days
April 18	Non Instructional Day
May 19	Victoria Day
June 19 & 20	In School Exams
June 18-26	Provincial Exams
June 27	Year End Closing

Dress Code Order Dates:

Order Forms are available in the office and you may drop your completed order with the secretary. Other than collecting the orders the office staff does not handle any uniform issues.

Orders will be picked up by the supplier, JTB Services, on the following dates.

- Sept 10
- Sept 24
- Oct 8
- Oct 22
- Nov 5

The delivery time is usually two weeks from pick up, depending on product availability however the Sept 10th orders will be put on a rush and should be ready in one week.

There will not be another fitting day at the school however order forms are available in the office and if you need help sizing please indicate this on the order form and JTB Services will contact you.

JTB Services Policies

All orders must include payment to J.T.B. Services. Completed order forms may be dropped off in the school office.

Logoed items will not be returned or exchanged unless the item is defective. All defective items must be returned within 21 days of purchase with receipt.

If you are waiting for your order and do not have a school uniform:

- Please wear only the school colours,
- Black or beige pants
- Black, beige or red tops, no graphics.

Absolutely no jeans!

Picture day: If you do not have any school logoed top for picture day we will have a loaner you can wear.

