

The Titan Tribune

Abbotsford Traditional Secondary School

atss.ca

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2272 Windsor St.
Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 6M1
604-850-7029, fax: 604-850-7028

Mr. Hildebrand, our
Principal



Mr. Parker, our
Vice-Principal



atss.podcastpeople.com

Secretaries:

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

Counselor:

Mr. Abernethy local: 1107

One-to-One program:

David Ennis local: 1120

Principal's Message

Things are well under way and it is encouraging to see some of the achievements our students have made recently. A big **CONGRATULATIONS** to Ms. Van Dalfsen and Mrs. Neufeld and their English students who took second place in a National Canada-wide Competition for writing short stories and poems and had a number of their students have their written pieces published in a National Anthology. Further **CONGRATULATIONS** to Taylor Hunt, a graduating student from last year, who won a provincial scholarship for having 3 or more Gr. 12 Provincial Exams over 86%. Well done Taylor and to his teachers who obviously played a role in his success. Outstanding work and effort on the part of all.

I want draw your attention to several important dates/events coming up. You should be receiving an interim report on all of your son/daughter's subjects coming up in the next week or so. If you haven't heard within a week or so don't hesitate to contact their teachers. You can find their e-mail addresses at our website, www.atss.ca. Report cards will be sent home on Nov. 22 and Parent/Teacher interviews will be held that evening. Don't miss the workshop on computer safety for parents on Nov. 20 at 6:30 pm in the library.

Notes from our Vice Principal

Have You Heard Those New Bells At ATSS?

Here's what one student thinks of our new bells...

Hello, Mr. Parker!

I have wanted to post a comment on the ATSS Podcast website about our new bell for quite some time, but had no idea where to put it. I remember you mentioning we should email you with our concerns, so here goes.

I know there probably isn't many other choices for our school bell, and the entire point of changing it was to make ours sound different from the middle school, but I find it difficult to listen to.

Is there possibly anything the administration could do to help this?

Mr. Parker answers this question and more on the school's podcast. What do you think of our new bells? Visit atss.podcastpeople.com to join the discussion and find out why they were changed in the first place.



Important Date



Parent In-service Laptop Safety and Accountability

At the next PAC meeting evening Tues. Nov. 20 beginning at 6:30 pm in the Library there will be a 45 minute workshop for parents about laptops dealing with safety, security and student accountability. It is our intent to assist parents as much as possible in helping to understand some of the concerns around the use of laptops at ATSS. This workshop will deal with areas parents need to be aware of in terms of internet use etc. and how to do checks on your child's laptop to ensure their use is as safe and appropriate as possible. You don't want to miss this one. Mark Nov. 20 on your calendar and plan to be here for this important workshop.



SCHOOL SPIRIT

ATSS PEP RALLY
Date changed to Oct 26
during X Block



Faculty:

Dept Heads: Local

Mr. Fedyna Math/Science #3256
 Mrs. Neufeldt Humanities #3137
 Mr. Ennis Perf Arts/Tech #1120
 Mr. Laity PE #5107
 Mr. Abernethy/Student/Ldrshp #1107



Teaching Staff

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

Learning Assistance #3135

Mrs. Collins
 Mrs. Hiebert
 Mrs. Silzer
 Mrs. Botkin

Library #3152
 Ms. Malmas

ATMS/ATSS
Remembrance Day Ceremony
10:30 to 11:45
ATSS Gym
Thursday, November 8th, 2007

Members of the greater community, district personnel, veterans, active members of the Canadian Forces and parents of all Traditional Schools are invited to attend our upcoming Traditional School's Remembrance Day Ceremony to be held in the Abbotsford Traditional Secondary Gym.

Come join our staff, parents, and students from Grades 6 to 12 to pause in a silent moment of remembrance for the men and women who have served, and continue to serve our country during times of war, conflict and peace.

Please RSVP your attendance to: christine_dahl@sd34.bc.ca

Oct 31 – 'Dress Up Day' Organized by the Leadership Team...more details to come!



Remember: We are on the web!



Congratulations Poetry Champs

Congratulations Abbotsford Traditional Secondary writers! Under the leadership of Ms. Vandalfsen, ATSS is a second prizewinner in the Poetry Institute of Canada's 2007 National Short Story Competition. This prize is awarded for the best overall group of entries submitted to the contest. Congratulations also to Alyssa Blahut, Kristyn Buhler, Megan Edwards, Joel Love, Jamie Gourley, Sukhwant Rathour, Chirs Robinson, Analza Styles, Marissa Vanderveldn, Alysha Van Der Zwaag, Alyssa Zandbergen, Jennifer Hutchings and Karmin Gray who had their short stories published in the Canadian Poetry Institute's anthology "Story Teller."

Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day

Students in Grade 9 have received (or will be receiving shortly) permission forms for **Take Our Kids to Work Day**, Wednesday November 7th. These forms should be filled out and returned to Grade 9 homeroom teachers as soon as possible. **TOKTW** is a national program that allows students to observe what their parents (or another adult) does for a living, and is part of the Health and Career Education 9 curriculum. Any questions can be directed to Mr. Abernethy

Scholarship Information
 Attention Grade 12's

Oct 26-District Scholarship Applications due to Mr. Abernethy

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





Our Jr. Boys soccer team in action!

Go Titans Go!



Come cheer on our Jr. Boys Soccer
Our next home game is Monday, Oct 22 vs. MEI and we are currently in 4th place in the league. Playoffs will start next Thursday.


Our congratulations goes out to the Junior Girls Volleyball Team who won one of their games against the west division leaders, MEI. The girls are showing improved play and passing as the season progresses.
 Come out and support our team in their final games this season:
Tues Oct 23 at 3:45pm Mission, Thursday Oct 25, 3:30pm at ATSS vs. Hansen, and Tuesday, Oct 30, 3:30pm at Mouat. Go TITANS!!!!



SENIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL SEASON IS WELL UNDERWAY. GAMES ARE MONDAY & WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT EITHER 6:30 OR 8 PM. THE ONLY HOME GAME IS **MONDAY OCTOBER 22nd AT 8 P.M.** YOUR SUPPORT AT THIS GAME WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. OUR TEAM IS COMPOSED OF 5 EXPERIENCED GRADE 12'S SEVERAL BRAND NEW GRADE 11 PLAYERS & SEVERAL SEASONED GRADE 10'S, THE TEAM IS COACHED BY JOEL GIESBRECHT & MRS. VANKLECK.. WE LOOK FORWARD TO AN EXCITING SEASON!

Don't be late... for this important date!
ATSS Musical Theater is proud to present Disney's "Alice in Wonderland Jr." in January 2008.

School Matinees:	Public Performances:
Tuesday January 15	Friday January 18 (evening)
Wednesday January 16	Saturday January 19 (evening)
Thursday January 17	
Friday January 18	



Our cast and crew of nearly 50 students are already hard at work rehearsing for this season's production. This year, the course is in the timetable six times per week, and we are moving quickly towards auditions.

A big **thank you** to all the parents who have volunteered to help so far – we'll be in touch shortly by email or by phone!

Other jobs we are looking to fill:

Ticket sales & Promotions (presales & show nights)	Lighting technician
Properties master	Sound technician
Make Up coordinator	Backstage crew
House manager	Ushers and front of house crew

Some of these jobs will take place in the next six weeks, some will be done in the last few weeks before the production, and still others will be during the week of performance (Jan 15-19, 2008). If you are able to help out in any capacity, whether or not your child is involved with Musical Theatre, we appreciate you donating your time! Contact Mrs. Myers (michelle_myers@sd34.bc.ca) or Mr. Dencer for more information.



Computer Help

STUDENT COMPUTER HELP SCHEDULE

Revised: Sep. 25, 2007 Mr. Ennis, Mr. Lane and Mr. Macphail are the computer support teachers.

Monday Period 2 - Block B1 Period 5 - Block D1

Tuesday Period 4 - Block A1 Period 5 - Block B2

Wednesday Period 5 - Block A2

Thursday Period 4 - Block B1

Friday Period 2 - Block B2 Period 5 - Block D2



School Fees

In accordance with district policy we will begin collecting school fees this month for those items authorized by the School Board. We will be charging all students the student activity fee of \$30 which covers the cost of the agenda books, student leadership activities for the whole school, locks for lockers etc. In addition, if your child is playing on a school team the cost will be \$40 for Junior sports, \$60 for Senior sports and \$25 for boys volleyball as they are in exhibition only this year. These fees cover the registration of each player in the league, the refereeing and some of the transportation associated with that activity. Yearbooks can be purchased for \$40.00 before October 31st.

Also though permitted, we will not be charging for student parking this year but we do require all students who are driving vehicles to school to register them at the office for school safety and district liability and insurance purposes.

ODDS N' ENDS

Please when parking use the empty stalls as much as possible. Some people are not able to leave as cars are waiting in front of the stalls at days end. We appreciate your consideration of others in the parking lot.



DRESS CODE

November 2nd is our last day of the year for our uniform order PICKUP.

Any layering should be in beige, black or red, and for skirts a three finger width above the knee is the maximum.

**Photo Retake Day will now be on:
October the 25th**

GET YOUR PICTURES IN THE YEARBOOK

The Yearbook Staff invites students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun, we'd like to see them.

Here is how you can submit photo's online.

Log onto: images.jostens.com

Enter Login ID: 300813745

Password: yearbook08

- Browse to select the photo(s) you wish to upload, click on "Image Share".
- Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Click "Save Details".

It's that easy! Submit your photos today!

The Yearbook Staff will review all photos and determine final yearbook content. We cannot guarantee that all submission can be used in the book.

ATSS School Year Calendar

October 19	Non Instructional Day
October 22	PAC Meeting
October 23	TAC Meeting
October 25	Photo Retake Day
October 26	Pep Rally
October 26	District Scholarship's due
October 31	Dress Up Day
November 2	Last day for uniform orders
November 7	Take our Kids to Work Day
November 8	End of Term 1
November 8	Remembrance Day Ceremony
November 9	Non Instructional Day
November 12	Remembrance Day off
November 20	PAC Meeting
November 20	TAC Meeting
November 22	Report Cards go home
November 22	Parent/Teacher Interviews
November 28 & 29	Early Dismissal Days
November 30	Non Instructional Day
December 5	SS Fair
December 13	Christmas Concert
December 21	Last Day before Christmas
December 24-Jan 4	Winter Vacation
January 7	School Reopens
January 15	PAC Meeting
January 15-19	Musical "Alice in Wonderland"
January 22	TAC Meeting
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
February 19	TAC Meeting
March 11	TAC Meeting
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
April 22	TAC Meeting
April 24	Report Cards go home
April 24	Parent/Teacher interviews
May 5	Café Night Concert
May 8	SS Fair
May 16	Prom 6-12 @ Hazelmere
May 19	Victoria Day
May 20	TAC Meeting
May 30	Convocation and Dry Grad
June 19 & 20	In School Exams
June 18-26	Provincial Exams
June 27	Year End Closing





ATSS PAC INFO



Monday, Oct 22, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the school Library, there will be an extraordinary Parent Advisory Council meeting to discuss and vote on our proposed budget and spending for this school year. Please feel free to email any suggestions you may have.

A special "Thank You" to Mrs. Meyers for her computer knowledge and guidance to parents in regards to the laptops at our last meeting. If you were unable to attend last week there will be another session in November for parents on Tuesday the 22nd at 6:30 in the library.

This year's musical at ATSS will be "Alice in Wonderland". This is sure to be a huge hit and one you will want to make sure you attend. January 15th to the 18th there will be matinees with evening performances on the 18th and 19th. As with any successful production, there is a huge (behind the scenes) contingency of parental volunteers needed. In particular, Mrs. Meyers is looking for specific volunteers for the following:

Promotion and Ticket sales	Lighting Technician
Property Master	Sound Technician
Make Up	Stage and Assistant Managers
Program Coordinator	Transportations of Props and Costumes
Ushers	

A brief timeline to help you organize your hours to help out is as follows:

The next two weeks of October parents are needed to help out with taking measurements for costumes. You would be joining the classes approximately 2-3 times.

November is sewing time. Is this your forte? Thank you to Mrs. Gray for coordinating the costumes sewing. Please check in with Mrs. Meyers A.S.A.P. if you would like to help out.

November/December is the opportunity for Dad's to get involved. Approximately two Saturdays should see us have our sets and props built and painted.

Early in December we will need parents to begin our advertising and ticket selling campaign. We would like to try and do presales in December and then sell in the first two weeks of January.

January 7th we MOVE into Abbey Arts to set up. Vehicles and muscles required. They are also required the night of 19th for take down.

Our annual Musical is a tradition that is definitely worth the effort. This year the amount of students in Drama has doubled. Please, make the time to get involved as you are needed and will very much enjoy your time with the cast and other crew. For more specific information or to sign up, please contact Mrs. Meyers **SOON** at Michelle_Meyers@sd34.bc.ca. Or leave her a message @ 604-850-7029. We thank you in advance.

Best Regards,
Sherry Strukoff
P.A.C. Chairperson



DPAC Meetings are held at the School District Admin Office – Boardroom beginning at 7:07 pm.
September 27th
October 25th
November 22nd
January 24th
February 28th
April 24th
May 29th



Key Communicator Meetings are generally held at the School District Admin Office – Boardroom beginning at 9:30 am.
November 7th
January 9th
February 6th
April 2nd
May 7th



Date: October 12, 2007

Dear: Parent/Guardian

This letter outlines the Abbotsford School District's position regarding student absences for extended periods of time. While the District acknowledges the right of parents to take a child out of school, we are compelled to inform parents of the potential impact of extended absences on their child's education.

Extended Absences

When a family trip extends beyond a week or two, teachers become very concerned about the amount of classroom based instruction that a student misses. Missing this important instruction can have a significant effect on learning. Prolonged absences from school will likely mean that students will develop gaps in learning which may limit their chances of success in later years. Therefore, the District strongly encourages parents to consider shorter absences, or that parents take trips in conjunction with an existing school holiday, such as Winter or Spring Break.

Teachers are generally willing to give suggestions to parents about activities to assist their child during an absence. However, it is not the teacher's responsibility to prepare homework for the student on an extended absence. If the absence is unavoidable, the District recommends that time be set aside each day of the trip to work on school related activities. Such activities may include:

- Daily reading in English
- Writing a daily journal in English
- Practicing computation skills (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division)
- Practicing writing skills

Parents must be aware that if assessments indicate that grade level learning outcomes have not been mastered by their child, the possibility of repeating the school year, or attending Summer School may be considered by the school staff.

Please complete the bottom section of this letter and return it to the school with your child. Should you have any questions, please call me at the school (School phone number).

Sincerely,

Glen Hildebrand
Principal

I have read and understood this letter regarding my child's extended absence from school.

Student Name: _____ Gr. _____ Div. _____

Dates of Absence: From: _____ to _____

Date: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

