

# Dalton Baptiste



Dalton attended Naghtaneqed Elementary Junior Secondary School from Kindergarten to Grade 9. Dalton has always been a hard working student. He takes his education seriously and strives to do his best in all subject areas. He has earned several year end awards while attending our school. The following is a record of those achievements:

Academic Excellence Award 1998 & 2004, Chilcotin Language Award 1995, 1997, 2000 & 2004, Best Attendance Award 1999, 2000 & 2003, Citizenship Award 1997, Dorothy Lulua Memorial Award 1998 and Principal's Award 2004.

Dalton is a good example of social responsibility. He contributes to the school and community. Last year he organized his own team to play in the Lahal Tournament during the Brittany Gathering. He also made Lahal Pointer Sticks and bones for the school as a gift to use for our Lahal games during our annual cultural week. He is respectful of his peers, school staff, community members and elders. He demonstrates pride in his Chilcotin heritage and has integrated the traditional values and lifestyle as his own way of life.

He tans his own hides and makes drums, gloves and moccasins. He enjoys beading and drumming. Dalton also like to learn about other First Nation tribes in BC and Canada. During the Intermediate Grades he would read extra materials about other ways of life during the Social Studies Class. He has been taking the First Nations Studies course at Williams Lake Secondary School. I know that Dalton spent a lot of time with his late grandfather, Marvin Baptiste, to learn about hunting, fishing, medicine plants and berries.

Dalton demonstrates a strong belief in his values and is not affected by negative peer pressure. I have observed the respect other students have for him because of this. There was a student who was often in trouble at school say "I wish I could be like Dalton." In his steady, quiet way, he has already been a role model for others.

Characteristics Dalton exemplifies are honesty, perseverance, kindness, helpfulness and consistent dependability. He is trustworthy, respectful of himself and others. I have observed Dalton mature from a young very shy boy into a confident adolescent who is willing to participate as a role model for others. I would be an honour to have Dalton chosen as a role model for School District #27 to represent the First Nation Students.

Sincerely,  
Joan Simmons, Naghtaneqed Elementary Junior Secondary School

## First Nations Role Model 2006



**Cariboo - Chilcotin School District #27**  
**First Nations Department**  
**First Nations Education Council**

# Melissa Christopher

Melissa (Missy) Christopher caught my attention at the First Gathering of Peter Skene Ogden Secondary's Grade 10 "Welcome Back BBQ" in September of 2006. She was quick to volunteer and participated with great enthusiasm in the spirit of the events that our Leadership Class was hosting. Throughout the First Semester, she continued to support student events hosted by the class. Her creativity and spirit were openly displayed. I then remembered that I had met Missy earlier through the 4-H Program where I was a parent and project leader for another club. I recall that Missy was an active member of the Canim Lake Club.

I was pleased to see Missy apply for the Leadership class in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester of this year. It is difficult for a student to join this group part way through the year, but Missy accepted this challenge. Initially, she observed the overwhelming flurry of activity that is the Leadership Class and in no time, she jumped in and never looked back. She wears her Leadership shirt proudly as she helps organize other student projects, speaks at assemblies and she is currently the project manager of her own project: a cross generational drum-making group.

I was very pleased to have a First Nations Student apply for our Leadership Class. Her outgoing nature encourages others to step forward and let their personalities shine through as they join in on our various student developed spirit, awareness and cultural/arts activities. At a recent Leadership Conference that the class attended, fellow students made a point of noting in their trip journals, that a highlight of their trip was getting to know Missy better!

It has been a pleasure getting to know Missy this semester. She has been a valuable member of our class and I encourage her to continue using her many talents both in school and out. Giving to others has a marvelous way of giving back to one's self.

Mrs. K. Johnson Puckett, Leadership Teacher Peter Skene Odgen



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