



Columneetza Junior Secondary

December 2023 Newsletter

Columneetza Junior Secondary (Gr.7-9)
1045 Western Ave, Williams Lake, BC
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Ph: 250-392-4158



PSST is an online anonymous reporting tool that serves the safety needs of today's students.

PSST is a secure and confidential place for students to share information about anything that concerns them at school.

Students do not need to provide their name unless they wish to be contacted.

Resource added to Safer Schools Website: complimentary access to download *Raising Digitally Responsible Youth – A Parent's Guide from Safer Schools Together*. The guide was designed to help introduce Parents and Caregivers to leading social media platforms, video games, and relevant trends that are either being used already or have the potential to be used by their children:

https://icdta.org/raising-digitally-responsible-youth/?utm_medium=email&_hsmt=269100647&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--yT7EQjXFEf8pLC0uJW3goeqwuo3K1vrfKiCVSXUfvrnRyilcsDP_E8loybp12zprg5akllaS5vriE_4AH9B8yEo2tG8_xK5jqnx72Y3v7hr8tWmpc&utm_content=269100647&utm_source=hs_email

Family Session Online Dec. 5th @ 6:30pm: Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/family-session-establishing-safe-caring-respectful-digital-communities-tickets-765337273387?aff=oddtcreator>

Practice Lock Down Drill:

We will conduct a practice Lock Down Drill on **Monday, December 11th at 9:30am**. RCMP will assist us with this practice procedure for emergent situations.

Columneetza Cares Toy Drive

This December the Leadership classes are going to organize a Toy Drive for both gently used and new toys. Toys will be for kids ages 4-10 and Columneetza students will deliver toys to community organizations and possibly elementary schools in our area. Last day to donate toys will be December 14th.

Important Dates

Dec 1	Grade 7 Learning Updates due to the office
Dec 5	Staff Meeting
Dec 6	Grade 7 Learning Updates go home
Dec 14	Christmas Dance 5-7:30pm
Dec 16	Expo 4 starts
Dec 19	Grade 8/9 Band Concert Columneetza
Dec 22	Last Day of school before Winter Break; Fiddlers Performance
Dec 23 – Jan 7	Winter Break
Jan 8	School Reopens
Jan 16	Staff Meeting
Jan 22	PAC WL Library 6pm
Jan 26	Semester 1 Ends

SOAR - Free e-library for Columneetza students



Students can access this e-library from school or home, on their computer, Apple/Android phone, or tablet. There are hundreds of audiobooks, fiction & non-fiction books, and magazines. Just download the free Sora app, find our library (British Columbia Interior/North K-12 Shared Digital Collection), select “Columneetza”, and sign in using your school username and password. If you can’t find the audiobooks/books you were hoping for, just drop by the Columneetza library – we may be able to add them to the collection.

Wear Winter Clothing – Be Prepared!

Students, Parents & Guardians, as the cooler weather begins to make an appearance, we are asking for students to ensure they are wearing warm clothing to school so they can be outside during classes and breaks. If you need help getting your child outfitted with warm winter wear the school can help. Call the school at 250-392-4158.



School Messenger - Columneetza is using School Messenger automatic callout module. The program is linked to MyEd BC and sends out emails, phone calls and messages to parents whose children did not go to class for that morning or afternoon (unexcused absence). Parents can respond in kind to the message indicating that the child is ill etc. The system also allows parents to indicate that their child will be away for the day by calling 1 (833) 582-6944, using the phone app, website login or calling the school. <https://go.schoolmessenger.com>

Parent Advisory Council: A strong relationship between the school and parents is very important in a child’s education, and one way of being involved with the school is to be a member of the PAC. All parents are invited to attend Lake City Secondary PAC meetings. The meetings are held on the third Monday of each Month at 6:00 p.m. in the library.



NEXT MEETING: Monday, January 22th @ WL Library - 6:00pm

E-Sports (League of Legends) Club is Tuesdays and Thursdays school in room 150, from 3:30 - 5:30pm at Columneetza. Team members are practicing this semester and will begin team competition in the Spring. New members welcome.



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Food Sales at Columneetza



Breakfast for Learning – breakfast food is available 5 days a week from 8:10-8:40am. Lunch food is also available every day for students who need a lunch or have forgotten a lunch, see Courtney Mailhot, Youth Engagement Worker. Wraps are sold Wednesdays and Fridays for \$2 per half and pizza is sold Thursday for \$2.50/slice.

Attendance Recognition:

Every day this year, students with less than 2 absences a month will have a chance to win \$5 to the healthy vending machine. Attend today, achieve tomorrow! Students' regular attendance matters.

Below are some ideas to try if your child(ren) is/are working to arrive on time to school:

ESTABLISHING A ROUTINE TO HELP GET TO SCHOOL ON TIME

- ▶ Give yourself and children enough time to get ready. No TV on school mornings can help.
- ▶ Provide students their own alarm. Teaching kids to set and use their own alarm can help them learn responsibility for their own personal practices.
- ▶ Try setting the alarm 30 minutes earlier for students who need more time to get ready for school.
- ▶ Plan ahead the night before, such as: identifying and pre-prepping breakfast, having kids choose their clothes and shoes the night before, and packing backpacks with completed homework and snacks/water.
- ▶ Set a regular bedtime schedule. Age should be a consideration in making decisions.
- ▶ Get proper rest and go to bed early yourself. Your health and well-being are important, too.
- ▶ Have your child go to bed 10 minutes earlier and get up 10 minutes earlier.
- ▶ Have kids bathe or shower in the evening.
- ▶ Help your child relax before bedtime with a story, instead of the stimulation of television.
- ▶ Have schoolwork and lunch ready and laid out, ready to go. Create a special folder for completed assignments.
- ▶ Provide regular study times and a quiet, clean area for doing homework so your children don't avoid school because their assignments are not complete.
- ▶ Have your child walk to school or the bus stop with another child who is always on time.
- ▶ Limit / balance extra-curricular activities.
- ▶ Have a back-up plan for cold weather and organize cold weather gear the night before.

Lunch Hour Supervisors:

We are still looking for interested parents/caregivers/community members to join our team and help supervise students at lunch in the Library and the Gymnasium. Please call or email Hattie Darney if you are interested (250-392-4158 – hattie.darney@sd27.bc.ca). A current resume, 2 references and a Criminal Records Check are required.

Columnnetza School Website: <https://www.sd27.bc.ca/lcsscolum>

Facebook Page: “Lake City Secondary – School Page”

