

Columneetza Junior Secondary

April 2024 Newsletter

Columneetza Junior Secondary (Gr.7-9) 1045 Western Ave, Williams Lake, BC, V2G 2J8

Ph: 250-392-4158

Building Positive Culture at Columneetza

This month we started with performances by Artist in the School Quinn Beasley who is a cirque artist, unicyclist, juggler, comedian, actor, public speaker, and fire performer. It was a positive way to bring together students and staff. Quinn's underlying message was around mental wellness and antibullying. This week we will have Justin Brien here at Columneetza to speak with Gr. 8 & 9 students about mental wellness and positive self-care. Later this month we will have another Columneetza Cares assembly to have some fun and continue to promote kindness and caring!

SAFER SCHOOLS TOGETHER



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.

Additional Family Erase sessions – Establishing Safe, Caring and Respectful

Digital Communities - Safer Schools Together has added three new dates for *erase* Family Sessions. These online sessions focus on social media awareness and online safety and take place in the evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on April 10, and April 16. All parents, caregivers, and students (ages 10 and up) are welcome to attend. Trainings can be found at *erase* Family Sessions. (Ctrl + Click to follow the link)

Powwow Dance Club

Starts April 4th, every Thursday from 3:30-5:00 @ Marie Sharpe Elementary School Cecil Sheena is teaching powwow dance.

Transportation assistance available through BCTEA for on-reserve students.

All School District #27 students welcome.

Can call Grant Gustafson at 250-398-3822 for inquiries.

Important Dates

Apr 9 Staff Meeting

Apr 11 Mental Wellness
Presentation in the
Gym with Justin
Brien

Apr 12 Term 3 Ends

Apr 15 Term 4 Begins; Expo

#7 Begins

Apr 19 Gr. 8 & 9 Learning Updates due to the

office

Apr 24 Gr. 8 & 9 Learning Updates Sent Home;

Early Dismissal 2:16pm

Apr 25 Early Dismissal 2:16pm

Apr 26 Pro D Day (No School)

Apr 30 Columneetza Cares Assembly in C Block

Wear Spring Clothing – Be Prepared!

Students, Parents & Guardians, as the spring 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 spring gear the school can help. Call the school at 250-392-4158.

Measles: a contagious, airborne virus: There is a high risk of measles cases being brought back to B.C. due to ongoing measles outbreaks globally and decreasing vaccination coverage rates in Canada. Public Health Agency of Canada and the Provincial Health Officer and the BC Centre for Disease Control have issued statements advising individuals to check their measles immunization records and to vaccinate against measles prior to Spring Break travel. Vaccine appointments can be booked through local public health units.

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.

Change of Address, Contact Information and Updated Legal Documents:

For any families that have moved or otherwise changed any contact information for their child(ren) please call the school at 250 392 4158 and we will update our school records. Items that need continual updates are phone numbers, email addresses, mailing addresses, and custody orders. Thank you for helping us keep your records up to date.



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 usually at 6:00 p.m. in the library. PAC Agendas and Minutes will be posted on the school website soon!



NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 15th @ the Williams Lake Campus Library - 6:00pm May 13 (CSS); June (No Mtg)

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.



E-Sports (League of Legends) Club is Tuesdays and Thursdays after 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.

The 9-8-8 Suicide Crisis Helpline:

The 9-8-8 Suicide Crisis Helpline is a new service available 24/7/365 to help Canadians when they need it most. The service, accessible via call or text to 9-8-8, offers trauma-informed and culturally affirming support to anyone who is thinking of suicide or who is worried about someone they know. This service is also available in the "Take Action" section of the erase Mental Health and Well-being web page:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase/mental-health

Foundry - Williams Lake - Cariboo Chilcotin Location:

Offers youth ages 12-24 access to mental health and substance support, physical and sexual healthcare, peer support and social services. 250-398-2185 9am-6pm Monday-Friday.

Criminal Records Review Online Program:

Any person wanting to volunteer at our school will be required to use this code when submitting an online request. Online

Link: https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck, Access Code: 8ND5W2DD2X

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.

Ministry of Education Student Learning Survey - Parent Survey:

Please complete the Student Learning Survey if you would like to provide your feedback to the Ministry. The survey is open until May 3rd, 2024.

https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp

Looking Forward to May 7th National Child & Youth Mental health Day:

Online Event with Kim Barthel- May 7, 2024: We know that having caring, connected conversations can significantly impact the mental health of children and youth. Join us online to listen to Kim Barthel talk about having more self-compassion, self-awareness and knowledge about the art and science of relationships. Our kids mean so much to us, and yet disconnection, dissociation and even the potential for self-harm is very real. A holistic and engaging storyteller, Kim will introduce the basics of attunement, attachment theory, trauma-sensitive practice, sustainable self-care and above all the power of connection and inclusion. For more information and to register for the online event see: https://may7icare.ca/event-with-kim-barthel/ (Ctrl + Click to follow link)

Columneetza School Website: https://www.sd27.bc.ca/lcsscolum

Facebook Page: "Lake City Secondary – School Page"

