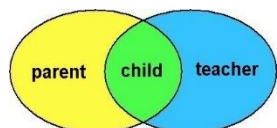




Columneetza Junior Secondary School

October 2024 Newsletter

1045 Western Ave, Williams Lake, BC
V2G 2J8
Ph: 250-392-4158



Parent Teacher Night - Each Fall and Spring
Columneetza will host a Parent-Teacher night to afford an opportunity for parents to discuss their child’s progress with individual teachers as needed. This year

the Fall Parent-Teacher night is October 23rd 5-7pm. Come to the school and meet your child’s teachers and connect to support their learning. Many of the community agencies from the Wellness Fair on this date will stay for the P-T Night so parents can interact with the booths as well.

Practice Lock Down Drill:

On Wednesday, October 9th we will have a practice lock down drill with the RCMP. Students will be asked to group quietly in a safe place in the classroom/space they are in until the drill is over.

Closed Campus – Columneetza is a closed campus. If students need to leave the school, they must sign out at the office with the school secretary so that the school knows where they are. We have lunch food available daily, a healthy vending machine that accepts debit and drinks sold at the Falcon’s Nest. There is no supervision once students leave school.

Noon Hour Supervision:

Starting this month we would like to welcome 3 “new to our school” Noon Hour Supervisors: Carmen Funes, Leanne Pigeon and Brooke Grisdale. Welcome!! This will now give us a total of 10 supervisors at lunch and also enhance student safety. Supervisors will have radios and high vis vests on during their shift.

New Teachers:

We have recently hired Ms. Brooke-Lynn Hill on a Letter of Permission to teach Core French 8 & 9. Also new to our team is Ms. Sheila Gilpin. Sheila will be teaching Tsilhqot’in Language 7-12 and will begin with us on October 15th. Welcome to our new staff.



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 away. 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>

Important Dates

- Oct 3 Photo Retakes; Fire Drill
- Oct 8 Staff Meeting
- Oct. 9 Practice Lock Down Drill with RCMP
- Oct 10 Expo 2 Grade 8’s; Girls V-ball Tourney in the Col gym
- Oct 11 Science World Assembly Grade 7s and Gr 8 Science classes
- Oct 14 Thanksgiving STAT (no school)
- Oct 18 Columneetza Cares Assembly-Toques, Mittens & Shoes Kick Off
- Oct 21 PAC Meeting 5:30pm
- Oct 22 Ian Tyson Assembly
- Oct 23 Wellness Fair for Grade 7s; Parent Teacher Night 5:00-7:00pm
- Oct 24 Rugby Tourney all day, Col Field
- Oct 25 Pro D Day (no school)
- Oct 22 Ian Tyson Assembly
- Oct 31 Hallowe’en Dance @ Lunch

Ian Tyson Assembly:

For 35 years, Speaker, Author, Award-winning Comic and "Silver Lining Prospector" Ian Tyson has prided himself on serving others through impactful presentations, that he hopes will authentically cultivate optimism, and he is thrilled to do so at Columneetza! Ian looks forward to speaking to your students. Ian will be sharing messages covering things like *Resilience, Mindset, Gratitude, Choices, School Culture and Social-Emotional Learning*. His high-energy, entertaining, humorous and heartfelt stories will make for a wonderful day and hopefully leave the students with lots to think about.

Attendance Recognition:

Every day this year, students with less than 2 absences a month will have a chance to win a small prize at the office. Attend today, achieve tomorrow! Students' regular attendance matters.

Parent Advisory Council: Thank you to the parents that attended the last meeting. PAC Executive: Don Firth, President, (Vacant)Vice-President, Melanie Engelbrecht (lcspac@gmail.com), Treasurer for both campuses, Barbara Hooker, Secretary (for both campuses), (Vacant)DPAC. Parents with students at Columneetza are invited to attend PAC meetings. The meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each Month starting at 5:45pm in the Library. The next meeting is a funding meeting and will begin earlier. **NEXT MEETING: October 21st @ Columneetza Campus Library – 5:30pm**



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 weather appropriate clothing to school so that they can be outside during classes and scheduled breaks. If you need help with purchasing winter clothing for your child(ren), please contact the school.



Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring

If your Grade 9 child is interested in becoming an In-School Mentor with an elementary student, please contact Paris Masters with BBBS at 250-267-7361 to get more information. The commitment is 1 hour/week and students will need to walk from Columneetza to either Nesika or Cataline.



Public Health Information: Public Health Nurses are available to both campuses for students and staff, providing resources and services on many topics as well as confidential consultations.

Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) Administration Dates:

The administration of the FSA starts October 7 and runs until November 1, 2024. These dates for administration will provide schools, the school district and the Ministry of Education with information about student academic progress and allow the school system to better respond to the learning needs of the students in their class.



Food Available at School

Breakfast for Learning – breakfast food is available 5 days a week from 8:10-8:40am.

Lunch Schedule: Thank you to Country Prime Meats in lac La Hache for donating 800 pepperoni sticks!!

Monday – wrap/sandwiches, \$2.00/half
 Tuesday - PB & J, fruit, yogurt, granola bars, hard boiled eggs
 Wednesday - pizza, \$2.00/slice
 Thursday - PB & J, fruit, yogurt, granola bars, hard boiled eggs
 Friday – wraps/sandwiches, \$2/half



Financial assistance for lunches is available. Students or parents can ask any staff member or the office how to access support. Every day of the week, additional snack food will be available in the Cultural Room (Room 144) for students to access if needed.

Exit Doors:

The front door will be unlocked throughout the school day. During breaks and lunch hour, 2 additional sets of exit doors will be unlocked. This has been working well and has been put into place as a safety measure.

[ERASE = Expect Respect & A Safe Education](#): Students can report a problem or find help; parents can explore resources and access training, and school staff can find resources for their classrooms and the school. **ERASE posters are in classrooms and posted around the school.**

The Provincial Proficiency Scale for K-9

For students in grades K-9, there will not be letter grades on their report cards/learning updates. Instead, you will see information on where your child is on the Provincial Proficiency Scale. The scale uses the terms “Emerging,” “Developing,” “Proficient,” and “Extending” to describe student learning. The scale maintains high standards for student learning.

Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
Emerging means your child is beginning to understand something in an area of learning. They are still learning but may need more support to move ahead. Emerging doesn't mean your child is unsuccessful in this area.	Developing means your child understands some things in an area of learning but still has other areas to work on. Like Emerging, it doesn't mean your child is unsuccessful in this area.	Proficient is the goal for your child. It's also the goal for all students. When your child is Proficient, it means they fully understand the required learning. But it doesn't mean their learning stops.	Extending is when students show a deeper understanding. It's when your child is able to apply their learning in new and different ways. Extending is not the goal for all students in every area of learning.

What will my child's report card look like?

Each written update will include:

- information on how your child is doing in each area of learning
- written comments (descriptive feedback) on your child's strengths and areas they need to work on, as well as their work habits and behaviour
- information on the communication, thinking, and social skills that your child needs to be successful (Core Competencies) and your child's goal setting
- information about your child's attendance

How often will I get updates from my child's teacher?

During the school year, you should expect to see 5 learning updates about your child. This will include 3 written learning updates (that could look like report cards), and 2 informal learning updates (could include conferences with a teacher, and phone calls or e-mails from a teacher).

Schools set the schedule for when learning updates happen. However, your child's teacher may connect with you at any point.

If your child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), you will receive learning updates in the same way as all the other parents and caregivers do. But your child may also get additional updates based on their IEP.

School Sports & Clubs:

Fall Season Sports : **Volleyball** (all times are 3:30-5:00) Mondays - grade 7 kids only; Tuesdays - grade 8 kids only; Wednesdays - grade 9 kids only; Thursdays - all kids

Rugby (all times 3:30-5:00) Monday - Boys Grade 7-12 @ Col. Wednesday - Boys Grade 7-12 @ Col. Thursday - Girls Rugby 3:30-4:45 @ Lake City

X-Country - Mon @ Lake City and Wed @ Col. 3:30 - 4:30 both days.

We are still looking for a Teacher Sponsor and Coach for a Jr. Boys Soccer team, however students are welcome to go to the Lake City Campus and train with the Sr. Boys. on Tues 3:30-5 and Thursday 5-6:30.

Clubs:

Starting Oct. 2nd Fit Club – Mon & We 3:30-4:30pm

Starting Oct. 2nd League of Legends (E Sport/Club – Tues & Thurs 3:30-5pm

Junior Tour Band (Gr. 8/9) – Tues or Wed from 3:30-4:45pm, just attend 1 day

Games with Mr. O'Keefe -Next one is Oct.4nd (Fri) in the Library, then Friday the next week (alternating)

Terry Fox Run

This year students ran for cancer research on September 25th. As a school community we raised \$1,279.00 and ran 2,911 km! Mr. Sheppard also wrote a wonderful article for the WL Tribune about our students' compassion and generosity.

PreVenture:

This year we will be partnering with outside agencies in our community to offer [PreVenture](#) to our Grade 7s. *PreVenture is a prevention program for youth aged 12-18 that uses personality-focused interventions to promote mental health and reduce the risk of substance use. Our workshops are designed to help students learn useful coping skills, set long term goals, and channel their personality traits towards achieving them, so that they thrive in all areas of their lives. The program aims to equip young people with self-efficacy and cognitive behavioural skills to help them cope with the numerous developmental challenges that many adolescents face, such as academic stress, peer pressure, interpersonal conflict and identity development.*

Parking

Please use the drop-off and pick-up loop that is located in between the dorm(daycare) and shop buildings. Please do not block the bus lanes at the front of the school or the small bus turnaround at the back of the school. Thank you for your understanding.

Hallowe'en Costumes

If your child(ren) participates in dressing up for Hallowe'en on October 31st, please make sure they don't bring fake weapons of any kind to accompany their costumes and refrain from dressing up as "creepy clowns," as this may lead to fear among the school population. We also ask that students avoid dressing up as a stereotype of an entire culture of people as this is cultural appropriation. Instead, encourage them to be imaginative and creative and to wear a school-appropriate costume. **On Hallowe'en there will be a dance at lunch in the gym!!**



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



Facebook Page: "Lake City Secondary – School Page"



Lake City Secondary - School Page

High School · 3.0 out of 5 · 0.8 mi · 2.1K followers



LCS-Grades 10 to 12 Ph: 250-392-6284 Columnnetza Junior Secondary-Grades 7 to 9 Ph: 250-392-4158

Administration Team Hattie Darney, Principal Matt Cullum, Vice-Principal Alina Cameron, Vice-Principal	Clerical Team Marilyn Hale, Office Front Desk Tassie Giroday, Office Records & Registration Ildiko Deboer, Office Finance
Columnnetza Indigenous Support Workers George Fraser Jordy Moise Katrina Wilde Youth Engagement Worker Courtney Mailhot	Counselling Team Jon Harding Tara Burtenshaw