



# Dawson Creek Secondary School

## Central Campus

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**Building Community, Relationships and Connections**

*Leading to Successful Learning, Supports and Opportunities*

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## October Newsletter

Greetings from the staff at Central Campus! It's been a busy but productive October for the students and staff here at DCSS Central. I'd like to thank students, staff and parents for all of the hard work that's being put towards preparing DCSS students for a successful future, both inside and outside of the classroom. I'm happy to highlight some news from the past month here, as well as remind you of some future events to keep in mind.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We are glad to announce that the Coyote Rock Café is now open, providing hot food during lunch, as well as snacks throughout the day. We also have food available every day in the Welcome Room for \$2, as usual. Punch cards are available for both options and can be purchased in the office.

Please send in your outside media release form to the school if you haven't already. They were sent home at the beginning of the year and can also be found here: ([www.sd59.bc.ca/schools/dawson-creek-secondary/Central-campus/outside-media-form](http://www.sd59.bc.ca/schools/dawson-creek-secondary/Central-campus/outside-media-form)) Until we receive the majority of these forms, we are unable to share pictures of all the wonderful work happening here at Central.

A new website has been launched for our school. You can find it by clicking on schools in the new district website ([drupal8.sd59.bc.ca](http://drupal8.sd59.bc.ca)). Keep your eye on the calendar of events on the right side of the website. Please disregard the old website as it will no longer be updated.

We are conducting our yearly review of the Student Code of Conduct, which can be found on our new website ([www.sd59.bc.ca/schools/dawson-creek-secondary-central/student-code-of-conduct](http://www.sd59.bc.ca/schools/dawson-creek-secondary-central/student-code-of-conduct)). If you have any suggestions for modifying the Code of Conduct, you may send your suggestions to Mr. Berg at [rberg@sd59.bc.ca](mailto:rberg@sd59.bc.ca) before November 4<sup>th</sup>.

There have been a few incidents this year of students going through others' lockers without the person's permission. Please remind your child to spin the lock after closing it to ensure it is locked.

Winter is coming and in preparation, SD#59 Transportation Department asks for your assistance with the following:

- For the safety of all students riding on SD#59 school buses in the coming winter months, they must have appropriate winter clothing when they ride the school buses.
- This will include but not limited to: Winter coats, Winter footwear, Head wear and Hand protection.



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- This is to ensure the safety of all school bus passengers if there were to be any delays while the bus is performing its route. ie: mechanical challenges, road conditions or other delays.

### **THE KINDNESS PROJECT**

The staff here at Central are spearheading a kindness initiative. The goal is to foster a stronger sense of community and to reinforce positive social behaviours. This will be accomplished through a variety of whole school, homeroom and classroom activities, through modeling and guidance, as well as through strong messaging in the hallways. This initiative will be supplemented with other initiatives as well (eg. educating on the dangers of vaping).

### **COYOTE OF THE MONTH**

Every month, we collect nominations and a committee chooses an Athlete of the Month and a Student of the Month for both grade 8 and grade 9. The winners are awarded a certificate during a school assembly, and they are also awarded a special Central hoodie.

The Athlete of the Month is selected based on the following criteria:

- Positive attitude and enthusiasm for their sport both on and off the field/court
- Commitment (toward practices, games and continued improvement)
- Sportsmanship (respect coaches, officials, opponents, teammates)
- Perseverance (overcoming challenges)
- Toughness (both mental and physical)
- Honesty (playing by rules, character)
- Focus and Discipline
- Work Ethic
- Teamwork

The Student of the Month is selected based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrating positive values
- School studies (work ethic)
- School / community involvement
- Leadership

For September, the winners are:

#### **Grade 8**

Student of the Month

Jadynn Linley

Athlete of the Month

Angel Hollingshead

#### **Grade 9**

Student of the Month

Kendra Huttema

Athlete of the Month

Taya McCarthy



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### **PAST EVENTS**

September 30<sup>th</sup> was Orange Shirt Day, honouring the Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools. Ms. Lowe's leadership class made orange tie dye shirts and prepared various methods of encouraging students to show their support by wearing an orange shirt. On top of the education that took place in the assembly, teachers also raised awareness in class in preparation for this day.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, students attended an Art Start Performance called "Blindside", detailing a person's journey through dealing with having eye cancer, as well as issues after the surgery. Through the power of storytelling, this performance gave students a better understanding of empathy, vulnerability and trust.

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, through the great leadership of Mr. McKechnie, some foods classes and many other staff and student helpers, we had a free school-wide Thanksgiving dinner. I would also be remiss to not thank No Frills for supplying us with some free turkeys.

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, all student at Central took part in a student vote activity where they were able to vote (unofficially) in this year's federal election. Results from over a million students across Canada were tabulated. The Conservative Party received the most votes, but the Liberal Party took a slight lead in seats. This activity, in coordination with social studies class, helps to foster civic mindedness and strengthen democracy.

October 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, through the leadership of Ms. Winstead, students in the Me to We Club went to Edmonton to participate in We Day. This transformative experience was attended by tens of thousands of students attended, listening to world-renowned speakers and performers.

October 25<sup>th</sup>, the girl's volleyball teams finished up their season with a tournament at Dawson Creek Secondary School.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Again, please see our new website for the most up to date information on upcoming events.

This year, we are restarting organized intramural sports after a hiatus of a few years. Students will have the opportunity to participate in various sport (and other activities) throughout the year which will count toward their house team points, gaining them prizes and recognition for their efforts. Students have been organized into teams based on their pods.

Staff and students are all looking forward to Halloween. Mr. Burge and Ms. Lowe's have been working with their leadership classes to organize a number of exciting activities for all to enjoy, including a costume competition. Please remind your children to not bring replica weapons or masks to school on Halloween.

PAC meetings happen the first Monday of every month from 7:00-8:00pm. The meetings alternate between the Central and South Peace campuses. The next meeting will be on November 4<sup>th</sup> at South Peace Campus in the North Court. All parents / guardians are welcome



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to attend. PAC is focused on raising and providing funding for various initiatives around the school.

Photo retake day has changed from November 4<sup>th</sup> to November 8<sup>th</sup>. Make sure that if your child missed the first day, or if your child would like a retake, you must have the forms ready and filled out for that day.

Parent teacher interviews will be November 20<sup>th</sup> from 2:15 to 4:00pm and November 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm. November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> will be shortened days, with classes ending at 2:00. Stay tuned for more information about signing up for time slots with your child's teachers.