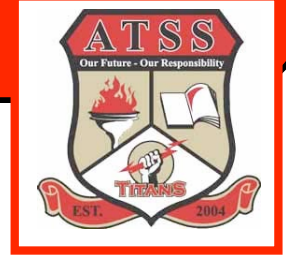


APR 13, 2007

ABBOTSFORD TRADITIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL



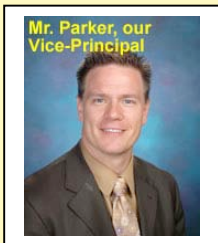
Principal's Message

PRINCIPAL:
GLEN HILDEBRAND



Mr. Hildebrand, our
Principal

VICE PRINCIPAL:
JASON PARKER



Mr. Parker, our
Vice-Principal

2272 WINDSOR ST.
ABBOTSFORD, B.C.
V2T 6M1

PHONE:
604-850-7029
FAX:
604-850-7028

OFFICE HOURS

7:30 A – 3:30 P

SECRETARIES:

MRS. SUDERMAN
MS. DICER
MS. MANGAT



NEW PARENT AND STUDENT SECONDARY SCHOOL ORIENTATION FOR NEXT YEAR

We are holding an orientation for all new students expecting or thinking of attending ATSS next year this coming Thurs. Apr. 19 at 7 pm in the Secondary School Gymnasium. This will be an opportunity for parents and students to see, hear and ask questions about the Secondary School. We will cover things like expectations and procedures, programs, athletics, the laptop program and more. Those who wish to take a tour of the high school will be able to do so. Department Heads, Counselor and Administration will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about the various programs or the school in general. Please mark this date on your calendar and hope to see you all there. (ps. we'll expect the Canucks to have wrapped up this first round in the playoffs by then so everyone can come.)

IMPORTANT LAPTOP SURVEY INFORMATION

Just a follow-up with a very important reminder for you to make sure you have completed and submitted the laptop survey form included in our last newsletter. Your response is crucial as we decide how to update the program under the current ministry guidelines regarding school fees. We are looking for 100% response rate or as close to this as possible. We want to ensure that this important decision has maximum parent input. Please complete and return it with your son/daughter as soon as possible. If you don't have a copy obtain one by accessing our website at "www.atss.ca". We would ask for one response per family please. To ensure it is counted properly please identify your family names on the survey. It is very important we hear from every parent regarding this very important issue.

A reminder to students that outerwear must be crested with ATSS cresting. Also as warmer months commence we encourage your children to come to school dressed appropriately.

Mr. Parker

TRAVEL WITH ATSS

Spring 2008

**REMEMBER TO SEE MR. FEDYNA REGARDING THE SPRING BREAK 2008
FIELD TRIP TO JAPAN.
TRAVEL TO THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN FOR A UNIQUE AND LIFE
ENRICHING EXPERIENCE**



Abbotsford School District Art Show at Seven Oaks Mall

Student artwork from Abbotsford secondary and middle schools will be on display at Seven Oaks Mall from Tuesday April 17th to Saturday April 21st. Come out and see artwork from tomorrow's budding artists!



THE AD/HD PARENT SUPPORT GROUP IS HOSTING AN EVENING WITH *LORELEI FAULKNER, CLINICAL NURSING EDUCATOR*, ON THURSDAY APRIL 19, 2007 FROM 7:00 – 9:00 P.M. AT FRASER VALLEY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, 102-32885 VENTURA AVE ABBOTSFORD. THE TOPIC BEING DISCUSSED IS AD/HD & HOW IT AFFECTS THE FAMILY. ALL PARENTS/CAREGIVERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS FREE SESSION. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT LEONA FOUNTAIN AT 604-852-2686 EXT 246.

How to access your students online marks:

Two items are needed to access mygradebook. First, the unique **classword**, which students know. The classword is also available from teachers. A quick email can be sent to specific teachers requesting classwords (teacher email addresses are listed at www.atss.ca). Alternatively, many teachers have class websites with their classwords listed (class websites are also listed at www.atss.ca). Secondly, the **password** is the 9 digit student P.E.N. (personal education number). This is the same number that is on the report cards. Students know this number. Student access to my gradebook is checked regularly in tech. support block. In many cases classroom teachers make their students go into mygradebook during class time to check their evaluations. This has been encouraged as a strategy to help students not only know how they are doing but also to help students better appreciate the work of their teachers.

Mr. Ennis

FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING A CARPOOL IN THE MCMILLAN AREA, PLEASE CONTACT LESLIE LAWSON @ 854-1810

Summer School Schedules are now available at the counseling centre, or see Mr. Abernethy.



D
a
t
e
s

t
o

R
e
m
e
m
b
e
r



ATSS CALENDAR

IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE LATE OR ABSENT PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU CONTACT THE MAIN OFFICE TO EXCUSE THEM. THANKYOU



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM I, SEMESTER II END	APRIL 13 TH
SD ART SHOW	APRIL 17 TH
ATSS ORIENTATION	APRIL 19 TH
VAISAKHI CELEBRATION	APRIL 20 TH
REPORT CARDS SENT HOME	APRIL 26 TH
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS	MAY 3 rd
SPRING FLING	MAY 4 TH
CAFÉ MUSIC CONCERT	MAY 7 TH
BAND AND CHOIR FIELDTRIP	MAY 10-12 TH
VICTORIA DAY	MAY 21 ST
SS FAIR & MUSIC PERFORMANCE	MAY 24 TH
GRADUATION CEREMONY & LOCK IN	JUNE 1 ST
GRAD DINNER AND DANCE	JUNE 8 TH
FIRST NATIONS/INT. FIELD TRIP	JUNE 6 TH
MUSIC CONCERT	JUNE 7 TH
YEAR END AWARDS CEREMONY	JUNE 14 TH

THOSE NEEDING USER PAY BUSSING FOR NEXT YEAR SHOULD BE FILLING OUT THE FORM BY MAY 15TH AND SENT TO OUR TRANSPORTATION DEPT IN ORDER FOR YOUR STUDENT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR USER PAY BUSSING IN SEPTEMBER 2007. IT DOES NOT GUARANTEE A SEAT ON THE BUS, HOWEVER TO ARRANGE THE BUS ROUTES FOR SEPTEMBER, THEY ARE REQUIRING THIS ADVANCE REGISTRATION. FORMS MAY BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL, YOUR BUS DRIVER OR FAXED TO THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE AT 604-854-1448, FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE MAIN OFFICE.

Vaisakhi Celebration

We will be having a Vaisakhi celebration day next Friday, Apr. 20. Vaisakhi marks the Punjab New Year and the beginning of the harvest season. For Sikhs, this seasonal festival also has great importance as the celebration of the founding of the Akal Khalsa in 1699.

We will be having a traditional Indo-Canadian dress day on Fri. along with Indo-Canadian food and some activities at lunch. These events are being organized by some of our student leaders.





Spring Swing & Raffle

Spring has sprung, (hopefully) and the ATSS Raffle booklets have been disbursed throughout the student body. This is the only school fundraising venture we will have this year. With that in mind, we hope that we can count on your support. The funds raised will go directly back into student activities. If every family purchase one book we will have met many needs throughout the school year.

The tickets are \$2.00 a piece and are in booklets of ten. Booklets are numbered and assigned to the kids. They are responsible for selling and handing in the appropriate sum from tickets sold, as well as all unsold booklets to their homeroom teachers by Monday April 23rd. There is a \$50.00 prize for the student who sells the most tickets. Extra booklets are available from their homeroom teachers. Please request them early as we are anticipating a quick sell out. If you have any questions in regards to the raffle tickets please contact Ms. Dewar at ATSS.

We are very excited about the prizes we have acquired and hope that perhaps some of your co-workers and or relatives will think so too.

Tickets for the Spring Swing Dinner & Dance will be on sale

April 25th at the affordable price of \$10.00.

All proceeds from the raffle and dance will directly support our kids and programs. I would like to thank you in advance for your continued Support and your Commitment to the kids and their education at ATSS.

Best Regards,

*Sherry Strukoff, P.A.C. Chairperson
604-607-5547*



School District No. 34 (Abbotsford)

2790 Tims Street, Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 4M7

Phone: 604-859-4891 Fax: 604-853-5072

April 5, 2007

To Traditional School Parents

The following is the planned bell schedule for next year.

First, some background information. Each level of schooling has a designated "standard" length of day as prescribed by the Ministry of Education. For secondary school it is 309 minutes (5 hours, 9 minutes), for middle it is 287 minutes (4 hours, 47 minutes), and for elementary it is 285 minutes (4 hours, 45 minutes). The Abbotsford School District has adopted a "local" calendar over the past several years this has created a two-week spring break. To make this work, the district has added 9 minutes to each school day in lieu of five less school days to create the two-week spring break. For the 2007/08 school year, the board is considering a proposal that would continue the two-week spring break by adding 5 minutes to each day in lieu of three less school days. This is possible because the "standard" spring break as prescribed by the Ministry of Education will coincide with the Easter weekend, meaning only three days in lieu are need for a two-week spring break.

At present, Abbotsford schools start at a wide range of times for a variety of reasons including bussing considerations, local needs, and to coordinate within a family of schools for parents who may have students at more than one level of schooling. In the 2006/07 school year, the earliest a school starts in Abbotsford is 8:10 am and the latest start is 9:15 am. The earliest a school finishes is 2:22 pm and the latest finish is 3:15 pm.

District Policy 9.160, School Hours, gives the authority to the school principal to change the school start times by up to 10 minutes. Anything greater than 10 minutes requires 75% approval via a referendum of parents.

Bell Times for 2007/08 School Year at Traditional Schools (Bracketed numbers are the 2006/07 times)

School	Start 2007/08	Finish 2007/08	Daily Minutes of Instruction 2007/08
High School	8:20 (8:10)	2:36 (2:30)	314 minutes
Middle School	8:30 (8:40)	2:28 (2:42)	292 minutes
Auguston	8:40 (8:30)	2:34 (2:28)	290 minutes
King	8:40 (8:30)	2:31 (2:25)	290 minutes
South Poplar	8:40 (8:30)	2:36 (2:30)	290 minutes

Please note that the varied finish times for Auguston, King, and South Poplar are a result of different length of recess and/or lunch breaks.

Also note the finish time is only six minutes later for these schools next year despite starting ten minutes

later because only five minutes are added to each day for 2007/08 to create a two-week spring break rather than the current nine minutes (see above explanation).

The rationale for the change in start times includes:

- better opportunity at the middle and high school to share staff (especially in specialty areas) and joint use of facilities
- better opportunity to provide links in the scheduling/timetabling of the middle high school.
- less time between the start and finish of the middle and high school which better links drop off and pick up for those with students at both levels.
- improved timing surrounding the user pay bus program amongst traditional schools.
- allowing same amount of time that presently exists in the morning for those having to drop off/pick up at the middle/high school and then travel to one of the three elementary schools.

We recognize that it is impossible to have a schedule that is ideal for all. There will be parents happy with the changes, others will be unhappy, and others it may have little affect either way.

What we have done is tried to have start and finish times that are in the best interest of the traditional program overall.

Sincerely yours,

(Traditional School Administrators)