



PORT HARDY SECONDARY SCHOOL

Home Of The Whalers

NEWSLETTER

PO Box 27
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Port Hardy, BC
VON 2P0
250-949-7443



www.phss.ca

September 2019

Volume 1

Upcoming Events

September

- 19 Meet the Staff BBQ – 5:00 pm to 6:30pm
- 19 PAC Meeting 6:30pm
- 27 School Photos

October

- 11 Interim Reports mailed home
- 14 Thanksgiving Day
- 17 Student Health and Wellness Conference
- 21 Grade 8 Elective Rotation Two begins
- 23 Parent-Teacher Interviews 6:00 to 8:00(dismissal at 1:56)
- 25 Provincial Professional Development Day

November

- 8 End of Term One
- 11 Remembrance Day observed
- 12 Term Two begins
- 14 School Photo retakes
- 15 Formal Reports mailed home

Parking Lot Safety

The speed limit is 7 km/h on school property.

Allergies:

We have several students and staff with life-threatening allergies to foods and scents here at PHSS. As such, we ask that parents avoid sending foods that contain pickles and all nuts. We are also a scent-free school.



Principal's Message

Gilakas'la! I extend a warm welcome to students and families as we begin our 2019-2020 school year. Exciting plans are in the works to make this an eventful year of impactful learning! Already, classes have been extending their learning into the community through field trips and having community members in to work with us. We are continuing to develop our garden and outdoor learning space and look forward to being able to showcase it later in the year.

Ms. Cunningham and I have met with each of the grades to review expectations and to remind students of the pillars of our Code of Conduct: respect for self; respect for others; respect for our place; and respect for learning. Students can show respect for each of these areas by attending all classes on time and engaging fully in their learning throughout the lesson. It is important to set up these good habits early in the year so that they become routine. We have many supports available to students, and we encourage them to ask for help if they find themselves struggling in any area.

It is important that we work closely with families in supporting our students. Please contact me or Ms. Cunningham at any time if you have concerns or questions. We hope to see you at the Welcome Back BBQ on September 19!

Rena Sweeney, Principal, rsweeney@sd85.bc.ca

Vice Principal Message

I very much look forward to working collaboratively with students, staff, parents and the community, to make 2019/20 a successful new year for us. It is my firm belief that our school's philosophy of respect as a basis for learning together has the power to positively impact the lives and success of our students and teachers. Port Hardy Secondary School is a truly remarkable place where mutual respect, responsibility and pride in language and culture are palpable. I feel honored to working closely with such a dedicated school community and I am thrilled getting to know each of you.

Port Hardy is a stunningly beautiful place and a tightly knit community that my family is thrilled to become part of.

I received a Bachelors in Biology from Berlin, Germany, and the University of Alberta and a Masters in Special Education from the University of Victoria. I have had the pleasure of teaching students for over twenty years, as a High School Science Teacher and Program Support Teacher in Bella Bella, Cumberland Junior, and for the last 12 years at Diamond Jenness Secondary in the NWT. I have had the privilege to learn from my colleagues, students and community members that if we work and reflect together, we can make a lasting difference. I look forward to a great new year at Port Hardy Secondary School.

Anna Cunningham, Vice Principal, acunningham@sd85.bc.ca

Student from PHSS and NISS travelled to Japan from the 4 to 12th to attend the Youth Ambassadors for World Tsunami Awareness Day. An impactful part of their trip was touring areas that had been devastated by an earthquake and tsunami in 1993. They saw a post that was 11.7 meters high, indicating the height of the tsunami which came in at 500 km/hr. They learned how the local villages were rebuilt and how they added tsunami evacuation tunnels up to the hill tops. Over the week, they took part in ceremonies and represented us through presentations at forums, meetings with dignitaries, and planting a tree.



Thank you for your ongoing support to our Breakfast/Lunch/Snack program. We could not provide this program without your support.

**Lions Club– Port Hardy
President’s Choice Children’s
Charity**

Verification Forms

Contact verification forms are being mailed home. Please review and if there are any corrections or additions please change them on the form and return to the PHSS office. This information is very important to have in the event of an emergency.

Reporting Excused Absences

Please call the school at 250-949-7443 or email phss@sd85.bc.ca.

**Picture Day September
27th**

**Lifetouch Picture Day ID:
QO029451QO**

Sports Day

Students and students participated together in Sports Day on Friday. Homeroom teams rotated through volleyball, kickball, ultimate frisbee, and Lahal. The event was the first opportunity for Homeroom teams to score points in our year-long challenge. Congrats to Mr. McGhee and Ms. Williams’ Homerooms, who are currently in the lead!

