



PO Box 27, 9350 Granville St  
Port Hardy, BC V0N 2P0

# NEWS

## Port Hardy Secondary School

*Home Of The Whalers*



www.phss.ca

September 2015

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### September

- 23 Post-Secondary Institutions of BC Visit
- 30 Welcome Back Burger Night @6:30 at PHSS
- 30 Library/Textbook return draw—\$50 Subway Card

#### October

- 1 School Photos
- 12 Thanksgiving Day
- 16 Interim reports mailed home
- 20 PAC Meeting
- 23 Provincial Pro-D Day

### ALLERGY ALERT

Due to life-threatening food allergies, please refrain from sending products with peanuts to school with your child.

If your child has a medical condition or allergy, please inform the office.

### TEXTBOOK RETURN DRAW

If you have any textbooks of library books that need to be returned, do so at the office for a chance to win a \$50 gift card to Subway. One entry per book/textbook.



### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to students, staff, parents, guardians, community workers and agencies that support everyone at PHSS. After such a wonderful summer, we are all excited to be back for the 2015 – 2016 school year. As you are probably aware, PHSS has two new administrators this year. Mr. Adrian Pendergast is our new Vice-Principal who comes to us from NISS. However, some may remember him as a Science and English teacher at PHSS a few years ago. I am the new Principal, Ms. Patti Burt, and I am coming to the North Island from Fort Nelson, in northeastern BC. Although I am quickly falling in love with the North Island region, what I am most impressed with is the warm welcome that I have received from the students and staff at PHSS. Parents, you should be proud of how your children treat a newcomer!

The start of a new school year is always exciting. From learning how to open a combination locker to making sure you have all the courses you need to graduate, students have had a busy first week. We encourage parents and guardians to review the student handbook that your child was given the first few days of school, which can also be found on the school website along with the parent

handbook. These handbooks contain important information about student safety and expectations. Your child (ren) should have also brought home timetables that show the courses they are taking and the teachers they have. We have completed student course changes this week, however, if your child is missing a critical course please contact the office as soon as possible so we can fix anything that may have been missed.

PHSS has some exciting new courses this year, including the “Forestry Academy” and the “Skills Exploration” courses. We are also looking into dual credit offerings such as Criminology with North Island College. Although online courses are not offered through PHSS this year, there are an abundance of courses available to our students through other distance education schools. Combined with the courses available at PHSS, students are not limited in their learning options.

Feel free to contact teachers or the office if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward meeting you on September 30th at our “Back to School Burger Night.”

**Patti Burt**  
**Principal**

250-949-7443 ext. 3222  
pburt@sd85.bc.ca

## FORESTRY ACADEMY

PHSS is pleased to announce the launch of a new program this year - the Forestry Academy. The main goals of this program are to teach students some select skills related to the forest industry on Northern Vancouver Island, introduce students to the diverse range of jobs that exist locally in the forest sector, and help students to build connections to local companies. This program is for students in grades 11 and 12, and will be starting this October. Please watch for additional information that will be sent home with your child over the next month, or contact Mr. Pendergast.

## SCHOOL VISITORS

Visitors to the school are reminded to check in at the office upon arrival.

## FIRST-DAY ASSEMBLY

We were lucky enough to have a First Nations performance at our first-day assembly. Thank you Mr. Child, and dancers Christina Smith, Laura Joe, and Lyam Donetz.



## VICE-PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back, students, staff, family and community. It is a brand new school year, and it is great to see the positive energy that students have already brought into the school!

I am excited to be back at PHSS this year. I taught at PHSS five years ago, and have many fond memories of that time. Since then, I taught in China for a year and then moved back to the North Island to teach at NISS for the past two years. I feel very grateful to have the opportunity to return to PHSS and work in my new role as Vice-Principal.

One of my top priorities this year is to better acquaint myself with students, their families, and the Port Hardy community. I know that parents and guardians play a vital role in supporting their child's progression through high school - your involvement is key to student success. I encourage you to contact

the office, myself, or your child's teachers directly to discuss the progress of their learning. We value your input, suggestions and support, and I look forward to working with you to make sure that your child is getting the most out of their time at PHSS.

If you would like to find out more about school activities, please check our Facebook page, the school website, or contact the office directly. If you would like to become more involved with the school, or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me and I will do my best to help.

I look forward to a wonderful school year.

Respectfully,

**Adrian Pendergast**

**Vice-Principal**

250-949-7443 ext. 3223

apendergast@sds85.bc.ca

## BURGER NIGHT

We would like to invite all parents and guardians of Port Hardy Secondary students to our Back to School Burger Night. Join us for hamburgers, hot dogs, and salad on Wednesday, September 30th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the PHSS multi-purpose room.



## THANK YOU

We would like to sincerely thank "Show Kids You Care" for their continued support contributing to our meal program.

SHOW **Kids** YOU CARE

We are pleased to announce that our school will be continuing with the



**BC SCHOOL FRUIT  
AND VEGETABLE  
NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM**

## IAP Kids Plus Accident Insurance

If you are interested, please pick up an enrolment form at the office.  
For more information visit: [kidsplus.ca](http://kidsplus.ca)

