



BOARD BUSINESS

Royston's Grade 5/6's demonstrate their business savvy at The Entrepreneur Show

BOARD MEETING IN REVIEW

Critical incident team provides overview

Comox Valley Schools critical response team provided an overview into how critical incidents are handled in our schools. The presentation introduced the Critical Incident Response Team and explained the response process when an incident occurs. A critical incident can be defined as “any event that negatively impacts and/or interrupts the normal flow of a school’s daily events.” The team discussed how they utilize the “Traumatic Response System” when dealing with critical incidents. Several SD 71 staff members have received training for this system in recent years. There are also staff trained in handling critical responses at each school and there is a district level team that provides supports. Trained staff follow the critical incident district manual which outlines steps and processes for handling critical incidents in schools.

Three year school calendar approved by Board

The Board voted to approve the school year calendars for the next three school years. You can see the calendars here: [2024 – 2025 Calendar SD71](#), [2025 – 2026 Calendar SD71](#), [2026 – 2027 Calendar SD71](#)

The School Calendar Regulation identifies a minimum number of instructional hours that must be provided to students in each school year.

Feeding Futures recommendations

The Feeding Futures District Scan conducted by two SD 71 senior leaders delivered specific recommendations that were aligned with provincial standards, covering:

- Staffing.
- Centralization of food production, procurement, and delivery.
- Support for best practices and distinctive schools.
- Promotion of BC and local foods.
- Key considerations for future planning, and
- Maintaining community engagement.

At the March 12th meeting an update was provided into these next steps:

- Appointing a full-time, Food Services Coordinator.
- Forming a Feeding Futures Advisory Committee.
- Allocating a budget for the remainder of the current school year.
- Once hired, the Food Coordinator should develop a food procurement strategy for the upcoming school year and assist with the budgeting process for the program.

The Board of Education acknowledges that we are on the traditional territories of the K'ómoks First Nation. We would like to thank them for the privilege of living on their land and the gift of working with their children.

WATCH
MARCH 12
BOARD
MEETING



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March 2024

Board Chairperson Update

Board of Education Chairperson, Michelle Waite - ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ



I am pleased to present our report for March, a month marked by significant contributions and engagement within our school district.

Our journey towards a brighter future for Comox Valley Schools is underway, with our Strategic Plan Survey remaining open for feedback until March 14. This plan is our roadmap for the coming years, aiming to enhance educational experiences, support student well-being, and foster an environment of innovation and excellence. Your thoughts and insights are invaluable to us, ensuring our direction aligns with the community's aspirations and needs. We encourage everyone in our school community to contribute, helping shape the future of education in our district. In our continuous effort to plan effectively for the success of our students and staff, we have released draft calendars for the next three school years.

These drafts are a reflection of our commitment to educational excellence and operational efficiency, taking into account important dates, holidays, and professional development days. We invite your feedback on these proposed calendars, as your input is crucial in making decisions that best support our students' learning journey and our staff's professional growth.

Over the weekend, we celebrated the culmination of the District Musical, "Something Rotten!", a spectacular production that ran from March 5-9 at Highland Secondary. This comedic musical brought together students from across our district, showcasing their incredible talents and hard work. The success of this event is a testament to the dedication of our teachers, volunteers, and students, who together created an unforgettable experience for our community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved for their passion and commitment to the arts.

As we approach the last two weeks of March, the anticipation for Spring Break grows. This period of rest and rejuvenation is a well-deserved break for our students, staff, and families, offering a chance to recharge before the final term of the academic year. We wish everyone a safe Spring Break, hoping it brings joy and relaxation to all.

March has been a month of engagement, reflection, and celebration. As we move forward, we remain committed to fostering an environment where every student can thrive, supported by the collective efforts of our dedicated staff and the valuable feedback from our community. Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in Comox Valley Schools.

Gilakas'la

DISTRICT NEWS



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March 2024

Young Entrepreneurs Shine at Royston Elementary Entrepreneur Show

Fifty young entrepreneurs from Mr. Zadvorny's grade 5/6 class and Mr. David's grade 6 class at Royston Elementary School showed off their business savvy at the Entrepreneur Show. This showcase was the culmination of a seven-week educational journey, where students engaged in a comprehensive design process. They navigated through goal setting, prototyping, conducting market research, understanding operations and money management, marketing strategies, and drafting formal business plans.



The gym transformed into a vibrant marketplace where these aspiring entrepreneurs promoted and sold their innovative products. At the event's close, the students demonstrated their business acumen by completing income statements, calculating profits after expenses, and committing to a generous act of donating 10% of their earnings to a local charity. Their collective effort resulted in a notable donation of \$296. The event not only displayed the students' incredible work but also highlighted the community's support for these young minds. The Royston Elementary Entrepreneur Show was indeed an awe-inspiring event, celebrating the achievements of student entrepreneurship.



Robotics71 teams dominate Provincials

The Comox Valley teams had another strong showing at the Provincials. In the final rounds four Comox teams, with 2 partnered teams per alliance, duked it out for the tournament championship in a tightly matched duel. In the end, teams 7842X and 7842P edged out teams 7842Z and 7842F with a narrow 2-1 victory, securing Teams X – “The Unknown Variable” and P – “Noodles” positions at the 2024 World Championships for their second year in a row. Teams Z – “Zephyr” and F – “Fractal” brought home the two Tournament Finalists trophies, having both won 2nd place. Team-F also won the Design Award for their spectacularly effective and efficient design process, therefore winning them a position at the World’s as well. Thus, our teams secured 3 out of 4 available spots to compete at the 2024 World Championships, joined by Shawnigan’s team 6264X, who won the Excellence Award. Amazing work to all!



March 2024

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Huband's students lead family conferences

Huband Park welcomed families to its Student Led Conference Day, a unique occasion designed to bring parents and guardians into the heart of their children's learning journey. This day allowed students to proudly take the lead in showcasing their progress and achievements.

Visitors were greeted with complimentary coffee and tea in the foyer. The day was packed with opportunities for families to engage with the school community, including a bake sale aimed at community building and supporting the school's foster child, Yhaeli, through donations.

Educators and specialists, including the school counselor, learning support teachers, and the teacher librarian, were on hand to connect with families. Families also had the chance to explore learning resources in the library and primary pod, making for an enriching day filled with collaborative learning and community spirit.



Something Rotten! wraps successful week of shows

The Comox Valley Schools District Musical has recently concluded a spectacular run of "Something Rotten!" Highland Secondary School's stage was transformed into a Renaissance-era theater, brimming with the energy and talents of SD 71 students. Under the direction of Lisa Williams and musical leadership of Carly Swain, this production showcased the diverse abilities of the students who have dedicated countless hours to bring this Broadway hit to life. The production boasted elaborate and colorful costumes and a student-designed and painted set that perfectly captured the vibrancy of the era. The district musical is a collaborative effort among all secondary schools in the district and is dedicated to fostering creativity, craft, and commitment through authentic performing arts education. As "Something Rotten!" concludes its run, Comox Valley Schools looks back on this year's production with pride, having once again offered a platform for students to shine, collaborate, and bring laughter and joy to their community through the performing arts. Thank you to everyone who came out to support our students!



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