

Dr. Kearney Middle School Newsletter

December 2015



Additional NID added to BC's school calendar

The BC Education Plan is now ready for implementation next year and because of this the BC government has added 2 additional NID days to the province for all teachers and administrators to plan and prepare for the new curriculum. These days are Friday, February 26 and Monday, May 16. A public meeting will be held at the School Board Office on Wednesday, January 27 at 7pm to give everyone an opportunity to view a presentation about the new curriculum and a chance to ask questions. More information can be found at www.bcedplan.ca, www.prn.bc.ca/curric, and <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca>

Report cards sent home Wednesday, December 9th.

Students' last day of classes are Friday, December 18th and they will be back on Monday, January 4th.

Winter Classes at the Cultural Centre 2016

The cultural centre has released a full list of interesting classes for all ages for the winter season. Go to www.npcc.bc.ca or call (250) 785-1992 to register or for more information.

Purdy's

All students who brought in a Purdy's order will be treated to a pizza lunch in January. The exact date will be determined when we get back from break.

Don't Forget!

Dr. Kearney **Musical Theatre** is excited to announce that this year's show is **Into The Woods Jr!** Show dates are January 14, 15, and 16th at the North Peace Cultural Centre. We hope to see you then!

Dr. Kearney now has a **diversity group**, which welcomes and celebrates all students in their uniqueness. Our first meeting on October 7, during lunch hour was very successful. Students were excited about making new friends and participating in activities, which promote an acceptance and understanding of our school culture.

Meetings are held on Wednesdays during lunch hour in room 101. Everyone is welcome.

Social Justice is holding a "Pie the Teacher" event to raise money for clean water in Haiti. Students can buy a ticket to throw a whipped cream "pie" at a participating teacher. By purchasing a ticket the student then also agrees to let the teacher pie them in the face. Should make for some great photos!

Christmas Lunch

We are continuing the tradition of sharing a Christmas lunch with all students. This year's lunch will be provided during TAG on Tuesday, December 15th.

"Yay, It's Christmas Break" Sock Hop

The Thursday before break we will be hosting a fundraising dance during the last hour of the day. We will run a slightly altered schedule so that while classes will be a bit shorter, none will be missed. Other activities will be available for students who do not wish to go to the dance.

Lockers need to be cleaned out before we leave for break. Students will be supervised during TAG on Wednesday, December 16 and asked to bring home any extra clothes, shoes and containers that have been accumulated. Any unidentifiable former food items will be tossed in the garbage and disinfectant will be supplied. Yuck!

Rebecca Young Memorial Fund

As some of you may be aware, just before the start of this school year we lost one of our staff members to a sudden and unexpected death. Rebecca Young was to start her second year as the Life Skills teacher here at Dr. Kearney when on August 30th, 2015, at the young age of twenty-seven, she passed away after suffering from a major brain hemorrhage. In Rebecca's short time here at Dr. Kearney, she demonstrated great compassion, energy and creativity with her students and the staff. Rebecca loved teaching and it showed each and everyday she was in the school. Her positive perspectives and creativeness was indeed contagious and commendable. She worked diligently to make a difference in the lives of the children she taught and the staff she worked with. The impact she made with not only the students but her fellow staff members and friends will not soon be forgotten. Besides being a wonderful teacher, Rebecca was also a talented musician and singer. She used this talent to connect with her students on a whole new level. With two of her siblings, Rebecca created a self-titled CD in 2010.

The Dr. Kearney staff is working to create three scholarships in Rebecca Young's memory. Through these scholarships, it is our hope to continue to share Rebecca's compassion and generosity with others. Our goal is to raise \$2000 this year. A scholarship in the amount of \$1000 will be awarded to a graduating student from North Peace Secondary School who will pursue a post-secondary program in special education. A scholarship in the amount of \$500 will be awarded to a graduating North Peace Secondary student who is destined to complete a degree program in Music. Finally, the remaining \$500 will be awarded to a special needs student graduating from North Peace Secondary School.

If you would like to donate to the Rebecca Young Memorial fund, the details are below:

- Come to Dr. Kearney Middle School to make a donation at the office
- Send a donation to Dr. Kearney Middle School.

Dr. Kearney Middle School:

10723 - 92nd Street

Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 3J4

Telephone: (250) 785-8378

website: kearney.prn.bc.ca

(a tax receipt will be given for all donations above \$20.00)

The staff of Dr. Kearney Middle School, and the family of Rebecca Young, thank you in advance for your generosity. We thank you too for your part in keeping the legacy of Rebecca Young alive in the future of Fort St. John graduates.

Merry Christmas – Happy Holidays

