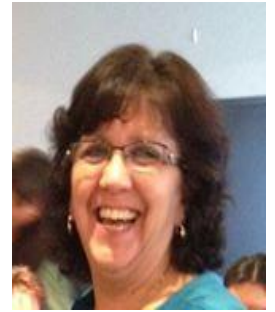


September 5, 2017

THE COYOTE CONNECTION

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – CHERYL SEBASTIAN



Weytk;

I am a member of the Gitxsan Nation from Hazelton. I have a firm foundation in education and I believe that learning is a lifelong journey.

My journey as an educator has included roles as a teacher in public, First Nations/Independent, and post-secondary schools; District Vice-Principal for Learner Support Services; Elementary Counsellor; Elementary Principal; Director of Instruction – Aboriginal Education (SD#82) and most recently, District Principal – Aboriginal Education (SD#73).

At the forefront of all of these roles, my commitment to student success and a belief that parent and community involvement are crucial to that success.

I am truly honoured and excited to be at Sk'elep and looking forward to an awesome school year with all of you!!

Respect - Responsibility - Reliability

Sk'elep School of Excellence Staff 2017 2018

Administration Team

Cheryl Sebastian	Principal
Linda Leonard	Office Administrator

Teachers

Arlene Dixon	Kindergarten
Tracy Smail	Grade 1
Leona Hammerton	Grade 2
Kerry Gairdner	Grade 3
Megan Bye	Grade 4
Kendelle Johnston	Grade 5
Suzete Pietramala	Grade 5/6
Emma Brasseur	Grade 7

Shuswap Language Team

Evelyn Camille	Language Teacher
Connie Jules	Elder in Residence
Irvine Johnson	Elder in Residence

Resource Team

Anne Brown	Learning Assistance Teacher
Jody Rushka	Learning Assistance Teacher
Geoff Johnson	Counsellor

Support Team

Eric Friesen	Educational Assistant
Farrah Waterfall	Educational Assistant
Marcy Van Stone	Educational Assistant & Speech Language Assistant
Twyla Reid	Educational Assistant
Alecia Michel	Cook
Janice Paul	Bus Driver & Educational Assistant
Randy Bing	Bus Driver & Maintenance

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ARRIVAL/AFTER SCHOOL BELLS

Warning bell	8:20 a.m.
Classes commence at	8:30 a.m.
Classes finish at	2:40 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION - Please remember that if your contact information changes at any time, contact the office to provide the appropriate changes. It is crucial that we have accurate information to ensure that we are able to respond promptly to safety and emergency situations if they arise with your child.

SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM - If your child will be absent or late please ensure that you contact the office at **(250) 828-9777 by 9:00 a.m.** or advise the teacher in advance. Kukstsemc to the parents and guardians who call to advise that your child will be late, has an appointment, or is sick.

EARLY MORNING DROP OFF - While we understand that parents have different drop off times before they begin their work day, it is important for all parents to understand that there is **not any supervision in the school until 8:00 a.m.** Teachers may be in earlier but they are preparing for their day and not able to supervise. Please ensure that you **do not drop off your child prior to 8 a.m.** Any child who is dropped off prior to this time will need to remain in the front hallway near the office. **Please make other arrangements for childcare prior to this time.** Thank you for your help and support in this matter pertaining to the safety of all our students.



PROCEDURES FOR AFTERSCHOOL DISMISSAL - The afterschool dismissal procedure is in response to increased traffic around the school and is an effort to promote and ensure the safety and whereabouts of students at all times. Students who are picked up after school by parents/guardians will be on the benches next to the library. Parents **need to come into the school** to pick their child(ren) up. Little Fawn daycare pick up is at the Primary entrance at the end of the hall.

STUDENT DROP OFF OR PICKUP - We must receive notification from the parent/guardian of any changes to your child's drop off/or pickup. This can be done by writing a note in your child's agenda or sending a note to their teacher. If we are not notified by you that there is a change the student will follow their regular routine as we cannot accept notification of change through your child. In case of an unexpected emergency, please call the office at 250 828-9777.

LATE ARRIVALS - School classes begin promptly at **8:30 am**. We would like you to be aware that when your child arrives late to school even 10 minutes, they have already missed the beginning of their first lesson. For many students, like ourselves, they require some time to get into their space, chat with their friends, get prepared for their day and have breakfast before beginning their work. Arriving late does not give them the opportunity to do this and may set their day off in a negative direction. The reading programs we teach are very rigid in their pacing and lesson delivery. When students even miss part of a lesson it is easy to fall behind.

Your cooperation in getting your child to school by **8:20 a.m.** will ensure they are here, fed, and prepared to start their lesson on time. Thank you for working with us to make it a successful year for your child.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM - Sk'elep School provides a complimentary breakfast and lunch program. Menus are sent home once a month at the beginning of the month. Every student at school has the opportunity

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to participate in these programs. If your child chooses not to have the school lunch on any particular day, please ensure he/she is provided with a lunch.

If home lunches are sent with the students, please ensure they do not require heating as that takes up a significant amount of time and shortens outdoor play time. A menu is attached for your convenience.

STUDENT SNACKS - Recess snacks are the responsibility of the parent/guardian. **Please do not send any food with peanuts in them as we have students that have a life threatening allergy to peanuts.** Due to the seriousness of this, Sk'elep School will no longer allow students to eat snacks on the bus. Kukstsemc for your cooperation regarding this matter.



STUDENT CLOTHING - All students are required to have a second pair of shoes or runners at school for indoor use only. The shoes/runners must have non marking soles.

The weather is now changing and the cold weather will be upon us very soon. Please ensure that your child has warm clothing as all students are expected to go outside at recess and lunch.

HEAD LICE - Sk'elep School wants to maintain a school environment free of head lice. However, because of the close proximity of students and staff to one another, exposure to head lice may occur. Accordingly, we are committed to working with parents and health professionals to reduce the manner and likelihood of head lice, and to deal with treatment in an effective manner. If you receive a call or notice regarding head lice in your child's class, please be sure to check their hair and treat them appropriately.

School wide head checks will take place periodically and parents will be notified if their child requires treatment. Information is always available through our school nurse, Christine Lessman. She can be contacted by leaving a message at the school office or by calling Q'wemtsin Health at 250 314-6732.

LOST & FOUND - Please remember to mark all your child's clothing/items with their name so if lost they can be identified and returned in a timely manner. If your child is missing articles remind them to look in the lost and found. The lost and found items are located by the primary doors at the end of the hall of the school.

MISCELLANEOUS STUDENT PHOTOS - During the school year there may be times when photographers are present at the school taking pictures of the school and community events. These pictures may be printed in newspapers or in the publications of other organizations or included on the school website. Parents/guardians have been given a student photo form to complete. If you have chosen for your child not to take part in photograph activities, please discuss with your child not to get in group pictures. We will make every effort to ensure that your child does not participate in the photograph activities.

STUDENT SUPPLIES - Attached to this notice you will find a school supply list for your child. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide school supplies for your child. Please ensure that your child has their supplies by Wednesday, September 6th.

E-MAIL COMMUNICATION - In an effort to become a little more paper conscious and to move into a greener school, we have set up an email list that will send out newsletters and notices. If a parent does not have email access, then we will definitely send a paper copy home. For the rest of us who are connected to our mobile devices, please keep the office updated with a current email to ensure regular communication with the school. Any additions or changes to phone numbers and/or emails can be directed to linda.leonard@skelep.com

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