

FERNIE SECONDARY SCHOOL
102 Fairway Drive – Box 370
Fernie, B.C. V0B 1M0
Telephone: (250)423-4471 Fax: (250) 423-4004



Website:
<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/fss/Pages/default.aspx> "Home of the Falcons"

NEWSLETTER #1 – September 13, 2017

PARENT REMINDER FROM THE OFFICE...



For attendance purposes, please notify the office and your child's teachers if your child will be away from school for any reason. It is also important to contact the teachers for homework. To contact any staff member in our school please email by using: [\(firstname.lastname@sd5.bc.ca\)](mailto:(firstname.lastname@sd5.bc.ca))

If there are ANY changes in your personal contact information (phone number, addresses, email, etc.) or your child's medical information, please let the office know by emailing: Francine Kubos at francine.kubos@sd5.bc.ca

Student fees of \$15.00 are now due. All students of FSS must pay these to cover the costs of lock and lockers \$5.00, agendas \$6.00, and student council fees \$4.00
Please make cheques payable to Fernie Secondary School

DATES TO REMEMBER:

SEPTEMBER:

Sept. 15	Friday	- Terry Fox Run & Welcome Back Breakfast starts 8:00 a.m.
Sept. 22	Friday	- No School Day
Sept. 25	Monday	- Mountain West Picture Day

OCTOBER:

Oct. 6	Friday	- No School Day
Oct. 9	Monday	- No School Day – Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct. 20	Friday	- No School Day

WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST/TERRY FOX RUN
PARENTS & STUDENTS ARE WELCOME!!!

Once again the Welcome Back Breakfast/Terry Fox Run has been scheduled for Friday, Sept. 15th @ Fernie Secondary. Breakfast will start at 8:00 a.m. with the Terry Fox Run following. Donations for the Terry Fox Foundation will be collected. See you Friday!

WELCOME TO FERNIE SECONDARY 2017/18

On behalf of the staff of Fernie Secondary, it is my pleasure to welcome students to the 2017/2018 school year. As always, the new school year will have in store many challenges and exciting opportunities. We look forward to another successful year, focusing on our school goal of enabling all students to cross the stage at graduation with dignity, purpose and options. And while high school is always busy, it is my sincerest wish that every student finds time to get involved in the many activities that happen here (clubs, sports teams, student council etc.). Together, we will continue to build on our new Code of Conduct (PRIDE) and create a caring school community.

To parents, I want to thank-you for choosing to send your children to Fernie Secondary. I assure you that we take the responsibility of providing the best possible education to our students seriously and that we are excited to have the opportunity to work with your children to help prepare them for their futures.

I also want to take this opportunity to stress the importance of regular attendance and punctuality. Students cannot reach their potential if they do not attend classes on a consistent basis. As a staff, we have decided to focus more attention on trying to ensure students are attending all classes. Please call the front office 250-423-4471 if your child/ren will be absent or leaving the school for an appointment.

September also brings some changes to the staff of Fernie Secondary. We would like to give our best wishes to all staff members who have either retired or moved on to other opportunities. We would also like to welcome several new teachers to our staff. This year's new faces include:

Mr. Kelly – Vice Principal
Ms. Gibson – French Immersion
Mrs. Kroeker – Biology, Math, Science
Ms. Walker – Counselling
Mr. Whillans – Art, Info Tech, Social Studies

I hope that you have all enjoyed your summer and I wish all students the best of luck in the upcoming school year.

Linda Christenson
Principal

September 5, 2017

Welcome to the 2017-2018 School Year

On behalf of Southeast Kootenay School District, we are pleased to be welcoming students, staff and families to our new school year. We hope you have had a wonderful summer, despite the smoky skies, and found time to enjoy the beautiful place in which we are so privileged to live. We also extend a very warm welcome to our newest students, families and staff and wish you the very best as you join our Southeast Kootenay School District in your educational journey. We also would like to extend our congratulations to our recent graduates who walked across the stage with “purpose, options and hope” and wish them the very best in their future endeavours.

Our District is committed to student success and we look forward to working with our educational partners in examining our data and ensuring our goals continue to be relevant to our students’ needs. This will be done through the **Framework for Enhancing Student Learning** as outlined by the Ministry of Education. We have a commitment to work together to continuously improve learning for each student in our district. Together we can continue to see even greater success for our students in an environment that fosters learning and engagement. Currently, our goals are:

- *enabling all students to graduate with purpose, options and hope by developing a sense of belonging in all students and enhancing their engagement in learning*
- *developing literacy performance by purposefully engaging diverse learners in the process of reading to understand across all subject areas and to improve the knowledge, skills and attitudes in numeracy*
- *enabling all students to graduate with confidence and with an understanding of how to apply their skills and knowledge in their life and careers.*

Our third Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement was signed last June and, together with our partners, we will be continuing the work to meet those goals as well. The Agreement can be viewed at www.sd5.bc.ca. We are very pleased with the results of our Aboriginal students as the *Six Year Completion* rates demonstrates that we are one of the top performing districts in the province!

This is also the last year of a three-year transition to the renewed curriculum from K - 9 and we have one more year of preparation before the implementation of the Graduation Years 10 – 12 program. We will ensure that our students are succeeding in their numeracy and literacy development but in a way that connects them more deeply to the collaboration, critical thinking and communication skills they need to survive in our world today and in the future. Further information is available either on the direct link on our website or at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>.

Our district is also very grateful to our maintenance, technology and custodial staffs that have once again exceeded expectations in helping to ensure our schools are ready for the new school year. We had some extra challenges this year as we were fortunate to be able to add a number of new teachers because of the Supreme Court decision regarding class size and composition. But our staff rose to the challenge and, other than some late arriving portables, we are ready for the school year!

On behalf of Southeast Kootenay School District, welcome to the new school year – a year that holds great promise for our students in their learning. Let’s do this together!

Sincerely,

Lynn Hauptman
Superintendent

Vice Principal Introduction

My name is Mike Kelly and I am the new Vice Principal at Fernie Secondary School (FSS). A little bit about myself: I taught for three years in Black Diamond, Alberta, then four years at Elkford Secondary School, and then acted as the Vice Principal at Sparwood Secondary for the last four years. As a teacher I have taught Outdoor Education, English, Social Studies and Physical Education from grades 7 to 12. Being a Fernie resident I feel it is important to be part of the community and have or am serving on the Fernie Mountain Bike Club, Fernie Trails Alliance, as well as being a member of the Elks. Outside of school my passions include mountain biking, skiing, and exploring the great wilderness British Columbia has to offer. A goal of mine as I start my journey with FSS is to strengthen FSS' connection with the community, we have a strong community and a strong school - they can only make each other better. I strive to keep parents informed, please feel free to email me with questions at: michael.kelly@sd5.bc.ca. Fernie Secondary also has a twitter account to keep you updated, please follow: @FernieFalcons. I look forward to working with students, staff and parents - Go Falcons!

YEARBOOKS

We are now selling the 2017-2018 yearbooks. The cost is \$40.00 to the first 100 sold and then the price goes up to \$50.00. International students are \$60.00 (includes shipping).

PICTURE DAY FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF
By MOUNTAINWEST
Monday
September 25th, 2017

From the PAC Chair:

September 2017

Hello and Welcome to all new and returning parents!

We are off to another exciting year at Fernie Secondary at last. All parents of all students attending our school are automatically members of our Parent Advisory Council (PAC). We usually meet monthly to make spending decisions of our funds, discuss any issues, and catch up with our principal (Ms. Christenson), as well as the School Trustee for Fernie (Mr. Lento). These meetings are informal, short, and very informative - I know for myself they are my lifeline to the school, since I am not inside the building very often. Don't worry, nobody needs to sign up to head up committees and jobs, there is no big school wide fundraisers to organize - it all happens a bit differently at the high school level compared to the elementary school. A great resource of information about PACs and how it works is the BCCPAC website, <http://bccpac.bc.ca/pacdpcac-info/what-is-pac/>, please check it out. Our FSS PAC constitution is available to view on the school web site as well. Please consider joining us for our first meeting of the new school year on Wednesday, September 27, at 7pm in the school library (very short AGM followed by regular meeting).

Also please feel free to contact the school or myself with any questions/concerns you might have. We would love to hear from you, regards,

Ute Hammer, PAC Chair Fernie Secondary,
(250 423-7576, or ute_hammer@hotmail.com)

FSS PAC Agenda
Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

School Library, 7pm

1. Call to order

2. Introductions

3. Adopt Agenda

4. Election of PAC Executive.

Secretary, Vice Chair, and dpac rep positions open. Treasurer was voted in at last regular meeting. Chair position needs successor by next year at the latest.

5. Adoption of PAC constitution (available for viewing on website)

6. Financial report

7. Adjourn

Next AGM: fall 2018

FSS PAC Agenda

Wednesday, September 27, 2017
School Library, 7:15pm, after AGM

1. **Welcome to a new year at Fernie Secondary. Introductions.**
2. **Adopt Agenda**
3. **Adopt minutes from previous meeting**
4. **Treasurer's Report – Anna Piney**
- did we receive confirmation/amount for Gaming Funds?
5. **Old Business**
6. **New Business**
-discussion on how PAC can be more effective, please read
<http://bccpac.bc.ca/pacdpac-info/what-is-pac/> for ideas
7. **DPAC Report - last dpac meeting June 14**
<http://www.dpac.sd5.bc.ca> website with info
8. **Trustee Update - Frank Lento**
<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/pdfs/BoardNews.pdf>
9. **Principal's Report – Linda Christenson**
10. **Correspondence & Committee Reports**
School District #5 web site <http://www.sd5.bc.ca/index.asp>
School Calendar <http://www.sd5.bc.ca/calendar/>
BCCPAC <http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index.aspx>
Parent info <http://www.learnnowbc.gov.bc.ca/Parent>
11. **Other Business**
12. **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: October 25, 2017, 7pm