



CHEMAINUS SECONDARY REFLECTIONS

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OCTOBER 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, October 14
Thanksgiving Day
(No classes)

Thursday, October 17
Great Shake Out
Emergency Preparedness Drill

Monday, October 21
PAC meeting @ 7:00pm

Friday, October 25
Non-Instructional Day
(No classes)

Wednesday, October 30
2 hr Early Dismissal @
1:10pm

Wednesday, November 6
Grade 9's
Take your Kids to Work Day

Thursday, November 7
Grade 12's
Post-Secondary Institution
visit to CSS

Friday, November 8
Photo Retakes
LifeTouch Photography

See Ya' September, Hola October!

It's hard to imagine, but September is already over and we are now into October! Our new students have settled into their new school and new routines and are now focused on their learning. September was full of many terrific events: 2019-20 Opening Day, Welcome Back BBQ, Terry Fox Fundraising & Run, Grad Pie Toss and Orange Shirt Day, to name a few! In addition, a number of teams have started as well; Junior and Senior girls volleyball, along with intramural Junior girls' volleyball and co-ed soccer at lunch. Our students are not only actively engaged in their learning but also involved in the many activities offered in our school. A huge THANK YOU to all the staff and community volunteers for giving their time and energy to support our students.

Keep in Touch!



Parent support is a critical factor in student success and attendance is essential to achieving satisfactory progress. Parents/guardians are encouraged to make regular contact with their son or daughter's teachers. In turn, teachers will attempt to keep parents/guardians up to date with student academic progress. This two-way communication can occur in several ways. Please let us know if your contact information has changed. All teacher email addresses can be found on our [website](http://css.sd79.bc.ca).

Get Organized!

All Grade 7-9 students were provided with a student planner that is to be used on a regular basis. Grade 7-9 students should be using their planners to record daily activities such as homework assignments, project due dates, text/exam dates, counselling appointments, holidays, team practices/games and other important dates. Part of the Career Education 7-9 mark will come from the planning and organization of their planner. Please review pages 1 to 25 with your child and sign on page 25. We are also asking parents to sign the planner on a weekly basis until the end of October. Parents can sign on the top right of the weekly pages, under "Parent/Teacher Comments". The planner also contains important school information regarding student services, school safety, the school's code of conduct and tracking/goal setting forms. Students in Grades 10-12 may request a planner as we have printed extra copies – cost \$5.00.



Lifetouch photos

Photos taken on Sept. 5 are all in. If you are still waiting for your child's student ID card and/or photos, please call LifeTouch Photography directly at 1-866-457-8212.



Donut giveaway at Hot Dog lunch



Pie Toss fundraiser



Leadership students at Pie Toss



Supporting Orange Shirt Day



Leadership (Ms. Hittinger)

This year our Leadership class helped kick off a great start to the year by running a hot dog lunch on the second Friday of the school year. It was a great time to be had by all. Hot dogs were provided to everyone. PAC was also there offering Tim Horton's donuts as well!

The class then got into full swing to raise funds for cancer and got our Terry Fox run organized. Our goal was to raise \$1500 and we raised just a little over that! \$1633.55. The run was held Thursday, September 26th. Thanks for helping us reach our goal! Now Ms. Hryniuk and Ms. Hittinger will have to be handcuffed together in superhero costumes for one full day!!! Big thanks to the grade 12's for auctioning their faces off at the pie toss event to help raise funds (over \$450).

Stay tuned for October events! There will be Halloween activities at lunch on Thursday, Oct 31! Tell your child(ren) to wear their costumes that day! Leadership students will be handing out candy if they are dressed up!



Cheminus Secondary School is continuing to use a useful educational planning tool for grades 7-12 students that can be used at school or from home.

myBlueprint Education Planner (www.myBlueprint.ca) lets your child create an engaging and interactive education plan. Students can build customized school course plans, instantly identify the post-secondary options that are available to them and explore valuable information about apprenticeships, college program, university programs and workplace opportunities across Canada!

With direct access from home, now you can also get more informed and involved with your child's education. Log in and learn about courses, graduation requirements and the endless options available to your child. From their Profile, your son/daughter will be able to set goals, save unlimited plans, short-list programs and occupations of interest, record extra-curricular activities and more. To access the site, visit www.myBlueprint.ca and input the Activation Key. ACTIVATION KEY: chemainus

Community Volunteers

We welcome parents and the community to take an active role in our school. We believe that it truly takes a village to raise our youth, so if you have a special skill and would like to share it with our students, please contact us!

Whether it's coaching, volunteering to work with our band or share a skill such as artistry, woodworking, etc., please contact us and we will let you know how you can get involved with our youth.

Our students appreciate the willingness of a number of parents to transport team members, field trip participants, etc. Parent drivers are required to submit a Volunteer Registration Form, a copy of their driver's license and vehicle insurance (minimum \$1,000,000 liability) as well as their driver's abstract, at our main office. The abstract may be obtained from ICBC.com and request your driving record be emailed to chss@sd79.bc.ca. This has to be done each school year.

Counselling & Careers (Mr. Culbertson & Ms. Stoochnoff)

Although it still seems so early in this school year, many post-secondary institutions already have registration open for September of 2020! Therefore, this year's graduating students can start the process of applying, making sure they meet requirements, and could get conditional acceptance very soon. Depending on the institution and the specific program, registration requirements and opening and closing dates for registration can be quite different. So, make sure to check out the post-secondary institution's website, and any of the particular areas of interest students may have. Conditional acceptance to an institution or program does NOT mean the student must attend that university or program if they change their mind.

Mr. Culbertson and Ms. Stoochnoff can help answer questions about post-secondary institutions and have just recently attended a conference at UVic and have some updated information. Call or come to the counselling office to make an appointment to talk about it.

Students need a total of 80 credits to graduate, 52 of which are from "required courses". Counsellors and other school personnel make sure that students take the required courses and advise students on what courses fulfill both the requirements for graduation and the "typical" requirements for the "typical" university. Colleges tend to have less rigorous requirements.

Students and parents, however, need to check the admission requirements of any post-secondary institution in which they might be interested. Requirements vary from institution to institution, and secondary school counsellors can only advise; they are not counsellors for that post-secondary institution. However, the general admission requirement for most of our local universities (for a degree program) is English 12 and an additional three "approved" Grade 12 courses (see the specific institution's list of "approved" courses).

Some programs will accept other "approved" courses (or not accept all those listed above) or set different standards. These can change from year to year, as well as from program to program. Students and parents can go to any post-secondary institution's website and follow the links for admission requirements. In the counselling office, we have academic calendars for dozens of post-secondary institutions from across the country if internet access is a problem.

NEW B.C. GRADUATION PLAN

All students enrolled in a B.C. secondary school will be following the guidelines for the new graduation program. The B.C. Graduation Program ensures that students graduate from secondary school as educated citizens, with the knowledge, competencies, and skills they will need to transition successfully into higher education, training and the workforce. The B.C. Certificate of Graduation or "Dogwood Diploma" is awarded to students who successfully complete the provincial graduation requirements

Dogwood Diploma - at a glance:

Students require a minimum of **80 credits** to graduate.

Of these 80 credits:

- At least 16 credits must be at the Grade 12 level, including a required Language Arts 12
- At least 28 credits must be elective course credits
- 52 credits are required from the following:



—CLASS OF—
2020

SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES

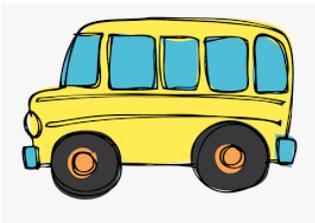
Check out these websites for more scholarship information!

- Student Awards
www.studentawards.com
- Scholarships Canada
www.scholarshipscanada.com
- Fast Web! – A scholarship search
<http://www.fastweb.com>
- Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation
www.cmsf.ca
- Terry Fox Humanitarian Award
www.terryfoxawards.ca
- BC Government and Service Employees' Union
www.bcgeu.ca



Student Absences

If your son or daughter is going to be absent from school or leaving class early, due to an illness or a medical/dental appointment, please call the school at 250-246-4711 to contact our automated attendance line press 1. Please leave a message on the answering machine at any time. You may also request that homework be provided, by pressing 2 on our automated line.



BUS STUDENTS

The Transportation Department will be holding Bus Evacuation Drills on afternoon bus runs on Wednesday, October 23rd. These drills will be performed at the school where the bus departs fully loaded. These drills are important to better prepare our students and staff in the event of an emergency. The driver will instruct the students on how to unload and move to a designated safe spot as a group in a safe and orderly fashion. These drills will delay afternoon drop-off times by approximately 15 minutes. The Transportation Supervisor can answer all questions by email, transportationsupervisor@sd79.bc.ca or by phone 250-748-0321 ext. 275.

- Career-Life Education (4 credits), and Career-Life Connections/Capstone Project (4 credits)
- Physical and Health Education 10 (4 credits)
- Science 10 (4 credits), and a Science 11 or 12 (4 credits)
- Social Studies 10 (4 credits), and a Social Studies 11 or 12 (4 credits)
- A Math 10 (4 credits), and a Math 11 or 12 (4 credits)
- A Language Arts 10, 11 and a required 12 (12 credits total)
- An Arts Education 10, 11, or 12 and/or an Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies 10, 11, or 12 (4 credits total)

In addition, students must also complete three new graduation assessments:

- The new Gr 10 Graduation Numeracy Assessment was introduced in 2018
- The new Gr 10 Graduation Literacy Assessment will be introduced in 2019/20
- The new Gr 12 Graduation Literacy Assessment will be introduced in 2020/21

If you have any questions regarding the BC Graduation Plan, please check out the BC Ministry of Education at: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/> or feel free to call our Counselling Office.

CAREER LIFE CONNECTIONS & CAPSTONE

All graduating students are required to complete 8 credits of Career Education:

- Career Life Explorations (CLE)
- Career Life Connections & Capstone (CLC)

All grade 10 students will be required to meet with the Careers Teachers approximately once per month, along with assignments in other subjects to meet the requirements for CLE.

All grade 11 students have been enrolled in Career Life Connections in semester 2 to complete the first half of this course by June.

All grade 12 students will meet with the Careers Teachers approximately once per month in first semester and then during Learning Lab time in semester 2 to complete the CLC course requirements and Capstone project.

The Capstone project is a culminating project, presentation, or performance that showcases students' learning in a meaningful, relevant way to share with peers and adults. All grade 12s are expected to complete a Capstone project along with CLC in order to graduate. This will be assessed, and a final grade will be given in June.

Capstone projects can be one of the following:

- Research/Experiment
- Event Planning
- Project
- Career/Entrepreneurial Endeavour
- Community issue/service

A requirement for the Capstone project is for students to work with an adult mentor (preferably a member outside of the school community). A mentor is an experienced person in a field that relates to the students' Capstone project, who provides knowledge and guidance to the student. Mentors may meet with the student face to face, online or via email for a minimum of 10 hours.

HOMESTAY OPPORTUNITY

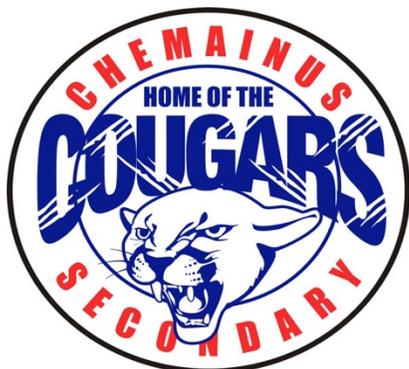
Welcome an International Student into your home!

Are you an active family willing to share your love of the Island with an International student?

Are you wanting to expose your children to new cultures while having a travel at home experience?

If you answered "yes" to these questions, you are the type of homestay family we are looking for. Our homestay families are paid \$850/month.

For more information contact Brenda: blanglois@sd79.bc.ca / 250-510-1436



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

(Ms. Stanyer, Ms. Chadwick, Student Support Workers)

The following is a list of free, supportive resources for children and youth. If your child is experiencing social emotional challenges during school hours, please refer them to our counselling centre at School in room 110.

Counsellors:

Garry Culbertson (students with last names A-L)

Barb Stoochnoff (students with last names from M-Z)

Student Support Workers: Tina Stanyer and Lisa Chadwick

Help Lines:

KidsHelpPhone.ca – 1-800-668-6868 Free professional counselling, anonymous and confidential, non-judgmental, available online or on the phone. They do not have call display and do not trace calls. Whatever the problem, they are here to help, 24 hours a day. Phone or visit online. **TEXT: 686868** a mental health practitioner will text back immediately.

Crisis Text – Provided by the Vancouver Island Crisis Line, text this number, 7 nights a week between 6 - 10 pm: 250-800-3806

Youth Against Violence Line – 1-800-680-4264 Stand up, be heard, get help! Email: info@youthagainstviolenceline.com

Athletics (Mrs. Magnan)

Let's go COUGARS! Let's GO!

One month into the school year, and we have been picking up speed as our fall sports program is now in full swing!

I am proud to announce that Chemainus will play host to competition for our senior and junior girls' volleyball, as well as junior intramurals in girls' volleyball and co-ed soccer this month. I am also proud to announce the coaches for these teams who are working alongside your sons and daughters tirelessly and without whom these young athletes would not have such valuable learning experiences:

Junior Girls Volleyball – **Kelsey Bell**

Senior Girls Volleyball – **Cindy Bowden**

"Intramural" Junior Girls Volleyball – **Graeme Arkell and Kim Magnan**

"Intramural" Co-Ed Soccer – **Rhys Bailey**

Thank you for all the time and energy that you are giving to our students!

The month of October will be a busy month, and the Gym and Weight Room will be fully utilized. Students can check the white-board in the hallway outside of the Gym for upcoming events and the gym/Weight Room schedule. The general schedule for the month of October should look like this:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Noon: Intramural Soccer	Noon: Intramural Volleyball	Noon: Weight Room, Open Gym	Noon: Intramural Volleyball	Noon: Weight Room, Open Gym
Afterschool: Jr. & Sr. Girls Volleyball		Afterschool: Jr. Girls Volleyball	Afterschool: Sr. Girls Volleyball	Afterschool: Midget Boys Basketball

COUGARS GAME SCHEDULE

Junior Girls Volleyball

1. Oct 3 – CHEM hosts GISS B
2. Oct 7 – CHEM hosts QMS
3. Oct 17 – BRENT B hosts CHEM
4. Oct 24 – QUAM hosts CHEM
5. Oct 29 – QofA hosts CHEM
6. Nov 7 – CHEM hosts Lakers B
7. Nov 14 – CVIAA Jr. Girls B Championship @ Brentwood

Senior Girls Volleyball

1. Oct 1 – CHEM hosts SHAW
2. Oct 8 – QMS hosts CHEM
3. Oct 15 – CHEM hosts DCS
4. Oct 22 – CHEM hosts BRENT B
5. Oct 29 – Kelsey hosts CHEM
6. Nov 15 & 16th – Island Sr. Girls A VBall Championship @ DCS

Parents, guardians, and community members we are still looking for COACHES!

To build a sustainable athletics program in any school requires a great amount of help from our community. Without community coaches many of our programs will not be possible. If you are interested in getting involved, please call me (Mrs. Magnan) at the school 250-246-4711 or email at kmagnan@sd79.bc.ca.



Parent Advisory Council (Alana Starkie, PAC Chair)

October PAC News – Next Meeting: October 21 7pm AGM

Thank you to all who joined us at our September meeting, we appreciate the involvement of our parents who have served on the board for many years and those of you who are new to us as well. We encourage all parents/guardians to attend our meetings and help us decide how best to use our funds raised, to support the students.

We approved funding for the following:

- \$1000 to supplement the school wide nutrition program
- \$200 for Wood Shop hand tools
- \$1200 for Athletic sports fees
- \$950 to help furnish a whole school inclusive mindful /regrouping space for our Special Ed dept
- \$1100 for whole school and athletic program, end of year awards/trophies and engraving

PAC provided free donuts to student and staff during the “Welcome Back” event and we would like to express our thanks to all the leadership students who helped out. It was great to see everyone enjoying the treats and having a fun day.

We will continue our FlipGive.com fundraiser and encourage parents to think of us while planning their upcoming holiday shopping online. Our PAC will earn a percentage of your total into our account at no extra cost to you. All you have to do is use the FlipGive App or log in online through the “Chemainus Secondary School PAC” team page at FlipGive.com and then shop through the hundreds of



supported online stores, including Amazon, Walmart, Indigo, etc. This is a super easy way for us to earn funds to support our kids!

October 21 at 7pm will be our PAC Annual General Meeting and we would like to invite you to attend. We will be accepting nominations from anyone interested in joining our executive. If you would like to participate on the board, we will hold a vote among those named.

If anyone would like to contact PAC to inquire about joining our executive or if you have any questions, please find us on our Facebook group page: **Cheminus Secondary PAC.**

Take Your Kid to Work Day

On Wednesday, November 6, all Grade 9 students across Canada will have the opportunity to spend a day at the workplace of a parent, relative, friend or volunteer host. Take Our Kids To Work involves more than 250,000 students in a day of career exploration and learning about the skills required in the work world. For your child it's an opportunity to understand the importance of staying in school by seeing firsthand the skills required in today's workplace. They get to experience a day in the world of work and begin thinking about the kind of job they might aspire to. For parents it's an opportunity to start talking with their child about career choices they are interested in. Parents can invite their own children to join them at work for the day but if this is not possible there are other ways for your child to participate.



- Ask a relative, neighbour or family friend to take your child to work especially if your child's career interests don't coincide with your place of employment.

- Ask a parent who is taking his or her child to work if your son or daughter can join them for the day.

Most businesses are aware of the Take Our Kids To Work day but they will need some lead time to make sure they are prepared for their visit on Wednesday, November 6. Forms will be sent home with our grade 9 students later this month.

Contact: Ms Hittinger, Ms. Hryniuk, or Mr. Culbertson for more information or if you have any questions.