



<https://gss.sd42.ca/>

Mar / April Events

Feb 20 Gr 8 Registration closes
Sr Winter Formal Dance
IB Field trip to SFU
Feb 21 Student Led Conferences
Feb 22 9:40 Start Collaboration Day
Feb 27 Softball / Baseball Open House 7PM
March 4 - 6 Gr 8 Band retreat
March 5 MYP Report Card Parent Info Evening
March 6 Gr 12 Flex meeting
1:25 Dismissal Collaboration
March 7 Report Cards Issued online
March 11 - 14 Spirit Week
March 11 - 13 Choir / Jazz Retreat
March 12 Youth Innovation Field Trip
March 13 PAC 6 PM
March 18 - 29 School Closed - Spring Break
April 3 Gr 12 Flex meeting
April 10 - 12 Elem Music Concerts
April 12 9:40 Start Collaboration Day
April 15 - 18 Literacy Week
April 16 Music Exec Meeting
April 17 Battle of the Books
April 19 School Closed Good Friday
April 22 School Closed Easter Monday
April 24 Biology Field Trip
April 26 - 30 Band Field trip

Report Cards coming:

Report cards will be electronically issued March 7th. Please be sure to **download** the report card in its digital format from the My Class System, which will be available for 30 days.

We do care about each students pace and progress at school. Please feel free to contact teachers by email, or if you have a concern that is greater than a single teacher or subject, be sure to be in contact with the grade counsellor or grade administrator as necessary.

Improvements mid-year are best supported with good planning and good communication. we encourage you to have a conversation with your child about setting realistic goals for improvement.

Parent

Communication:

Maintaining contact with parents and students is important to us. We rely upon email, the parent portal, Facebook, Twitter and the planner app to keep families abreast of what's going on.

You can follow us on Facebook or Twitter for announcements and reminders. **The Gazette on the school website is updated daily.**

If you haven't been receiving emails this year, you'll need to resubscribe.

We strongly encourage parents to do this by logging onto the parent portal and subscribing on the login page.

Student Led Conferences Feb 21 2019:

Tips for a successful Student Led Conference:

1. Prepare specific questions for each Teacher / Subject in advance.
2. Please support a 5 minute time limit to meet with each teacher. This allows for all parents and students to meet with teachers within the allotted time frames.
3. Should you require additional time, please arrange a mutually convenient time for you and the teacher to meet.
4. Ensure the teacher has your correct contact information such as e-mail or preferred phone number.
5. Ask about teacher websites or additional contact plans.
6. Follow up with your child after the conference.





MYP Grade 8 Report Cards March 5th 7PM - GSS Library

We are hosting an information session linked to the MYP reporting and reporting framework.

We know that the MYP report cards are different than traditional report cards. This event is intended to support a better understanding of "Standards Based Assessment", and the MYP scale.

We will have an ongoing powerpoint up at the Student Led Conferences covering information connected to the new reporting framework.

School Transfer Process. Current Gr 8 - 11 Students:

Students applying in **Transfer Phase 1** (prior to March 8, 2019) must pick up a transfer form from the secondary school they currently attend, complete all required information (including obtaining a parent/guardian signature) and return it to that school's main office. Students in grades 9-12, phase 1 requests must be submitted by March 8, 2019. The best chance to transfer schools is during Transfer Phase 1. Students whose transfer request was not successful in Transfer Phase 1 will be considered again in Transfer Phase 2.

More information is online at: <http://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/Secondary-Transfer->

Course Planning Is Underway

Students will soon be selecting which courses they plan to take for the 2019/20 school year. Course information presentations were done for each grade and the course information has been posted to the web at:

<https://gss.sd42.ca/students/course-selection-2019-2020/>

Students will complete their course selection and meet individually with a counsellor, vice principal or principal to have the data entered.

While changes can be made at a later date, the early data helps support school planning. Late changes often cannot be completely accommodated. So plan early and plan well. If you have any questions regarding course selection and/or program choices please contact your student's counsellor.

Upcoming Holiday ?

With Spring Break coming up, we want to remind students who choose to go on family trips during school time that they are responsible for missed assignments and tests.

Students should give teachers ample notice that they will be away. Sometimes a trip can become part of the learning experience however, time away from direct teacher instruction can be difficult to recover.

We value the time we have with students in class to provide them with the best learning experience possible. So if you must travel, please be sure to support necessary "catch up" with pre-planning and proper communication.



Changes in Provincial Education

Career Education 9 - 11 and Capstone 12 :

Today's graduates must be able to adapt to ongoing change in many aspects of their lives. Purposeful career-life development, where students learn how to set personally meaningful goals, recognize and cultivate relevant opportunities and supportive relationships, and continually re-evaluate and revise their plans, is a requirement for educated citizens in an ever-changing world. This begins with the introduction of themes in the Careers 9 program. We deliver this course in flex time assemblies.



In Grades 10 to 12, students explore and research a multitude of education, work-related, and life opportunities to develop the knowledge and the personal and social competencies to manage the next steps in their career-life journeys. Educated citizens are lifelong learners who continually build on their self-awareness about evolving interests and strengths, and who are able to use this personal knowledge to inform their career-life choices with flexibility as opportunities and challenges arise. Beginning next year, this will be a full year course in grade 11 at GSS. Other schools could choose to implement the course in other grades and in different formats.

The Capstone 12 is a rigorous learning opportunity for students to reflect and share in personally meaningful ways, and is a requirement for Career-Life Connections and for graduation. The purpose of the capstone is for students to demonstrate the knowledge, competencies, and passion(s) that they can offer the world, as they integrate personal interests and strengths with preferred future possibilities. It is a representation of the student's learning journey and provides an opportunity to reflect and synthesize as well as showcase and celebrate.

More info can be found in the draft document:

https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/curriculum/career-education/en_career-education_10-12_career-education-guide.pdf

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Collaborative learning is an educational approach to teaching and learning that involves groups of students working together to solve a problem, complete a task, or create a product. This approach requires students to be highly engaged in their learning, with a focus on process rather than on the right answer.

Students are expected to come prepared to discuss and collaborate. Teachers build in accountability with group marks and individual student assessments. Students teach each other through working on challenging class problems with the teacher as facilitator or coach. The goal is to shift learning from teacher-centered to a student-centered model.

For more information about BC's new curriculum, visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>



BC Ministry of Education Curriculum

Video:

This is an excellent summary of the changes occurring in BC Education:

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>





First Peoples Principles of Learning.

There are 9 First People Principals of Learning. Each is unique and reflective of positive values we look to bring to our school community:

Learning involves recognizing the consequences of one's actions.

This principle highlights the understanding that each person must take responsibility for his or her actions, and that all actions have consequences. It is understood that actions may have consequences for the individual as well as for others. Given the awareness that we are all related, it is important to think about how one's actions may affect others (such as family, community, and/or the land). This principle also highlights the need for authentic learning situations, and the need for learner autonomy, as recognizing the consequences of one's own actions can only genuinely occur when the learner has made autonomous choices.

From: <https://firstpeoplesprinciplesoflearning.wordpress.com/>

Student Leadership Winterpalooza !



Winter events:

Staff and students enjoyed an afternoon of laughs at our annual GSS Winterpalooza! In addition to an ugly sweater contest, we had a number of physical challenges. Thanks to staff and students for participating. Our day ended with Admin Cup Challenge, where Mr. Liversidge edged out Mr. Levesque for the win, in only his first competition. Stay tuned for the next instalment at our Gym Riot during Spirit Week, March 4-8.



Drive for Cythera Transition House

The Pitt Meadows Rangers are running a donation drive for Cythera Transition House on Sunday, February 24 from 9 am-12 pm at Heritage Hall, 12460 Harris Rd., Pitt Meadows.

Cythera House helps women in need who are making a fresh start. Suggested donations: toiletries such as shampoo, body wash, hygiene items (tooth brush, face cloth, tooth paste, etc), cleaning products, toilet paper and paper towel, and laundry baskets.

The Rangers can also pick up your donations. Just email: 2pmrangers@gmail.com

Expanding Opportunities with Language assessments:

Last November, a group of grade 11 and 12 students challenged themselves and sat a very challenging French language exam. DELF



(Diplôme d'études de la langue française) is one of the most demanding international examinations where students are asked to demonstrate their proficiency in French reading, writing, speaking and listening. This diploma (issued by the Ministry of Education of France), is a life-long certification that is based on the same international standard used in 164 countries (CEFR). It is an internationally recognized official document that enriches the student's school or professional portfolio, it offers advantages for post-secondary education and is recognized internationally. It also allows students to obtain 4 credits towards graduation requirement. Congratulations to the following Garibaldi students who passed B1 (Independent user) Level: Adrian B., Austin C.-R., Siwoo L., Georgia L., Sydney S., Avery S., Piper W. For more information on DELF, please check <https://www.lsf-france.com/info/delf-dalf/>

About Academic Honesty:

Taking a section from the IB Handbook. It is important in a time of technology to better understand the boundaries of plagiarism vs research. Academic misconduct as behaviour that results in, or may result in, the student or any other student gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment component.

Academic misconduct includes:

- plagiarism—the representation, intentionally or unwittingly, of the ideas, words or work of another person without proper, clear and explicit acknowledgment
- collusion—supporting academic misconduct by another student, as in allowing one's work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another
- duplication of work—the presentation of the same work for different assessment components
- any other behaviour that gives an unfair advantage to a student or that affects the results of another student (falsifying data, misconduct during an examination, creating spurious reflections).

For most assessments, students are expected to work independently but with appropriate support from teachers and other adults, although there are many occasions when collaboration with other students is an important part of the learning process.



Inclement Weather:

The decision whether or not to close schools due to inclement weather conditions is the responsibility of the Superintendent who must balance safety with the need to provide learning. The Superintendent will use her best judgement to make a school closure decision. The decision making process is complicated by the fact that weather conditions can vary significantly between neighbouring communities, may change and may differ from original forecasts. A final decision is made by 6:00am so that a timely communications process can be initiated. The decision is posted on the district website <https://www.sd42.ca> and sent to major radio and television outlets such as All News 1130 and CKNW 980.

<http://www.sd42.ca/inclement-weather-procedures/>

Flex Time:

Every day, students will have a block of 55 minutes to see the teacher of their choice and get some assistance or do some catch-up work. This opportunity is designed to give students some ownership of their learning and get help in courses they may be struggling with.

It allows students who have busy lives outside of school hours (work and/or extra-curricular commitments) or who take the bus daily to see teachers who can help them feel more confident and ready for upcoming exams and assignments. This instructional time is not to be used for hallway wandering or wasting of time.

ALL students are supposed to be in a learning space, working with classmates and/or teachers in pursuing their education.

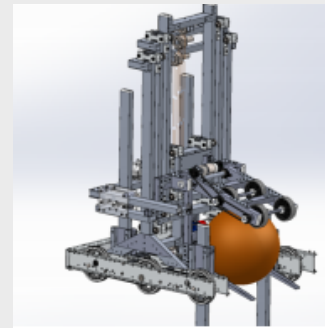
Flex time is a great opportunity for students to take control of their learning and begin to demonstrate responsibility.

GSS Robotics Club

Founded in 2017 by grade 8-10 students at Garibaldi Secondary School, Iris Robotics is about working hard, developing new skills, and pushing the boundaries of our imagination. Last year we qualified for the World Championships in Houston, Texas. Our experiences at Worlds strengthened the bonds between us, a group of diverse students, and our love of discovery.

This year's game is Destination: Deep Space.

Our robot is on a distant planet; it has to repair our rocket ship and fill it with cargo before the next sandstorm. We have designed our robot on a computer (picture below), and now we are working on assembling it. The ball is cargo, and it must be lifted 6 feet in the air. The back of the robot can lift the hatches just as high. The extra legs in the front and back can raise the robot onto a 19-inch-high platform.



Literacy Week...Coming soon

April 15-18 marks our first Literacy Week at GSS. In anticipation of the upcoming provincial literacy assessment, the idea is to encourage and inspire literacy across all subjects and grades. The Literacy Team (Mrs. Kuszak, Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Thompson) are currently organizing several events and contests, such as sidewalk chalk, punch boards, and Easter egg hunts to create some fun around reading. The staff is already getting involved early by recommending books and participating in discussions around literacy in their classroom! Through the week, we will be welcoming about 200 elementary students to interact and participate in several events with us as well. Thanks to the district and our GSS administration, we are able to offer several prizes for our contests such as Poetry in your Pocket, 6 Word Memoir, Global Recipes and Kids Caught Reading throughout the week to help us celebrate and value reading. Our theme this year is: A reader today, a leader tomorrow. Stay tuned for more information. **Happy Reading!**



Athletic Rebels

Over the past four months our basketball teams have competed within their leagues and playoff series. With the season finally in its concluding week with our Senior's wrapping up this Tuesday, the results have been extremely positive. Our Grade 9 Boys finished their season with two great games in their final week, beating first place, Pitt Meadows Secondary. Our Grade 8 Girls showed incredible growth over the course of their season, finishing 4th and bowing out of the playoffs to SRT in a much improved performance compared to their two regular season outings with the local rival. Finally, our Grade 8 Boys team finished 5th of 6 in the regular season standings. They had an uphill battle the entire way through the playoffs, but began with a bang, beating 4th place, SRT. Full of confidence, the team then rattled Pitt Meadows (who won the league vs MRSS), leading them at the half, only to be beaten at the post 62-50. For an encore, the boys then took on Thomas Haney in a battle for 3rd place, and a place at the Fraser Valley Championship Playoffs. The kids, the consistent underdogs, took it to Haney immediately and after a very close first half, walked away with a 36-28 win, and a place in the valley tournament. Ranked 26th of 32 of the best grade 8 teams in the valley, the boys had to compete against 7th best Yorkson Middle School, out of Langley. Again, the underdogs, and missing key players, the team showed tremendous resilience to fight back in the second half, going down 50-22. If you see any of the basketball student-athletes, be sure to congratulate them on a season full of achievements.



Looking at Spring now, we have four options for all age groups. Girls Soccer practice begins soon, so be sure to see Miss Pogany ASAP and/or signup inside the gym doors on the Athletic_Rebels board. Secondly, the Track & Field season happens in the spring as well. Land/gym based practices have begun and will continue every Monday after school. Signup inside the gym, and/or see Ms. Gibbs and Mr. Whitfield. Also, we have had Badminton happening every Friday after school in the gym. Both competitive and recreational players are welcome. Sign-up, or see Mr. Ferdosian. Lastly, we are now offering ULTIMATE FRISBEE as a district sport. It was recently added to the BCSS list of sports. Signup inside the gym – all ages and abilities welcome.

Follow "Athletic_Rebels_GSS" on Instagram for all the latest events, teams, athletes, intramurals and accomplishments!



Holocaust Speaker and Survivor

DR. PETER SUEDFELD visited our school on January 28 to commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Dr. Suedfeld was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1935. After his parents were deported to concentration camps, Peter was hidden in an International Red Cross orphanage in Budapest at the age of 9. He was liberated by the Soviets in 1945 and immigrated to Canada in 1972.

Peter is a Professor Emeritus of Psychology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. He has received many awards, including the Canadian Psychological Society's Donald O. Hebb Award, its highest award for distinguished scientific contributions. In 2016, Peter was awarded the Canadian Honours Polar Medal.

