



LONDON

NEWSLETTER

FOR AND ABOUT THE STUDENTS, STAFF & PARENTS OF LONDON SECONDARY SCHOOL, OCT. 6, 2006

604-668-6668 www.sd38.bc.ca/london

Trustee Liaison: Ms. S. Bourque

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL – Get involved and help your child, the school and the community

The **Parent Advisory Council** is the structure that provides an opportunity for parents to learn about the school and to have topics of parent interest investigated and discussed.

The Parent Advisory Council is your committee, run by parents and with an agenda set by parents. All parents are members of the P.A.C. The P.A.C. represents one opportunity that you can use to be involved in your child's schooling. The Parent Advisory Committee usually meets every month on the second Thursday of the month. The October meeting however has been rescheduled and will be held on:

**Wednesday, October 18, 2006
7:00 p.m. – In the Staff Room**

At this meeting, the P.A.C. executive will be working with parents to set the agenda for the year. Hope to see you there!

We will be choosing our P.A.C. executive for 2006/2007. As always each position is open for nominations and the positions are:

Chairperson or Chairpersons
Secretary
Treasurer
School Planning Council (SPC) (3 positions available)
RDPA Representative

DRY AFTER GRAD (DAG) AT LONDON

DAG events have become increasingly popular initiatives for high schools over the past few years. They are designed as safe, alcohol and drug free alternatives to house parties and otherwise less supervised gatherings and celebrations. There are six other Richmond Secondary Schools that host dry after grad events for their grade 12 classes.

We had our inaugural dry after grad last year and by all accounts it was deemed a huge success. We hope to build on this success this year with the DAG to follow the Grad Dinner/Dance on June 29, 2007. It will run from 12:30 a.m. to approximately 5 a.m. on June 30th. We will bus the students from the dinner/dance to the school, where they will enjoy various forms of entertainment. The entertainment may include a casino, inflatables, a DJ and a dance floor, video games, carnival games and more. As well, they will be well fed and participate in numerous prize giveaways.

We will be collecting \$25 from any Grade 12 student who wishes to attend. We will also be looking for donations from a variety of sources and we will be fundraising throughout the year.

**We will need your support and your help
Parents of all grades are welcome**

Please attend our first PAC meeting, Oct. 18th at 7 p.m. for details. We hope you can attend. It is never too early to get involved with your child's activities.



AN INTERESTING YEAR

Our enrolment currently stands at 795 students. We have about 235 students at our school this year who are new to London. Approximately 131 of these students make up our new grade 8 classes, however we have another 104 students in Grades 9 – 12 who have chosen to attend London this year because they believe that our school better meets their educational needs. On behalf of the staff, students and the entire London community, I would like to welcome these new families to our school.

This presents an interesting challenge: how to make these new students feel welcome? Most of our efforts have traditionally been directed at incoming grade 8's. This year we will be looking at ways to transition these other "new" students and to make them a part of the London community.



Being Good Neighbours

Each year we encounter concerns from our neighbours on Bamberton, Petts and Gainsborough. Their complaints range from rudeness, cars blocking driveways, cars blocking traffic flow, U turns on Gilbert and other traffic concerns, littering and students not obeying general safety rules.

These concerns reflect poorly on the public's perception of our school. We are asking for parents' and students' help in developing a positive image for our school.

We ask that parents drop off and pick up students in the parking lot, north of the tennis courts, using the driveway off Williams. Students use this parking area rather than on the street and students going to the mall for lunch or breaks use the garbage containers on the roads or keep your litter until you return to school.

Thank you for your consideration.



"COFFEE/TEA AT LONDON" October 3 and November 7

All parents new to London received an invitation to "Breakfast at London." Parents were greeted by our **Charles E. Angels** (community service club), and welcomed by Mr. Cairns. Coffee, tea and baking were served. After Mr. Cairns' informal presentation, the group had a tour of the school in action.

The next Welcome Coffee/Tea will be held on November 7. For those new parents who would like to attend, please call the school to confirm your space.

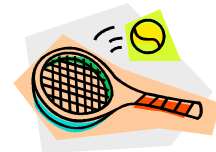
We look forward to your visit.

PARENT SUPPORT

Our school parent community is rich with resources which could be utilized to enhance the overall educational programs of students. Here are just a few ways that parents can help.

- phoning for attendance
- acting as a guest speaker for a specific class or course
- mentoring a senior student
- sponsoring a scholarship through your workplace
- assisting with the Athletics Program
- providing work experience for senior students
- participating by driving/supervising on field trips
- inviting classes to field trips at your place of work
- and . . . possible other ways?

If you would like to explore these opportunities further, please contact the school.



Fall Athletics

London's extracurricular and intramural athletic programs are in full swing with a number of teams and clubs running.

Fall season sports include Badminton, Swimming, Volleyball and Soccer. London has teams participating in Richmond Secondary Schools Athletic Association league play at the following levels:

Badminton (boys and girls)	
Grade 8	Coach: Mr. J. Mah
Junior	Coaches: Ms. D. Yeung, Mr. D. Cairns
Senior	Coach/Sponsor: Mr. M. Kwan, Mr. J. Mah



Swimming (boys and girls)
Coach: Ms. C. Easton

Volleyball (girls)
Grade 9 Coach/Sponsor: Mrs. F. Regan
Grade 10 Coach: Mr. R. Steward
Grade 11/12 Coach: Mr. S. Clements

Soccer (boys)
Senior Coach: Mr. R. Ververgaert

Athletic Director – Mr. B. Evans

Intramurals

In Intramurals or Noon Hour Games, teams are currently competing in 3 on 3 Basketball. These games are played at lunch and offer opportunities for students to test their skills and to display their love of the game in a less competitive environment. The winter intramurals will feature Indoor Soccer and Road Hockey.

Combined Grade 8 Camp – Awesome!

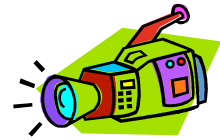
A group of 20 keen senior students from Steveston and London planned and implemented a very successful Grade 8 retreat on September 13 – 15th at Camp Stillwood near Cultus Lake, B.C. This year we organized a combined camp with London and the event was a great way to welcome our newest Legends to London as well as have them join their future classmates from Steveston in lots of fun activities. Our purpose was to help our newest students grow together as a class and help them make a successful transition to high school. Grade 8 students learned about many things, including “planning for success,” “making healthy choices” and “setting goals” and participated in many fun activities during the three days at camp. Most importantly, despite the rain, all the Grade 8’s really began to come together as a group and there were lots of happy, smiling faces at the end of the camp. A great start for the Steveston-London Secondary School grads of 2011! Congratulations to the following camp leaders who worked hard for weeks planning the 3 day event and provided excellent leadership at camp:

Matthew Lee	Sharon Ong
Wasay Shaikh	Andrew Crompton
Matt Girard	Trevor Hamaguchi
Justin Pang	Negin Dehdari
Rashaad Ishmail	Tanis Carter



School Magnets

Enclosed with this newsletter is our magnetic school calendar. Please place it where you can check it regularly, for important events and dates. It also has the school early warning phone number 604-668-6672. This number is operational between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. for early warning. Please use this number and leave a message if your child is going to be away. State your child’s name and student number and for how long you expect him/her to be away.



Video Contest Winners

Congratulations go to four of our graduates: Rachel Davison, Scott McIlveen, Dana Dineen and Preeti Grewal. Their video “Dress Up” won first place in a contest sponsored by Worker’s Compensation of B.C. and the Washington Marine Group. The winning group received \$1,000 prize money, as well as an additional \$1,000 goes to the London’s Broadcasting Program.



Grad Video

The 2006 Grad Video is now available and was well worth the wait. If someone in the family ordered a video last year they can pick it up at the office.



Music Department Fundraiser

Currently, our choir students are raising funds for the music department by selling magazine subscriptions. If you currently have a magazine subscription that you plan to renew now or in the future, consider renewing through our students and support London’s Music Program. All proceeds will go to the purchase of new equipment, music and scholarship funds.





Rotary Youth Programs

Rotary Clubs provide many wonderful opportunities for students to learn more about themselves and the world around them. The Richmond Sunrise Rotary Club will be hosting an Information Night for interested students and their parents. This evening will provide valuable information on how students can participate in Leadership Camps, Overseas Summer Exchanges or an International Year-Long Exchange Program. Please join us on Wednesday, October 18th at Hugh McRoberts Secondary School at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, Oct. 4	Steveston/London Day 1 p.m. dismissal. Grade 11's will participate in this day's activities between 1:15 and 2:30
Monday, Oct. 9	Thanksgiving Day (classes not in session) France/Italy Group departs
Wednesday, Oct. 18	PAC/DAG Meeting
Friday, Oct. 20	District Pro D Day (classes not in session)
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Photo Retakes – a.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 7	Coffee/Tea at London