

Southridge Wednesday

14-15

A Weekly Publication of Southridge School

February 25th, 2015

No. 23

Head of School

Strategic Plan Update - Accessibility, Campus and Stewardship

Continuing along from last week's *Southridge Wednesday* article about our school's first strategic priority, this week's article focusses on the progress we have made regarding our next three priorities - accessibility, our campus master plan and stewardship.

With respect to accessibility, you are very likely already aware through the re-enrolment process that the Board approved next year's budget with the lowest tuition fee increase in recent memory. In addition to this achievement, however, there has been considerable work completed behind the scenes by our Senior Management Team to review our current bursary programs and develop policies and guidelines for awarding bursaries. This was accomplished with modifications to grade range entries and other bursary structures for applicants and their families. In addition, administrative processes and financial considerations for future bursary development have been taken into consideration by the Board as they plan for the years to come with the Senior Management Team. Southridge has a well-founded and thoughtfully organized approach to bursary development.

As many of you are aware, our open houses provided an excellent opportunity for our teachers, staff, students, parents, alumni and alumni families to provide feedback on the progress our Campus Master Planning Committee has made over the past year. During the open house week, Southridge welcomed close to 650 people who provided some exceptional verbal and written commentary on the plans our architects have developed as possible options. There was strong support expressed from all groups for both the process we have followed and for the consideration of capital enhancements to our school. We found that there was support for reducing the traffic in the centre of our campus, for example, and that, although not universal amongst all open house attendees, there was also good support for a proposed new centre building, accompanied by the development of a central pedestrian-focussed quadrangle. The Campus Master Plan Committee will take this valuable feedback into careful consideration as they continue with their refinements over the coming months.

In terms of the strategic plan's priority of stewardship, Southridge has undergone a comprehensive environmental audit. The results of the audit have been taken into careful consideration and, just two weeks ago, a follow-up report on the mechanical and electrical systems at Southridge was presented to the Campus Master Plan Committee. The recommendations contained in these reports will help inform the Board in their decision-making process as it relates to important financial resource allocation in upcoming years. The recommendations will also inform the school's management team with respect to prioritizing upgrades and improvements to our systems with the goals of reducing energy usage and contributing to a greener environment. Finally, the recommendations will be taken into consideration by the Campus Master Planning Committee when formulating a long term projection for our campus with respect to both physical space and environmental matters.

Now you are almost up to date. Next week will be the final installment of this series of strategic plan update articles - a connected community.

Have a wonderful week!

Mr. Drew Stephens
Head of School

Important Dates			
Event	Date	Time	Location
Casual Day	Friday, Feb 27 th	All Day	Both Schools
Grandparents Day Tea	Tuesday, Mar 17 th	12:30 p.m.	Junior School Library
<i>The Wizard of Oz: The MYP Musical</i>	Tuesday, Mar 17 th Wednesday, Mar 18 th	1:20 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Junior School Great Hall
March Break - No School	Saturday, Mar 21 st to Sunday, Apr 5 th	All Day	Both Schools
Easter Monday - No School	Monday, Apr 6 th	All Day	Both Schools
Late Start	Tuesday, Apr 7 th	10:25 a.m.	Both Schools
April Break - No School	Monday, Apr 27 th	All Day	Both Schools

Junior School News

Thank you Mrs. Brooks - Students Who Are 'Known' and 'Cared For'

Recently we have been involved in admissions testing at Southridge, and I've had the privilege of working with many little 4 and 5 year old children. During one session, there was a small boy who was adamant that he create a special something for his teacher, Mrs. Brooks, while he was at a colouring station. He proudly showed me each stroke of different colour as he drew hearts on his paper for his dear Mrs. Brooks. He told me how he missed her, and how excited he would be to share the news of his day with her. When his parents collected him, I smiled, knowing that although he had a wonderful connection with his mom and dad, there was an interesting teacher out there, another trusted adult, who had a connection with this boy. In my heart, I hoped that our students feel that same way about our teachers here at Southridge - that they could hardly wait to share news about their lives with them.

Truly, it is a privilege to have young people entrusted to our care, and our goal at Southridge School is that our students feel cared for and are known. Whoever this Mrs. Brooks is, she has also accomplished that primary goal of connection, and it made me proud of our profession of teaching to see that this wee boy of four years had that trusted bond with his teacher. Each month, I remind the faculty of the importance of ensuring that our students feel 'known' and 'cared for' - this means that all the idiosyncrasies and oddities, all the gifts and talents of an individual are known and understood, and within this context of being known, the student also knows that they are cared for. Of course we focus a great deal of attention on programming and teaching strategies, but we equally understand the importance of establishing an appropriate relationship with that student, based on respect and care. It is a gift to have that trusted connection, one that we do not take for granted, and one that is worth our investment.

As I said before, it was refreshing to see such a tangible sign of connection with a young person, and I thank Mrs. Brooks for her care. A connection looks different for each child, but in their own way, our goal is that each student in our care feels understood and cared for. It may be with a coach, a music teacher, Mrs. Schaub at the front desk, one of our caretakers, or art teachers. Having many trusted adults in the life of a young person is a very important element of school life, one that we take very seriously. Thank you for entrusting your children to our care.

Mrs. Laurel Middelaer
Deputy Head/Head of Junior School

Grandparents Day: Tuesday, March 17th, 2015

At Southridge School, we realize the importance of our grandparents and appreciate their influence on our students and families. To honour their importance, we are hosting a Grandparents Tea before the afternoon MYP Musical performance on Tuesday, March 17th, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. Upon arrival, our grandparents will be greeted by Grade 4 students, guided to select seats for the performance, and then escorted upstairs to our library for tea and goodies before the performance. The performance will commence at 1:30 p.m. We hope that our special grandparents will attend and enjoy the creativity and talent of our MYP students.

Spring Break - Term Two Report Cards - FSA Booklets

For those anticipating the Spring Break, the last day of school is Friday, March 20th, with a return to school on Tuesday, April 7th, 2015. Report cards will be distributed at dismissal on Friday, March 20th, 2015. To maintain consistency for all our students, the report cards will not be distributed any earlier than dismissal time. Students in Grade 4 and 7 will have their FSA booklet and final report sent to them in the mail and should receive this over the break.

Casual Day and Country Fair Gift Baskets

The February 27th casual day in the Junior School is dedicated to the collection of \$10.00 per student, or one new item per student for gift baskets for the Country Fair.

The new items are to have a minimum value of \$10.00. The categories for each grade can be found by [Clicking Here](#). The \$10.00 donation will be given to the student's teacher, and the new items will be placed in the collection boxes which are outside each classroom from February 23rd to February 27th.

Please have your child bring in their \$10.00 donation or their new items between February 23rd and February 27th.

If each student brings in a \$10.00 donation or a new item, the gift baskets will be a great success at the Country Fair.

Ms. Carol Davis and Ms. Teri Lydiard
Gift Basket Committee

Jumpin' Jump Rope for Heart Results Released

Thank you all so much for your amazing generosity in support of the Heart and Stroke Foundation at the end of January. Our combined Junior and Senior Schools and on-line donations earned \$11,301.89 for research, education, and medical equipment.

Special thanks to Ms. Fretter and Ms. Reid for scheduling and running the Junior School event. The equivalent of 10% of our funds raised will later be donated to W.E. Kinvig Elementary School to purchase more sports equipment for its students. Your continued commitment to the Heart and Stroke Foundation is wonderful as so many people directly and indirectly benefit from your generous spirit. Thank you again!

Ms. Jo-Ann Murchie
Grade 2 and 4 Teacher

Senior School News

Reflections of Grad 2015

It seems to be somewhat of a yearly cycle that at this time my thinking drifts towards the Grade 12's - our Grads of 2015. I think this is partly because I become acutely aware that each day, week or event that is enjoyed represents the last time we will have this particular group in our midst. On one hand, it can make me quite melancholy, as these are young people that have grown and blossomed and are really just ready to hit their stride as they are about to leave us. On the other hand, it is the importance that we must be sure to celebrate and revel in their individual and group accomplishments and let them know how proud we are of the contributions they have made and will continue to make to the Southridge community!

Looking more to the later theme than the former, I wanted to give you a handful of reflections or vignettes I have gathered over the past few months that describe some of the unique, thoughtful, committed and meaningful ways that our eldest grade has made this year so far. In no particular order then...and certainly, these by no means represent all of the contributions our Grade 12's have made.

During the final home game of our Senior Basketball teams, the Grade 12's are celebrated. Each family is asked to attend and both the student and their parents are given a bouquet of flowers along with stories and recollections of how their presence has contributed to the success of the team. It can be quite emotional as they have put in many hours of dedication over the number of years they have played.

With our student mentorship program, a number of Grade 12's volunteer in helping younger students with their homework and learning. Often these relationships occur over a number of months and it is very special to see a Grade 12 working quietly with a younger student as they patiently explain a concept or problem.

Just a few weeks ago, I had a Grade 8 student let me know that they were made to feel so welcomed by their Grade 12 buddy during the New Student Day and beyond, that they felt that this was the way they wished to make a difference to new students in the future. In their own words, "I want to make other new students feel as welcomed as this Grade 12 student made me feel."

Watching the leadership and mentorship of our Grade 12's in the Major Production whether it was on stage or back stage they showed poise, dedication and patience as they set a brilliant example for those that will take their place next year. Similar to basketball teams, these Grade 12's were also celebrated at the final evening with a bouquet of flowers.

One particular Grade 12 was the only participant at the Model United Nations team that took part in this year's activities. They fostered such a positive environment for all of the younger students by respecting each of the younger member's contributions. Their example has helped to provide a solid base for future year's competitions.

This year's Chronicle (digital newspaper) has set the bar pretty high for future editors (and editions!) due to the hard work and innovations that have been introduced by this year's editor and other Grade 12 contributors.

As you can see, this talented, intelligent and compassionate group has made our school community a better place. As this term comes to a close and we begin the final term of the Grad Class of 2015, I encourage you to take a moment to seek out more ways that our Grade 12's have made a difference. If you get the opportunity, let them know that you noticed their contribution. I know it will make a difference in their day and year. We are very fortunate to have a fantastic group to lead us!

Have a great week!

Mr. Doug Palm
Head of Senior School

Advanced Placement, Provincial & School Examinations - 2015

Please take a few moments to review the examination schedules for the coming months. The AP exam schedule is outlined and the earlier date of May 14th for English 12 is also noted. Hopefully the publication of the dates of our school examination period and the mandatory provincial exams: English 10, Math 10, Science 10 and Social Studies 11 will assist you in preparing your personal travel plans.

Mrs. Jan Holt
Senior School Academic Program Director

Concert Band 8 - Bandfest Pick-up Reminder to Parents

We are so excited about our trip with the Grade 8's today. All of the information, including hotel and teacher contact information, is on LMS for your reference. Please remember that the students will be delivered to Southridge School on Thursday, February 26th at 3:30 p.m. and will need to be picked up accordingly.

The Music Department

University Counselling Welcomes Nick Accrocco

Parents and students are invited to join us on Thursday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior School Great Hall for an evening of information and guidance from a university admissions specialist from the U.S.

Dr. Nick J. Accrocco has been a university admissions professional at two highly selective universities, Vanderbilt University and the University of Pennsylvania, and has served as a university counselor within four distinct high school communities. He earned his B.A. from Vanderbilt University, his M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration from Vanderbilt University's George Peabody College of Education & Human Development, his graduate certificate in University Counseling from the University of California-Los Angeles, and his Ed.D. in Professional Leadership from the University of Houston. Dr. Accrocco combines a passion for helping students and families through the university search process with a healthy amount of humor.

RSVP your attendance to Ms. Livingston at ylivingston@southridge.bc.ca.

University Counselling Welcomes Back Alumni During Reading Break!

With the arrival of mid-February each year, university applications are complete, offers are starting to happen and thoughts are turning to preparation for university. Last week Portfolio 12 classes included visits from members of the 2013 and 2014 Southridge Alumni to share their stories and advice about staying strong for the remainder of Grade 12 and getting ready for transitioning to life after high school. Tips included how/when to choose first year courses, time management in a semester system, rez life, working with profs, clubs etc.

We would like to thank the Alumni who gave their time to come to class or Skype in from various locations. Thanks also to "Prof Doug" Barnim who shared his stories about university life and being a Teaching Assistant at Laurier.

Ms. Yvette Livingston
Director of University Counselling

News for Both Schools

Annual Fundraising Campaign Update

Thank you to all our parents who have already made their annual donation to Southridge this school year! To date we have raised \$51,000.00 towards our Greatest Need fund, Arts, Athletics and Service projects as well as \$39,000.00 towards the Alan Brown Memorial Endowment fund and the Carol E. Levy Memorial Endowment fund.

If you have not made your donation yet, there is still time! In fact, we still need to raise an additional \$1,500.00 towards Athletics in order to purchase a new high jump mat for our Junior School track athletes for use this spring! We also still require an additional \$3,000.00 to purchase tubular bells for the Senior School music program. Your gift to each of these areas would be most appreciated by our teachers and students.

Contributing to the Greatest Need fund allows Southridge to use your donation where it is needed most. The books we purchase for the library each year, all our science and lab equipment, sports uniforms and PE equipment... all these items are supported by undesignated donations to the school. If you have not yet made a donation to Southridge this year, please consider supporting the Greatest Need fund today. Our goal is to raise an additional \$49,000.00 towards our most pressing needs.

Finally, directing your gift towards our endowment funds allows us to offer bursaries to students who would otherwise be unable to attend Southridge. This is a remarkable way to make a real impact on a student's life. Contributing to either the Carol E. Levy Memorial Endowment Fund or the Alan Brown Memorial Endowment fund also allows us to be more accessible to a broader socio-economic family population, which is one of our strategic priorities.

We are asking you to make one gift to Southridge this year. Please consider an area at Southridge that you would like to support and [make your gift online today](#).

Please contact me at chodson@southridge.bc.ca if you have any questions at all! Thank you again for making a donation to Southridge this year!

Ms. Christiane Hodson
Director of Advancement

Southridge Speaker Series - Get Your Tickets Now!

Southridge is fortunate to have psychologist Madeline Levine, Ph.D. speaking at Southridge on Thursday, April 16th at 7:00 p.m. in Junior School Great Hall so mark your calendars for this engaging speaker.

Her New York Times bestseller, *The Price of Privilege*, explores the reasons why teenagers from affluent families are experiencing epidemic rates of emotional problems. Her latest book, *Teach Your Children Well*, also a New York Times bestseller, tackles our current narrow definition of success - how it unnecessarily stresses academically talented kids and marginalizes many more whose talents and interests are less amenable to measurement. The development of skills needed to be successful in the 21st century - creativity, collaboration, innovation - are not easily developed in our competitive, fast-paced, high pressure world. [Click Here](#) to watch a short clip of Madeline Levine talking about stress and your child.

Tickets are \$10.00 each. This event is open to everyone so spread the word to your neighbours and friends. [Click Here](#) for tickets.

Ms. Debbie MacDougall
Director Community Relations

20th Annual Country Fair on Saturday, May 2nd, 2015 - Save the Date!

Spring is just around the corner, which means it's time to start planning for our annual Country Fair! This year's event will once again include a 450-family garage sale, awesome indoor/outdoor kids rides and games, amazing baked goods, yummy food trucks, gift baskets, student entertainment...the list goes on!

All families are encouraged to donate items and [volunteer](#) to show your support. Drop-off for household items, clothing, toys and books is from Saturday, April 25th to Thursday, April 30th.

It's a great day for the whole family, so mark your calendar for Saturday, May 2nd, and help us celebrate 20 great years of Southridge community spirit!

Kasia Dolecki & Sukhi Sunner
2015 Country Fair Chairs

Country Fair Volunteer Sign-up

Show your support for our 20th Annual Country Fair by volunteering for one of the great positions available on May 2nd. We need all families to pitch in and roll up their sleeves to help make this the best Country Fair yet.

There are shifts prior to, and on Fair day to accommodate your busy schedule, so please visit the Country Fair volunteer site to [sign-up now!](#)

2015 Country Fair Volunteer Committee

Uniform Shop News

The uniform shop has just received the new Senior School blue hoody. Available in XS to XL for the senior students!

Uniform Shop

Advanced Placement, Provincial & School Examinations - 2015



EXAMS

(ENGLISH 12 EARLY THIS YEAR: MAY 14)

Advanced Placement exam dates are outlined below:

“Mock” Schedule 2015

Date	Course	Time
April 14 & 22	French	10:40 am-11:40 am; 1:50 pm - 3 pm
April 14	Physics 1 (Gr 12s only)	12:30 pm - 3 pm
April 22	Physics 2	12:30 pm - 3 pm
April 23	Literature	8:30 am -11:30 am
April 28	Calculus AB/BC	8 am - 11:45 am
April 29	Chemistry	11:40 am - 3 pm
April 30	Microeconomics	12:30 pm - 3 pm
May 1	European History	12:30 pm - 3 pm
May 1	Biology	11:40 am - 3 pm
May 3	Physics 1 (Gr 11s only)	1 pm - 4 pm
May 12	Human Geography	8:30 am - 11:30 am

AP Exam Schedule 2015

Date	Course	Time
May 4	Chemistry	8 am
May 4	Psychology	12 pm
May 5	Calculus AB/BC	8 am
May 6	Literature	8 am
May 6	Physics 1	12 pm
May 7	Computer Science	8 am
May 7	Physics 2	12 pm
May 8	European History	12 pm
May 11	Biology	8 am
May 12	French	12 pm
MAY 14	ENGLISH 12 PROVINCIAL	8:30am
May 14	Macroeconomics	12 pm
May 15	Human Geography	8 am
May 15	Microeconomics	8 am

ENGLISH 12 PROVINCIAL

- **Thursday 14 May (8:30 am)**
- **Friday 19 June (12:00 pm)**

This year the scheduled date for the English 12 examination in June is on the 19 June which is the same afternoon as the Southridge Commencement ceremony. In consultation with the English Curriculum Leader, Ms. Gail Robinson, and the English department we have decided to have **ALL** our students write on **Thursday May 14**. Students who achieve a satisfactory grade will NOT need to write on the 19, but those who wish to strive for an improved grade will have the opportunity to write for a second time on Friday 19 June starting at noon. The commencement ceremony will need to be moved to a later time. (TBD)

Southridge School Examinations: Friday 5 June - Thursday 11 June

The last day of classes for Southridge students will be **Thursday 4 June**. Grade 8 final science tests will take place on Wednesday 3 June and for grade 9s and 10s on Thursday 4 June during classroom time. School examinations, which take place in the Senior School gymnasium, will begin the following day on Friday 5 June and end on Thursday 11 June. Full details of the schedule for each grade level will be published early in the third term.

BC Provincial Exams

There are 5 mandatory Provincial exams that all Southridge students must write to meet graduation requirements in British Columbia: English 10, Foundations of Mathematics 10, Science 10, Social Studies 11 and English 12. The provincial exams, with the exception of the first session for English 12, will run from Thursday 19 June until Wednesday 24 June:

- English 12: Thursday May 14 (8:30am)
- Science 10: Friday 19 June (8:30 am)
- **English 12: Friday 19 June (12:00 pm) (Second Session)**
- Math 10: Tuesday 23 June (8:30 am)
- English 10: Wednesday 24 June (8:30 am)
- Social Studies 11: Wednesday 24 June (12:30 pm)