

SKSS Aboriginal Education Newsletter



Dear Parents, Guardians , & Caregivers,

Weykt, welcome to all the new students and those who are returning to SKSS. As your Aboriginal Education Support Team, we are here to provide academic, cultural and social-emotional support for your children. We offer a variety of programs and services over and above SKSS school activities.

We advocate for students through resources for teachers, and programs aimed at developing educational, social, emotional, and behavioural needs of Aboriginal students within home communities and non-native communities.

We will contact parents in regards to academic support, tardiness, absenteeism, and liaison, with parents, teachers and students to build a plan for success.

Our goal is to work together with you to motivate and encourage our youth to succeed and reach their potential.

In the spirit of education,

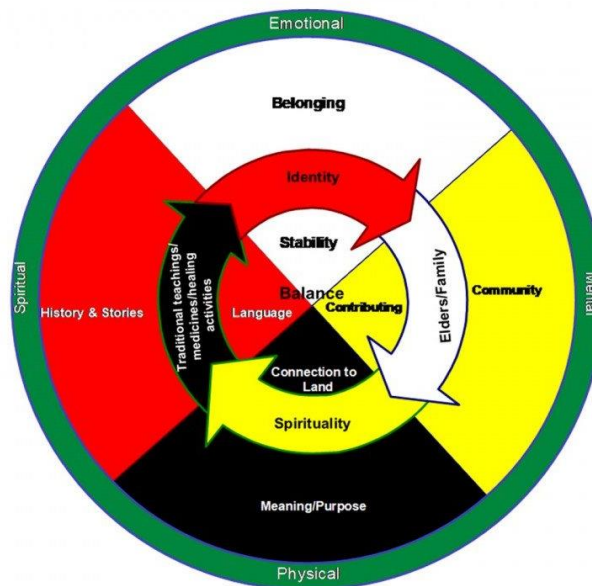
Val Wright
Aboriginal
Education
Worker

Lavina Boyd *
Aboriginal
Education
Worker

Brandi Rusk
Aboriginal
Liaison
Teacher



*see back page for an extended introduction.

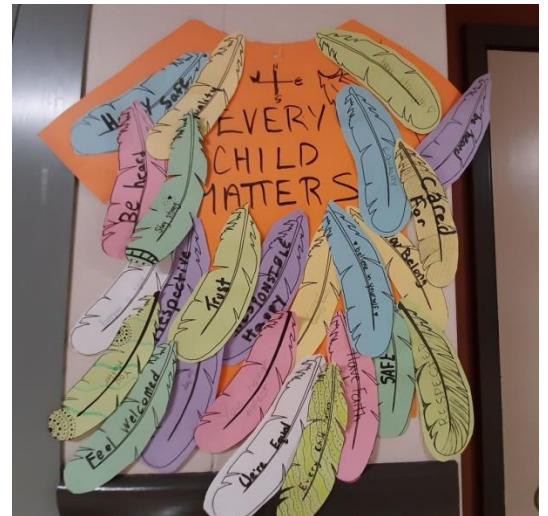


What has been happening?



Important Aboriginal Events:

- Orange Shirt Day
- McAbee Fossil Beds Tour
- Grade 8 Meet and Greet
- Welcoming of Parkcrest
- Cheyenne Scott -Guest Speaker



What Events are on the Horizon?

Bannock Sale Tues. Oct 22nd

- single- \$2.00
- bites- \$1.00
- sold at long break & lunch

Aboriginal Family Dinner, Tues. Oct. 29

- 5-7 pm in SKSS Cafeteria
- Main meal and refreshments provided
- If families could bring a salad or dessert it would be Appreciated

INTRODUCTIONS

Dahooja!

I wanted to introduce myself to the parents of the students who attend South Kamloops Secondary School! I have been here since near the beginning of September and I thought I would officially introduce myself and give you a little background. I would like to thank all the students and staff who have completely welcomed me into your school! I would like to give special thank-you to the administration, Val Wright and Brandi Rusk for welcoming into SKSS and having me feel at home in such a short amount of time. I have enjoyed working with the students and staff quite immensely!! I look forward to meeting all of you and working with the students for the rest of the year!

I am of First Nations decent and belong to the Ulkatcho First Nations (Carey Price country!!) in

Anahim Lake, BC who are Carrier/ Dakelh First Nations. My paternal side of my family is from Ulkatcho and my maternal side is from the Kluskas/Nazko area...the cariboo. Both sides of my family are very large. I grew up outside Quesnel, BC in a little place called Nazko. I knew I wanted to be a teacher since I was 8 years old. I have 6 children and 1 granddaughter. I have 4 children left at home between the ages of 8-14 and my other 2 are 22 & 23. I enjoy beading, making moccasins, loom beading, hiking, travelling, camping, fishing, hunting, networking, and I would love to learn how to can (especially fruit), rock climb, tan hide, make bannock and sing & drum local First Nations songs and learn my First Nations language!

I graduated TRU in 2010 with a Bachelor of Education degree and plan to continue until I receive a Doctorate in Education...someday. After I graduated I went home to Anahim Lake to teach but ended up becoming a temporary Principal for the First Nations band operated school called Nagwuntl'oo which schooled a small number of students from pre-k to grade 4 for almost 2 years worked with First Nations students, families, and community members to best support each child and their families.

I worked for Children's Therapy and Family Resource Centre for 3 years working with diverse children in daycares, all through Kamloops, as a supported child development worker. Through this position I gained a wealth of knowledge on how to best support children with diversities, families and parts of the community to help children and their families reach their goals.

We have 124 Aboriginal/Metis students enrolled at South Kamloops Secondary! This is quite exciting to bring such a diverse group together. My main interests are supporting the students academically, socio-emotionally, and culturally. I feel with such a wonderful staff here at SKSS your child will be supported in a way that will result in success. Feel free to email at laboyd@sd73.bc.ca or call me at the school 250-374-1405.

Thank-you for taking time to read this and I look forward to meeting with each of you and working with your child!
GO TITANS!

Respectfully Yours,

Lavina Boyd