

Dixon eNews - September 20, 2016

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PAC Meeting TONIGHT

Tuesday September 20th 7:00pm in the gym

Agenda: **proposed closure of Dixon School**

(Child minding and treats provided)

School Trustees/Dixon Community Meeting

September 27th at 6:30 in the gym

Our Trustees will be on hand
to discuss the recommendation to close Dixon School

It was great to see so many families at our Meet the Staff Community event. The social time and burgers from BB Food on the Go Food Truck was awesome. @BBfoodonthego

Now that we're up and running, it is time for the kids to get involved extra-curricularly if they are not already. Here is a list of programs that Dixon offers annually for the students. It outlines what the team or club is, when it runs, and who it is for. Most of these clubs and teams are run by staff volunteering their time, but we also have some awesome parents involved too. If you have some skills and would like to take a leadership role hosting or supporting a team or club, please see Mr. Juhasz.

More the merrier...and the show must go on.

Run For Fun and the District Cross Country Meet

From September until the District Cross Country Meet (third Thursday of October), Dixon has a Run for Fun program where students from grade 1-7 practice their running skills by running laps around the school track.

We meet Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school and practice by running as many laps around the track as one can. This serves as training for the District Cross Country Running Meet. This program provides a solid cardio-vascular start to the year and is a great opportunity for students get fit for their other activities at school and in the community. A notice is available if your student is interested. Mrs. Major, Mrs. Evans, Mr. Hunter, Mme. Yick or Mrs. Froh are some of the staff who support this initiative.

Health Hustle Club

A happy group of students and teachers meet every Friday morning at 8:00 am to run in the Dixon neighbourhood and out to the scenic dyke. Take in the changing seasons, build fitness, endurance and friendships before the school day begins. Our run course includes 3-4 short rest stops, but it is beneficial if your child can jog/run for at least 25 minutes. Mrs. Evans, Ms. Greig, Mr. Hunter and Mrs. Major look forward to meeting the 2017-2018 Health Hustle members! Students are asked to dress for the weather conditions and listen to the morning announcements for Health Hustle updates. Get those runners on and laced up for September 30th.

Turkey Trot

The Dixon School Community has participated in a festive 'Turkey Trot' fundraiser for over 10 years! Students design funky turkey headbands to wear and sign up with a buddy class to run or 'fly' around the school track in an ongoing school wide relay. Students are asked to bring in nonperishable food items or money donations for the Richmond Food Bank. Being thankful, helping less fortunate community members, and having fun 'shaking our tail feathers' before the Thanksgiving long weekend. Mrs. Evans leads this fun event.

Volleyball:

Volleyball is a co-ed program for students in grades 6 and 7. The season runs from October to December and is one of finest examples in the school of mass participation. There are lunchtime and after school practices, along with games played against other schools in Richmond. This program is hosted by Mrs. Leslie, Mr. Hirn, Mme S Tardif, Mme Lee, and Ms. Grieg.

Primary Games:

This programs runs on Mondays at lunchtime, and occasionally on Friday at lunch as well. Primary students in grade 1 through 3 participate in a variety of cooperative games and sports. This club is run by Pedro Bello, who is a Dixon parent*. Mr. Juhasz is the sponsor for this group.

*if you are parent who would like to volunteer your time with a Dixon team or club, please connect with Mr. Juhasz.

Dixon Student Council:

Dixon is grateful to have both a Senior Student Council, called the Grade 6/7 Student Council as well as a Junior Student Council called the Dragon Spirit Club.

- **Grade 6/7 Student Council:** The grade 6/7 Student Council is about recognizing that we all have the power to identify how our efforts can make the world a little better for others. This year's Student Council will look to build on the successes of last year. We aim to start with a local focus and expand outward to a global focus. We hope the students will recognize that, with some careful consideration and planning, they have the power to improve their communities. Potential events include bringing positive energy into the school in a variety of ways, and assisting with the fundraising efforts of regional charities and societies (First United Church or Adopt-a-School), as well as opportunities for the students to take an ever increasing role in guiding the vision of our group. Any grade 6 or 7 students who want to make a positive impact on the lives of those around them are welcome! The grade 6/7 teachers and school administration will be hosting a grade 6/7 leadership conference this year.

- **Dragon Spirit Club:**

What? Junior Leadership Team

Who? Gr. 3, 4, and 5 students and teachers Mme Yick, Mrs. Evans, and Mme Loades

Where? Room 6 on Thursdays at lunch

Why? To promote leadership, learn about community service, be an agent for change in a student-friendly environment

How? Many ways, most of which are decided by the students. Our first event is on now collecting used summer clothing and school supplies for our sister school in the Philippines.

Homework Club:

The homework club will provide an opportunity for students to receive help with homework. There will be a quiet space for students to complete and catch up with homework. The club will be open for 45 minutes after school, two days a week. Details to follow. Leadership students from McMath and Hugh Boyd volunteer their time to work with Dixon students 1 on 1 or in small groups. Students may receive help in English, French, Math and other core subjects. Teachers will be in the room to supervise. To find out more information, please contact one of the teachers on our Resource Team: Mrs. Nesbitt, Mrs. Anthony, Ms. Grieg, Ms. Borthwick or Mrs. Major.

Dixon Basketball:

For the students in grade 6 and 7, we have a competitive Boys' and Girls' teams. We also have a co-ed program for the grade 4s and 5s. These programs run from January to the March Break. The season typically has the teams playing exhibition games against neighbouring schools in January and February, then end the season in March with a Tournament at Boyd and McMath schools. Mr. Hunter coaches the 6/7 Girls' team, Mr. Juhasz coaches the 6/7 Boys', and Mme Cammell and Mme Beck coach the 4/5s. Players are expected to have proper footwear (preferably basketball shoes) and proper athletic attire.

Details to follow in December.

DragonFlies:

The Dixon Dragonflies Garden Club is gearing up for another year of learning, growing, and fun in our gardens. We will start our year with a "Work Party" to get the gardens looking good and ready for planting -- we will announce the date soon. Additionally, the club organizers, Mrs. Vargas-Cruz and Mrs. Nesbitt will be scheduling weekly meetings in the near future. Stay tuned for more information!

Track and Field:

Dixon has a long tradition of high participation and being very successful at the District and Provincial Track and Field Meet. Dixon's Track and Field team has placed first four years in a row at the Provincial Track and Field Meet. We offer three Track and Field opportunities for our students.

First this year is the District Track and Field Meet at Minoru Park in May for students in Grade 3-7.

We also host a fun Track and Field meet for primary grades (K-2) at the school on the day of the District Track and Field Meet. Finally, Dixon is well represented at the Provincial Track Meet sponsored by the Kajaks Track Club. It is held on the weekend after the May long weekend. It is a more competitive event but gives students the opportunity to challenge themselves in a higher level competition. Please see Mr. Hunter for more information,

Talent Show:

The week prior to the Spring break, Dixon hosts a Talent show. Prior to the Talent Show there are auditions. Performances at the auditions that demonstrate enough preparation will earn the opportunity to enter the show. Mrs. Evans oversees this fun production.

Playground Leaders:

Playground Leaders is made up of enthusiastic and responsible Grade 4 and Grade 5 students who are looking for early leadership opportunities in the Dixon community. The Playground Leaders, under the guidance of Mr. Hirn, lead safe, fun, outdoor games and activities in the schoolyard at lunchtime for early primary students. These young leaders learn and practice a variety of games in advance, as well as effective group management strategies, so that they can be as confident and successful as possible.

Dragon Day:

Every year, Dixon students look forward to Dragon Day. Mr. Stokes, Mme Lee, and Mme Tardif help throughout the year to prepare the grade 7 team leaders to run the Dragon Day stations and school-wide Dragon team activities. This could not happen without the cooperation and support of all staff! There is one Dragon Team activity per term, with themes such as being green, helping each other, and building community.

Technology Club:

Ms. Borthwick provides an opportunity for keen, tech-savvy students in grades 4 through 7 who enjoy problem solving with technology challenges. In general, enjoy providing tech support for others. They will be given challenges and also be asked to provide on-call tech support.

Jazz Band:

As an extension of our grade 5, 6, and 7 Band program, Ms. Duthie offers an additional program called Jazz band. This program runs after school. Once the year gets started, Ms. Duthie will put out an announcement for interested participants.

Dixon Rock Band:

This is a specialized group of musicians made up of grade 6 and 7 students who play either the guitar, drums, piano, and/or have the ability to sing. The group of musicians will decide what genre of music they will want to play, and time to practice at lunch will be offered. If all goes well, they may perform at the Talent Show. Mr. Juhasz is the Rock Band Manager.

Quebec Exchange:

Every 2 years, the students in grades 6 and 7 go to Quebec in February for a week on a Cultural exchange. They will be going this February during the Carnaval. Mme V. Tardif coordinates this program.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Sept 20 PAC meeting 7pm in the gym
 Sept 23 Professional Development Day - **no school for students**
 Sept 27 District Trustee meeting with Dixon Community 6:30pm in the gym
 Sept 28 PAC Pizza lunch
- Oct 5 PAC Hot Food Lunch
 Oct 10 Thanksgiving Day
 Oct 18 PAC meeting 7pm in the library
 Oct 19 Photo Day – Individual and Class Photos
 Oct 19 PAC Pizza Lunch
 Oct 21 District-Wide Professional Development Day - **no school for students**
 Oct 25 Parent Teacher Conferences: **EARLY DISMISSAL - 1:45pm**
 Oct 26 Parent Teacher Conferences: **EARLY DISMISSAL - 1:45pm**
 Oct 28 PAC popcorn at recess
 Oct 31 Halloween Assembly 9am
- Nov 2 PAC Hot Food Lunch
 Nov 3 Grade 6 Immunizations
 Nov 10 Remembrance Day assembly 10:45am
 Nov 11 Remembrance Day (**no school**)
 Nov 16 PAC Pizza Lunch
 Nov 18 Curriculum Implementation Day - **no school for students**
 Nov 21 K Hearing and Vision Screening 9am
 Nov 25 PAC popcorn at recess
 Nov 29 PAC meeting 7pm in the library
- Dec 1 Report Cards go home
 Dec 2 Assembly 9am
 Dec 5 Professional Development Day (**no school**)
 Dec 8 Winter Band Concert from 6 to 7 pm
 Dec 9 Jingle Bell Run 8am to 9am
- Dec 19 to Jan 2 Inclusive is Winter Vacation

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Learning Together. Working Together. Growing Together
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