

April, 2019, Vol. 3
On the Calendar

Growth & Learning Assembly

On **April 25th** the Bears team is leading our assembly and we are welcoming presenter Alvin Law for school-wide event.

Grade 5 Parent Night

April 25th - Gym

Our community welcomes parents of incoming Grade 6 students at 6:00pm

ProD Day Updates

Friday, April 26th & Friday

May 17th School is closed while Minnehada staff participates in professional development activities.

District Track Meet

Minnehada will participate in the District Track Meet at Town Centre on **May 10th**.

Grade 6 for a Morning

Minnehada welcomes our incoming Grade 6's to experience a morning at middle school on **June 6th**.

Indoor Tennis returns to the school starting **May 27 through June 14th**. All students participate.

Grade 6/7 Activity Day & Grade 8 Leaving Ceremony

Our Grade 6/7 students visit Cultus Lake while Grade 8 students and families celebrate at the Leaving Ceremony on **June 26th**.

Final Reports and Last Day

The last day of school for students is **Thursday, June 27th** and reports go home with students.

Minnehada Matters



Our Goal:

To grow a culture of connectedness and belonging where our actions reflect core values and enhance student learning.

***Kindness – Love of Learning – Respect
Personal Growth – Perseverance – Safety
Belonging – Connectedness***

Principal's Message:

Happy Spring and welcome to Term 3 at Minnehada Middle School. While it's hard to believe we are entering our final months of the school year, it's in no way surprising to us that our students have had such a successful year-to-date; what an amazing group of kids. The school has been full of energy and excitement and we are very impressed by the manner in which our students have shown such positivity, engagement, leadership and pride in their school.

Minnehada 2020, the emerging of our new school and facilities, remains a source of motivation and inspiration for our school community and we are focussing now not only on practical preparations but visioning and planning for our new school. As the coming months unfold and into the Fall please stay tuned for opportunities to express your voice in this important journey and undertaking for all of us.

Sincerely, Ms. Susan Ross, Principal

Minnekhada Happenings

Bears

The Bears have been busy since returning from Break! Students are hard at work organizing the **Growth and Learning assembly**. The Bears teachers are incredibly proud of the leadership and pride the students have shown in organizing the assembly. A huge thank you to Connor, Hana, Harrison and Lachlan for being our MC's. What courage!

The final two **swimming dates** for the Bears team will be May 2nd and June 12th. We look forward to ending the year on a positive note and are very proud of the growth our students have shown throughout the year!

--Teal Richardson, Team Leader

Hawks

The Hawks took part in accessing the Crepe food truck right here on our school site and made our orders in French. How lovely to have such a warm, sweet treat.

We are experiencing many **Track and Field** events in our PE classes at this time. Our **indoor tennis** unit will be upcoming at the end of May, an annual event for all Minnekhada students. Our next **Team Assembly** will be on May 2, featuring acknowledgement of students who have earned **positive recognition** in areas of study or social action.

All Hawks will be walking together to Terry Fox Secondary on the morning of Friday, May 3rd to see **Mary Poppins**.

There will be a final POP-I day in mid-May for students who are up to date on all assignments will celebrate their success with game/treat/visit time in the cafeteria, while the other students who will try to "pop" their Incomplete marks will be supervised in one of the Team classrooms. The Science and Social Studies are all 3 units in each subject area - we've just rotated to the next teacher in the final term. (Olsen has Evolution and Ancient Civilizations/ Nishimura has Solar System and Religious & Cultural Influences/ Kish has Forces & Motion and Early Laws & Government).

- Stephanie Olsen, Team Leader

Eagles

The Eagle's are currently busy working on preparations for **the 2nd Annual Grade 8 Entrepreneur Fair**. All students will be showcasing their innovations during their in-class presentations, with the goal of advancing to "The Mustang Den" which will be held on the afternoon of May 22nd. This month we will also be ramping up preparations for our year-end camping trip to **Timberline Ranch**. It will all begin with the cabin group reveal set to be held on May 9th. The students will also find out their Activity Groups and begin creating their cabin flags. It's definitely an exciting time of year for the Eagles!

- Frank Lore, Team Leader

Wolves

The Wolves are having an action-packed Spring! Students are busy writing **projects** and essays and working on **geometry and measurement**. In French, students will have a chance to order (in French!) a crepe and taste an authentic Parisian favorite when a **crepe food truck** visits our school next week.

On April 25th, students will experience a live theatre production of **Mary Poppins** at Terry Fox Theatre at 10:30 am. We will be walking so please dress accordingly. We are hosting our team assembly on April 30th and are forming a student committee to plan a **Pep Rally** for May 24th. We have also booked **kayaking at Rocky Point** for Monday May 27th (Ms. O'Donnell and Mr Nishimura) and May 28th (Ms. Gordon and Mrs. Pettenon). If you can drive on the date your child will be attending that would great. Kayaking permission, payment, and company waivers will be on KEV by April 24th. We need to confirm dates by May 9th for planning purposes so please pay ahead of time. If your family is experiencing financial difficulties please contact the classroom teacher or Ms Ross. Wolves will leave no willing pup behind! Happy Spring Minnekhada!

- Sue Jackson-Gordon, Team Leader

Coyotes

The Coyotes have been working hard in all areas of studies! Our grade 6/7's have been continuing to focus on **building community and Growth Mindset** in HACE. In Math we are busy collecting data, building pie charts, studying geometry and completing fractions. In PE we are moving forward in our units of Badminton and Track & Field, and really enjoying our hands on units in Social Studies studying Ancient Greece and Science studying Newton's laws of motion.

The grade 8's are working hard on their **Integrated Innovations Project**. We are looking forward seeing new and creative ideas to help our world today! Other topics we are covering are Algebra in Math, The Renaissance Social Studies, Earthquakes & Volcanoes in Science and a study of the novel The Boy in the Striped Pajamas.

As a team, we are looking forward to **walking to Terry Fox** to watch a production of Mary Poppins on May 3rd and our last swimming session on May 15th. As always, Coyote students continue to demonstrate their positive behavior and responsibility when we go into the community!

- Andrea Sumner, Team Leader

Explorations

Term 4 Explorations wraps up on Friday, May 3rd. Students' final term of Explorations begins Monday, May 6th which rounds out the 5-term rotation of Art, Music, Digital Arts, Tech Ed, and Foods. We hope students have enjoyed getting to *explore* all that *Explorations* has to offer at Minnekhada!

In **Art** the kiln is running full blast as grade 6/7 classes have finished glazing their clay slab mugs and await the finished project. During this time they continue working on their own designs for their Alphabet project and will be wrapping up the term with the Art History Project. The grade 8 artists are putting the finishing touches on their main project, their plaster masks.

In **Music** this term, all students played the drum set patterns from "Natural" and "It's Time" by Imagine Dragons, as well as learning the guitar chords and the playing on "Natural." Currently, we continue with the chords and performance of "It's Time" and the term will finish with learning a passing game, as well percussion and mallet parts for a song called "Sansa Kroma" from Ghana.

In **Digital Arts**, the students are currently creating their own animations using Adobe Animate. For the final project they will learn how to edit photos using Photoshop.

The grade 6/7 classes in **Tech Ed** are worked on an Egg Zip project where they protect an egg when it hits a wall after travelling down a zip line, and a cantilever where students create a structure that is clamped at one end designed to hold as much weight as possible. The grade 8 classes worked on creating a robotic arm where students need to move an object 30cm using hydraulics with syringes. For all grades, students create a project of their own design as their main project.

In **Foods**, we are going to be ending off our term with our “junk food cheat week” where the kids will make homemade ice cream sandwiches and then take part in our Master Chef competition finale! They will also have their final nutrition test.

- Mary Otey, Explorations Team Leader

Curriculum and Professional Development

For the past several months, a group of Minnehada staff have been involved in exploring **self-regulation** and how it fits with classroom and school design. A group of us have made some very valuable and interesting visits to other elementary and middle schools in our school district who are engaged in this work. This past Collaboration Wednesday we shared our ideas and impressions together. We will continue to explore how to best help students be "ready to learn" both in our current building and thinking ahead to our new building. Stay tuned!

- Tania **Pettenon**, Team Leader

Minnehada Athletics

Spring Athletics is in full gear with our **rugby** players kicking off their first game this week. Our **track** athletes will be participating in the district's first mini-meet this week with the second mini meet next week. Minnehada's **golf** team is in full swing at the practice range at Westwood Plateau in anticipation of heading out on the course very soon. **Roller hockey** games will also be starting this week with Mr. Gould leading the charge. We are pleased to welcome back our **Indoor Tennis** lessons launching for all students on May 27th through our P.E. program.

- Zabeen Ladha, Athletics Team Leader

PAC News

Our next PAC Meeting is on **Monday, May 27th at 6:30pm** in our library. Everyone is very welcome to attend. We would love to see incoming Grade 6 parents at the meeting. PAC elections are held this night.

Treat Day will take place on **Wednesday, May 1st**. Dilly Bars and popcorn are \$2 and Freezies are sold for \$1.

Collaboration (Late Start) Days: School Starts at 9:20am

A reminder that our final late start day is on **Wednesday, May 15th**.

Late starts (9:20am) are made possible by extending the instructional minutes in our timetable on regular school days to ensure our students are receiving the required amount of instructional time in the classroom.

Minnekhada staff would like to sincerely thank you for supporting our collaborative time. The structure has been extremely valuable over the course of the year providing time for our whole staff to work collectively on initiatives for students. Please stay tuned for the calendar of Collaborative Day dates for 2019-2020 and expect them to be communicated before year-end.

Grade 8 Leaving Ceremony: Parent Volunteer Opportunity

We are busy at Minnekhada with our planning for year-end events and have turned our attention to planning our celebration for Grade 8's leaving us for secondary school.

Once again this year, we are extending an invitation to current Grade 7 parents to join in and help us with the organizing of this special event. Next year, when current Grade 7's leave Grade 8 we will invite that year's Grade 7 parents to join in the planning. This allows our Grade 8 parents to relax and enjoy the festivities while Grade 7 parents participate in the launching of the event. The ceremony is on **Wednesday, June 26th at 11:30am**.

Interested Grade 7 parents please contact via email Mr. Lore (flore@sd43.bc.ca), Grade 8 Team Leader, who can offer more details.

Minnekhada 2020 Updates

Construction is continuing to progress well and we are still on target for moving into the new building in the Spring of 2020. The steel structure is continuing to go in place and work on the building envelope is continuing as well. Thank you to everyone for your patience with traffic and site disruptions. It is very appreciated by us and the crew.

Please be reminded that under Quick Links/Minnekhada New School Plans you can take a digital tour of our new school. Please go to our website: www.sd43.bc.ca/school/minnekhada



A Sampling of Clubs & Activities at Minnehada

Must Rock & Must DJ with Mr. Erickson

In Must Rock, band members have met regularly to learn their vocal and instrumental parts for songs they chose. In Must DJ, the student DJs have continued mixing the music they enjoy, while many have been coming on Thursdays to get hands-on tips from a work experience/ex-Minnehada student from Terry Fox who works as a DJ in his spare time.

Art Club with Ms. Otey

The Art Club runs all year and students are welcome to join at any time. Projects are announced and students have the choice of participating in them, or just using the Art Room as an open studio. Currently there are two projects students are working on. For one project, a students have purchased a ceramic mug or plate and are glazing them with their own designs. The other project is our community project for the year: painting ceiling tiles for Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster! We are working on them in two groups as we can only get six tiles at a time and there were a lot of students excited about working on this project! The first group has begun painting their own uplifting, lighthearted, or calming designs onto 2'x4' ceiling tiles with tempera paints.

Roller Hockey & Golf Club with Mr. Gould

The season for Roller Hockey has started in our nicely rebuilt lacrosse box – feel free to come and cheer the teams on! Practices and games will be running Wednesdays after school. The Golf Club is meeting after school on Thursdays to play at Westwood Plateau Academy and Eaglequest.

Rugby with Ms. Schnoor

Both boys and practice rugby together at Minnehada on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Teams are separated by gender for games which occur various other days of the week at Scott Creek Middle.

Happenings In and Around our Community

Our school district is endeavoring to help families connect to events and happenings in the Tri-Cities and close-by communities. To learn about a variety of community organizations' events, activities and information [please visit this webpage](#).

Keeping Up with the Calendar and School Information

While much of the information pertaining to your child will be delivered by classroom teachers, we endeavour to keep our school calendar up to date on the website. Please consult www.sd43.bc.ca/school/minnekhada to consult our school calendar and current school/district announcements.

We Walk for Water: Leadership in Action

On May 16, Minnekhada will be taking part in our second annual WE Walk for Water event. This WE Team, a division of Minnekhada Leadership, initiative raises awareness and funds for individuals living without clean water in Kenya. Nearly 40 percent of Kenyans lack access to safe water so our school is dedicated to making a change for the better. Last year, the Minnekhada community raised over \$750 and gave thirty individuals clean water for life! Plans are underway for our student-led assembly and customized walk which promises to be bigger and better than last year.

Thank you for your support, Minnekhada community!

Yearbook Orders

To order a 2018-2019 yearbook please go to our school website (www.sd43.bc.ca/school/minnekhada) and look under Quick Links or go directly to <https://ybpay.lifetouch.ca/Order/SelectJob> to place an order.

Deadline is May 1st.

President's Choice Children's Charity: A Huge Thank You

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to President's Choice Children's Charity for their generous support of our school's breakfast program. Their donations make it possible for us to offer healthy nutrition daily here at school and enables students to get ready to learn and persevere throughout the day.

