



**Tumbler Ridge
Secondary School
Newsletter
October, 2016**
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The core business of School District #59 is ensuring a Quality Education for each Learner with the core value of Continuous Learning for All.

The mission of Tumbler Ridge Secondary School is to develop skills, nurture personal growth, and encourage life-long learning in a supportive and respectful environment.

Happy October!

It's hard to believe it is October and that we are in our 6th week of school. It has been a busy six weeks as we settle into new routines and adapt to the many changes at TRSS for the 2016/2017 school year.

If you have not returned your student verification forms, please do so ASAP. These forms ensure we have up to date information in for you and your student.

A Note from Mrs. Proulx

I am really excited to be taking on the role of principal at TRSS this year. I consider myself truly fortunate to be working with this absolutely amazing group of teachers, support staff, district staff, parents, students and community partners.

One of my focuses for this year is to build a learning environment that encompasses effective communication skills in all areas. This means working on communication with everyone connected with the school. I am starting by actively talking to students about the importance of communicating open and respectfully with their teachers.

School Growth Plan

School Growth Plans form part of a provincial accountability framework to improve and strengthen student learning. These plans identify a goal and an action plan to improve student learning for individual schools.

The focus of the TRSS growth plan for this school year is to build, support and foster responsible learners. Responsible learners use a variety of strategies and skills to engage in and take ownership of their own learning resulting in improved

achievement and increases success. The growth plan will be published by the end of October.

TRSS Handbook and Code of Conduct

The TRSS Handbook and Code of Conduct have been updated for the 2016/2017 school year. Please review both of these documents at:

<http://trss.sd59.bc.ca/trss/student-and-parentguardian-handbook/>
<http://trss.sd59.bc.ca/trss/trss-code-of-conduct/>

If you have any comments or questions, please email Mrs. Proulx at japroulx@sd59.bc.ca.

New Curriculum

British Columbia's new curriculum has been implemented this year for students in K-9. The new curriculum includes a focus on literacy and numeracy skills while weaving in core competencies of communication, thinking and personal and social growth. In addition, students in K-9 will be taught Applied Design, Skills and Technologies and Career Education.

The new curriculum is in draft form for grades 10-12. Teachers teaching these grades may be teaching this new curriculum, the old curriculum or a combination of the two.

For more information about British Columbia's new curriculum, please check out the following [BC's New Curriculum](#).

Student Recognition Assemblies

Student recognition assemblies will recognize students who demonstrate aspects of responsible learning. TRSS will be having its first recognition assembly on Oct. 25 at 9:00. Students who receive awards are identified by their teachers. Parents/Guardians will be contacted if their student is receiving an award.

Seniors' Grant

The Fish Farm and the Leadership class will be working in partnership with Tumbler Ridge Forever Young Society this semester. Seniors will be working with students on a variety of projects in both classes.

Concession

The Leadership 10 – 12 class has been busy planning and running the concession. The concession will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will be selling a variety of snacks and drinks. Prices range from \$0.25 - \$2.00. Once a month, there will be a free hot lunch that students may pre-order.

Drama

Mrs. Krauss is running after school drama for students in grades 7-12 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We look forward to seeing another great play just before Christmas vacation.

Coaches/Referees

TRSS is currently looking for anyone interested in coaching or refereeing basketball. Please contact the school if you are interested.

Leadership Class Events

Halloween Dance: Thursday, Oct. 27
\$3 – tickets at the door
Gr 4-6 5:30-6:30 Gr 7-12 8:00 -10:00

Hot Lunch: Thursday, Oct. 27 – Sloppy Joes and Caesar Salad – Free by pre-order (Oct. 21)

Spirit Week: Oct. 31 –Nov. 4
Oct. 31 – Costume Day
Nov. 1 – Geek/Fandom Day
Nov. 2 – Career Day
Nov. 3 – Retro Day
Nov. 4 – PJ Day

Athletics

Grade 7-9 girls' volleyball is up and running. It is coached by two senior students, Hunter Zatwarniski and Julie Chalifoux. The team is sponsored by Ms. Parks. Ms. McLeod is coaching the Cross Country Running team on Mondays and Wednesdays for students in grade 5 and up.

Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering at TRSS. You will need to have a criminal record check. Please stop by the office for information about volunteering including a copy of the volunteer letter you will need to take to the RCMP.

IF you are going to be a volunteer driver (transporting students to games, tournaments, etc.) you will also need to provide a copy of your vehicle insurance and driver's license. In addition, you will need to get a driver's abstract. You can get an abstract on line at <https://onlinebusiness.icbc.com/cliio/>.

Internet Safety – Cybertip

While the Internet can be an incredible social and educational tool, children's online safety depends on parents/guardians taking a proactive approach to help protect their children from online sexual exploitation. As children grow and the Internet evolves, the activities children undertake online change as well. As it can be difficult to keep up with online developments, Cybertip.ca is committed to providing the public with current and age-appropriate information and resources to help educate Canadians about how to keep children safe while online.

https://www.cybertip.ca/app/en/internet_safety-for_youth

PARENT ADVISORY

“Clown” Related Threats

As you have been made aware throughout media and social media there have been a number of “Clown” specific threats, which typically reference kidnapping or targeting schools with threats of violence. The majority of these threats are appearing throughout social media platforms primarily through Instagram and Snapchat accounts. Law Enforcement and Safer Schools Together have been involved in investigating similar pages that have been created throughout the country but there has been no violence reported at this time.

It is important that you talk to your children about reporting these threats if they see them on social media and bring them to the attention of school officials and/or law enforcement. It is also important to make students aware that if they engage in, or participate in any way, in this type of threat related behaviour they will experience discipline and/or criminal charges. Many students see this as a prank and not as a criminal behaviour.

If you require any further information, please talk to your school principal.
<http://saferschoolstogether.com/category/alerts/>

Important Dates

Oct. 21 – Non Instructional Day
Oct. 25 – Recognition Assembly
Nov. 10 – End of the first term;
Remembrance Day school ceremony with TRE
Nov. 11 – Remembrance Day – School Not in Session
Nov. 25 – First term report cards released
Nov. 29 – early dismissal for parent interviews (2:00-3:00); evening interviews 6:00-8:00
Nov. 30 - early dismissal for parent interviews (2:00-3:00)
Dec. 5 - Non Instructional Day
Dec. 16 – last day of school prior to Winter Vacation

Social Media

TRSS is on Facebook. Please join us by “liking” our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tumbler-Ridge-Secondary-School/134129796682532> . We have been using this medium for announcements and updates.

We have also been trying our best to keep the school website up to date. Please visit it at <http://trss.sd59.bc.ca> .

If you like to be added to our email list, please email Mrs. Skillen at dskillen@sd59.bc.ca.