

Message from the Administration

Mr. Kal Russell
Principal

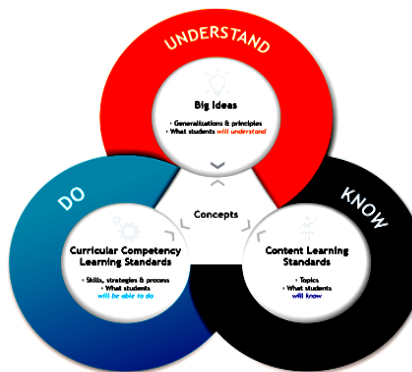
Mr. David Mark
Vice-Principal



New Curriculum at North Saanich

We are off to a great start at North Saanich Middle School. Students have settled nicely into our school routines and we are excited about the rest of the year. Our staff feel very fortunate to be working with your children. They are an amazing group of kids!

This year all schools are implementing the new BC Curriculum in grades K-9. As you can see from this diagram, education in BC has shifted to a 'Know-Do-Understand' model that supports deeper learning.



Our staff have been utilizing many of the strategies and principles of the new curriculum for several years now and are comfortable with its philosophies. We are confident that our students are receiving the instruction that will assist them in being successful in their futures. At NSMS, we believe in personalizing instruction so that all students move forward in their learning.

The following is a link to a math video made at North Saanich last year, that highlights our philosophy.

North Saanich Multi-age Math

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmjPvqygw2s>

In addition to incorporating new strategies and principles in our CORE classes we are also revamping our FAAS classes. For example in our grade 8 Drama program we want to personalize the drama experience; peak student interest and passion in performing arts; inform students of real world applications of Drama and spark student creativity. This year we are utilizing technology and project based learning tools like ipads and apps to support our students' learning in drama. In fact, all our subjects are using more project based learning tools. GAFE (Google Applications for Education) is a district wide platform being used to allow students to express themselves and present their work. It will be available to them here at NSMS and throughout their high school journey in Saanich. In late fall, when we have increased the WiFi coverage at the school, we will be also be expanding the opportunities for students to demonstrate their thinking and work using project based tools.

Our staff is excited about the changes in education and how we can support your child's growth this year as a learner. Please connected to your child's learning through email, phone calls, face to face meetings and teacher homepages, so we can work together to make 2016/2017 a great year.

Go Hawks!

NORTH SAANICH MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Hawk Eye

PAC Meeting
Tuesday,
October 18th
7PM in the
Learning
Commons

Topic
Grade 8
Legacy Awards

Procedures for voicing your concerns

Parents will, on occasion, have questions regarding their child's education. The staff at North Saanich Middle School wants you to contact the school when a problem or question arises. To facilitate action on any concern regarding the schools policies, procedures or curriculum, we ask that you take the following steps:

- (a) Should the concern be the result of an action or decision of an employee, the complainant is encouraged to discuss the issue with that employee;
- (b) If not resolved by the employee the complainant should involve the appropriate principal or supervisor;
- (c) Should the principal or supervisor not resolve the concern then the complainant should involve either the Assistant Superintendent (Learning Services), the Assistant Superintendent (Instructional Services) or the Secretary-Treasurer;
- (d) Should the concern remain unresolved, the Superintendent of Schools may be contacted for assistance with process;
- (e) At any time the complainant may contact a trustee by phone or direct a letter to the Board Chair for assistance with process;
- (f) If concerns are still not addressed satisfactorily, a complainant may formally appeal a decision to the Board according to the Administrative Procedures outlined in Policy 1360.

New Staff

Joining our NSMS Team:

Teachers

- Mr. Peden
- Mrs. McElgunn
- Mrs. Fedrigo
- Mrs. Vlitos
- Ms. Lampard

Education Assistants

- Ms. Egan
- Ms. Herle
- Ms. Johnston

Remembrance Day Assembly—Nov. 10

We are formally inviting parents to join us for our annual Remembrance Day Assembly.

This is a very important learning opportunity for our students and staff.

At 9:45 AM on Nov. 10, 2016 we

will be assembling in our gym to remember those Canadians who have served our country, providing us with the opportunity and privilege to live in a peaceful country.

We will have seating available for guests.

We shall not forget.



Dates to Remember

Please check our school website at <http://northsaanich.sd63.bc.ca/> for current information on these events.

October

Thanksgiving	10
PAC Meeting @ 7 p.m.	18
BC Shake Out Drill @ 10:15 a.m.	20
Photo Retakes	20
Early Dismissal at 1:55 pm	20
Non Instructional Day	21
Triathlon Swim Day	27
Triathlon (Bike & Run) & Halloween Social	31

November

Remembrance Day Assembly @ 9:45	10
Remembrance Day (No school)	11
Non Instructional Day #2	14

