

MARCH 2022

ABERDEEN COMPOSITE SCHOOL

Principal's Message

There have been some great things happening at ACS! As we look forward to spring, we are definitely making the most of our last winter days; K-3 students enjoyed a blustery winter carnival last Friday and we have winter fun days planned for both 4-6 and 7-12 students in the coming weeks. We're also really excited to begin planning for Fun Night on April 6!

School staff were spoiled a couple of weeks ago for staff appreciation - we loved not having to make our lunches on Wednesday (thanks SCC!) and Friday (thanks SLT!)

Although we're planning lots of fun events, we are still learning! Our 1-3 teachers have been working hard to implement a school wide literacy program, which is seeing great results for all students. Teachers are looking forward to connecting with you regarding student progress over the next couple of nights. Please know you are always welcome to call or email your teachers any time - we really appreciate when you reach out with your questions or suggestions.

We are appreciative of our students who have completed two different surveys that help us to be responsive to what they need as learners and as youth - additional information is included in this newsletter.

Finally, we wanted to let you know that as a school community, we seem to have navigated the transition away from COVID restrictions really well. Students have been respectful of each other and at school, we have been focused on learning - it feels great!



K students at the Winter Carnival



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

March 7 - No School (Prep Day)
 March 8/9 - Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
 March 14 - SCC Meeting at 6:30pm
 March 18 - 7-12 Winter Carnival
 March 21 - No School (Day in Lieu)
 March 25 - K-8 Progress Reports go home
 April 6 - FUN NIGHT!!!
 April 8 - Class Pictures
 April 12 - School Heritage Fair (Gr 5-7)

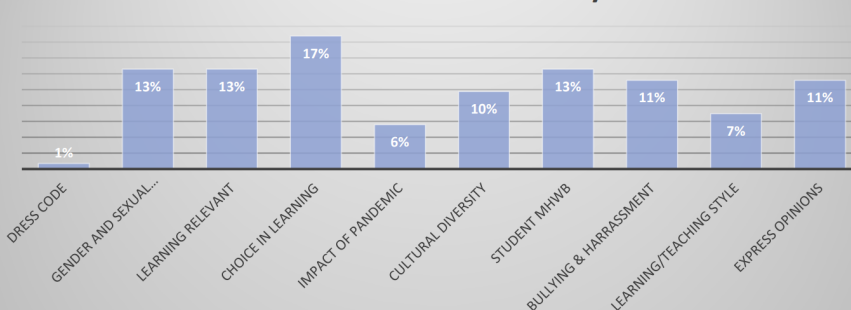


Our School and Your Voice Matters Survey

This past fall, students were asked to complete two different surveys, designed to capture student voice that would help inform decision making at Aberdeen School. It's impossible to capture the breadth of the information in a newsletter item but generally, we learned:

- around 40% of our students (Grade 7-12) know where to go and how to talk to to get help for their mental health
- 43% (7-12) have increased knowledge and understanding of mental health and wellness in the past year.
- When asked about one change kids (7-12) want to see in our school, they wanted to change the way they talk to each other/bullying behaviour and more awareness and acceptance of LGBTQS+ issues
- Areas of Growth
 - Students who feel accepted and valued by their peers and others is 52% (below Canadian norms)
 - Students who like and accept themselves, and are proud of their accomplishments (58% compared to Canadian norm of 73%)
 - High levels of anxiety and/or depression in certain groups of kids.
- Areas to Celebrate:
 - students reported increase in having friends at school they can trust and who encourage them to make positive choices (77% up from 68% last year)
 - Students reported higher than Canadian norms that they have someone at school who consistently provides encouragement and can be turned to for advice

The issues of concern for students in your School



Next steps:

- sharing these results with students
- reviewing data with SCC
- reviewing our Mental Health Support framework
- analyzing our data in light of a very different than normal past two years
- being creative with course planning and timetabling for the 2022-2023 school year.

Curling

Our Senior Girls Curling team won regionals in Prince Albert on the weekend. They were undefeated and look forward to curling in provincials in Fox Valley on March 11 and 12th. Team members are Harper Doige, Devyn Tomolak, Ayanna Kinar and Rachel Boyenko, skipped by Sage Pilon. Way to go ladies!



- School clothing orders due March 18th! Order forms available from your teacher or in the office.

SLT

Our SLT continues to plan exciting opportunities for ACS students. They will be hosting a winter carnival on March 18th for 7-12 students. Our first assembly will happen sometime this spring and they are also involved in planning our much anticipated FUN NIGHT on April 6th. Follow them on Instagram @slt.aberdeen



Basketball

Our Senior Boys played in a tournament in Rosthern on the weekend. They lost a close first game to Hepburn and then beat RJC by one point in the dying seconds of the game. They gave the second ranked team, Rosthern, a good run to end the day on a great note. The boys are heading to playoffs at Saskatoon Christian School next weekend. Go Crusaders!



Our yearbook team of Katie Hingston, Phaendra Dieno and Ally Rempel have been hard at work preparing the 2021-2022 yearbook. Please email any photos you might have to pd396s@spiritsd.ca