



WELLINGTON SECONDARY SCHOOL

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JUNE 2021

Principal

Ms. Andrea Davidson
(Grade 12)

Vice Principals

Mr. Stacy Marusic
(Grades 9 and 11)

Mrs. Nicol Suhr
(Grades 8 and 10)



We acknowledge that Wellington Secondary School is located on the unceded, ancestral, and traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw Coast Salish people

Dear Wellington Wildcats Family,

When I first started drafting the Principal's message for the June newsletter, the news that 215 children were found in unmarked graves at the Kamloops Indian Residential School had not yet broken. When the news did break, so did the hearts of citizens across this province and across the country, the deep pain of loss amplified exponentially in Indigenous communities everywhere. These children, beautiful human beings as young as three years old, were never given the chance to share their gifts with the world. It is undeniable that before they died, they suffered abuse and neglect at the hands of the church and government, a reality for the majority of children who were forced by law to attend one of the one hundred and thirty nine Indian Residential Schools (IRS) that operated across the country. The Indian Residential School System officially operated from the 1880s until 1996 when the last school was finally closed. The purpose of the residential school system was to eliminate all aspects of Indigenous culture. The extent to which the government and churches were committed to fulfilling this purpose is evidenced by the thousands of deaths of children in their care in residential schools.

I urge you, in honour of these 215 children and the others who have yet to be found, to take the time to learn more about the IRS system in Canada if you feel you are unaware. Through personal and public education, and an acknowledgement of this shared history, the journey toward reconciliation can be possible. As Maya Angelou says, "When you know better, you do better."

If you would like to learn more, this link is a good starting place: https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/the_residential_school_system/

While residential schools and the 60s scoop dominate the headlines, and for good reason, there is so much more to the stories of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples than this dark history. With a strength and resilience that is rooted in thousands of years of cultural and traditional practices, the First Peoples of this land are surfacing from government and societal oppression to teach us how to listen to the voice of the land and how to foster and honour community in a way that connects all of us to each other in a good way.

The month of June is National Indigenous History Month. It is a time for reflection and a time for celebration. Throughout the month of June, there will be opportunities for students to choose to participate in a writing contest, art workshops, cinema events, awareness campaigns, trivia challenges, and cultural teachings.

The month of June is also when we celebrate our graduating students and all of their accomplishments over thirteen years of K-12 education. We are looking forward to witnessing the traditional walk across the stage on June 28th and 29th. Until that time, we encourage our Welly grads to stay focused on their studies while enjoying the last few weeks of high school.

Wishing each and every one of you a safe and sunny summer season. For those of you returning in the fall, we look forward to hearing about your summer adventure stories. For those of you who are graduating and taking on the world of adulting, you have done us proud at Wellington and we want you to always consider this place as part of your history and your home.

Hay tseep qa / Thank you / Merci

Ms. Andrea Davidson – Principal



UPCOMING DATES

June 2	Grade 8 Passion Projects
June 25	Last day of classes
September 7	Back to school!

Important Grad Dates

May-June	Capstone Project Presentations
June 25	Cap and Gown Distribution
June 28/29	Commencement Ceremonies



Please visit our Wellington Secondary School web page for information on current events, important dates, teacher contact information...

<https://we.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>

WELLINGTON kindness CAMPAIGN

Staff and students at Wellington were busy during the month of May coming up with ideas to give back to members of our community. Projects included neighbourhood and beach clean-ups, knitting scarves, printing cards for care home workers, donations to Haven Society and the Diabetes Association, band performances for seniors, etc.

Ms. Meier's Sewing class connected with a class of Grade 4's at Rock City Elementary. The younger students created characters on paper and our talented sewing students brought the designs to life! Below are some examples of the finished products...



Upcoming Information Sessions:

Fundamentals of Forest-Harvesting Practices Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm until August 4
[Join on Zoom](#)

Recruitment Updates:

New Recruitment drop-in hours – Starting in June, drop-in will be Tuesdays and Thursdays
 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
[Click here to join!](#) Password: 441587 | Meeting ID: 666 0802 0912

VIU Virtual Recruitment Sessions – Save the dates! Our 2021/2022 virtual information sessions have been scheduled and are open for registration. Check them all out [here](#).

It's not too late for new full-time domestic students to enter [VIU's What's Next Campaign](#) to win one \$2,500 credit towards Falls 2021 tuition! Contest closes July 15th at 9:00 am PDT

Advising Updates:

New Advising drop-in hours – Starting June 21st the Advising Zoom drop-in will run from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, Monday to Friday.

Information for new applicants:

- If you missed the **Next Steps Presentation**, [watch it now](#)
- Visit [Ready, Set, Go - Launchpad to Success at VIU!](#)
- [After you have applied to Vancouver Island University](#)

Services for Aboriginal Students (SAS):

Did you know that SAS also offers a Zoom drop-in? New and prospective Aboriginal students are encouraged to pop-in to connect with an Advisor. [Details can be found on the website](#). Alternatively, they can email SAS@viu.ca or call 250.740.6510.

**Congratulations to
 our 2021
 Valedictorians...**

**Trinity La Rose
 And
 Jack Miller**

GRADS!

**Don't forget to book your
 Commencement time online.**

Deadline is June 11th at 3pm!

BOOK YOUR
 APPOINTMENT
 ONLINE

<https://wellington.schoolappointments.com/admin/>



WELLINGTON SUMMER READING PROGRAM!

**Like to read? Returning to
Wellington in September? Come
check out some books for the
summer!**

Wellington students may
checkout up to TEN library
books for reading in July and
August.

Please have all overdue books from the school year returned first. Come chat to Ms. Stewart if you have any questions.

Prizes!
Awards!
GOATS!
Games!
Slide Show!

Wellington Year-end Events

Tuesday
June 8th

- Gr. 8 Year-end Virtual Assembly B-block
 - Gr. 9 Year-end Virtual Assembly A-block
-

Wednesday
June 9th

- Gr. 10 Year-end Virtual Assembly B-block
 - Gr. 11 Year-end Virtual Assembly A-block
-

Thursday
June 10th

- Gr. 12 and International students Year-end Virtual Assembly A-block
-

Friday
June 11th

- Funfest- Games and Petting Zoo
 - Prizes and Information booth
 - Supporting the BC SPCA and Nanaimo Mental Health
 - Goats and Pigs!
-

BAND NEWS!

Congratulations to the Grade 8 Concert Band and the Senior Concert band on receiving excellent ratings at the Vancouver Island Virtual Concert Band Festival! Well done students!

All combos and including the Grade 8 Jazz Combo and the Senior Jazz Band received Gold ratings from the West Coast Jazz Festival. Once again congrats!

The newest results are in from MusicFest Canada (the Nationals)

Grade 10 Combo I - **GOLD**

Grade 10 Combo II - **GOLD**

Grade 10 Combo III - **SILVER**

Grade 9 Combo - **SILVER**

Boudrot/Stevenson Combo - **GOLD**

Grade 11/12 Combo - **GOLD**

Hassib Boudrot Combo - **GOLD**

Sr Trio - **GOLD**

Sr Jazz Band - **GOLD**

Grade 10 Jazz Band - **Gold**



Special Congrats to the following student who received individual outstanding Honour Award recognition from the Musicfest Canada!

Rowan Spearing

Koen Podritskie

Thea Guitard

Sarah Stevenson

Jonathan Pearce

Sandro Jost

Azia Deal

Kareem Hassib

Riley Bergen



AND...

The results are in for the 44th Annual **DownBeat Student Music Awards** (2020 year) and we have some good news!

The **Dobek/Morosan/Mottahedeh Trio** from Wellington Secondary School under the direction of Carmella Luvisotto received an Outstanding Performance honor in the Small Jazz Combo category, High School division. The Trio consists of former alumni Daniel Mottahedeh on drums and current students Petra Dobek on piano and Philip Morosan on bass.

DownBeat Magazine covers the world of Jazz, Blues & Beyond to bring back the best in jazz and blues as well as its offshoots. Downbeat is well known for its listing of the Top Artists, Groups and Student groups across North America.

Established in 1976, the DownBeat Student Music Awards are considered the most prestigious awards in jazz education. Hundreds of musicians, music educators and music industry professionals received their first international recognition as DownBeat Student Music Award winners.

CONGRATULATIONS to Ms. Luvisotto and our outstanding band program!

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO AFTER SCHOOL?

RUNNING CLUB: Meets Mondays and Wednesdays by the gym doors at 3:15!

FILM CLUB: Every Thursday a classic film is screened in Room D109...includes socially distanced popcorn!

YARN CLUB: Any students interested in giving back to the community and learning how to knit or crochet, please come to the Learning Commons at lunch every Wednesday. We have the tools you need, just bring your curiosity and your drive to give back. Expert knitters or crocheters are also welcome!

TENNIS CLUB: Tennis club starts this Wednesday! The club runs from 3:15 to 4:30 every Wednesday at the tennis courts at Beban Park. Meet at the gym stairs after school to walk/run there. Equipment is provided...just bring some runners and a smile:) Masks are mandatory! Last session is June 23rd.





Respect

May & June

Yourself



Others



Our environment



Dignity

Honor

empathy

Compassion

Respect

- ❖ Do you understand how your actions can affect others?
- ❖ Do you value your own ideas and accomplishments?
- ❖ Do you respect your body and mind?
- ❖ Can you negotiate and disagree respectfully?



The Buffalo, through giving its life and sharing every part of its being, showed the deep respect it had for the people.

No animal was more important to the existence of Indigenous families than this animal, and its gift provided shelter, clothing, and utensils for daily living.

Indigenous people were true caretakers of the great herds and developed a sustainable relationship with the Buffalo resulting in a relationship that was a true expression of respect.



Congratulations

Ms. Luvisotto!

Our very own Ms. Luvisotto is the unanimous winner of the **2021 Tommy Banks/NAC Orchestra Outstanding Jazz Director Award**. This award is given to an educator who has made a national contribution to promoting the highest standards of jazz performance among his or her students!

<https://musicfest.ca/tommy-banks-outstanding-jazz-director-award/#:~:text=In%202010%2C%20he%20received%20SOCAN's,a%20most%20outstanding%20jazz%20director.>

BE YOU



SD68.BC.CA | | #NLPSPRIDE

HOMEWORK AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR?



Summer SELF-CARE BINGO

UNPLUG FROM TECHNOLOGY	GO FOR A WALK	SPEND TIME OUTSIDE	WATCH A SUN RISE	EAT SOME SEASONAL FRUIT
SLOW DOWN AND DO LESS	GO OUT FOR ICE CREAM	PUT ON YOUR BATHING SUIT	READ A BOOK	SIT IN THE SUN AND MEDITATE
DRINK WATER ALL DAY	MAKE A SUMMER PLAYLIST	HAVE THE BEST <i>summer!</i>	READ A MAGAZINE BY THE POOL	BINGE-WATCH YOUR FAVORITE SERIES
HAVE A DANCE PARTY	STRETCH	GET A MASSAGE	GIVE YOURSELF A PEDICURE	GO FOR A SWIM
TAKE A MID-DAY NAP	DO YOGA OUTSIDE	MAKE YOUR OWN POPSICLES	HAVE A PICNIC	SAY NO



Wellington, we have almost made it! And what a year it has been! Each one of you deserve care and compassion, as we reflect on a school year that was not quite how we ever expected one to be. In the counselling area, we have sorely missed the drop-in of students on a regular basis and have, instead, gotten used to quieter days punctuated with appointments from staff and students which we have been very welcome to see!

Over the summer, we hope you find time for self-care to replenish your stores and fully enjoy some (hopefully) return of past freedoms. Take a look at some of the summer self-care bingo ideas and pick one or two to practice right now!

One last order of business this year in the Counselling department is timetabling. It is our hope that students will be able to see their schedules online by the end of the school year or early summer. Counsellors will be back in the office the week before school starts if there are questions or changes that are necessary.

Have a wonderful summer Wellington, from your counselling team!

Ms. Gustafson, Ms. McRae, and Ms. Linn



A beautiful drum made by one of our talented students during a drum making workshop!

Athletics

This year of Athletics has been far from what we are used to. We have tried to get some kids in the gym and have had success in some areas. We have an amazing staff coach representation at our school, and we love being part of the Welly Athletic Community.

We will be hosting a **Pandemic Challenge** for the first 3 days in June to have some fun, win some prizes, and try to bring some competitive spirit back to our school.

We are hoping that next year we can see some Welly uniforms out on the field and in the gym. Our coaches are waiting and our students are ready. Keep working on that jump shot, spike approach, soccer ball dribbling, running, badminton serves, forward crawl, rugby throws and anything else to keep you active over the summer. In September, we will hopefully welcome you all back!

For the grade 12's who have committed so much time and so many years working on their game, I personally thank you for representing Wellington so well over the past four years. You were all an asset to our school community, and I have enjoyed watching you grow into the responsible young adults you are today. I wish you luck, and want you all to know that if you ever want to return to Wellington as a coach, we would be lucky to have you.

Ms. McRae



International

What a year for international students in Nanaimo. Here at Wellington we had the **BEST** group of students!

There was a lot of energy and excitement from our international students and I'm sure they have all had an excellent time at Wellington.

We had a great group of international grads this year as well. These students have spent a couple years here as Wildcats and I wish them all luck as they move on in their educations next year.



Congratulations to: Yuki Kuroda, Cindy Zhou, Saya Taguchi, Jiana Gu, Kaito Ozaki, and Wendy Wang.

Ms. McRae

**Who is this guy
with all the
hair????**

**First student to
the office with the
right answer will
win a prize!**



2020-2021 YEARBOOK!

LAST CHANCE!

The 2020-2021 yearbooks have been ordered. If you have not already requested your copy, Students can purchase their yearbooks at the office for a cost of \$50. Parents can also purchase the books through the NLPS website <https://nlps.schoolcashionline.com/>

Copies are limited! We do not have the ability to order extras later in the year. Guarantee your copy today!



WELLINGTON TEACHER EMAILS

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In June, we commemorate National Indigenous History Month 2021 to recognize the history, heritage and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in Canada.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MONTH ACTIVITIES

- **May 31 - June 11** - Writing Contest - response to Video *Reconciliation is Dead* (Ted Talk by Lori Campbell)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZomGTHKMLaw>
- **June 1 - June 24** - Biographies on the announcements
- **June 1 - June 3/4** - Movie in the Learning Commons at lunch - Socially Distanced! COVID safe popcorn and movie. Movie: Indian Horse
- **June 3, 10, 17th** - Film Club takeover - 1) Kayak to Klemtu 2) Whale Rider 3) Rumble
- **June 4, 11 and 18** - Storytime with Uncle George (afternoon) – available through teams
- **June 4** - Wear Yellow shirts/dresses for Chantel Moore. Nuu-chah-nulth woman who was fatally shot in Halifax on a wellness check June 5, 2020.
- **June 7, 14, 21** – Morning smudging available to students before the first bell.
- **June 8 and 10** - Lunchtime beading exercise
- **June 15 and 17** - Lunchtime art workshop
- **June 14 (8s), June 15 (9s), June 16 (10s), June 17 (11s) and June 18 (12s)** - Grade specific **Kahoot Challenge** - Winners from each grade will move forward to represent their grade
- **June 21** – **Kahoot! Championship** Multi-Grade Challenge - Winners from each grade group will represent their grade.
- **June 21** - Wear Red Day

Winners of the Kahoot! Challenge, art contest and writing contest will win a t-shirt with the winning design from the Reconciliation Art Challenge.

Students should listen to the announcements for information on locations and timing of activities.

T-shirts will be available for purchase in a mini-fundraiser. Official recipient of the proceeds to be determined by the Indigenous Advisory Committee.



**HAVE A GREAT
SUMMER!**