

**Fernie Secondary School**  
**102 Fairway Drive**  
**Fernie, BC V0B 1M0**

<https://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/fss/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

**February 7, 2023**



## Principal 's Message

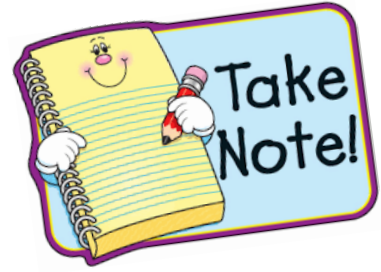
We are already halfway through the school year and semester two is well underway.

Over the past month we had some extra challenges in our building after some burst pipes flooded the office end of the building and then a blown sprinkler head flooded a classroom and the stairwell in our French Immersion hallway. More recently we had to evacuate due to a concern with gas smells in the building. Fortis BC and the Fernie Fire Department both confirmed there were no hazardous gases but the presence of nontoxic levels of sewage gas were detected. Our maintenance department and Operations Manager have been working diligently with us to ensure that these building concerns are addressed appropriately. What a start to 2024! Our staff and students have been incredibly resilient and adaptable as they continued to keep our school running during the busy time of semester change while we had to be creative and find temporary spaces for classrooms and offices that need restoration work.

This month the student and parent grad committees were formed, and they are actively planning for the June 2024 Graduation Celebrations. This year's commencement ceremony is scheduled for June 28<sup>th</sup> and 11:00 am in the Fernie Memorial Arena.

## **COURSE SELECTIONS FOR 2024-25**

It's time already to start planning for next year and student course selection is one of our first steps. High school course selection is an important time in a student's education. The courses that a student selects will have an impact on their ability to be successful in high school and to navigate their future careers and post-secondary educational paths. The course selection process for the 2024-24 school year at Fernie Secondary School will be completed online through MyEd between February 16<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. There will be a parent meeting on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm (over TEAMS) and in the school library. The target audience for this meeting is parents of students in grade 9 this year. In grade 10 students switch to a credit system and must meet a required number of credits to graduate. At this meeting we will outline the credit system and graduation requirements. Although the information is most important for parents of grade 9 students, all parents are welcome to attend. On February 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be sending home course selection booklets for each grade level along with instructions for completing course selections through MyEd. Students will have time to make course selections at school, but we asked that parents review selected courses and make any necessary changes with their child(dren) at home. After February 26<sup>th</sup>, course selections for next year will be closed while we build our timetable and plan for the 2024-25 school year.



## Upcoming Dates To Note:

- Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup> – Grade 10-12 Ski Day
- February 12<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup>: School Spirit Week
- Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm- Parent Meeting re: Course Selections
- Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup> Grade 8's completing MDI survey (Middle Years Development Instrument)
- Friday February 16<sup>th</sup> – Yellow Day – No School
- Monday February 19<sup>th</sup> – Stat Holiday – No School
- February 20<sup>th</sup>- Course Selection Day for 2024-25
- Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup> – Grade 9 Immunizations
- February 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> – Grad Photos at the KLC
- Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup> – Pink Shirt Day, Anti-Bullying Assemblies
- Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> – Yellow Day – No School
- Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup>- Grad Parent Meeting



## School Counsellor

If you need to contact our school counsellor, please see their emails below.

Karen Walker – [karen.walker@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:karen.walker@sd5.bc.ca)

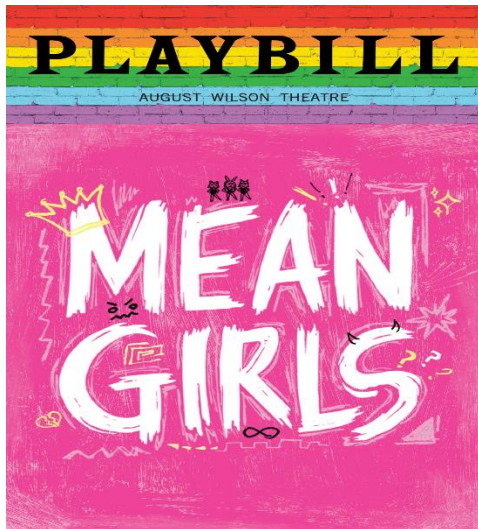
Lindsay Knight – [Lindsay.knight@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:Lindsay.knight@sd5.bc.ca)

## Youth Care Worker Support

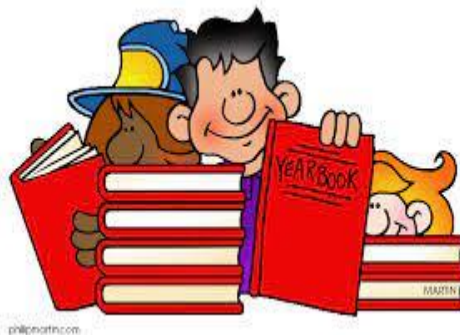
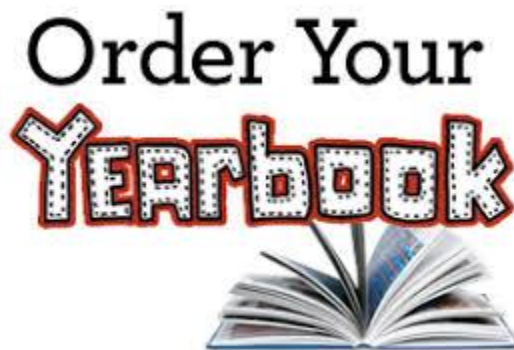
Lisa Bax (YCW) [lisa.bax@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:lisa.bax@sd5.bc.ca)

Sherry Bylsma (YCW) [sherry.bylsma@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:sherry.bylsma@sd5.bc.ca)





The Fernie Secondary Drama Department is currently looking for costume donations for this Spring's production of **Mean Girls: The Musical**. If you think you may have some appropriate clothing lying around that you would be willing to donate, our Drama Club would be very appreciative!



**You can order your yearbook on School Cash Online through the link below**

<https://SD5.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/9301/213/False/True>

## Grad Photos

February 26-29 at the KLC

**Lifetouch**

<https://prestigeportraits.ca/resources/>

**Erin Walker**

Account Specialist | Lifetouch Inc.

Office: 780-437-2431

Direct: 587-200-2791



## School Messenger SMS

Our district utilizes the School Messenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more. You can join by sending a text message of "Yes" or "Y" to **978338**.

Please make sure you are utilizing the cellular number that the school has on record. The cellular phone number for SMS must match the contact information on file.



\*if your number is Canada-based.

standard message and data rates may apply

**Reminder: If you get a call in the morning that your child is absent – please excuse it or you will get another call in the afternoon for the same absence.**

## School Cash Online

With the start of the new semester, comes new fees. Just a reminder to please use School Cash Online, we will not take cash for payments.

<https://www.schoolcashionline.com/>