

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

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

**November 27, 2023**



## Principal 's Message

We've had an incredibly busy month at FSS with guest speakers, curricular field trips, university presentations, Halloween, Remembrance Day, Grad Assessments, bake offs, athletics and student reporting. We are very thankful to the support given by TECK that allowed us to host Brady Leavold. Brady Leavold is a retired professional hockey player who shared with the students his story of his struggle with mental health and substance abuse. The students were very engaged and attentive during this presentation. If you haven't done it yet, I encourage you to ask them to tell you about it. You can find out more about Brady and his presentation at <https://www.bleavhockey.com/>.

We just completed our first round of student reporting. Parents and students can access these reports, (now called **Learning Updates**) through the MyEd family portal. If you are not yet able to access MyEd to see your child's report, please contact our office. Our office staff is ready to help guide you through a very quick process to get into MyEd. If you have a concern or question about your child's **Learning Update**, please contact the teacher to discuss it. Teacher email addresses can be found on our school website (or use firstname.lastname@sd5.bc.ca)

This year's **Student Council** is up and running and their first order of business was to organize and conduct the Remembrance Day Assembly. Student Council led the ceremony while students and staff respectfully took time to acknowledge the Canadians who died while serving in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations around the world. For November 28<sup>th</sup> Student Council has organized a **PEP rally** to encourage school spirit, to celebrate all the athletic teams that represented Fernie Secondary this fall and to wish the Senior Girls' Volleyball team good luck as they travel to compete in Provincials in West Vancouver. Plans are underway for School Spirit Week which will be from December 18<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Stay tuned for more details as Student Council organizes the Spirit Week events.

On Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> FSS will be having an **Activity Day** and signing up for these activities will start on Tuesday, Nov 28<sup>th</sup>. The activity day is a chance for students to choose activities of interest to participate in and to develop and foster new and positive relationships in the school. A variety of activities are being offered by the teachers such as: fat biking, swimming, baking cookies, creating holiday cards, directed painting with Sue Hanlon, casino games, board games, gym games, indoor climbing at ARQ, movies at the Vogue, cooking with Kristy and Ski/snowboarding (grades 11 & 12 only) at FAR. There are some activities that have fees to cover rentals/ lift tickets, supplies etc. however this should not be a barrier to participation. If the fee is not manageable for an individual, the school will cover the cost. Please encourage your child to attend this day as it is an opportunity to grow school spirit and help develop a positive sense of belonging for all at FSS.

If you have a child in grade 7, The Ministry of Education and Childcare is asking you to participate in a survey for parents to help them better understand the regional and provincial demand for school aged childcare. To complete the survey, follow this link: [BC School Age Parent Survey](#).

On December 5<sup>th</sup> parents/guardians are encouraged to attend a family online safety session. This is being offered as part of the Ministry of Education and Childcare Erase Strategy (Expect Respect and Safe Education). To register for this session please follow this link: [Family Session: Establishing Safe, Caring & Respectful Digital Communities. Dec. 5, 2023 at 6:00pm](#)

We have one more month at FSS until our Winter Break. Thank you for continuing to support your child and helping make sure they get here and on time! We appreciate it.

Ms. Neufeld

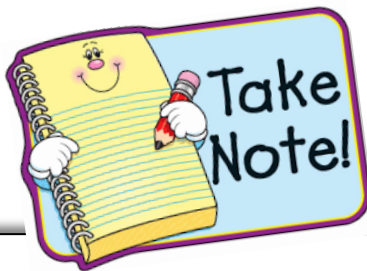
### Cupcake Competitions

Students in Ms. Adams Foods 8/9 class put their skills to work in the cupcake competition. Staff happily tried all the delicious varieties.



## Upcoming Dates To Note:

- Friday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>: First Day of Term 3 Electives (grade 7)
- Tuesday, Nov 28<sup>th</sup> 2:25 pm: Student PEP Rally for Fall Athletics
- Friday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>: Professional Development Day
- Thursday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 7 pm: Winter Band Concert
- Dec 18-22<sup>nd</sup>: School Spirit Week
- **Wednesday, Dec 20<sup>th</sup>: School Wide Activity Day**
- Dec 25-Jan 5<sup>th</sup>: Christmas/School Break
- Tuesday, Jan 8<sup>th</sup>: First Day School in January
- Jan 15<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> Grad Assessments



### Looking for Parent Volunteers for Dec 20 Ski Day!

One of the activity options for ski day this year will be a day at Fernie Alpine Resort! FSS is looking for a few parent volunteers to drive ski equipment up to the hill and help supervise students throughout the day on December 20th. If you are available to help support this opportunity for our students, please contact [erin.webber@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:erin.webber@sd5.bc.ca). Thank you!





## Young Women's Collective Group

On November 10th, the Fernie Secondary's Young Women's Collective went to Calgary to partake in a self-defence course! The girls learned about violence prevention and personal safety with the support of an active de-escalation police trainer. They learned evasive maneuvers and defense mechanisms followed by a real life simulation with a padded attacker. The girls harnessed the power in their voice and knowledge from their lesson to escape his grasp and leave the course feeling empowered and more confident in themselves!



## Art at FSS

It's been an absolute pleasure to work with my term 1 Art 8/9 students. We have created a few major projects such the clay statues, acrylic painting, and the "Decalcomania prints" as well as multiple sketches. Thank you for your time, energy, and creativity young artists! I hope to see you back in Art next year! Ms. Wenda

### Jola Wenda

Fernie Secondary School, teacher  
Art & Photography



## 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)



## **SOGI** SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY



### Myths & Facts

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) is not a separate curriculum. SOGI-inclusive education encompasses a broad range of topics including identity and inclusion. Its purpose is to reduce bullying and discrimination. SOGI-inclusive education is **not** centred in sexuality.

SOGI-inclusive resources are one of many tools used by teachers in our school district to promote understanding and acceptance of every member of our community, regardless of race, culture, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Sexual orientation and gender identity are protected under the BC Human Rights Code, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and provincial legislation. The Surrey School District is committed to ensuring that every classroom in our district is welcoming, and all students feel safe and supported.

Our commitment extends to fully supporting teachers and schools as they integrate age-appropriate references to diversity in sexual orientation and gender identity. This approach is aimed at fostering tolerance, dignity, and respect while working towards a reduction in incidents of violence and discrimination against students and community members who identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

**There are often misconceptions about what SOGI-inclusive education is and what it looks like in our schools. Here are some common myths and the corresponding facts about SOGI-inclusive education:**

**MYTH:** SOGI-inclusive education promotes a specific sexual orientation or gender identity.

**FACT:** SOGI-inclusive education does **not** promote any specific identity or orientation and is designed to create a safe and inclusive environment for all students, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. It aims to combat discrimination by fostering representation of all types of people within classroom resources and enhancing awareness of the experiences and challenges faced by 2SLGBTQ+ individuals.

# Order Your YEARBOOK



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

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

## **HELLO FRESH FOOD FUNDRAISER SUPPORTERS!**

I have just got confirmation that the delivery truck will arrive with your vegetable on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November, yay!  
I have just been notified that there had to be a last-minute change, that our suppliers were unable to provide the Parsnips from their local farmers. So, our suppliers have made the executive decision to substitute the needed parsnips from a USA partner. Your order may contain parsnips that say Product of the USA on it. I apologize for this as we strive to have only fresh BC products in this fundraiser; however, as I mentioned the supplier thought this was a better alternative to not having parsnips at all.  
The scheduled pick for your bundle will be on TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER from 3pm - 6pm. Please contact the school if this time does not work for you so we can make other arrangements.  
Please let us know if you are donating your bundle to the food bank.  
Pick up will be from the dining room, next to the Kitchen lab.



pixtastock.com - 60534415

Please contact Mrs. Adams if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards,  
Michelle Adams



Calling ALL Chocolate Lovers!

We're teaming up with Purdy's Chocolatier for Fernie Secondary School's Christmas Fundraiser.

Stock up on your favourite Purdy's treats (did someone say Hedgehogs?) AND support a great cause at the same time - it's the best of both worlds. All fundraising profit raised will directly support Fernie Secondary School's trips, sports events, and more, so every order makes a difference to us.

Ordering is as easy as eating chocolate. Here is what you need to do:

1. Click this link <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1085619-112056>
2. Fill out your info, you will need an email address
3. Click "Join Campaign"
4. Enter campaign number **51829**
5. Now order to your heart's content!

The order deadline is **Wednesday, November 29, 2023**, so get shopping for your stocking stuffers, grandparents, teachers, and YOU!

*Pick up:*

*Where: Fernie Secondary School*  
*When: Wednesday, December 13, 2023*  
*Time: From 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm*

Thank you for supporting Fernie Secondary School.







## Supporting a Cause Never Tasted So Good!

Buy your favourite chocolates to support our fundraising campaign.



Go to [fundraising.purdys.com](https://fundraising.purdys.com) or Scan QR



Enter customer #  to shop & support.

Place your order by **November 29, 2023**

Contact  at  for more details.

 CANADA'S CHOCOLATIER SINCE 1907

## Holiday Season Decor Sale

Unique FSS students' Pottery Artwork Christmas Centerpieces

FSS Art Program Fundraiser  
Please help us purchase  
a Tracing Light Box &  
a Movable Painting Drying Rack  
for our students

### Only \$20



repurposing  
upcycling  
reusing  
artwork and  
ornaments

Order online

<https://SD5.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/10007/213/False/True>





Working together to support young  
womens mental health and confidence at  
Fernie Secondary School!

# GIRLS CLUB RAFFLE!



## Steps:

1. Put money in the money box
2. Put your contact info on the tickets and drop them in the tickets box
3. Win prizes from draw on Dec 19th!
4. Be proud you donated to a great cause supporting young women!

## Prizes Include:

- 6 15\$ gift cards to Yamagoya
- 2 Vogue Movie tickets
- 200\$ gift card to Ski Base
- \$50 Polar Peak gift card
- Green Petal gift basket
- \$50 Spa 901 gift card and gift basket
- Freja clothing
- 25\$ Big Bang gift card and merch
- Coal Town merch
- Giv'er Shirt Works Merch
- Canyon Raft gift voucher

**Tickets can  
be  
purchased  
at Big Bang  
Bagels and  
at Fernie  
Secondary  
School!**

# TICKETS

# 4\$