

Alert Bay Elementary
School
381 Larch St.
PO Box 29
Alert Bay, BC
V0N 1A0

Jen Turner, Principal

Phone: 250-974-5569
Fax: 250-974-5925
E-mail:
jturner@sd85.bc.ca

Website:
<https://abes.sd85.bc.ca/>

New Bell Schedule:

8:30 - Warning Bell
8:35 - Classes begin
10:15 - Recess
10:30 - Classes resume
11:45 - Lunch (eating
time)
12:00 - Outside Play
12:25 - Warning Bell
12:30 - Classes resume
2:36 - End of day
dismissal



After School Program BBQ

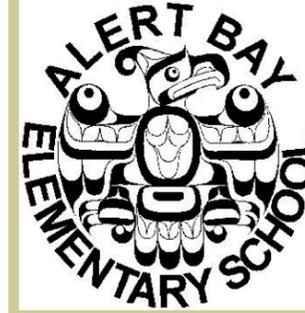
On Monday, September 21 the After School Program hosted a whole school BBQ. The students played outdoor games and ate hot dogs and hamburgers.



This year our program will only run until 3:30 so the bus driver has time to drive the students home before picking up the high school students.

Important Dates

Sept. 30	Orange Shirt Day
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving—no school
Oct. 23	Provincial Pro-D - no school
Oct. 26	School Photo Day
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day - no school
Nov. 20	School-based Pro-D - no school
Dec. 21 to Jan. 1	Christmas Break - no school
Jan. 4	In-service - no school
Jan. 5	School re-opens



Li'xam - Wide
Faced Moon
Time

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Alert Bay School Newsletter

September 2020

Principal's Message

Dear Families,

On behalf of our entire staff I am welcoming all of you back for another incredible year at Alert Bay School. Our school start-up has been very successful as we have adjusted well to being at school during Covid-19. In our learning group at school students are practicing social distancing and safe hand hygiene. We are happy to be back at school. We also have a new doorbell installed at our front door to ring when dropping off lunches or supplies for students. I want to thank all families for helping your children adjust at home, and for being so patient and understanding as we navigate through this together.

Our days have been already filled with great learning projects especially focusing on our student's Math, Reading and Writing.

Our newsletters will be a place to not only share important information, but to also celebrate and document some of the learning at school. If you have any questions at any time please contact your child's teacher or me at 250-974-5569, as we will be happy to hear from you.

With respect,
Jen Turner
Principal

Our Alert Bay School staff this year is:

Jen Turner – Principal/ Learning Resources Teacher and Grade 6/7 Teacher
Susan Dalton - Secretary
Sheila Bragan – K/1/2/3 Teacher
Tidi Nelson – 4/5 Teacher
Roberta Harris - 6/7 Teacher/Teacher Librarian and ELL Teacher
Steven Wong – Library Clerk/ First Nations Education Assistant
Ernest Alfred - First Nations Language and Cultural Worker
Anne Dalton – Education Assistant/ Child and Youth Worker/
After School Program Coordinator/ Noon Hour Supervisor
Karen Reece - Education Assistant/ After School Program Supervisor/Noon Hour
Supervisor
Kim Silvey - Bus Driver / Custodian

Welcome Deb, our new Daytime Custodian



Deb retired from dentistry after 35 years. Married to custodian bus/driver Kim Silvey. Moved to Alert Bay in 2004 and worked at the 'N̄amgis Dental Clinic until retiring.

As Day custodian, Deb will rotate through the school mid day ensuring all touch points are disinfected. After school Deb will work with Kim, our regular custodian, to ensure all high touch areas are disinfected again along with a thorough daily school cleaning.

Health and Safety Reminders

No parents or volunteers into the school at this time. If you need to speak to someone at the school, pick up your child, or drop off a lunch please call 250-974-5569. A buzzer will be installed at the front door for late students. Appointments will be made for adults who need to meet with staff.

Please check in with your child daily about any symptoms of sickness they may be experiencing. **If your child has any symptoms of fever, chills, cough, worsening or chronic cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting. If anyone in your household has recently tested positive for Covid-19 or are isolating because of a possible exposure to Covid-19 do not send your child to school.**

Discuss with your children how to protect themselves and others from getting sick,

Help your child get into the habit of taking home their water bottle everyday to wash it and bringing it back the next day. Our water fountains are turned off.

Reminder that we don't warm up student's lunches.

Please **drive slowly** in our parking lot.

If your child has any allergies please let us know about them.

Form for Medication at School:

In order to maintain a uniform, safe and efficient way of dispensing medication at school, if your child requires medication and you have not filled out the required form, Medication and/or Treatment Data, please contact your principal and request a form. Please have the form completed by your doctor, sign it yourself and return it to the school as soon as possible. This procedure complies with school board policy regarding medications to be taken at school. This form refers to medication that must be taken on a regular or emergency basis. If you have any questions, please call the school principal. Where applicable, the child should be encouraged to wear a Medic Alert bracelet.

Return of the Sisiyu't Panel

On September 16th our Grade 6/7 students were fortunate to participate in an unveiling ceremony at the U'mista Cultural Centre. A large sisiyu't panel has been returned home to the U'mista from Chicago. This panel was purchased in 1894 by George Hunt and was sent to the 1894 Chicago World's Fair.

Chief Bill Cranmer performed a chant and blessing ceremony and spoke to the history of the artifact and the process involved in its return. Our students participated by singing the 'N̄amgis Entrance and River songs during the unveiling. The panel is quite large and it took several people to unpack it very carefully. We are very grateful to the U'mista staff that we were given permission to attend and participate.



Photo: Students from the grade 6/7 class outside the U'mista Cultural Centre

Counselling Services

Counselling services are available at our school with School District 85 Elementary School Counsellor, Angela Hagen (ahagen@sd85.bc.ca) and the 'N̄amgis Health Centre's Counsellor. If you would like your child to receive school counselling services, please ask your child's teacher or Ms. Turner for a school counselling referral & parent permission form. These forms are required to be filled out each year. Alternatively, you can contact the service providers directly.

A Message from Angela Hagen, SD85 Elementary School Counsellor:

Hello Parents /Guardians:

If you are inquiring about School Counselling...

The aim of school counselling is to help kids have a successful, safe and happy school year.

Here are some ways that school counselling can benefit kids who may be struggling:

- help develop healthy skills to manage emotions, self-regulation, and social interactions
- help kids cope with feelings of loss or grief as they experience family troubles, or the death of a loved one
- help kids learn to manage stress and deal with anxiety, especially during this period of Covid-19

The Role of the School Counsellor

Our district elementary school counsellor works with the CYCW's (Child & Youth Care Workers), the rest of your child's school support team (teachers, principal & VP, etc.), and You, to provide the tools (coping strategies) and support that your child needs, to overcome challenges and have success at school. The goal is for your child to receive 4 - 8 weekly or bi-weekly scheduled counselling visits (approx. 30 min each). The visits may begin immediately, or your child may have to wait for the next counselling block (we will let you know when counselling will be able to begin). After that, the counsellor may set up brief check-in's with your child, if needed, or suggest "outside" counselling support or other resources.

At times, the school counsellor also works with classroom teachers to teach health and safety lessons, such as "Body Safety" and "Self-Regulation". As this is part of the curriculum, and is educational and not therapeutic, a counselling permission form is not needed for class visits.

Confidentiality

Counselling is based on trust and safety. The school counsellor will keep the child's conversations confidential, with some possible exceptions: Counsellors may share info with parents, teachers, or others who work with the child, with the child's knowledge and permission, so that we may better help the child as a team. The counsellor always encourages the child to share personal concerns with a safe and trusted adult in their life.

School counsellors are required by law to share information with others when:

- The child presents information about hurting them self or another person
- There is evidence or disclosure of abuse (physical, emotional, or sexual) or neglect
- If counselling records are court ordered

My scheduled time at Alert Bay Elementary School is every other Thursday.

Angela