



550-7<sup>th</sup> Street – Room 130  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 3Z2

## Newsletter

#morethanschool

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Website: <https://la.schools.sd68.bc.ca>

Follow us on Twitter: @LearningAltern1

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Brett Hancock,  
District Principal of  
Learning Alternatives

October 2019

LEARNING ALTERNATIVES

The School Newsletter will also be available to students and parents on-line on the Learning Alternatives website.  
If you do not have access to a computer, there will be paper copies available at either school sites for you or your child to pick up.

### BRETT'S COMMENTS

Dear Family,

September was a month that had our student population grow to over 300! We are clearly the place where students want to learn. This growth has allowed us to offer a wider range of academic and elective area courses.

Our Terry Fox Run was a huge highlight of my September. It combined both school sites to celebrate and honour Terry and his family. The passion from staff and students was truly inspirational. We are getting closer to our school goal of \$1000 and have until October 18 to reach it. If we are able to meet this mark, our John Barsby site Coordinator, Trevor McIntyre, has agreed to shave his beard and I have agreed to get a Terry Fox tattoo designed by our incredible students. Let's keep raising funds for the Terry Fox Foundation and meet our goal.

It was an honour to celebrate with Premier Horgan, Deputy Minister Fleming and Lieutenant Governor Austin about all the great work Learning Alternatives staff are leading. We were the only school in the entire province to have two finalists for the Premier's Awards. There wasn't many dry eyes when our ABOUT/Woodlands site coordinator, Chad Jobe, won the Premier's Award for Excellence in Education in Social Diversity and Equity. Chad inspires all of the province to always do what is best

for kids and helps improve life chances every day. He is an example of how we are more than school. Congratulations Chad on this amazing accomplishment.



Please know that there is nothing I won't do to support students and families. I can always be reached by email at [bhancock@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:bhancock@sd68.bc.ca) to help answer any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,  
Brett Hancock

## IMPORTANT DATES

October 2	-Staff Meeting @ Woodlands @ 3pm
October 8	-SBT @ Woodlands @ 8:15am -John Howard Group @ John Barsby 10:20am in room 130
October 9	-SBT @ Barsby @ 8:15am -Thanksgiving Lunch @ Barsby -Learning Leader Meeting @ Woodlands @ 3pm
October 10	-John Howard Group @ Woodlands 10:20am in the TAH Room -Elder Lolly in Residence at Woodlands @ 10:00am
October 11	-School Based Pro D NO CLASSES
October 15-17	-Take a Hike Trip to Strathcona Lodge
October 15	-SBT @ Woodlands @ 8:15am -John Howard Group @ John Barsby 10:20am in room 130
October 16	-SBT @ Barsby @ 8:15am
October 17	-John Howard Group @ Woodlands 10:20am in the TAH Room -Elder Lolly in Residence at Woodlands @ 10:00am -Parent Night @ Both Sites (Barsby 5-7pm/Woodlands 4-6pm)
October 18	-Terry Fox Fundraising Cut Off -Westwood Run/Hike
October 21	-School Site Federal Elections
October 22	-SBT @ Woodlands @ 8:15am -John Howard Group @ John Barsby 10:20am in room 130
October 23	-SBT @ Barsby @ 8:15am
October 24	-John Howard Group @ Woodlands 10:20am in the TAH Room -Elder Lolly in Residence at Woodlands @ 10am -NCC/Guthrie Graduation @ 1pm
October 25	-Provincial Pro D NO CLASSES
October 29	-SBT @ Woodlands @ 8:15am -John Howard Group @ John Barsby 10:20am in room 130 -PAC @ Woodlands @ 6pm
October 30	-SBT @ Barsby @ 8:15am
October 31	-John Howard Group @ Woodlands 10:20am in the TAH Room -Elder Lolly in Residence at Woodlands @ 10:00am

## PAC

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) had a great turnout for our first meeting of the school year. PAC helps support a wide range of educational opportunities for Learning Alternatives students. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend meetings. Please know that no commitment is required. This is a great chance to ask any questions that you may have about the school, graduation, educational plans, etc. We hope to see you at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 29 at 6:00pm at Woodlands Secondary School. Please use the fire lane off Strathmore Street to access our entrance. Look for the Learning Alternatives sign.



## PARENT NIGHT

On the evening of October 17, we welcome all parents, family members and students to come enjoy some snacks, refreshments and a tour of our school sites. We as a staff will give you the opportunity to experience what learning looks like, sounds like, and feels like with Learning Alternatives. Our goal is to provide learning that ultimately supports the well-being of the self, the family, the community, the land, the spirits and the ancestors.

This night will run from 5:00pm-7:00pm at our John Barsby site and 4:00pm-6:00pm at our Woodlands site. Take and Hike and Intro To Trades Programs will be hosting a parent night on a separate night and time. All of programs will be hosting a Meet The Teacher Night on November 20 where each student will be bringing home an Ongoing Communication of Student Learning (OCSL). We hope to see everyone at both events and please reach out to cohort teachers with any questions or concerns that you may have.