

REVELSTOKE SECONDARY

SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT

May 2013



**Respect
Safety
Success**

**Report to the Board
2012-2013**

School Information

Enrolment

| Grade | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | SU | Total |
|----------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Numbers | 68 | 83 | 92 | 93 | 89 | 7 | 432 |

Teaching Staff

Adams, Sandy
Beitel, Terry
Browning, Theresa
Cancilla, Lissa
Carey, Lida
Chow, Sarah
Colvin, Jeff
Connor, Jade
Davis, Tessa
Evans, Rob
Gale, Graham

Grimm, Stacey
Hallewas, Anita
Hathorn, Amanda
Hodgeson, Carolann
Hoshizaki, Kathy
Howard, Mike
Louttit, Greg
Milmine, Lori
Moore, Shaun
Phelps, Stu
Rourke, Barry

Scheiber, Kristen
Simpson, Meghan
Spannier, Jarrett
Stevens, Jason
Vincent, Sarah
Von Bremen, Kendra
Wallach, Jodi
Walsh, Maria
Weiler, Craig
Wilson, Jeff

Non- Teaching Staff

Adam, Amanda
Barisoff, Lynn
Cochrane, Drew
Cottingham, Kim
Cunningham, Cindy
Echlin, Andrea
Evans, Cathy
Faucett, Christine
Goddard, Lynda

Hill, Bill
Jensen, Nancy
Johnson, Tammy
Malenica, Liz
Maltby, Clara
Masson, Heather
McKenzie, Nicole
Mohr, Mary-Lou
Murray, Sandra

Robinson, Debbie
Schmidt, Shirley
Sinclair, Jaime

Vice Principal: Andy Pfeiffer

Principal: Greg Kenyon

Introduction

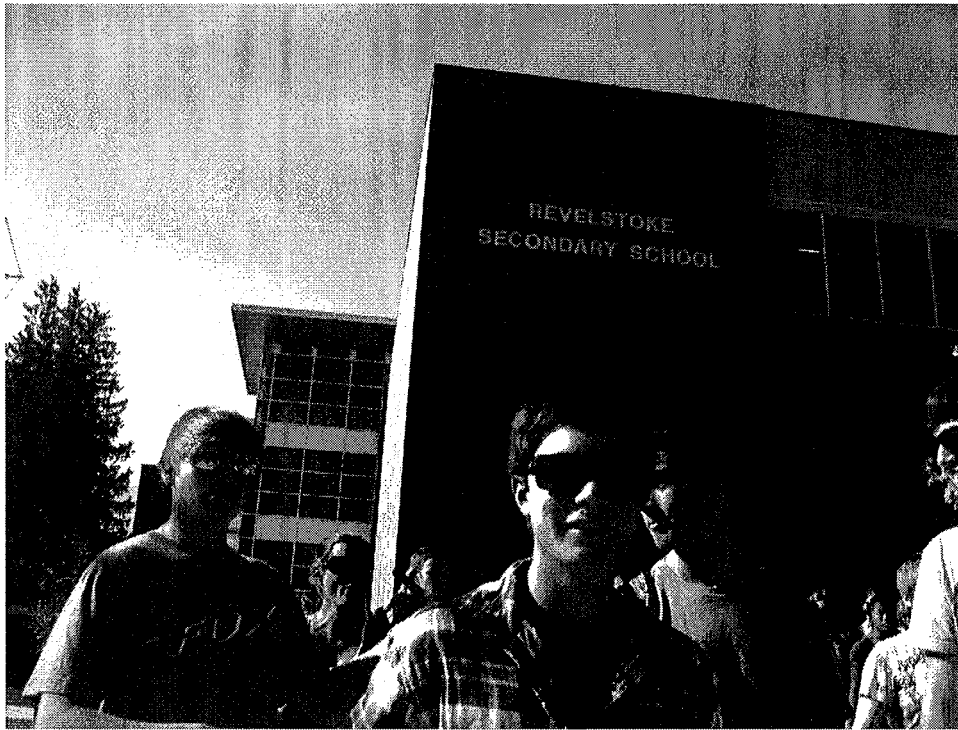
It was with great excitement that I started my position as Principal on January 7th. In the few short months I have been at RSS I am extremely impressed by the school community, the district leadership, and the city itself.

The culture of the school has been my main focus so far. The results of the 2013 Satisfaction Survey bear out the fact that students feel connected to the school; the prime indicator of positive school connectedness is evidenced through relationships with adults in the school. In this year's survey 95% of grade eight students felt connected to two or more adults in the school, and 82% of grade twelve students felt connected to two or more adults in the school.

This school also is a safe school. The overwhelming majority of students feel safe at school; with 91% of grade eight students and 81% of grade twelve students feel absolutely safe at school. Of course we are not satisfied until this percentage approaches 100%. Continued focus on positive behaviour and tolerance will continue to improve this feeling in the school. A great example of this is the "Love is Louder" student-led campaign on-going at the school. As well, a renewed focus on positive behaviour systems at RSS will again reinforce an already well-established culture of acceptance and respect.

Greg Kenyon,
Principal

What's Happening at RSS!!



Terry Fox Run/Walk Day



School Spirit! Volleyball Fans



Pirates vs Ninjas Day



Halloween Fun



Live performance in the "Multi-Purpose" room!

International Flavour at RSS
Submitted by Andy Pfeiffer

Revelstoke Secondary continues to benefit from the rich diversity that comes with having international students attend school here. This year we had eleven students from Japan, Korea, Spain, and Germany. Our continued collaboration with the Rocky Mountain International Student Program from School District #6 helps us secure a healthy handful of students from mostly Western European Countries -- most years the majority of students coming to us from RMI are from Germany which helps to complement our German classes at RSS. International students are encouraged to get involved and participate in extra-curricular activities and activities in the broader community of Revelstoke.



Felix Knopp from Germany

Ono Cho Visit 2013
Submitted by Terry Beitel

We had a visit from our Ono Cho Exchange group from Japan from February 1-6, 2013. The group consisted of 4 adults and 16 students. For the 5 days they were here they participated in regular classroom activities, went curling, and enjoyed ski lessons and skiing at RMR. Just before leaving, they also hosted a cultural fair which included traditional Japanese games and culture.



Performing at Carousel of Nations



Welcome Ceremony

Student Services
Submitted by Jodi Wallach

Highlights:

We created a number of blogs to communicate with students:

- Grad Transitions blog: We gave students more freedom in how they present the required material, which led to much more interesting and personalized presentations.
- Opportunities blog: We highlight a variety of opportunities available to RSS students. We are reaching more students this way and have seen an increase in the number of student's applications across the board.
- Health Resource blog: Where students can look for appropriate online resources to help with stress, healthy relationships, healthy sexuality etc.
- Scholarship blog: Improved the access for students as we continue to streamline the process we've been improving on each year.

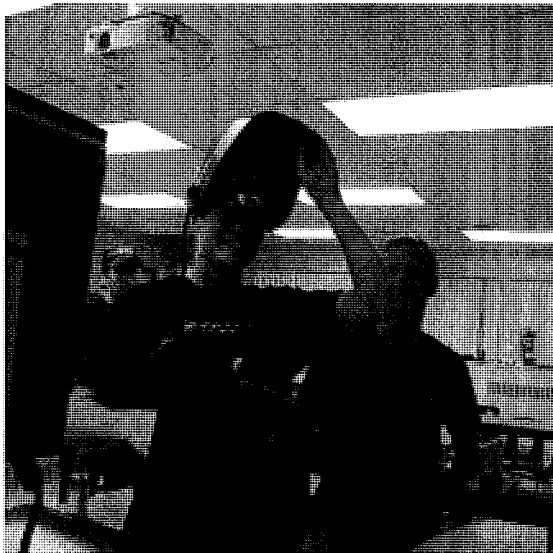
We offered four presentation nights for Grads to present their required Grad Transitions. Each student presented to a panel of adults who provided constructive feedback on their plans.

Three students successfully completed the first year electrical apprenticeship technical training at Okanagan College.

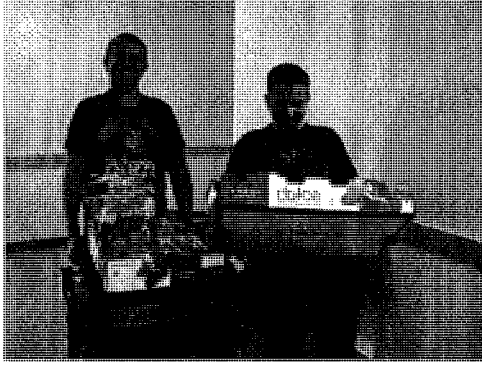
Lori Milmine took 19 students to the Okanagan College for the "Experience Okanagan College" in Salmon Arm. Students went online and registered for courses in the same way they would if registering for College, then attended two sessions on campus.

Lori took 22 students to Kelowna to "Trade Discovery Day" where they had the opportunity to do hands-on trades activities.

Lori took a group of 12 students to Kamloops for "Discover the World of InfoTech" conference.



Lynne organized the fruit and vegetable program. Fresh produce from local partners was brought in and shared with our students every couple of weeks.



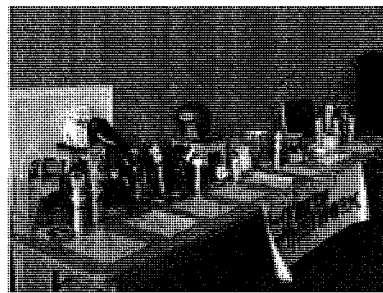
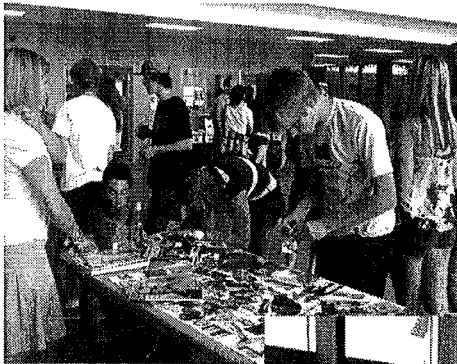
We prepared for and underwent an enrolment audit review this fall.

We are expecting 150 students from the Okanagan to participate in the Okanagan Nation Alliance Unity Run on May 31st to raise awareness about suicide and violence.

We are expecting Jerry Whitehead to provide an art workshop for up to 75 students.

Jodi has joined the Youth Mental Health Awareness and Substance Use Committee. This committee, along with Kathy and Lori, organized the first RSS Mental Wellness Fair in conjunction with community partners during Mental Health Week.

Lynne also took a group of 13 students to Salmon Arm for an Aboriginal Education Career Exploration Conference.



Lynne organized an anti-racism campaign in March, culminating in an anti-racism day.

Lori started a Writing Club to support gifted students. They meet once a week at lunch.

Lori worked with the Youth Advisory Committee. This committee helped steer the direction for Megan Shandro, the Stoke Youth Network (SYN) coordinator, who now has her office based out of RSS.

Lori, Kathy, Jodi, Sandy and Stacey have started attending the transition meetings, preparing the grade 7 students for a smooth transfer to RSS.

Sandy Adams coordinated the First Class conference to enable School Based Team Meeting (SBTM) members to post IEP's and Profile sheets online.

Kathy and Jodi made a lot of connections with community resource people as we hosted meetings every two weeks at RSS. These meetings have since been discontinued on a "formal" schedule, however we have all made important contacts that we continue to use daily.

Improving Performance of C+, C Students

- Support teachers exclusively work with C+, C students to help them achieve success in their regular classes.
- After report cards are issued, Counsellors meet with students who have received a failing grade in a course and are not yet receiving additional support.
- Lori meets with gifted students to discuss their progress.
- Weekly School Based Team Meetings are held to discuss students who are not being successful (on an as needed basis).
- Lynne regularly meets with aboriginal students to provide support.
- Counsellors meet with students to offer support at the request of teachers, parents and/or students.
- All of the extra things we do to create a positive atmosphere, connect students with adults, and help to improve student performance. 😊

(Behavioural) Learning Support Annual Report Submitted by Amanda Hathorn-Geary

Highlights:

- Class Team Building & Bonding Trip to Skytrek for High Ropes course, October 2013. Entry and charges for course were waved by Skytrek as a result of application made by classroom teacher & due to the nature of Learning Support student programming.
- Community Connections involvement with in-class presentations and out-of-class provision of counselling boys/girls programs.
- End of year field trip to be determined.

New Program(s)

- Adapted Planning 10: Combined forces (on occasion) with adapted PE class in order to achieve dual PLO's.
- Various presentations and talks conducted by members of Community Connections throughout the year on a variety of subjects including; Sexual Education, Drug Awareness, Face book Privacy Settings & General Counselling issues.

New equipment/resources

- Utilization of Stoke Youth Network Liaison and Community Connections Youth Workers regarding provision of additional materials.
- Utilization of SCIDES & Link (new) correspondence materials for implementation of instructor led Learning Support courses.

Favourite Units

- Drug Awareness Week, Outdoor Education/Experiential Education component (October 2012) Skytrek Adventure Park

Special Projects

- Completion of Grad Transitions as part of the Adapted Planning 10 class, Term 4, requirements. Due to the completion of this project many Learning Support students will have their Grad Transitions completed in advance of their grade 12 year. All completed Grad Transition Projects will be filed in 'Student Files' within the RSS main office on CD.
- All students in Learning Support classes and Adapted Planning Course completed a generic 'Cover Letter' and 'Resume' for use in employment searches.
- Teacher aided a number of students with the solidification of local employment.
- Teacher aided students in the obtainment of SIN card numbers upon request.

Improving Performance of Students

- Over the course of the 2012/2013 school year the Learning Support classroom was not only utilized for course completion but also afforded students with support for their other classes and life skills training.
- Students were informed of work assigned via a Learning Support (Planning) Blog as well as a Face book Group dedicated to Learning Support. This form of social media was utilized to remind students about missing work, absences and general performance via instant messaging.

Examples of strategies used

- Provided teacher led courses, correspondence course options & self-directed course options based on the needs & desires of student(s) in conjunction with counsellor & teacher assessment. In this way, it was assured that the correct program(s) was selected for each student in the Learning Support Program.

- Maintained daily spreadsheet (for duration of school year) on all Learning Support classes. Each student as a result, was assigned, and made aware of, daily assignments for their particular course. The classroom teacher updated the daily spreadsheet with work completed, absences and notes re; other supported work. Monthly summaries were sent to Admin and school counsellors throughout the school year.

Summary: Achievements & Challenges

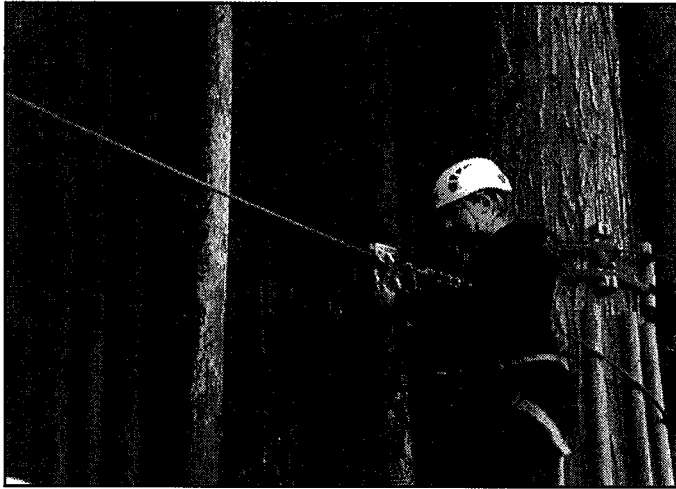
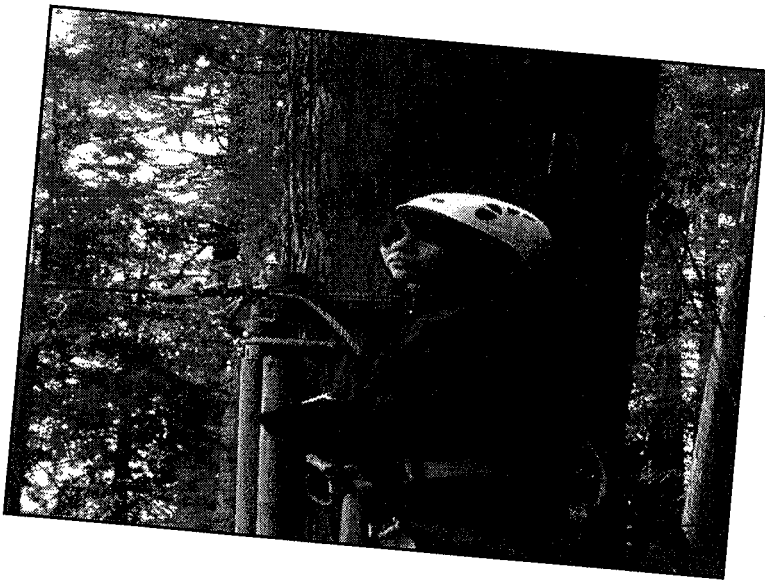
By far the largest challenge with the (Behavioural) Learning Support Program is the lack of consistent attendance of a select few students. **18 students** enrolled in Learning Support completed a total of **27 courses** (accumulatively) for the 2012/2013 School Year. Although there were challenges, I believe the program produced some excellent academic results in addition to providing much needed emotional and life-skill support to the majority of those enrolled.

Recognizing Student Achievement

- Students who completed courses will be given a completion certificate (June 2013).
- Students who completed courses were part of the course completion registration process
- Marks were updated via the LS blog
- Course Achievements were also announced during the year via the FB group.
- In-class awards will be presented at end of year (June 2013) as well as photos taken and uploaded to our FB group.

Skytrek Photos Below:





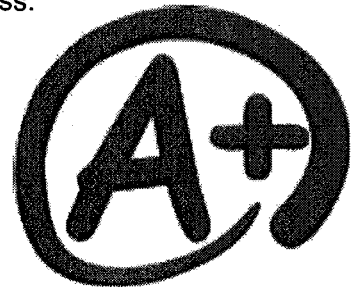
Mathematics Department
Submitted by Jarrett Spannier

The RSS math department remained solid in 2012/13 with returning veterans Carey, Colvin and Spannier. The department welcomed Mike Howard to the department to teach a block of Apprenticeship/Workplace Math 10. This group will continue into the 2013/14 school year. Some highlights of the year are outlined below:

Grade 8: Lida Carey continued her use of a booklet/worksheet approach to the course. This supplemental approach is used as a way to bring the math skills of all students to a level where they can be successful in math 9 the following year. Jeff utilizes the textbook and supplements where needed to achieve the common goal of preparing students for the following course in mathematics.

Grade 9: Lida Carey handled all the Math 9 students this year – being assigned all 3 blocks. She spent much of her prep time adding to and revamping the original worksheets used in delivering this course. Students at this age level prefer worksheets – less to copy and draw. With concepts like geometry and graphing in the curriculum the worksheet method is the best method for student success.

Grade 10: The Foundations of Math/Pre-calc 10 provincial exam results tell the tale here. Our grade 10 students were well prepared for this exam. Of the 44 students who wrote the exam 59% of them scored a B or better (with 22% being A level). Revelstoke Secondary School once again scored above the provincial average this year - in fact they eclipsed it by 6%. Further to this is the fact that only 4% of those writing the test scored less than 50% on the test, compared to the 17% in the province who failed the exam. 43 of 44 students are moving on to either Foundations of Math 11 or Pre-calculus 11. This June, Jeff Colvin's class will be writing a paper version of the exam to see if results will be different than the electronic version written in January.



In regards to Apprenticeship Workplace Math 10: 19 of the 20 students enrolled in the course met the learning outcomes. In fact, all those who took a passing grade into the provincial exam left with a passing grade (some performed well above the provincial average on the exam).

Grade 11: Grade 11 saw the implementation of a new course Foundations of Math 11. This course is intended for students pursuing non-science related degrees. Lida Carey

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was our inaugural instructor of this course seeing 24 students complete the course. Her efforts have resulted in 25 students moving onto Foundations of Math 12. (Choosing a grade 12 Math course as an elective!). We now have three grade 11 Math courses running in our small school in an attempt to meet the needs of all types of students. (Science, Arts and Trades)

I (\ln^e) Math
 $\sqrt{16}$ Ever

With a very talented Grade 11 group we were able to run 3 high achieving Pre-calculus 11 classes, 60% of students scored at the B level or better (of which 30% were A level). These efforts have resulted in 41 students selecting Pre-Calculus 12 next year and 21 choosing Calculus 12. We are happy to see so many of our future grads choosing senior Math as an **elective**.

Grade 12: Our grads of 2013 have once again been the "Guinea Pigs" for new math curriculum, as they have been since entering grade 4. Spannier was given the task of implementing this new curriculum and saw 2 classes of 20 students accept the challenge of **Pre-Calculus 12**. Students rose to the challenge as 20% of students scored at the A level and 23% of students at the B level. In anticipation of next years Pre-calculus 12 classes (2), revamping and reassessing of materials and content is currently underway.

In addition to Pre-calculus 12, our school has been able to deliver a **Calculus 12** Program to 15 of our future science, engineering and business post-secondary



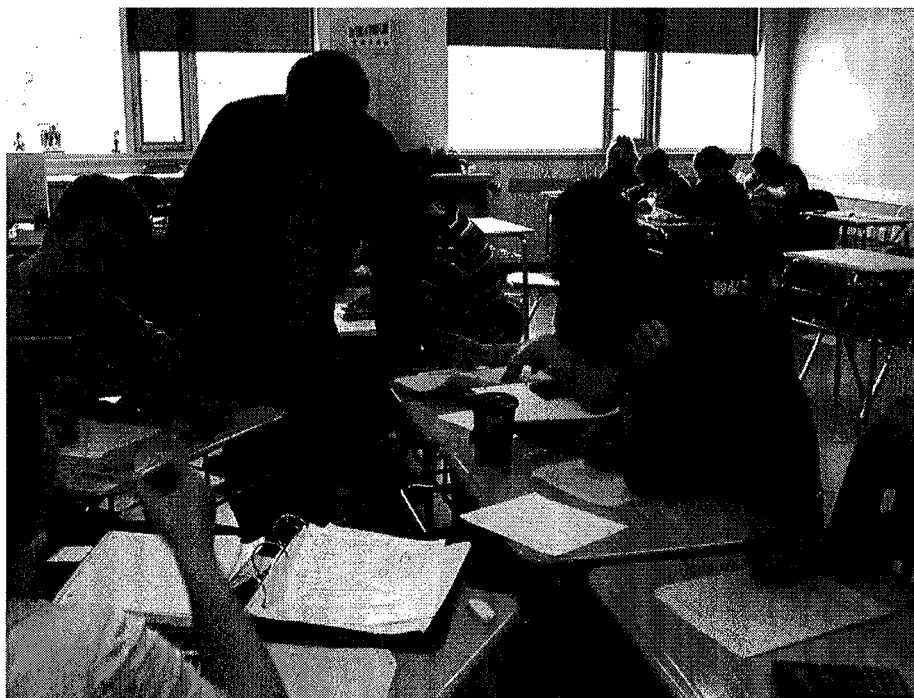
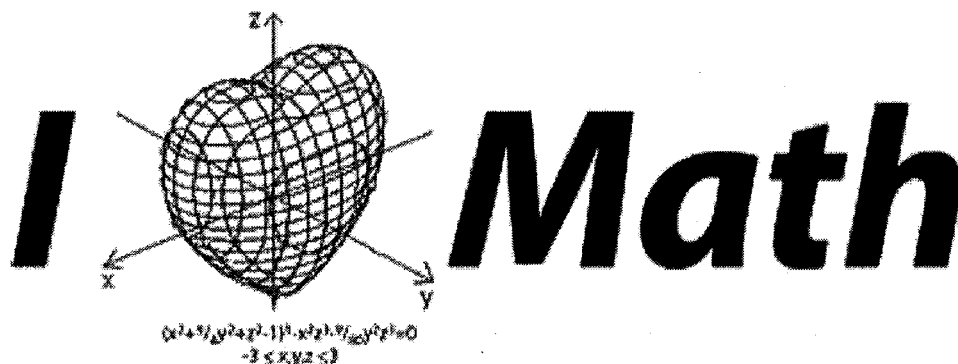
students. This course is extremely valuable for our top students – in fact, comments from returning RSS grads continue to be that this was their MOST valuable high school course and that they out-perform the IB/Honours students from around the province. The instructor, Spanner, is excited about the upcoming year of Calculus as his new, updated version of the textbook is ready for use. This updated version should further push our top students ahead of others in the province ☺.

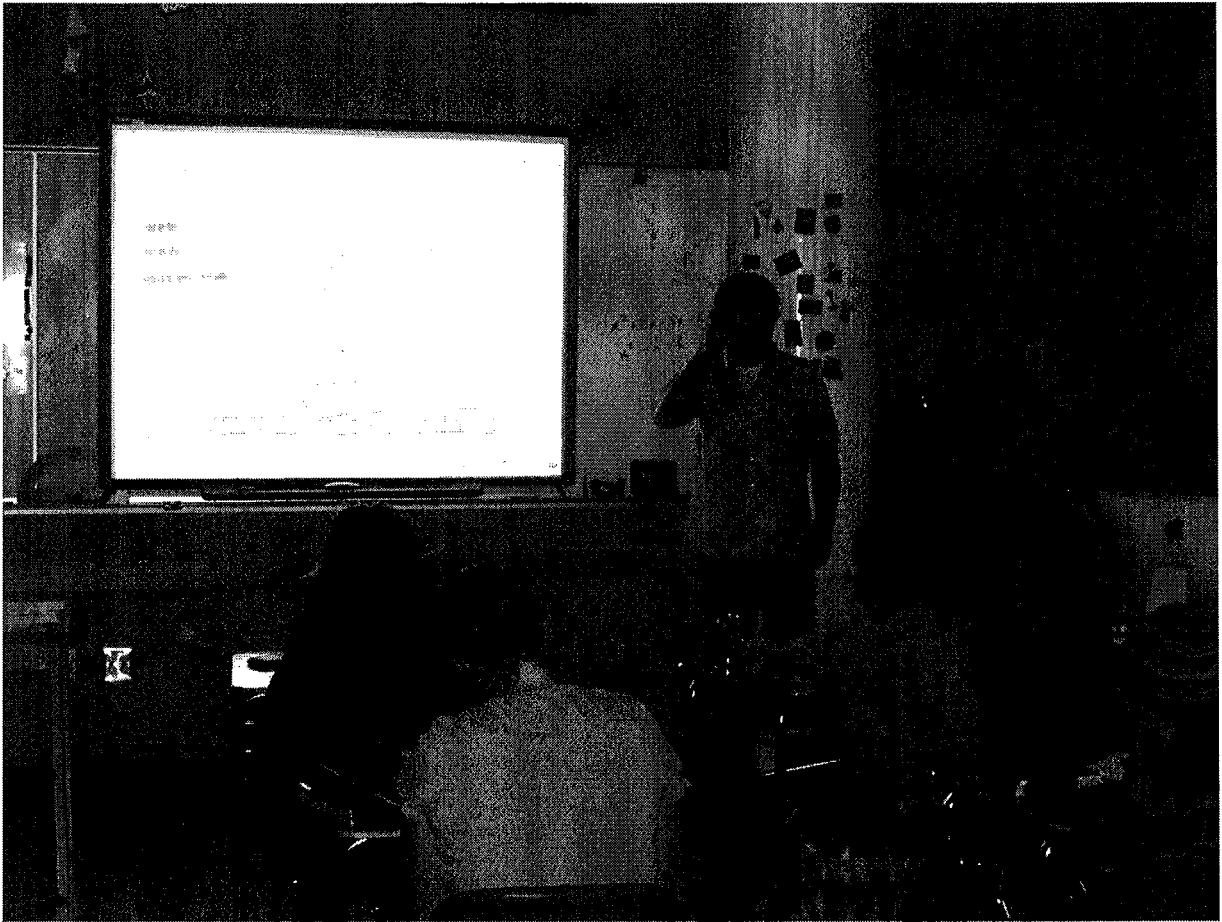


Highlights from outside the classroom:

Members of the department remain involved in provincial committees gaining insight in future curriculum changes. One of the members has taken the initial steps toward furthering his involvement in curriculum development in investigating Master degrees in curriculum. One became a father, the other became a grandma ☺

The pinnacle of success, the power to amaze The numbers don't lie! – The RSS math department remains one of the top departments in the school – It's no wonder they placed us all on the TOP floor ☺





Math teacher, Jeff Colvin, using the Smartboard to support his lesson delivery

English Department
Submitted by: Jeff Wilson

Question: "Is life on the final exam?"

Our Staff

The English department has a dedicated and professional group of staff members in the classrooms of RSS. Department members from this year include Sarah Chow, Jade Connor, Amanda Hathorn, Meghan Simpson, Andy Pfeiffer, Maria Walsh, and Jeff Wilson. During the year, this staff worked together to deliver engaging lessons so RSS students would develop an appreciation for language, literacy, and life.

Many of our English teachers have been credentialed by the Ministry of Education to mark Grade 12 exams in Language Arts and Communications, and at the end of each semester, we all work together to mark the Grade 10 provincial exams. This collaboration allows us to calibrate and refine our marking so we are consistent with the provincial standards and with each other. These marking sessions also help the students because our department is consistent regarding the expectations on exams and in the classroom.

Our Lessons

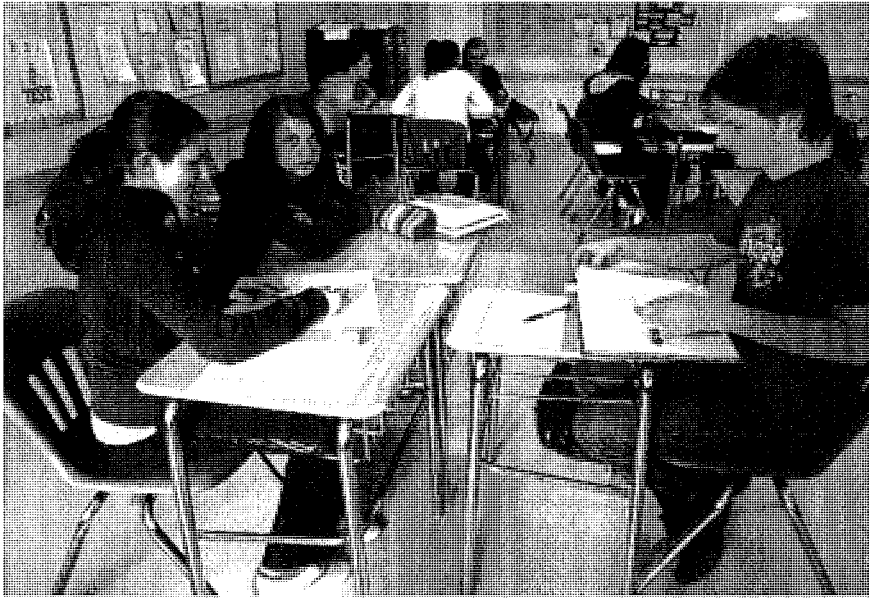
In the classroom, we try to keep our lessons vibrant, accessible, and relevant. We recognize that there are many ways to learn, and so we present lessons in a variety of ways. We use traditional ways to engage students like acting out scenes from a play in class or providing students with a quiet place to read a book. At times, we listen to audio books together to facilitate immediate discussion of the material and to provide assistance to students who might struggle as independent readers.

We are also using technology in a variety of ways in the classroom. Sometimes, we use Smart Boards at the front of the classroom to demonstrate how to edit a sentence or construct a paragraph. We can also use this same technology to provide a "Street View" of the Globe Theatre in London or the barbed-wire fences that strangle the concentration camps of Auschwitz.

Another way we are engaging students is by personalizing their learning. At the end of novel units, students are often given a choice of ways to demonstrate their learning. Students might choose to produce poetry on relevant themes or they might choose to create a digital "trailer" to highlight key lessons from their reading. To quote one of Meghan's students: "We like choices!"

The English department is also trying to engage parents by providing them with daily summaries of our classroom activities by using online blogs. This way, parents have a way to follow along with our progress and discussion topics, and they also have an easy way to confirm if it is true when their son or daughter tells them, "There was no homework today."

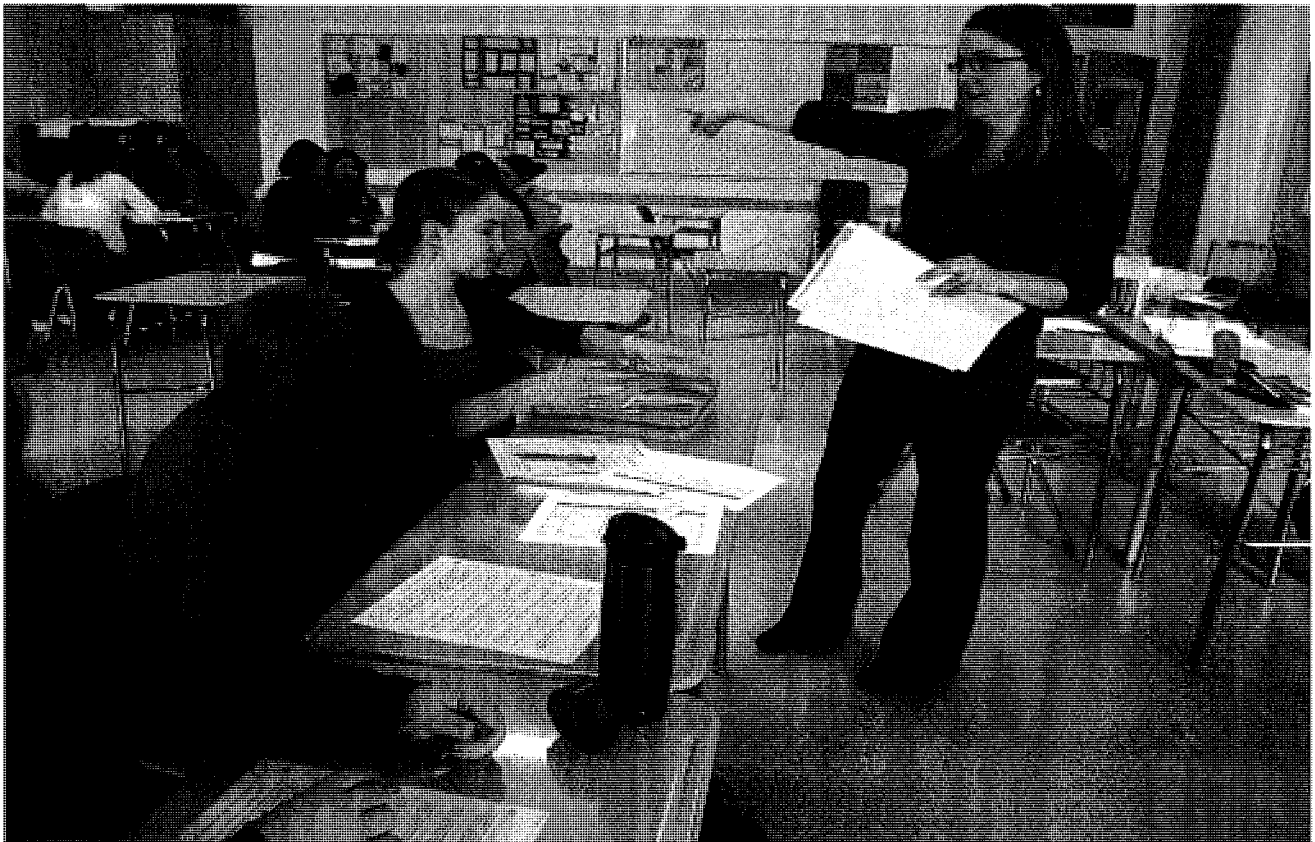
The English Department also realizes that learning takes place outside of the classroom, and so we have sponsored annual trips to see Shakespeare's plays performed onstage at the "Bard on the Beach" festival in Vancouver. Last year, we attended *As You Like It*, and this spring we are taking a group of students on a three-day trip to see *Hamlet*.



Through our classroom lessons, our outreach, and our extra-curricular activities, we hope to foster a love of learning and of literature.

Our Results

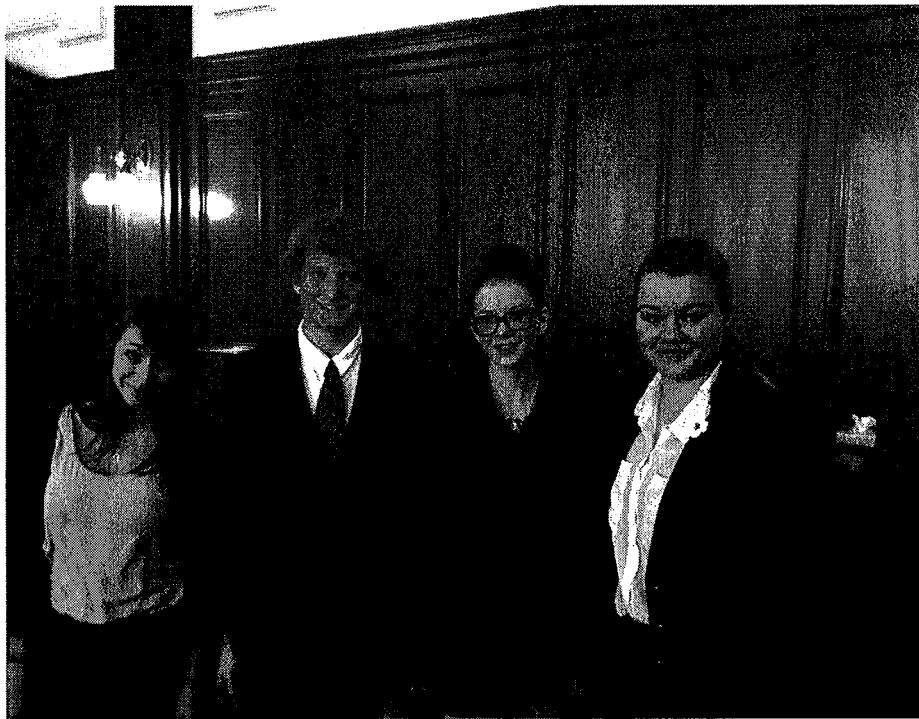
Even though we don't teach to the provincial exam, our provincial exam results have been very positive. Our exam scores are consistently above the provincial average, and we can take some pride in that. However, the true results we strive for is that our students develop as readers, writers, critical thinkers, and as citizens. We also strive for students to understand that, yes, life is on the exam and that there is also a lot of life in our English classrooms at RSS.



RSS Social Studies Department Report Submitted by Lissa Cancilla-Sykes

Our Department ran smoothly this year with only three staff members: Jade Connor, Jason Stevens and Lissa Cancilla. We managed to provide all required social studies courses, as well as a diversity of senior electives including: Law, History, Geography and First Nations 12.

In the junior grades the students were exposed to several local field trips. The grade 8's worked with Parks Canada learning about Orienteering and Exploration on Mount Revelstoke. The grade 10's also travelled with Parks staff to Loop Brook trail and explored the history of the railway in our neighborhood. This was followed up by a trip to the Railway Museum. Ms. Cancilla also spent considerable time with Cathy English from the Revelstoke Museum learning about Revelstoke past. This translated to field trips to both the Revelstoke Cemetery and the Revelstoke Museum learning about Revelstoke's earliest settlers. This was followed by a downtown walking tour of Victorian Revelstoke. It was wonderful to see the students make links between the people they know and the artifacts with which they are surrounded. Ms. Cancilla's grade 10's also learned how to do Métis beadwork and weaving. The First Nations 12 as well as the SS 10 classes were also involved in the Project of Heart. This involved twinning our school with a Residential School and participating in a mosaic tile painting project which celebrated Aboriginal Survivors and acknowledged the tragedies that occurred there. Mrs. Connor's class had a lot of fun creating French Revolution game boards. Her grade 9 classes were treated to local guest speakers Krista Carnegie and Susan Knight-Flood, who fostered an awareness of human rights issues and Fair Trade.



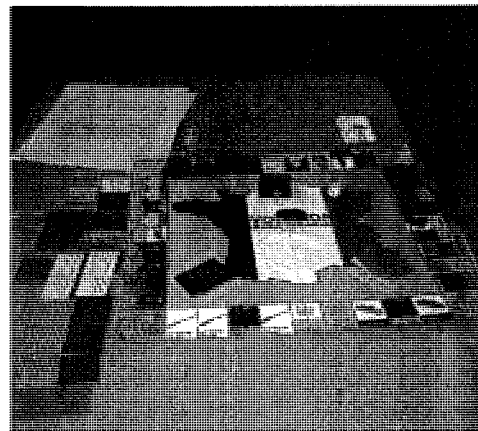
Mock Trial – Revelstoke Court House

The senior classes met with MLA Norm Macdonald. Mr. Steven's senior Law Classes travelled in both semesters to Kelowna, as well as to our local courthouse to observe actual trials. Local Constables Coleman and Yacobowski discussed policing issues with these classes. The Law classes also met with Forensics Officer Corporal Moore to discuss evidence. In addition, Mr. Steven's Geography class made several local field trips to observe "stuff of geographic nature." The First Nations 12 Class travelled for the first time to the Okanagan Reserve outside of Vernon. We met with various elders, teachers and

politicians who helped the students understand many of the current issues facing First Nations in BC. It was the first experience for many to be on a reserve and they were very respectful and open to learning.

Our Department has also been involved in outside initiatives including the sponsorship of two senior students, Emma Knight-Flood and Allison McTaggart, to the Junior Youth Parliament in Nelson this past weekend. In addition, our entire department is enrolled in the provincial Student Vote Program. All students will be learning about the issues and structure surrounding the BC election. They will actually participate in the electoral process and their votes will count in the provincial student statistics. Local reporter, Alex Cooper, will be at RSS on May 13th to observe the grade 10 class in electoral action!

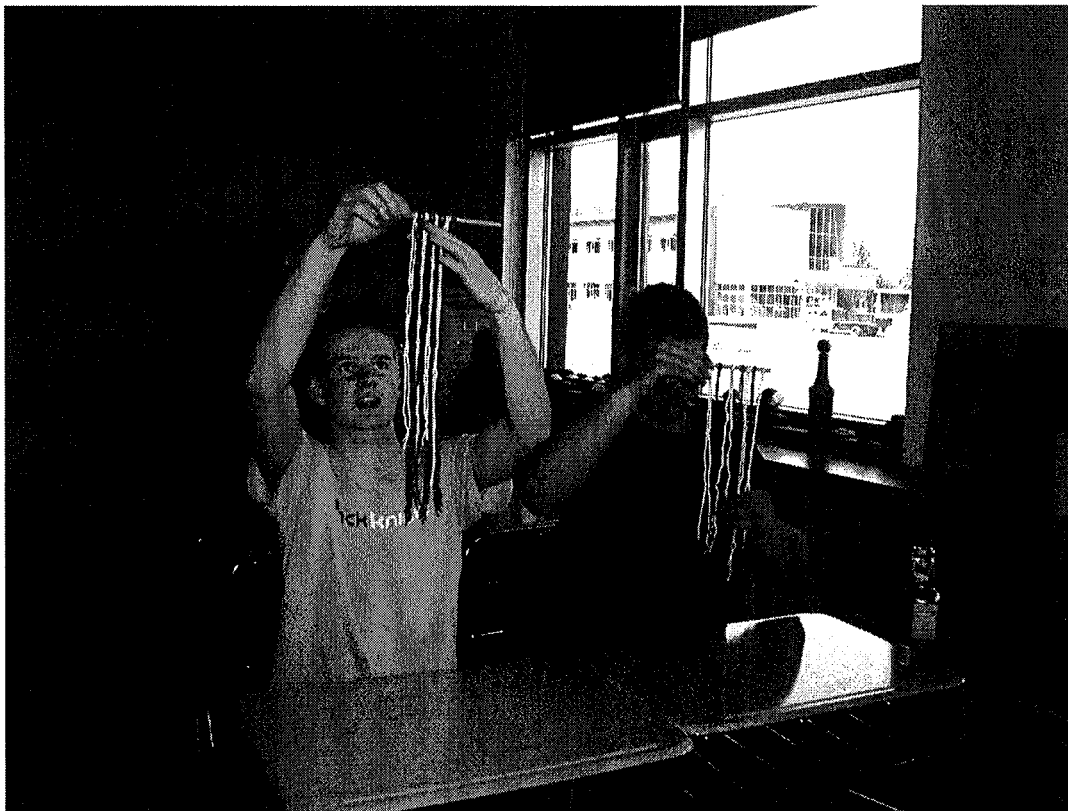
Check it out in the Times Review! Our Department is proud of the variety of programming and experiences available to our students during this period of declining enrollment. We would like to acknowledge the support of the Revelstoke Board of Education for recognizing the importance of field trips and guest speakers to the students of RSS. It is absolutely critical that our students can make local connections and at the same time, explore the world as Ambassadors of Revelstoke. We hope to continue to foster these relationships and experiences.



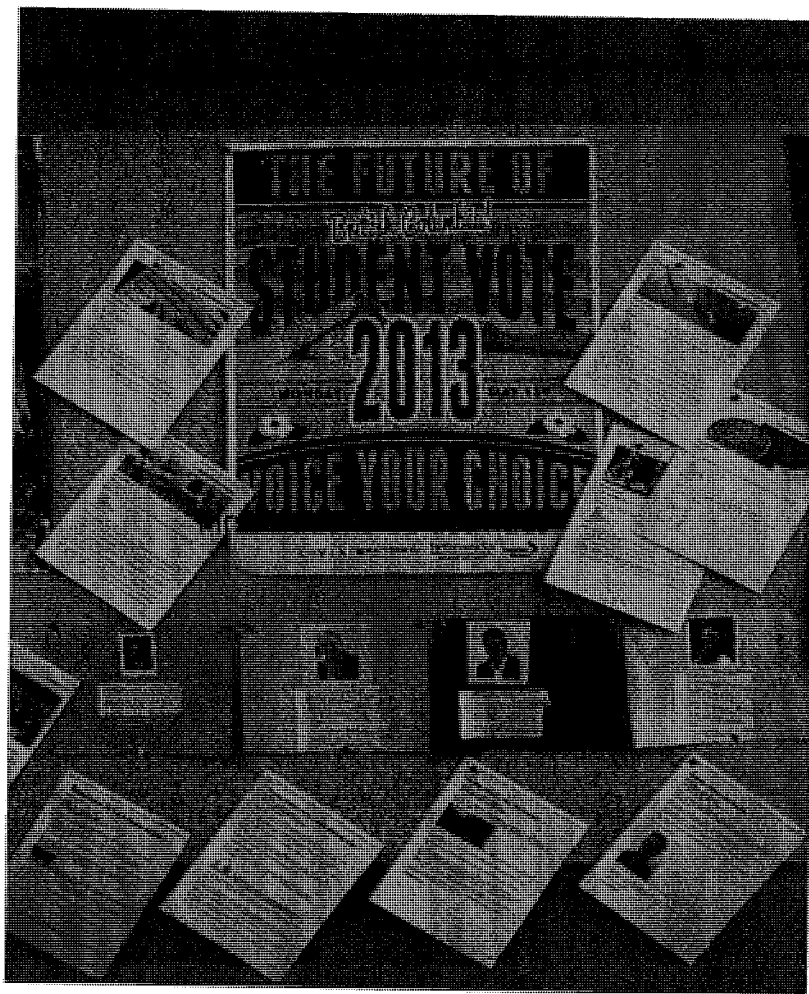
French Revolution Board Game

Field Trip to the Okanagan Reserve





First Nations 12 activities





Project of the Heart



Mr. Steven's Geography Class



German Department
Submitted by Andy Pfeiffer



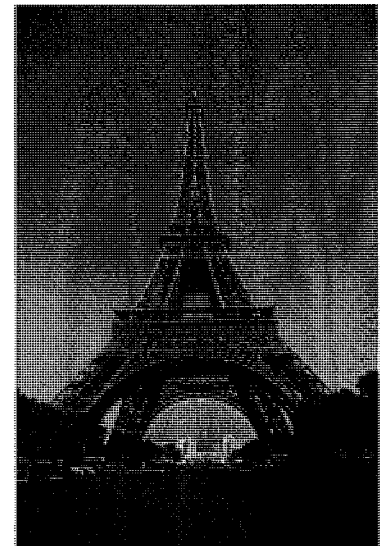
German at RSS continued this year with one, combined German 11/German 12 class. Students continued to develop their language skills and benefitted greatly from the many German Exchange Students who attended RSS this year. In addition to learning about *The Fatherland*, students also competed in a German Language Contest that was organized by the German Consulate in Vancouver. Several students in class won prizes for doing so well with Emily Unterberger and Deani Mostert topping the class and winning lucrative gift certificates for their efforts. Next year, German language learning will continue with a full class of Introductory German 11 being offered.

French Department
Submitted by Shaun Moore

Revelstoke Secondary School offered 7 French courses during the 2012-2013 school year. 153 students enrolled in these courses.

The Department has concerns about declining enrolment both for the school, as well as for the Department. French course selection is affected by the required courses at the Grade 10 level which limits elective choices to two courses for most students.

The French classes were not limited to the classroom. Some classes took advantage of the computer lab in the library and field trips around Revelstoke itself. Music and videos in the target language were also used to enhance the program.



Art Department
Submitted by Theresa Browning

This was an amazing year for the RSS Art Department. We ran a full 7 blocks which included 2 blocks of Visual Arts 9/10, 2 blocks of Art Foundations 11/12, 2 blocks of Visuals Arts Media 10, 11, 12, and Life Skills Art 8 (which had 2 terms of 2-D art and 2 terms of 3-D art). Next year promises to be even more eventful with all the above courses still running and also the addition of two new courses; Studio Arts 11/12 Drawing and Painting and Studio Arts 11/12 Ceramics and Sculpture.

The Art 8 classes this year did several assignments. The two dimension classes did four assignments, a "doodle" drawing, crayon batik, pattern banners and animal portraits. The three dimension classes also did four assignments, a 3-D collage, a mask and a plaster carving and a sunset jar.

The Visual Arts 9/10 classes did a variety of assignments that included drawing, painting, sculpture and ceramics. They also did Styrofoam prints making and a theme study.

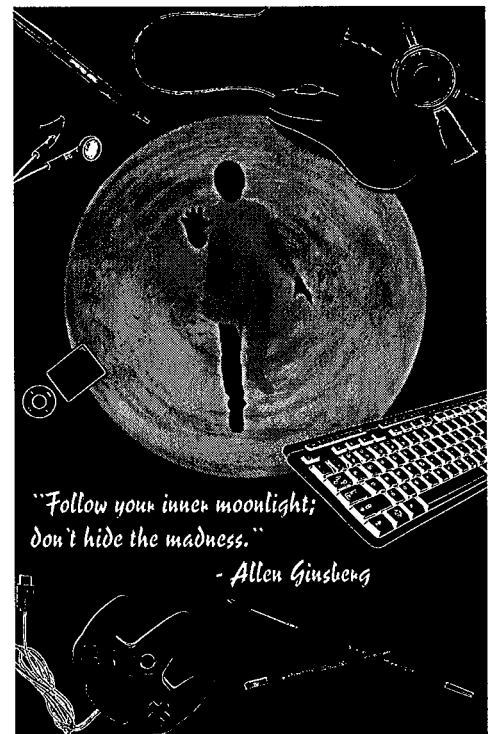
The Media classes did Andy Warhol inspired assignments, choosing a quote of some significance or meaning and illustrating it, a self portrait, a photo shoot, black and white composition, a book cover. Each of these assignments had choices the student could make so that if they wished to do it digitally they could or they could do it more graphically.

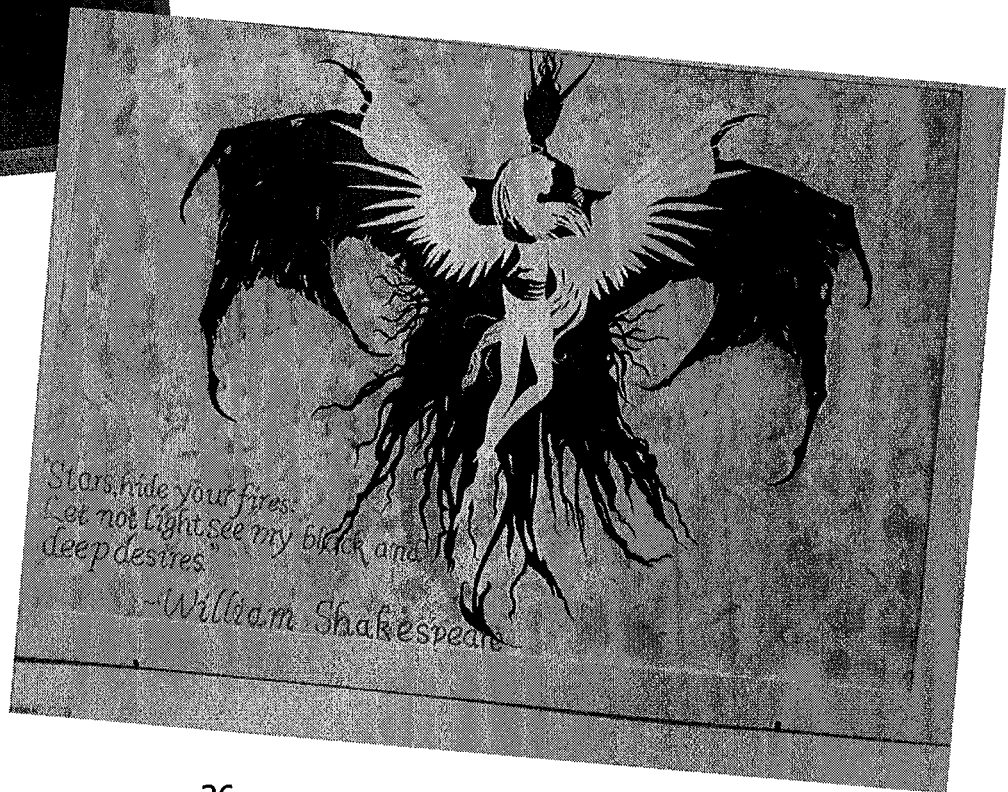
The Art 11/12 classes also did several different assignments. These included painting landscapes, ceramic masks; M.C. Escher inspired assignments, Zen tangles, printmaking (lino and Styrofoam), plasticine sculptures, and perspective drawings.

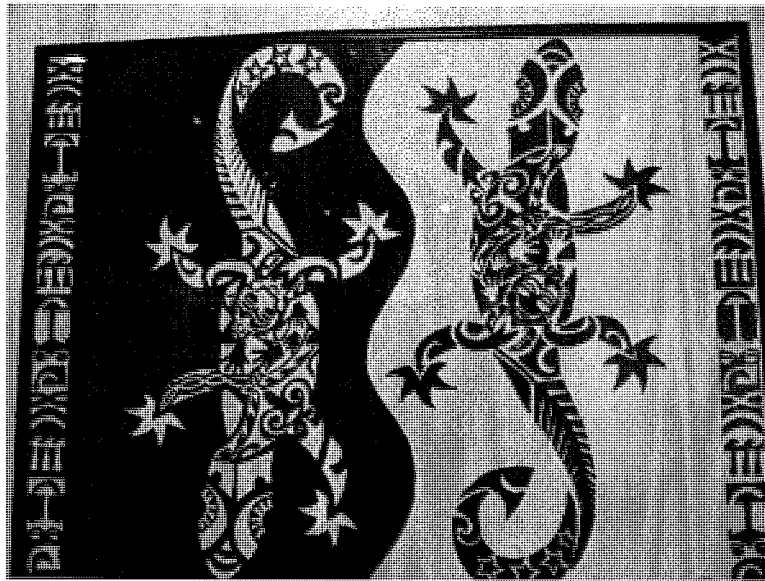
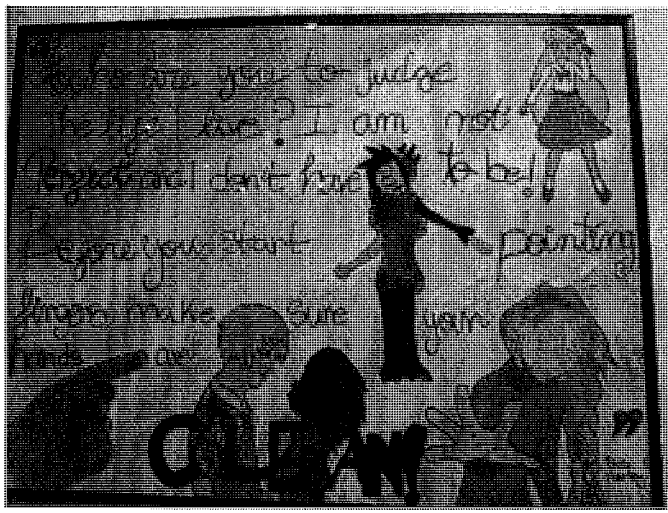
Students also did a painting session with aboriginal artist, Jerry Whitehead. This was done in conjunction with our Ab. Ed. Department (thanks to Lynne Barisoff).

This year we also teamed up with the Visual Arts Centre and did an exhibition (May 10 to June 07). This exhibit showcased the work of students from RSS in several classes, Art Foundations 11/12, Visual Arts Media 10, 11, 12, a couple of exceptional students who are in grade nine Visual Arts and some students who are doing Independent Directed Studies (grade 12's). It encompasses work from a wide range of subjects, mediums and 2 and 3 dimensional pieces, in total over 70 pieces by about 50 artists. It shows what incredibly talented youth we have in our community. All students from the art classes mentioned above (Art Foundations and Visual Arts Media) were asked to submit to the teacher at least one piece that they wished to exhibit. This piece could come from something they had already done as a class assignment or if they wished, they were welcome to do something specifically for this exhibit that was not part of a class mark or assignment. By the way, several students submitted 2 or 3 pieces.

All in all, I am incredibly proud of the work students have exhibited and done and I believe it is fantastic to see such a representation of art by youth in our community.







Music Department
Submitted by Tessa Davis

The Music Department celebrates 2013 as it marks the 50-year anniversary of the music program at Revelstoke Secondary School. Our district has always advocated for the arts, and our students continue to flourish in all facets of education. Our music program has allowed students to develop their minds through expression, dedication and excellence.

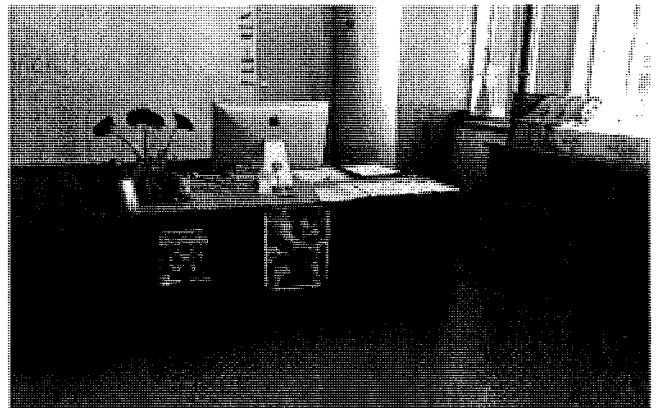
The standard performing groups at RSS include Concert Band 8, Concert Band 9, Senior Concert Band and Jazz Band. The concert bands perform three major concerts per school year. These performances take place in the Revelstoke Performing Arts Centre. The use of our new theatre has allowed the ensembles to reach new heights through performance. Some of our themes/units have included the following:

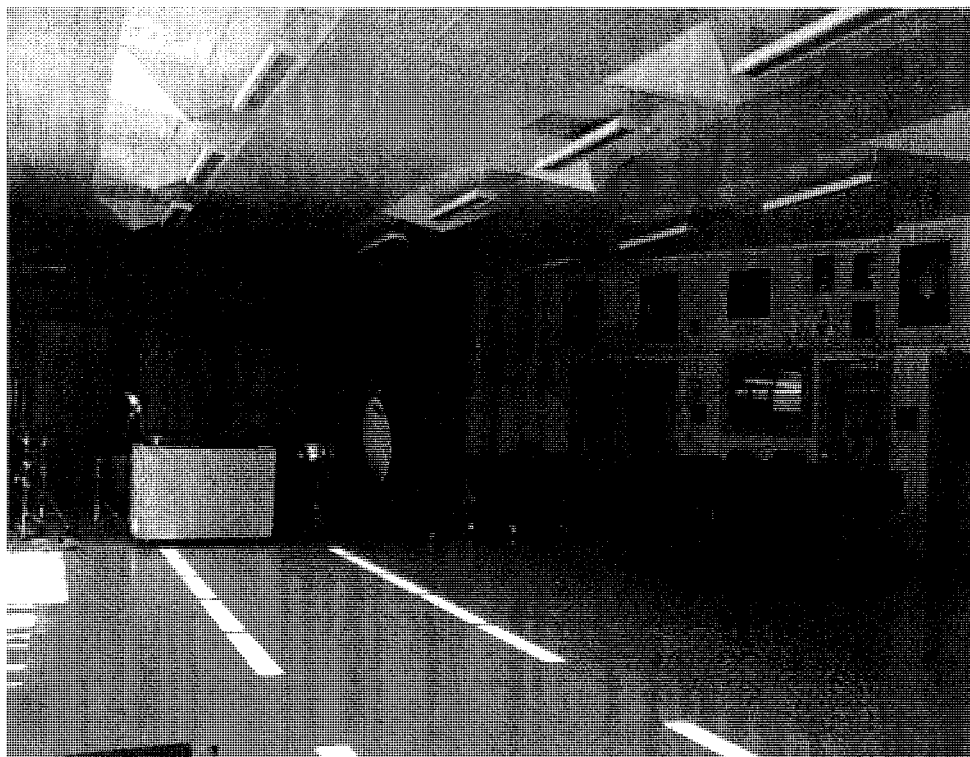
- Musicals: *Wicked*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Lion King* & *Les Miserable's*
- Solo features
- Study of lyrics and music
- Collaboration and individuality in music
- Using music as a tool to alleviate stress
- The emotional, social and personal influences of music

Many of the students who participate in concert band also play in one of two jazz bands. Our two jazz bands rehearse on Monday and Wednesday nights and both groups are composed of students from grades 8 through 12. Monday jazz is comprised of mostly Grade 8 and 12 students with the intention of creating a mentorship program. The Grade 8's have improved immensely under the encouragement of the Grade 12's and the seniors have gained great self-confidence through mentoring the Grade 8's. Wednesday jazz has excelled in the areas of Latin music and funk and students in this ensemble have put forth a consistent effort in order to achieve success. Both jazz bands performed at a Jazz Café in the RSS Common Area. Their final performance will open the plaza season this June.

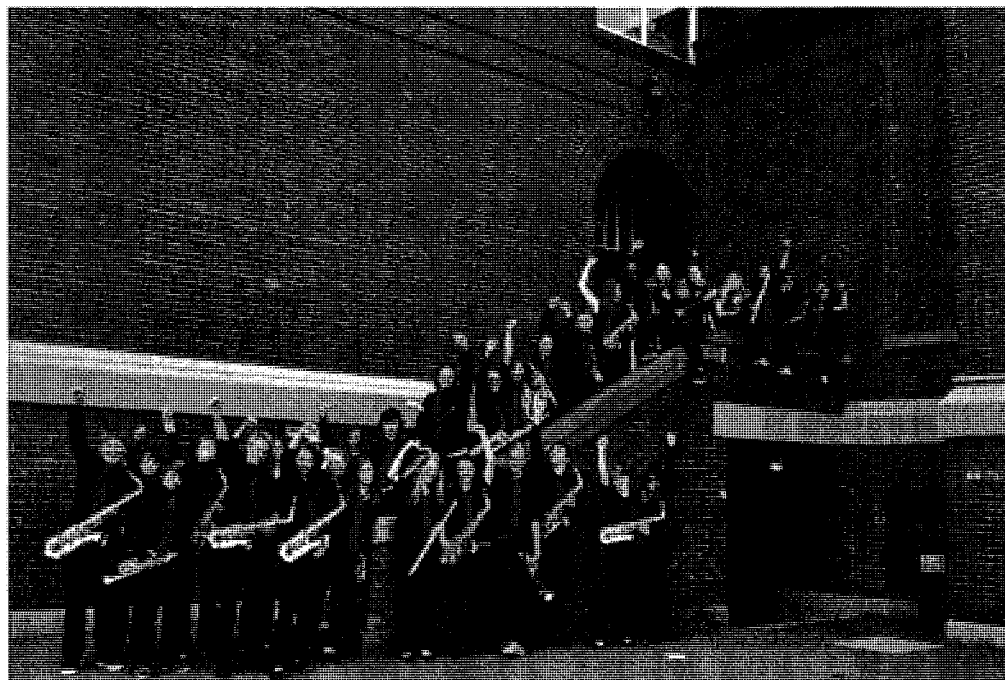


Our beautiful new school has contributed to the success of our music program. The fully loaded percussion section and new string basses have allowed for more student participation and music diversity. We were able to perform a stunning solo feature (*The Devil Went Down to Georgia*), because we have a new xylophone. This one instrument allowed a student to shine and many students have been given new opportunities because of our space and new gear. The music room has proper instrument and sheet music storage, two practice rooms, and a sound system with the ability to record. Students are often recorded and ask to give feedback on their performance. This form of self-evaluation has been a great asset for both students and teacher.





Music students at Revelstoke Secondary School participated in two trips this year. Our jazz students travelled to Moscow, Idaho to participate in the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival. Students went to dozens of workshops hosted by professional musicians, singers and dancers. Our jazz band performed three charts at the festival and two of our students received honourable mentions for outstanding solos. The trip was a great success and students are eager to return to Moscow in two years.



Our junior trip was to Victoria, British Columbia. 30 junior students spent 3 days on the Island where they performed at elementary schools and attended two professional performances. Students shared that the greatest trip highlight was *Cirque de Symphonie*. This performance by the Victoria Symphony was a pops concert that included acrobatics performed in front of the orchestra. In both Moscow and Victoria students were commended for their excellent aplomb and behaviour.

The Music Department continues to thrive though student excellence, parental involvement, and School District support. Our musicians are very proud of their achievements and look forward to more opportunities in the years to come.

Computer Department **Submitted by Jeff Wilson**

Introduction:

The computer department makes its home in the 30-station Mac lab on the 3rd floor of RSS. This lab offers substantial computing power to the students by providing them access to all of their files and applications over the school network along with local access to all of the programs in The Adobe Creative Suite.

Regarding staffing, Erin England went on maternity leave and Jeff Wilson is running the department in her absence.

Courses:

The computer department is currently offering two different options for students. Junior students take "Information Technology" and senior students focus on "Digital Media".

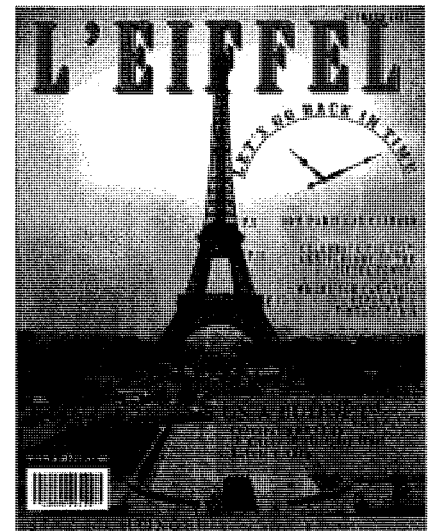
Information Technology 9/10 is a course designed to introduce students to the skill set they might use in the InfoTech sector, the world of Digital Media, or in a small business. There is also a general focus on strengthening their skills in areas such as file management, keyboarding, cloud computing, and Internet safety. So far, students have completed the business component of the course (spreadsheets, keyboarding, and word processing), and they are currently working on a film unit. After producing their own stop-motion films, their work in film editing will lead them to a film project associated with the Revelstoke Museum, Parks Canada, and the Canadian Avalanche Association. Students will be creating documentary films on avalanche and snow science by using footage provided by Parks Canada, and these films will be part off the "Virtual Museum of Canada" when this project is completed.



Digital Media is the focus for the senior students at RSS, and the courses allow students to develop the skills they acquired in InfoTech 9/10. Students work with more powerful applications in the Adobe Creative Suite (a suite that contains industry standards such as Premiere, In Design, and Photoshop).

Digital Media 11 focuses on photography, photo editing, and desktop publishing. As they study the work of professional designers, they learn sophisticated techniques for taking digital images and editing photos as well as designing layouts for magazines and online publishing.

Digital Media 12 focuses on animation and film production using Adobe Flash and Premiere to create projects of increasing scope and complexity.

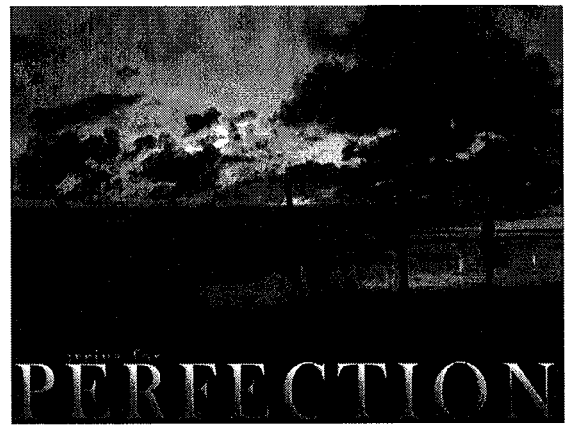


Other Items:

In response to increased demand for the computer lab, the computer department helped facilitate an online booking system (using First Class) that would allow teachers to use the lab when computer classes were not in session. This pilot program seemed to take some of the pressure off the library lab each day, and the teachers and students valued the additional access to technology.

Another success for this year's program was the use of Dragon Dictate and other accessibility applications to allow students who required the use of a reader and/or scribe to function independently in the lab. Working without EA support gave students a wonderful sense of accomplishment, and their independence with technology in the classroom was certainly useful in other curricular areas as well.

As always, our focus in the computer department is not just focused on technology itself, but we try to find new ways to develop the curiosity, the productivity, and the creativity of each student.



***RSS Science Department
Submitted by Graham Gale***

Sarah Vincent, Kristen Scheiber, Stu Phelps, Jarrett Spannier, Rob Evans and Graham Gale taught a total of 24 sections of Science in the 2012-2013 school year. We continue to offer a total of 10 different science courses, including Chemistry, Biology and Physics to the Grade 12 level. 189 pupils make up the senior cohort at RSS, and of these 31% were enrolled in Grade 11 or 12 Physics, 43 % were in Grade 11 or 12 Biology, 40 % were in Grade 11 or 12 Chemistry, and 12% were in Earth Science 11. These participation rates are consistent with the previous two year's rates. With 4 science classrooms in our new science suite, we have space for 32 sections within the 8 block rotation of the school timetable.

RSS science students have the opportunity to learn in a variety of ways and the usual course work is supplemented with field trips and guest speakers. Sarah and Rob had Grades 8 students participate in the "Know Your Watershed" program offered through Columbia Basin Trust and facilitated by Jeanette Vickers. Kristen took Science 9 classes to the Revelstoke Hydroelectric Dam where Mr. Leeder toured the students around and explained electrical generation. Sarah brought her Science 10 students to the Forestry Museum and to the Inspiration Woods trail on Mount Revelstoke National park to learn about Ecology with Barb Wadey. Sarah often takes her Earth Science classes to sites around Revelstoke (including the Green Belt, Johnson Heights, and the forest behind the school) to view rock strata and features caused by glaciation.

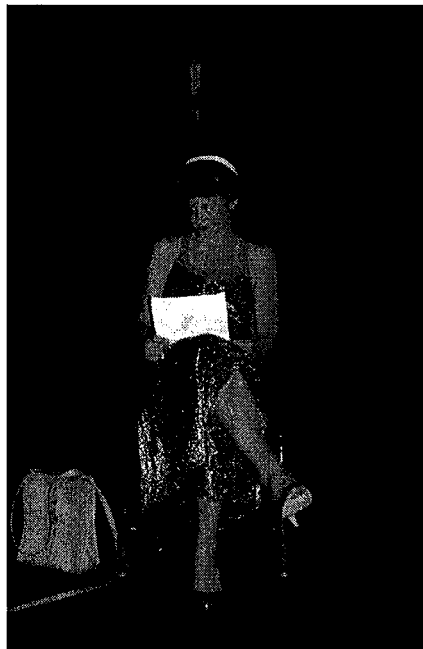
Debby Robinson, our Lab Technician, continues to manage the science equipment, specimens and supplies as well as prepare labs and demonstrations. Hands-on enquiry and traditional laboratory experiments are commonplace in our science classrooms and we continue to benefit from the former RSS educators that acquired the extensive collection of equipment that we currently have.

Finally, we would like to congratulate Stu who is completing his last of 32 years as a Science teacher at Revelstoke Secondary. Stu takes with him a wealth of experience and knowhow, not only in terms of Biology and Chemistry but also with mentoring youth that are transitioning to post secondary studies. We will miss his humour and wit and we wish him all the best.



Drama Department
Submitted by Anita Hallewas

It has been an exciting semester in Drama at RSS. As the new incumbent in the role of Drama teacher at RSS there were a number of changes that I made to the program, mostly in relation to how students would perform and be assessed on those performances. Rather than the classes perform one large final performance, students have been performing many short assessment pieces in different theatre styles. The students would learn the skills and conventions within those styles and then create performances in those styles. This year we have looked at *Political Theatre* with a focus on "Street Children" which made for some very moving and powerful performances. We invited audiences from the Social Studies classes to our performances which allowed the students' political message to be heard by their peers. The students have also worked in pairs creating interesting characters with neutral scripts. This was a fun project as every pair was given the same script, but needed to interpret it individually. This meant watching every performance was quite fun as you never knew what each group might present. Students then learned about *Soap Opera* and *Melodrama* and are currently creating authentic *Melodrama* silent films which they will edit themselves. Students will finish the semester creating group devised theatre based on "Family Stories" where they will interview an (older) family member to base these performances on. This semester has also seen the start of a Friday lunchtime *Theatre Sports Club* (improvisation) where students from any grade can participate in (or watch) theatre sports workshops. Members have been learning Theatre Sports games and then have been practising them with different scenarios and group members. Overall, lots of fun learning has been had by all.



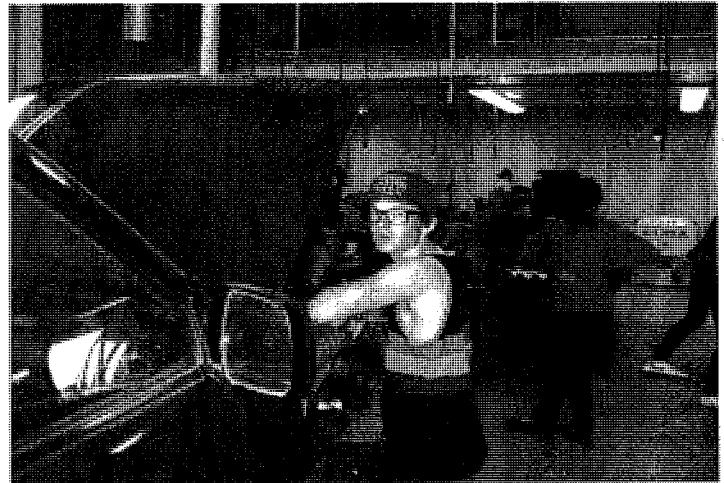


Applied Skills
Submitted by Craig Weiler

Metal Fabrication

With the addition of new machining equipment students are able to work beyond the basic metal fabrication processes. Precision layout techniques and tooling have also helped enhance and expand the program. As community collaboration, metal fabrication is designing and building bicycle trailers in conjunction with the North Columbia Environmental Society.

Transportation Technology



In this program, students meet learning objectives through hands on repairs of vehicles in the shop and with a weekly "theory" day in class. The acquisition of new and up-to-date diagnostic tools brings students one step closer to realistic trade repairs. We continue to refurbish vehicles when possible and recycle them back into the community.

Grade 10 Automotive provides students with an introduction to basic repairs and safe equipment operation. The Grade 10 program has fed the Grade 11 program in a very positive way. The students are well versed in the workings of the shop when they return for a second course.

Woodworking

The Residential Construction students are again building sheds for people in the community. The program also incorporates tile work as part of the curriculum. This year the class also built duck boxes for BC Hydro.

Home Economics

The Foods & Nutrition program continues with the "Top Chef" program. This year they held a chili "cook off" competition, as well as a cupcake competition. Last year the cook off was for the best hamburger. The entries are judged by taste, appearance, original ingredients etc. Some of the judges that have been lucky enough to participate are Mr. Hooker, Mr. Kenyon, Mrs. Maltby, and Mr. Moore.



Revelstoke Secondary School Athletics
Submitted by Terry Beitel



Some of the highlights:

This year we welcomed International students to our PE program. They were really impressed and had great comments about the scope of sports and activities offered by us in comparison to what they get back home.

Our downhill skiing and boarding program was once again a success. Many thanks to RMR for the great ski/boarding program they offer our students

Curling was also part of the curriculum this year. We would like to thank the members of the curling club for the curling experience they offer to the students.

Thanks also to the staff at the pool for helping us offer our swimming unit to our students

A great job was done by Jade Connor, a newcomer to the PE department replacing Ms. Kathy Hoshizaki while Ms. Hoshizaki was replacing Ms. Williams in counselling.

The 20th Annual Mountain Challenge was run under the worst possible cold and rainy conditions ever. Very impressed that none of the students complained.

Our team sports this year have represented Revelstoke very well. Once again, our senior boys volleyball team made it to the provincials. Thanks to the Credit Union and RCU Insurance for their support.

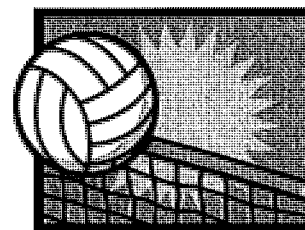
This spring we had enough girls for only Junior Girls Soccer. Track and Field teams are up and running. Each of these teams have plenty of participants and we anticipate good results as they finish their seasons.

Special thanks to the following sponsors and coaches who donated their time, energy, patience, and care to our students through their athletic endeavours.

Fall Sports

Swimming Andy Pfeiffer
Cross Country Running Jeff Wilson and Rob Evans

Volleyball
Grade 8 Girls Sarah Vincent
Grade 8 Boys Terry Beitel
Junior Girls Sarah Chow and Kai Boggild
Junior Boys Adam Kidd
Senior Girls Kathy Hoshizaki and Jodi Wallach
Senior Boys Terry Beitel



Winter Sports

Curling Greg Kenyon, sponsor



Basketball
Grade 8 Girls
Grade 8 Boys
Junior Girls
Junior Boys
Senior Girls

Cheri Asmundsen
Sheena Wells and Devin Cole
Jade Connor
Jordie McTavish
Rob Evans

Spring Sports

Junior Girls Soccer

Jade Connor

Track & Field

Andy Pfeiffer, Jeff Colvin, Sarah Vincent, and Rob Brown, Eric Reynolds.



The "fire lighting" final stage of the Mountain Challenge

[http://www.sd19.bc.ca/Revelstoke Secondary School](http://www.sd19.bc.ca/Revelstoke%20Secondary%20School)