



syuwé'ñct Elementary

NewsFlash

PRINCIPAL: Dr. Diane Charles
SECRETARY 2/3: Mrs. Bev Lundine

VICE PRINCIPAL: Ms. Margaret Westaway
SECRETARY 1: Mrs. Tara Sampson

October 7, 2022

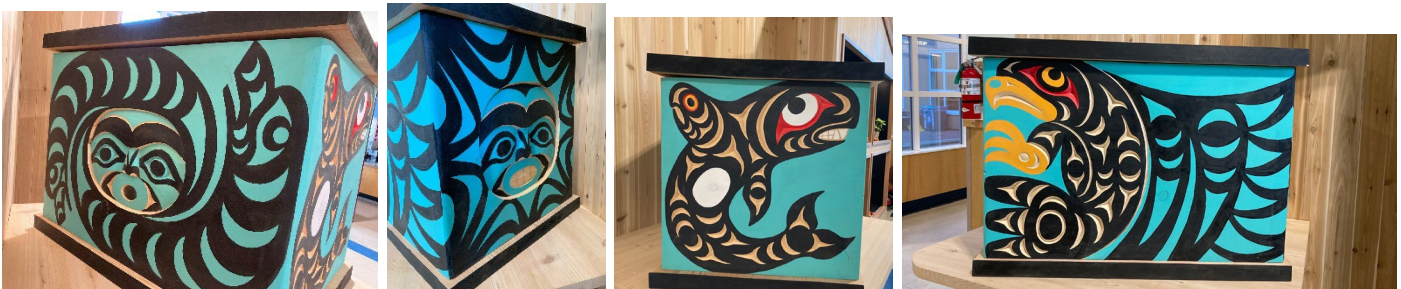
WOW! WHAT A WEEK!

This has been the most amazing week at syuwé'ñct Elementary School! Here are some highlights!

On Saturday, October 1, as part of a culturally significant ceremony with Snuneymuxw First Nations, the name of our school was made official! The NLPS Syeyutsus Reconciliation Framework of “walking in two worlds” was embraced, as the contemporary ways that were followed in early July, when the Board of Education passed the name into use, met the traditional ways with a spiritual ceremony, making the name legal in the indigenous world view. The bentwood box which has now been installed in our beautifully redesigned front foyer was the focal point of this ceremony.



The artist, Joel Good, created the box from one piece of yellow cedar for the sides and two pieces of red cedar for the top and bottom, following traditional practices of steaming to create the “bent wood box”. (Click here to see Joel at work creating a much smaller bentwood box <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufRLuY2bugM>)



Our focus as a school community this week was getting ready for our renaming celebration on Thursday. Students worked so hard on all of the different aspects of this very special assembly. Huge thanks to our students who showed leadership in learning our song, O Siem, and to those who stepped forward to be part of the drumming circle. Thank you to all staff who helped arrange the students in their buddy groupings so that we could sit as a school community, in as close to an indigenous way of being that could be reached with almost 400 people!.

I am so incredibly proud of everyone for their work on Thursday! Our celebration could not have been better! I am usually the one taking lots of pictures to share things with all of you – this time, though, I relied on the work of others (thank goodness for news media!!)

We thanked Mother Earth for the gift of learning and growing on this space before we entered the gym. The whole school recited the acknowledgement of the traditional territory. Mandy Jones, Snuneymuxw Elder and hulquminum language instructor for the district, spoke beautifully to everyone. Jacquie Poulin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, shared congratulations from the District. Adaya Leggett, grade 6, added student voice as she shared the story of how our school was named originally and why a name change was most appropriate.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was the unveiling of our new logo – which is now on our NewsFlash! We can't wait to order spirit wear! At the end of the ceremony we had cake! What is a party if there isn't cake to celebrate with! Enjoy these images! Check out the news accounts for more!



Walking around the school, thanking Mother Earth for sharing this space with us.



Students and staff being drummed into the gym by our drummers.



The new logo - our supernatural eagle as we are the sywéniict Spirits!



The whole school singing, O Siem!
(Thanks to David and Cecilia Grimstead for playing the music for us!)

CALENDAR UPDATES

Please note that all the events are on our school website <https://ct.schools.sd68.bc.ca/> thanks to Mrs. Lundine's careful attention to detail!

Monday	Oct 10 – Thanksgiving
Friday	Oct 14 – First MunchaLunch! – HAVE YOU ORDERED YET?
Monday – Thursday	Oct 17-20 – Early Dismissal Week for Conferences – Dismiss at 1:20 this week
Wednesday	Oct 19 – Retakes by Edge Photography
Thursday	Oct 20 – Shake Out BC Earthquake Drill
Friday	Oct 21 – Provincial Professional Day – Non-Instructional Day
Monday	Oct 24 – School-Based Professional Day, Schools Closed
Wednesday	Oct 26 – Monster Ball 6:00-8:00 PM!
Monday	Oct 31 – Halloween Fun!

EARLY DISMISSAL WEEK 1:20 INSTEAD OF 2:20

The week of October 17-20 has been set aside for “Formative Assessment Conferences”. You will be receiving an invitation to book an appointment with your child(ren)’s teacher(s) early next week. These appointments can be in-person or virtual – your choice!

Students will be dismissed one hour early, at 1:20 Monday to Thursday this week, allowing time for teachers to meet with all of you. Please also note that Friday October 21 and Monday October 24 are Professional Days – students do not attend.



Join the Facebook Group!
Family and Friends of syuwén'ct Elementary School
stay in touch with all that is going on.

<https://munchalunch.com/login>

For returning families

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/syuwenct>

For new families



First lunch is Friday October 14 - have
you ordered yet?

THE MONSTER'S BALL IS BACK!

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26 6:00-8:00 PM



From all of us turkeys at
syuwén'ct,
Happy Thanksgiving!

CHILD GOING TO BE AWAY?

Email info.CT@sd68.bc.ca or call us at 250-729-0450.

Our new name populates in the email message 😊