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## November Newsletter

Bonjour ~ Kalhwa7alap 🖐️ ~ Hello

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# Signal Hill Elementary

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Dear Families,

We are now in the middle of November! Students and staff have been engaged in active learning, social emotional growth developing a positive mindset.

Reports cards communicating student learning will be mailed home this week. Parent~ Guardian / Teacher interviews along with a few staff members conducting student led conferences are November 27. Thank you to families for making appointments to visit your child's teacher.

Communication between staff and families is important. It helps support student social, emotional and cognitive development. Many studies indicate that if a meaningful connection can be made between home and school, student achievement will increase. This communications provides a community feel which benefits the child and school.

On Tuesday, November 26 at 6:30 an informational session will be held in the Library at Signal Hill. This evening will feature a talk about pro social leaning environments | multi age groupings and a galley walk that outlines the sequence of Big Ideas and Learning Standards across the K to 7 English Language Arts.

This Newsletter we are highlighting the work our staff has done and will be doing in partnership with SET BC.

Kúkwstum'ckacw | Thank you | Merci

*Roberta Kubik, Principal*

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## Upcoming Events

- ▶ Nov. 22 | Report cards send home
- ▶ Nov. 25 | DPAC teleconference
- ▶ Nov. 26 | Pro Social Learning Environments ~ evening session at 6:30 in the Library.
- ▶ Nov. 27 | Parent~ Guardian / teacher interviews
- ▶ Nov. 27 | Public Information Session | Trustee By-Elections Nomination Period | 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Pemberton Secondary School
- ▶ Dec. 3 | PAC meeting
- ▶ Dec. 11 | Board meeting
- ▶ Dec. 17 & 19 | Winter Concert ( Draft date)
- ▶ Dec. 20 | Last day before winter vacation

**Signal Hill Learning Plan Guiding Question** | If we intentionally design personally relevant and rigorous projects that include cultural identity and social responsibility then students will feel safe enough to learn and collaborate.



Visit our School Website to learn more about our Learning Plan. The plan will be posted under the top menu section of our school website.

### **Refresh Plan | Pathways to Learning: Strategies**

The Pathways to Learning describe the instructional **STRATEGIES**, guided by the First Peoples' Principles of Learning, that will lead to deeper learning for our students. Through these instructional approaches, students will be able to explore, discover, and develop themselves as complete learners through a personalized and balanced perspective. The District supports 6 Pathways to Learning. Collaboration is one of the pathways.

**Collaboration** is a pathway that leads to groups of students working together toward a common goal. It inspires the creation of new knowledge and respect for different ideas. Students learn to understand themselves and each other. The following is a link to the Pathways to Learning: Strategies <https://sd48achievement.org/action-planning/>

The following are Signal Hill Elementary examples from our communicating student learning report cards on collaboration

- Listens to and expresses ideas
- Working together to build on ideas and work toward a common goal
- Collaborate: What it looks, sounds and feels like in our community: Problems and conflicts are resolved peacefully and independently. Community members are flexible and use appropriate strategies (including: solving problems with word, walking away, talking turns, asking or adult help, etc.) to solve problems. Community members wait for their turn to speak. Listeners demonstrate respect by “whole body listening”. The ideas and opinions of others are respected and feedback is given in appropriate and respectful ways.

**SET BC** | SET BC is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program. SET BC works in partnership with BC schools to build capacity to use technology to support the diverse needs of the K to 12 learner. SET BC is partnering with Signal Hill to further strengthen our Learning Plan and Pathways to Learning. SET – BC and Signal Hill Elementary have partnered on an Inclusive Schools Initiative. We met on October 15 and 16. Below is a chart and action plan steps that will unfold during the 3 phases of the initiative.

## THE 3 KEY PHASES

### Big Ideas

- Identifying staff needs
- Professional learning around topics of inclusion
- Collaboration
- Co-planning & co-teaching



### Practical Supports

- Identify equipment to trial based upon outcomes of professional learning & collaboration
- Purchase & implement tools to support students



### Documentation & Sharing

- Document successful strategies & supports
- Share success stories
- Meet with other schools on this journey



### Pedagogy

1. To design and deliver curriculum in a way that enhances student engagement
2. Continue to build upon existing collaborative model of support and trauma informed practice by finding ways to enable EAs to spend more time supporting students with social-emotional needs by leveraging technology to increase student independence in accessing supports for learning needs
3. Increase teacher and EA knowledge of technology available for instructional and learning goals

### SET-BC:

- SET-BC can provide professional learning workshops on Universal Design for Learning, focusing on engagement and action & expression
- SET-BC can collaborate with Signal Hill team to select and trial different digital tools to help support students' independence in use of supports for learning tasks
- SET-BC can connect the Signal Hill team with other teachers in SD48 to learn how others are utilizing technology in the district

### Signal Hill:

- Provide SET-BC with possible dates /times for Pro-D
- Provide SET-BC with information on which staff would be interested in meeting with other teachers from the district.

**Facilities Update** | The Director of Operations visited Signal Hill this week to review the flood restoration work.

## Universal Precaution – ERASE

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Our school is committed to creating safe, inclusive, and caring learning environments for all students. As part of this commitment, I wanted to share the [newly-updated erase website](#) - an online hub created to help students, parents, educators, and community partners to learn more about bullying and violence prevention, online safety, mental well-being, substance use, and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI).



An important part of this new website is the expanded [Get Help section](#) where students can find links to 24/7 phone and text lines as well as online chats if they, or someone they know, needs help. Students can also use the [updated erase Report It tool](#) to send a direct message to our school or our school district's safe school coordinator for immediate response. All information is private and confidential.

Bullying isn't just a child's issue, it's a school and community issue, and I am here to listen. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

## Universal Precaution – | Parenting: The Drugs Question it's all about relationships not facts, stats and scare tactics

© 2018 www.helpingschools.ca Parent Series – 1

Parenting is a lot like being on a road trip. It can be fun to experience new places with your growing child, but it can also be challenging. Parents often wonder about the best way to protect their children when it comes to issues like alcohol and other drugs. Here are ten important tips parents can use to help their children (and others) navigate life successfully, including avoiding harm from alcohol and other drugs. ✓ Stay connected – more than anything, your child needs you! Young people who know they're loved have a stronger sense of self-worth. ✓ Have fun, and focus on building a positive relationship. ✓ Show your child you believe in them by supporting their interests and encouraging them to pursue their passions. ✓ Help your child solve their own issues – it helps build their resilience. ✓ Resist the urge to know everything – they're growing up and need some 'space' to find their own meaning of things. ✓ Share clear, consistent expectations – the more you discuss these openly with your child, the more likely they will understand your intentions, and the more

likely they will adopt them. ✓ Recognize that we all make mistakes, and use them as opportunities to learn together. ✓ Expect to be challenged – be respectful and prepared to negotiate but clearly communicate your position and your own values. ✓ Be available – by encouraging open and regular communication, you're showing your child their thoughts and concerns matter. ✓ Be a positive role model – part of being a parent is modelling healthy behaviours and attitudes.

### Helpful Resources

**ALCOHOL SENSE** [www.healthyfamiliesbc.ca/home/articles/topic/alcohol-sense](http://www.healthyfamiliesbc.ca/home/articles/topic/alcohol-sense) This resource, part of Healthy Families BC, provides parents and adult influencers with tips, tools and videos for starting conversations that will help guide kids towards healthy decisions when it comes to alcohol.

### **CANNABIS USE AND YOUTH: A PARENT'S GUIDE**

[www.heretohelp.bc.ca/sites/default/files/cannabis-use-and-youth-a-parents-guide.pdf](http://www.heretohelp.bc.ca/sites/default/files/cannabis-use-and-youth-a-parents-guide.pdf) This guide provides an honest and thoughtful discussion on cannabis so parents can make better decisions about cannabis use—or non-use—in the context of your family and be better equipped to have productive conversations with their children. **TALKING WITH YOUR TEEN ABOUT VAPING** <https://tinyurl.com/y2llzn6m> A tip sheet for parents from Health Canada (2018)

## **In Conclusion**

We are fortunate at Signal Hill to celebrate the languages of Ucwalmicwts, English, French and now some sign language. Language is culture. A wide-ranging cultural lens leads to a worldview perspective. This worldview perspective allows us to develop relationships and processes that honor different and diverse perspectives. In one word, we learn to **collaborate**. A skill that will hold us steadfast in life.



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