



# Porter Creek Secondary

[www.pcssrams.ca](http://www.pcssrams.ca)

October, 2018

## Message from the Principal

Hello Students, Staff and Parents,

Happy Fall! The snow is slowly moving down the mountains, and winter is definitely on the horizon. We are almost finished our first term, and our students are fully involved in their academic, athletic, and artistic pursuits.

We're excited to announce our new website at [www.pcssrams.ca](http://www.pcssrams.ca)! Make sure to point your browsers there. You'll find great resources right on the home page, including our downloadable school calendar and links to our teacher pages. Under the tabs, there's information about our many programs, Grade 12 information (scholarships, grad requirements, post-secondary), as well as school council information. Make sure to check back frequently for updates posted on our home page under "What's Happening".

You should have already received an informal report from teachers by email or phone. Our student led conferences are November 14 and 15 in the evenings. Please take advantage of this opportunity to have your child show you what they have been working on and ask questions of their teachers. Our next informal reporting period will be just before Christmas, and you will receive a formal report card at semester end—at the end of January.

Thank you for your continued support, and please do not hesitate to be in touch with teachers, counsellors, and our administrative staff with any and all feedback so that we can continue to move forward together.

All the best,

Peter Giangrande

**Pride Passion Purpose**

## Follow us on twitter @portercreek1

- School/class initiatives, online publications, occasional live coverage of events (e.g., sporting events)
- invitations to provide feedback on specific issues; up to the minute coverage of school closures or other crises
- information on PCSS, and/or Yukon Education initiatives, re-tweets of information that may be of use to parents/guardians and students
- Up-to-the-minute coverage during school closures or other crises



## Cannabis legalization information

As of October 17, 2018, cannabis is legal in Canada.

Yukon schools will ensure students have the information they need to make healthy choices and stay safe. Drug and alcohol education, including cannabis, continues to be part of Yukon's school curriculum.

The legal age to use, possess, cultivate or purchase cannabis is 19 years of age. Adults must ensure that children under 19 do not have access to their cannabis or cannabis plants.

Educators will continue to have grade-appropriate conversations with students to teach them about the risks of cannabis use, as well as the use of alcohol and illegal drugs. The use of cannabis continues to be prohibited on school grounds and during any school related activity or field trip.

If you suspect your child is having problems with drugs or alcohol, you can talk with us about getting help from a guidance counselor or alcohol and drug services counselor or contact Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services directly at 867-456-3838.

For more information on how we are educating students about the risk of cannabis and other drugs, visit [www.education.gov.yk.ca/drug\\_education.html](http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/drug_education.html) . For more information about cannabis legalization in Yukon, visit [yukon.ca/cannabis](http://yukon.ca/cannabis) or see the Department of Health and Social Services' video on key things Yukoners need to know about cannabis at [youtu.be/N1v2BLibNqc](https://youtu.be/N1v2BLibNqc).



**Are you interested in decision-making and politics? Do you want to create relationships with people from different places?**

**Forum is for you! Be a part of an incredible week behind the scenes of the world of federal politics on Parliament Hill.**

**Interested? Check out [Forum.ca](http://Forum.ca) then speak to Mr. Giangrande**

## **Class Interruptions**

Many of our classes are “cell phone free” and teachers ask students to “park their phone” for the class time.

To support us in this, please refrain from calling or texting your child during class time.

If there is an emergency and you need to get ahold of your child, please call 667-8044



## **Counselling news**

Hello from your counsellors. It's hard to believe September has passed and term one for the grade 8 students is quickly coming to an end. The final day of term one for grade 8 students will be Friday, October 26th, which means Monday, October 29th the grade 8 students will begin two new Exploratory classes (unless they are in Band or LEAD).

On November 1st and 2nd, the Yukon Women In Trades and Technology Conference YWITT is being held. Grade 8 girls from PCSS have been invited to participate on the Thursday, as we do not have school at PCSS on the Friday, November 2nd. This is a wonderful opportunity for our Grade 8 girls!

Ms. Seymour

Counsellor Grades 8 & 9

## **Harmony Movement**

In September, we hosted Harmony Movement's interactive and innovative school program. We welcomed other Whitehorse schools to this event where students challenged discrimination, bullying and helped build a positive school climate. Students heard from local keynote speakers and learned about storytelling as a medium for change.

**Harmony**  **Movement**  
Be the Change

## #FieldTrip

Some of our Cosmetology, Hairstyling and Aesthetics students are off to London this February with their teacher Ms. Burgess to attend the UK's biggest Beauty Trade show—Professional Beauty. They'll be checking out some of the sights of London while they're there as well!



### Social Justice

Our Social Justice Club, other students, and teachers participated in the Schools of Whitehorse Food Drive on October 10th. We're proud of their work to build community and support others!



**smart**  
is something you  
**become**,  
not something you  
**are**

### Volleyball

Our Volleyball teams are deep into their seasons, with the seniors well into the SuperVolley season. The Grade 8 Spook and Spike is scheduled for the October 19th weekend and the Dawson City Invitational on the weekend of the 25th. Thank you to all of our community coaches and our teacher/staff coaches!



### We Remember

On November 9th, we will have our annual Remembrance Day ceremony, starting at 10:30 in our gymnasium. Parents and the public are welcome to commemorate the service of our armed forces members and their families with us on that day.



### Cafeteria

Our Cafeteria is open during morning break and at lunch times.

Breakfast bagels, cookies, and muffins are some of the options at break.

At lunch, there is always a daily special and homemade soup/bun.

Meal cards are available for \$20.00 through our office if you would like to avoid carrying cash. The cafeteria is closed on Thursdays for student training. Teams and school clubs provide a lunch that students can purchase on Thursday, or they can bring a healthy lunch from home!

### School Council Scholarship

Porter Creek Secondary's School Council offers a needs based \$500 scholarship to those pursuing their educational goals after high school such as trades school apprentice. More info and application on our home page [www.pcssrams.ca](http://www.pcssrams.ca)

Deadline extended to October 31, 2018



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 ★ **Arts, Athletics, Academics** ★  
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