



Cultus Lake Swilhcha Community School



January 2025 Newsletter

On behalf of the Swilhcha staff team, we look forward to welcoming everyone into the New Year!



When we started the 24/25 school year, we discussed as a staff the word, **engage**. Our focus continues to be engaging our students, families and staff in opportunities that are educationally enriching and allow for growth.

With our new school's co-name, comes to opportunity to adjust, expand and **GROW** in new ways. One of the things we have been working on is a new school wide positive behaviour system (PBS) matrix which we will be rolling out with students this week. Our new acronym is **G.R.O.W** (to go with being a Swilhcha Cedar). A copy of the draft is attached for home review as well.

Kindergarten Registration



If your child turns 5 in 2025, please remember to register them for Kindergarten. Registration is open online – just remember you will need to provide a valid email address and upload a copy of your child's birth certificate and proof of residency.

For more information, please visit - <https://sd33.bc.ca/registration>



The next PAC (Parent Advisory Council) meeting is **Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00 pm** in the library or via Zoom:

<https://sd33-ca.zoom.us/j/67532915770>



Indigenous Education

Halq'eméylem

For the past two months, we have been learning the numbers to 10 in Halq'eméylem. Each week, we introduce a new number at the assembly and practice it throughout the week. By next week, we will have learned all the numbers to 10!

léts'e	Lets-ah	one
isá:le	ee-saa-lah	two
lhí:xw	Lhee-hoo	three
xe'ó:thel	ha-AH-thel	four
lheq'á:tses	lhe-cat-sis	five
t'xém	t-hem	six
th'ó:kws	Th-ah-kwis	seven
teqa:tsa	Te-caat-sah	eight
tú:xw	Too-kwh	nine
ópel	Ah-pul	ten

Special Assembly – On January 16th at 12:45, Bill Davis (carver and parent) will be dedicating a welcome post to our school. We will have an assembly to raise this post. Below is the story behind his carving. Families are invited to attend this assembly.



After our 2 children started attending this school, we noticed a huge leap in their growth. Still to this day, the care and attention they receive compliments the efforts we put in at home. To acknowledge the hard work, the care and dedication to not just our kids but to all students I felt compelled to carve this humble little house post.

The orange shirt acknowledges the losses and the survival of the residential schools. The 2 different shaped hands shows that our children with special needs might appear different but they're still the same. They need the same love and attention as any undiagnosed child.



Cultus Lake Swilhcha Community School



Strategic Plan Refresh

Our school district continues the process of our Strategic Plan Refresh. Families were invited to provide feedback into this document last month and over the next two months, our staff will be reviewing this and giving their input.



Strategic Plan

Conceptual Framework

Our conceptual framework is designed to communicate the big ideas that we believe about our school district in a visual, holistic fashion.

Features of the framework include:

The framework is wrapped in First Peoples Principles of Learning (FPPL), using the colours of the cardinal directions of the medicine wheel: White, Yellow, Red and Black. Literacy, a foundational skill that develops over time resides in the east, where the sun rises. Moving around the circle to the south is Numeracy, another building block for young learners. The west is red, where the sun sets and students Transition to adulthood. Human and Social Development in the north, is where we develop understanding of ourselves as lifelong learners. The layers of 'Mission, Vision and Motto' as well as Governance are positioned at the outer edges of the framework, representing the important role of keeping our organization moving in the same direction as outlined by our Vision: *-Sýs:lets'e th'ále, lets'emó't- One heart, one mind, working together for a common purpose.-*

HIGH QUALITY INSTRUCTION

Innovative, inclusive and research based instruction and assessment practices support the well-being of all learners and their readiness to be inspired and engaged in life-long learning.



DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS

The intentional collection and analysis of meaningful evidence ensures that actions and decisions directly support the success of all learners.

TARGETED INTERVENTIONS

Timely and targeted supports are the cornerstone in creating a culture of equity and belonging where all learners thrive and reach their potential.

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

Common core values and shared responsibility for student success promotes deep collaboration and commitment to growth as educated citizens.

Embedded in this document are the following district values:



Our Core Values

We provide a learning and working environment where these core values are central to all that we do.



Equity

We commit to ensure that everyone receives the required support and experiences they need to be successful and fulfil their potential.



Kindness

We demonstrate caring, compassion and empathy towards everyone in order to create a spirit of connectedness in our community.



Inclusion

We believe that meaningful inclusion is a right and we support all learners to feel safe, supported and connected through programming that promotes diversity and personalization.



Collaboration

We develop strong relationships and achieve the shared goals in our Strategic Plan through a framework of trust and respect.



Innovation

We will continue to be curious, creative and open to new ideas so that we can produce high-quality learning outcomes across the system.



Cultus Lake Swilcha Community School



Extreme Weather



In the event of extreme weather conditions, families are urged to check the School District website www.sd33.bc.ca to receive up-to-date information on school closures. This information will also be sent out to families in an early morning email and will be posted on the Cultus Lake Swilcha Community School Website.

News from the Library



Make sure to check out your children's backpacks on Tuesday Jan. 14 as there will be an important package coming home with the oldest student in your family. We are kicking off another "**One School One Book**"! It promises to be another great story that the whole family will enjoy. There will be lots of important information coming home with the book on Jan. 14.

Reading Link Challenge will be starting again for any interested Grade 4 and 5 students.

Don't forget to turn in your **December Bingo** Sheets!

Finally, it is very important that all library books be returned to school in a safe and timely manner, every week. With the wet weather upon us, please be sure that library books transit between home and school in a **plastic bag**. If your child still has outstanding library books, please ensure that they are returned to school so that everyone can enjoy them.



Cultus Lake Community School Association – if you are looking for after school programs for your child, Before or After School Care, or Daycare, please contact Melissa Giles at clcsacultuslake@gmail.com for more information.

Upcoming...Jan 18th – Paint Night with John LeFlock (\$30)



Cultus Lake Swilcha Community School



January is blood donor awareness month!

Mon. Jan. 6	School re-opens
Wed. Jan. 8	CLCSA Board Mtg
Tues. Jan. 14	One School One Book (OSOB) kickoff assembly
Wed. Jan. 15	Black Excellence Day (Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday)
Thurs. Jan. 16	Pole Raising Assembly with carver Bill Davis
Thurs. Jan. 23	School Wide Skating (sponsored by PAC)
Fri. Jan. 24	Non-Instructional Day – No School
Wed. Jan. 29	Lunar New Year Begins – Year of the Snake <i>(people born during this year are often thought to be great speakers and deep thinkers)</i>
Fri. Jan. 31	Reptile Room here (sponsored by CLCSA)

