

June 2, 2009

Dear PA School Families and Friends,

Track & Field is here!

The NWT Track & Field Championships begin Wednesday afternoon! Our PA teams and our athletes have been working hard to prepare for their events, and are now ready to pit their talents against the best in the Territories. Opening ceremonies will be on Wednesday evening, June 3, but some Bantam (born 1996, 1997) and PeeWee (born 1998, 1999) events take place earlier that afternoon. **All athletes should meet at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, in uniform**, at the south end of the arena (the North Mart side).

Noon Dismissal Wednesday, and other important details

We will dismiss at noon tomorrow (Wednesday, June 3) for Track & Field, following a Booster Rally at 11:40. Buses will take their riders home at that time. Bus riders competing in the Bantam High Jump, Bantam 1500 meters and PeeWee 1000 meters will need to arrange alternate transportation home.

We do have school tomorrow morning, but there will be no classes tomorrow afternoon or all day Thursday and Friday, June 4 & 5, because our students will be participating in the meet as competitors. There will be no bus service on those days, either to pick students up or to take them home.

Grade Six at the Legislative Assembly



Last week our grade 6 classes traveled to Yellowknife for their annual trip to the Legislative Assembly. Their activities included a tour of “the Ledge,” lunch in the Great Hall, personal introductions at the Assembly’s session, and a chance to see our government in action as the Members considered a report on the Official Languages Act. Not only did they look grown-up, they conducted themselves like true ambassadors for our school and town. We’re so proud of them!

Many thanks to Hay River MLAs **Jane Groenewegen** and **Paul DeLorey** (in the Assembly chamber with **6M**, above left, and **6T**, above right) for their warm welcome and hospitality. Special thanks to **Wendy Morgan**, Jane’s constituency assistant, who took care of the arrangements; to the **Hay River Elks**, who donated our transportation; to **Finning Canada** and **Northland Utilities** for their additional sponsorship; to **Frontier Coachlines**; to **Mrs. Moizis** and **Ms. Tweedie**; and to the amazing 6M and 6T parent volunteers who came along as chaperones. *.../over, please*

Attention Grade 7 Parents

Grade 7 students have already begun the high school orientation process, with tours of Diamond Jenness (below, left: meeting in the concourse with DJSS Principal Paul Thériault) & presentations at P.A. by last year's grade 7 students. The next step is an information night for parents, scheduled for 7 p.m. next Thursday, June 11 at DJ. Please save the date—a notice will go home next week.



Assistive Technology

One of this year's exciting developments is the creation of PA's assistive technology facility (above, right). Using computers donated through the *Computers for Schools* program and LCD monitors purchased with special technology funding from the Hay River District Education Authority, we now have the capacity to provide students with specific learning needs with supplemental reading, writing and mathematics support. Among the software that we use are Dragon Speak, Read Write Gold, Inspiration, and Boardmaker. This facility is a significant step forward, and a reflection of our ongoing commitment to inclusive schooling in Hay River and the SSDEC. Special thanks to the SSDEC's Vaughn Sutton, who made it happen!

Lights On – final week!

The last *Lights On* program of the year will be this Saturday, June 6, from 6:00 to 8:45 p.m. *Lights On* features a program of healthy activities in the PA gym for students in grades 4 through 7. Please come in through the community entrance. As always, students must bring indoor shoes with them, and know how they are getting home after *Lights On*. Many thanks to the sponsors of *Lights On* for bringing this wonderful program to PA: the **Hay River Drug & Alcohol Strategy** committee, **Health Canada**, the **Hay River Elks**, and the **Hay River DEA**.

Congratulations...

to last week's PAS draw winners: **Dennis Ruben** in grade 7; **Roland Lamalice** in grade 6; **Arry Bertrand** in grade 5; and **Lucia Spiridonica** in grade 4. Great job!

See you at Track & Field – *all PA'S in!*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Buerger'.

Geoff Buerger
Principal