



CGS Quarterly

APRIL 6, 2016

CARSON GRAHAM SECONDARY – IB WORLD SCHOOL – SPRING ISSUE

Up Coming Events:

April 7 – Parent
Teacher
Interviews -
Early Dismissal
1:15pm

April 8 – Early
Dismissal –
1:15pm

April 20 – PAC
Meeting 7PM

April 22 –
School Based
Professional
Day – No
Classes

May 2 – District
Wide
Professional
Day – No
Classes

May 18 – PAC
Meeting 7PM

May 19 –
Superintendent's
Luncheon

May 20 –
District Wide
Curriculum
Implementation
Day - No
Classes

May 23 –
Victoria Day –
Schools Closed



CARSON GRAHAM TAKES THE SILVER MEDAL AT THE CANADIAN IMPROV GAMES

What an accomplishment. The Carson Graham Improv varsity team has returned from Ottawa as national silver medalists. We are so remarkably proud! They play for their coach, Carson grad Jullian Kolstee, and they play for each other. They proudly represented the Lower Mainland region of the Canadian Improv Games [CIG], The City of North Vancouver, and Carson Graham Secondary in Ottawa, Ontario. The CIG's National Festival is the most geographically diverse arts competition in Canada and it played out on the National Arts Centre stage, just blocks from Parliament Hill.

Carson Graham Improv [CGI] has been a regular visitor to the Lower Mainland finals in a tournament that regularly boasts 30 schools. A qualifying top two finish was not the team's path to Ottawa this year. On finals night, the team finished fourth on an incredibly strong night of exuberant talent. The CIG runs an online wildcard tournament in parallel to its 14 regions nationally. The team posted their video and beat out 18 teams from 9 regions across the country. To get a taste of competitive improvised theatre sports at the high school level please seek out the video on YouTube> Carson Graham Improv online wildcard.

Rob Walker - Teacher

May 26 – Exit Interviews

June 1 – Spring Music Concert

June 15 – Grad Ceremony 7PM, Orpheum Theatre

June 15 – PAC Meeting 7PM

June 21 – National Aboriginal Day

June 29 – Grad Banquet 7pm, Westin Bayshore

June 30 – Admin Day – Schools Closed

They took the long shot and they made it. Jullian Kolstee, Artistic Director of CGI and senior team coach, sat the team closely together at the close of their final rehearsal on Carson's home stage. He directed them to visualize how this team came together, worked through challenges, and sacrificed many opportunities to be a part of this creative work. He asked them to picture every teammate, friend, family member, audience member who came to a show or supported them in their fundraising efforts. It was here Jullian reminded each player that they take all that support and privilege along with their 150+ hours of rehearsal to Ottawa. This same scene was played out backstage before their 2 shows on the stage of the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. They were quiet moments of reflection, before the creative storm that is the genre of improvised theatre. It was the beautiful moment that highlights the value of these opportunities for youth. The value of achieving a silver medal is second to the rich community these students have built as they discover the amazing heights they can reach.

ATHLETICS

The winter athletic season was a successful one for many of our teams. Some of the basketball highlights include the Bantam Boys' Team placing first in the North Shore Championships then going on to place 4th in the Vancouver and District Championship; the Junior Girls' placed 2nd at both the North Shore and the Lower Mainland Championships and 9th at the Provincial Championships held in Langley; and the Junior Boys' Team placed 3rd in the North Shore Championships; the Juvenile Boys' Team placed 1st in their division in league play; and the Senior Girls' fought hard, and came within one game of qualifying for the Provincial Championships.

At the BC High School Wrestling Provincial Championships held in Abbotsford during the last weekend in February, Carson had three representatives reach the podium. Lyric Atchison placed 4th in the 69 kg weight class, Jayvee Balbin placed 5th in 51 kg, and Marcus Jacobs placed 4th in 78 kg.

Thank you to all the coaches, sponsors, athletes, scorekeepers, referees and parents who made this past winter season a positive one.

The switch over to our spring sports' season is currently underway and we would like to wish the rugby, badminton, golf, ultimate, football, mountain biking, tennis, track and field, and soccer teams the best of luck in their upcoming season.

Ryan Kerluck – Athletic Director

MUSIC TRIP TO BEIJING, CHINA

On March 14th, thirty-two Carson Graham band students, grades 8-12, accompanied by Kevin Yang, Pam Craven and Whitney de Beer, traveled halfway across the world for a whirlwind tour of Beijing, China. We had many long days leaving the hotel at 8:00am and not returning until after 8:30pm. The chaperones on this trip were blown away with how well our students represented not only Carson Graham, but also Canada. All students were respectful, polite and were open to many new and exciting experiences. A few of the opportunities we had while in Beijing included: learning Tai Chi in the gardens of the Temple of Heaven, taking a rickshaw tour through the old town, practicing calligraphy at a local high school, learning to make fresh dumplings, watching an acrobatic show and a kung-fu show, and climbing the Great Wall of China.



The students played three wonderful concerts while in Beijing; two of the concerts were at local schools. Students not only preformed but also engaged with students and learned a little bit about what it is to be a student in Beijing. The third concert was on the Great Wall of China. It was a cold and windy afternoon, and even though the student's sheet music kept blowing off their stands, they embraced the experience and played a beautiful concert.

This trip was unforgettable for students. They will have lifelong memories, and are able to share their experiences with their friends and family. I am thankful for being asked to be a part of this trip, as it was wonderful getting to know my students outside of the classroom.

Whitney de Beer - Teacher



Carson Graham Band Students performing on the Great Wall of China



COMMUNITY INITIATIVES AND LEADERSHIP 10: PINK SHIRT DAY

On the morning of February 24th, Pink Shirt Day, as students, staff, local RCMP and firefighters stood outside the positively “pinkified” school entrance with pink David’s tea in hand, one of my students remarked, “Ms. Glover, I wish we could do this every single day”. I inquired about the meaning of this comment and he responded enthusiastically: “There is so much positive energy at our school that I wish we could celebrate this daily”.

I was pleased to hear these words as my Initiatives students’ main goal this year was to address bullying by focusing on belonging and kindness. Initiatives students arrived in the wee hours of the morning to ensure that every single person in the building could be greeted by a mini pink shirt with a positive, heartfelt message. We managed to place these symbols of kindness and community on all 1348 lockers and 53 classroom doors. Although time has passed, we have noticed that some teachers have even kept these personalized pink treasures in sight. Following the morning momentum was a student led assembly which included performances to raise awareness about anti-bullying through creative and informative means. Pink Shirt Day was, indeed, a day of appreciation for connection and community and we have much to be grateful for at Carson Graham Secondary.

North Shore News link: [CLICK HERE](#)

Shauna Glover – Teacher



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