
Clearwater Secondary

Newsletter

June 2022

Year End Exams

Hello Parents,

As we approach the end of the year, students will soon be sitting for final exams in most of their classes. I have directed teachers to ensure their classes are writing exams in most classes, with the exception of PHE, Music, and some of our elective classes. Not everyone believes that final exams have value so I wanted to share with you why I believe they are important. The data shows that over 80% of graduates eventually enter post secondary, with 53% of them entering immediately and the other 27% entering after one or more gap years. By post secondary I mean any form of schooling past graduation, this could be a two week OFA Level 3 first aid course, a five month trades program, or a four year degree program. All of these options involve passing an exam along the way. In order to equip students with the best chance of success when writing these exams they need practice. Practice studying, practice reviewing, and the practice of actually sitting down to write an exam.

You can support your child with the upcoming final exams by nudging them to get enough sleep, yes I know this is not always the easiest thing with teens, I have three of them right now! You can also help your child manage their schedule, perhaps creating a bit more time to study in the run up to exams. Exams will be held Thursday June 23rd, Friday June 24th and Monday June 27th. Teachers will inform students of the exact details. For example my Physics 11 class is doing a written exam June 24th and a hands on lab exam June 27th.

If you wish to look at some of the data I mentioned above, here is a [link](#).

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Core Competency Week

Although all the data collected so far from students, staff and parents indicated that Core Competency Week was a success I am not sure we did a great job of communicating all of the learning that went on. For example I ran a mountain biking group and had 14 young men out with me for a week. On the surface it sounds like they likely got lots of exercise and a few scrapes along the way. What might not be apparent is that we also spent a lot of time on trail design. All of those young men should be able to tell you what outslope is, why we have grade reversals and where you would typically see them. They would also be able to point them out if they were on a trail with you. The group also learned how to complete minor repairs such as fixing their own flat tire. When I asked them if they could fix their own flat 90% of them told me they could not, typically they had watched their Dad do it but had never done it themselves.

This same story of hidden learning existed in all of our project groups. The hiking group had the opportunity for exercise and likely some burnt dinners but they also had the opportunity to learn skills like map reading, route planning, and how to follow a compass bearing from the professional guide that accompanied them.

If we run Core Competency Week next year we will strive to do a better job of telling the story of the hidden learning you might not have seen.

If you would like to share your thoughts on Core Competency Week please complete the survey. It will take you less than 60 seconds.

[Survey Link](#)

Core Competency Week

The hiking group with their guide



Core Competency Week

Practicing repairing a flat tire.



Honour Grads

Each year the top five percent of the graduating class is invited to attend the Honour grad ceremonies in Kamloops. This year our honour graduates are:

Katelynne Christensen

Seth Cooperman

Mathew Lavigne

Vienna Wadlegger



Upcoming Dates

Friday June 24th

Graduation ceremonies in the CSS gym starting at 6 pm. After two long years we are looking forward to celebrating with community.

Monday June 27th

The last day of regular classes.

Tuesday June 28th

Awards ceremony in our multipurpose room. If you or your child are being recognized you will be notified by the office staff.

Tuesday June 28th and Wednesday June 29th

Project completion day. Students who require a bit more time and or some extra help to pass their core academic courses will be invited to attend.

Wednesday July 6th

Report cards will be ready for pick up at the office after 11:30 am. Reports will be available for pick up until Thursday July 14th.

Friday July 8th

The last day Mrs. Holmes and Mr. Coates will be in the office until August.