

Student Update - Use of Language, Speaker Series, and more...

December 4, 2020

Use of Language to Prevent Harm

You deserve to be respected and feel valued at school.

We want to make it clear that the use of racial or other slurs or epithets has no place in our District. The uttering or writing or use of racial or other slurs (Eg. the n-word, pejorative terms used to describe Indigenous peoples, racial, ethnic, religious, sex, gender, sexual orientation, and/or disability attributes etc.) including when reading aloud texts, quoting or teaching course content, is not permitted and cannot ever serve educational purposes. It is harmful. Read our full statement [on use of language to prevent harm](#).

2021 Virtual Inspiration Awards

Are you a youth leader, individual or team, who has shown great spirit and determination in highlighting the importance of mental health promotion, and demonstrated leadership to help eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness? You could be nominated for the 2021 Inspiration Awards!

The Inspiration Awards recognizes the passion of people committed to making the world better, the determination to triumph through hardships, the courage to speak up, and the resolve to help break down the stigma often associated with mental illness.

[Visit their website](#) to learn more about the nomination process.

OCDSB Indigenous Speaker Series - December 8th and 11th

On Tuesday, December 8th, the OCDSB will be holding a virtual [Speaker Series event](#) with Isaac Murdoch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This session is open to students in grades 9 to 12 and can be accessed through the OCDSB YouTube channel.

On Friday, December 11th, grade 9 to 12 students will be able to join a livestream session with Kanahus Manuel from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This rare and special webinar will feature Kanahus Manuel from the west coast (Secwepemc and Ktunaxa) who will be speaking to students and staff on current events taking place on Indigenous lands in British Columbia. [Visit our website](#) to learn more and register today.

OCDSB Speaker Series with Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe December 9th, 2020

Being resilient means we are okay during a set back, challenge or a crisis and we are okay on the other side of it. How we get to and stay okay varies but the practice of continuing to push forward, even when it is hard, is a choice. Resiliency lives within us all.

OCDSB is pleased to present a [virtual Speaker Series event](#) for OCDSB families on Resilience with [Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe](#) on Wednesday, December 9th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Transformational, engaging, and thought-provoking, Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe's session will provide practical strategies grounded in global research and case studies that help foster resiliency within others and ourselves.

Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe is a multi-award-winning psychology and education instructor who specializes in resiliency, navigating stress and change, leadership, and personal wellness in the workplace.

2019-2020 Director's Annual Report to the Community

The OCDSB has released our 2019-2020 Director's Annual Report to the Community. This year, the full report is available in a new digital format, which looks back on some of the highlights of a very unusual school year. You can read the [full report here](#).

Launch 2020 Post-Secondary Event

We would like to thank all of our presenters, exhibitors and attendees for their contributions to the OCDSB Launch 2020 event, which was held on December 2nd. The event was a huge success, featuring 53 presentations and 46 exhibitors (Colleges, Universities, Employers, Service Providers, Not-for-profit). It was a day of collaboration, engagement, and discovery.

Students will be able to access the recordings through the online platform vFairs, which will be up and running again in the next few days. They will be available for 30 days, and the content will then be made available in the Virtual Learning Environment.