



<http://ncdes.ca>

Phone 635-7944 or 1-800-663-3865
Any Time, Any Place, Any Pace!

Volume 1, No 1

NCDES *Express*



Principal's Message

Ms. Cindy Sousa

Season's Greetings to all students, parents, partners, and staff!

It's hard to believe the first term of the school year has come and gone, and we are rapidly heading toward our Winter Break. The days are shorter and the weather's colder, but our spirits are high.



The transition to our online environment is now in Phase 2, and we're pleased to see how you are interacting with not only the online course content, but with your teachers and fellow students. If you haven't already, reach out and say hello to our friendly staff. We're here to support you and welcome your inquiries.

While our staff is taking some time to re-energize and rest during the holidays, we suggest you do the same. Take some time to be with friends and family and relax a bit. Enjoy the break as best you can. You'll be all the more ready to bring your best to all that you do.

As in previous years, our office will be closed and staff will be unavailable during Winter Break, Dec. 24 – Jan. 4 (inclusive). We look forward to continuing to help you achieve your goals the New Year.

All the best to you and yours this holiday season!

*Feel free to pop in for some Seasonal Cheer
at NCDES on Thurs. Dec 20, 1:30-3:30 pm*

*Snowflakes
Laughing at your
window.
In the holiday season,
Share a little joy,
Give a little hope.*

Facebook Launch

Check out our Facebook page
and
'Like' NCDES



Open House --->

Provincial Exams

Next Provincial Exam session:
January 28th - Feb 1st, 2013

See the Ministry of Education's site for schedules and information:
<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/>

Students completing the regular Dogwood program are required to write Provincials in these courses:

- Math 10
- English 10
- Science 10
- Social Studies 11
- BC First Nations Studies 12
- English 12
- Communications 12

Adult Dogwood students are exempt.

Tips from Clerical

Please remember:

- If you take the time to fill out your registration form accurately, processing is much quicker and smoother.
- If you are registered in a regular "brick and mortar" school, we require an email address for your parent or guardian.
- If you are 19 or older it is mandatory that you provide photo ID.

We want to make your online registration experience seamless. Thank you!



Vice Principal's Message

Mr. Rob Wahl



Greetings to all our students and stakeholders! I trust that you are finding your experience of Distributed Learning as challenging and rewarding as I am. At NCDES we believe that learning is the true heart of education. Yes, learning requires hard work and diligence, but we honestly believe that it's not about the work; it's about what you learn.

Research shows that Distributed Learning Students learn at least as well as students in regular classes. Moodle style courses lend themselves to exploring big ideas and gaining deep understandings. That is why we're so thrilled that you are a part of it. For example, Physical Education this year is an exploration of lifestyles and choices that promote lifelong fitness. The heart of the course is that you develop your own lifelong fitness plan. What a great opportunity! Everyone has a body to keep healthy and fit. Enrol and you'll see. Rather than PE as enforced participation in sports, the Moodle course is real, relevant and meaningful to you and your life.

This is the first year in which all our students are learning online. We certainly don't lack for work to do, but we are always excited to get into it to see what the next effort will bring. You may not have noticed, but we have successfully converted to Moodle version 2.3 for delivering our courses. We are enjoying the updated environment. Students can now drag and drop their assignments right into Moodle.

North Coast Distance Education School has become an even more productive and collaborative space, with teachers working directly with students within Moodle, and teachers working together for the good of the students. We are proud of our new school and particularly proud of our staff. We have a range of new digital tools and procedures that we are still learning and developing, but it's coming along just fine! We want to thank each of you for enrolling in our school and joining us on this adventure in education. Your part is to log on daily or as close to daily as you are able. We enjoy seeing our long list of active users in Moodle. Even if you just do the smallest amount of work each day, as you engage in true learning, your courses will melt away over very few weeks and months.

All my Best Wishes for the Holiday Season,

Rob Wahl, B.Sc., M.C.S., M.Ed.
VP, NCDES

NCDES Spotlight

Mr. Neil Simon



