

**Neqweyqwelsten School News**  
**January 2008**

Students and staff have returned after the break rested and brimming with energy and enthusiasm. We have been fortunate not to have lost many students to the winter flu. The students have been enjoying snow play outside. You can find the primary class snowmen decorating the walls in the common hallway. The intermediate students are beginning their unit on basketball. Students continue to participate in Young Peoples' concert events. They will view an anti-bullying production January 18. The annual Harper Mountain ski trip is set for February 8.

In the classroom, all students are working diligently. This is a critical learning term for the students and they are demonstrating that they are eager to do the assignments that they are given. The student-led conferences will take place in February. This is an opportunity for students to show their parents the work they have done.

The teachers and teacher assistants continue to refine their skills and will be taking part in a two day workshop January 24 and 25. The topic is differentiated instruction and it will be delivered by a facilitator from Washington state. Parents and guardians were introduced to this approach at the fall planning meeting. It includes strategies for working with each individual student in ways that match well with their understanding, skill level and their interests. The teachers are already using this method with the students and the staff regard the strategies as consistent with the philosophy and mission of the Neqweyqwelsten School. Teachers, teacher assistants and the principal will all share in learning more about differentiated instruction techniques, at the upcoming workshop.

Parents and staff are also involved with the Community Jurisdiction Steering Committee. Duane Eustache has been selected as the negotiator for the process. Josephine Eustache and Rosemary Donald are working to ensure that the community is well informed about the process and that the community is ready to take on the responsibilities that are part of having our own education laws. Broad participation in the Steering Committee is welcomed. If you wish to take part call Marie at 672-5652. Look for other information about jurisdiction in this newsletter.

We were sad to lose Roberta Haller from our Secwepemctsin program, but are pleased that she continues to work with the students in the youth program. Thanks for your many years of dedication to the school and the students, Roberta. Josephine Eustache and Mona Jules are working with students in the Secwepemctsin program.

Mission Statement for Neqweyqwelsten School:

*Maintain high expectations for continuous learning  
through quality instruction, supportive home  
environments and celebrations of success.*