

We have a great counseling team here at BRHS!

Their doors are (almost) always open...

School is all about learning...

Learning about bookwork, of course, and critical thinking, and goal setting, and how to work with others, and possibilities for the future. And students also learn about themselves and their relationships with others. Sometimes the going is easy and sometimes it's tough. And when there are bumps in the road, small and large, it is nice to know there is a super support network really close by. Look no further than the Counseling Office here at Beaverlodge Regional High School.

We have four teacher/counselors—Mrs Katja Davidson, Mrs Connie Mitchell, Mr Dave Penner and Vice-Principal Mr Ken Pon, as well as our Native Liaison Ms Connie Calliou—who are available during one or more blocks each school day.

(We also have an addictions counselor, a mental health therapist and a family and community support worker who come one day per week. More on them next week.)

The counseling team provides career and personal counseling and referrals to other counselors.

They arrange job shadowing opportunities where students get to spend a day with someone who is working in a career they are interested in. How would you know, for instance, if welding was right for you if you didn't spend some time with a welder (or nurse or engineer or RCMP officer or...)?

They also help students register for the RAP program (Registered Apprenticeship Program) where students use school hours to work in a trade and accumulate hours towards their trade AND credits towards their high school diploma.

They bring in representatives from a variety of post-secondary institutions such as the University of Alberta, Grande Prairie Regional College, NAIT, the Canadian Forces, and so on. As well, they inform students of Career Nights and Open Houses in Grande Prairie and in other centres.

Our counselors can help students interested in obtaining a Green Certificate for knowledge and skills gained doing farm work.

They set up workshops such as stress management and smoking cessation/reduction.

There is scholarship money available and our counselors make sure our students know about scholarships they are eligible for, (and the deadlines!) and assist them in preparing their packages.

Our counseling department invites community partners to support our students through sponsoring scholarships, bursaries and awards. Not only are scholarships a great investment in students, but they are also pretty inexpensive advertising. Businesses also provide subsidies for courses such as H2S and First Aid; these certifications are mandatory for many jobs in our area.

Students receive encouragement and application forms for student conferences such as Encounters with Canada, Rotary International exchanges and summer internship programs.

Expectant parents are introduced to Babies Best Start and the pregnant teen program in Grande Prairie. There is great support for pregnant and teen parents which gives them great information and advice. And high school credits!

Our counselors meet with all grade 12 students to make sure they have the right courses to graduate and to gain acceptance in post-secondary programs.

Our BRHS counseling team always puts students first, and does a great job of steering students in the right direction.

And, their doors are always open...

Photo captions:



Mrs Katja Davidson
Teacher/Counselor



Mr Dave Penner
Teacher/Counselor



Mrs Connie Mitchell
Teacher/Counselor



Ms Connie Calliou
Native Liaison



Mr Ken Pon
Teacher/Counselor/Vice Principal

For your calendar...

Jan 10 – Polka Dot Day

Jan 11 – Basketball league game in Sexsmith, 4:00 pm.

Jan 11 – English 30 Diploma Exam Part A

Jan 12 – Social Studies 30 Diploma Exam Part B

Jan 16-18 – Flicks in the Pit at lunch

Jan 18 – last day of classes in Semester 1

Jan 19 – Final Exams begin for all students

Jan 31 – Semester 2 begins

Jan 31 – Final report cards for Semester 1

Feb 2 – Groundhog Day and Polar Plunge!

Feb 3 – last day for timetable changes

Feb 10 – School PD Day

Feb 15 – deadline for designs for hallway walls

Feb 17 – District PD Day

Feb 20 – Family Day