



## **South Kamloops Secondary**

*"Home of the Titans"*

821 Munro Street,  
Kamloops, B.C. V2C 3E9

374-1405

<http://skss.sd73.bc.ca>

### **School Mission Statement**

"We believe that everyone has potential to succeed, so we are committed to maximizing education opportunities for all. Using recognized assessment practices as well as a support system that will ensure positive outcomes, we will provide a student-focused learning environment. Every graduate of our school will be equipped to lead a healthy, self-reliant, and productive life where change and diversity are the norm."

### **School Goals for 2008 – 2009**

1. To improve the academic achievement of each student
2. To foster in students a sense of school pride and social responsibility within the school and the wider community

## School History

École Secondaire South Kamloops Secondary School (SKSS) is a French and English dual track school, opened in September of 2003, which offers a comprehensive program of learning designed to meet the needs of all students. SKSS is a twin building campus school within a one and one half-city block area where students take classes in both buildings. The school operates on a fall (September through January) and winter (February through June) semester system with students taking 4 courses per semester. The timetable has three 77-minute blocks in the morning and one 79-minute block in the afternoon.

The school serves several distinct communities and neighbourhoods that range from suburban to semi-rural populations. The student population of SKSS is approximately 1500 in 2007/2008 taught by a professional staff of 82 full time equivalent (FTE) teachers, and other support staff of 25 FTE. SKSS also enrolls 25 international students as well as 5-10 students from a variety of exchange and other international programs. Buses currently provide transportation for approximately 85% of all students.

The large student population provides expanded opportunities for student course offerings. In addition to offering all levels of core programs, several honours programs are supported in English, Mathematics, and Science. Advanced Placement and Independent Studies programs are also offered for individual learner needs. The school had over 35% of the students makes the 'honour' roll or the 'honours with distinction' roll to date in 2006-2007. We have leadership courses and a full program of student council to develop capacity in leadership. In the spring of 2007 our debating team was the first public institution to have a student earn first place in a provincial debating tournament.

The school offers a comprehensive French Immersion Program with 231 students taking part in immersion courses up to and including Grade 12. In addition, a variety of other language opportunities are available in French, German, Japanese, Italian, and Secwepemc (First Nations language). We are the home school for 150 students of First Nations ancestry, and provide additional support to increase their success, including a First Nations 12 course. Partnerships with the new Thompson Rivers University are being developed to have students receive credit at that institution for their work here in both the academic and technical fields. To date, first and second year courses in Chemistry are being taken by our students at the university. SKSS is the home of district programs in Personal Achievement and Autism that provide educational opportunities to meet the individual needs of students who cannot achieve to their potential in a regular classroom setting. Personalized programs of instruction in Learning Assistance, Work Experience, Life Skills, and Alternate Education are also being offered to accommodate students who require an individualized program of studies.

Our Athletic program has consistently had approximately 35% of the student body participating in one or more extra curricular sport, as well in our active intramural program.

We compete with other schools at the “AAA” and “AAAA” levels of competition in almost every recognized activity offered by BC School Sports. Our new school won its first provincial championship banner in women’s wrestling in 2004. In 2006-2007, we were represented at the provincial level in senior badminton, rugby, soccer, volleyball as well as junior girls basketball. We have also had numerous zone and Okanagan championships at all levels in a number of sports.

The students are offered courses, which include concert choir, vocal jazz, concert band, and music composition/technology in our state of the art City/School District music room. The school is home for the 710-seat performance Sagebrush Theatre complex. This joint use City/District project allows SKSS to use the Sagebrush Theatre facility for student programs and assemblies. The Fine Arts department provides opportunities for involvement by junior and senior students in acting, directing, script development and stagecraft through a variety of presentations over the school year. In the spring of 2008 the drama department will staging their latest play, which will involve over 150 students, staff, and parents in a variety of roles.

Parents have consistently expressed satisfaction with our progress in building a new school community. We have active committees of parents, students, and staff working to maintain and improve our services in all aspects of school life. Our PAC has recently purchased a large marquee sign to identify our school and publicize events, to be installed in April of 2007. The school district has recently approved our application to have the front signage improved (fall, 2007), and building improvements are ongoing towards making the two campuses recognizable as one school.

École Secondaire South Kamloops Secondary School is committed to addressing the needs of all our students with an emphasis on developing capacity and life long learning.

- A detailed profile of the school can be found on the provincial website at:  
<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/reporting/levels/s-bas.php>

## Demographics

### A. Enrolment

Headcount	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Grade 8	174	288	292	274	292
Grade 9	180	302	301	305	293
Grade 10	165	296	317	331	304
Grade 11	191	310	323	330	338
Grade 12	149	277	264	289	309
Secondary Ungraded	10	26	28	14	15

School-age	869	1,498	1,524	1,543	1,551
Adult	-	1	1	-	-

Aboriginal	65	119	138	151	166
English as a Second Language	-	-	-	-	1
French Immersion	-	231	225	227	233

### B. Student Demographics

	School - # (07-08)	School - %	District - %* (05)	Province - %* (05)
Female	750	49	49	49
Male	793	51	51	51
Aboriginal	151	10	14	10
Ab. with Sp. needs	13	1	2	2
French Immersion	227	15	5	6
Physically Dependent (A)	5	0	0	0
Deaf/Blind (B)	0	0	0	0
Moderate to Severe Intell Disability (C)	6	0	0	0
Physical Disability / Chronic Health (D)	5	0	1	1
Visual Impairment (E)	1	0	0	0
Deaf/Hearing (F)	3	0	0	0
Autism Spectrum (G)	16	1	1	0
Intensive Behavior/ Mental Illness (H)	3	0	1	1
Mild intellectual disability (K)	6	0	1	0
Gifted (P)	64	4	2	2
Learning Disability (Q)	21	1	2	3
Moderate Behavior /Mental Illness (R)	4	0	1	2
ESL	-	0	0	10
ESL – Not-English at home	53	3	3	21

### C. School Community Demographics (2001 Canada Census)

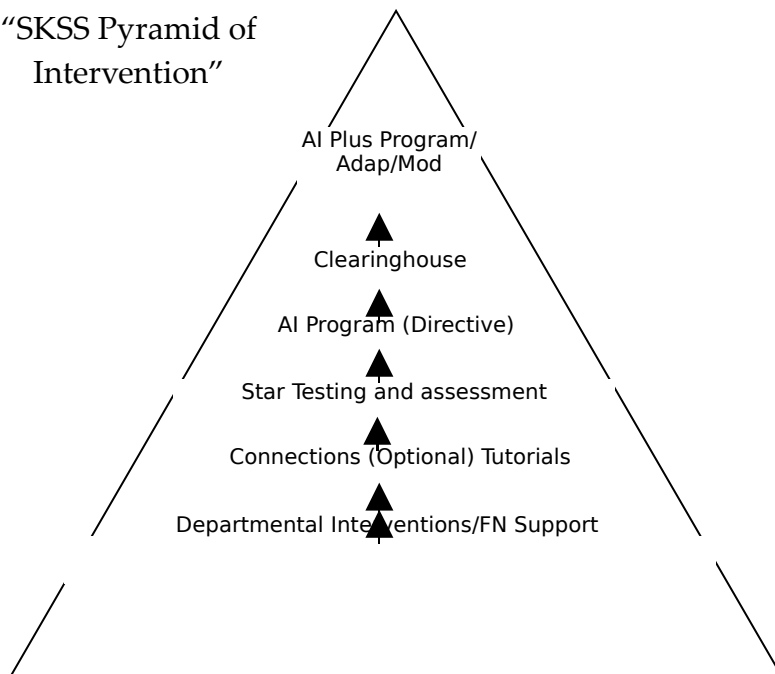
	School %	District %	Province %
Families with annual income under \$30 000	27	23	23
Educational attainment / High School Grad	74	73	76
Bachelors Degree+	16	11	18
Lone-parent families	21	17	16

### Meeting the needs of our population

SKSS has a large and diverse population of learners, and therefore has developed and implemented a variety of programs that provide students with numerous opportunities to be successful. There are strategies and processes in place that are targeted at all of our learners, as well as specific mechanisms for our First Nations Students, students with special needs, honours students, and French Immersion students. These include:

- **First Nations Education Support-** academic, cultural, and socioemotional support to our First Nations

“SKSS Pyramid of Intervention”



- **Connections Block Tutorials-** for all students to get individualized support in all subject areas.
- **Academic Intervention Program (AI)-** early recognition program that provides students with additional time and support to complete assignments from their classes.
- **Introductory and Adapted Courses-** at the Junior level, introductory Math and English classes designed to strengthen and provide

remedial help for students struggling in those core areas.

- **Behaviour support classes-** to assist those students with behavioural issues that may limit their success in the classroom setting.
- **Resource Program-** the program designed to provide maximum independence for students receiving a School Completion Certificate.
- **Work Experience Program-** preparing students by providing work experience and confidence for those students who can work on a jobsite independently while providing modified classroom instruction in Math and English.

- **Honours Program-** In the areas of Math, Science, English, and Socials, in depth and accelerated learning for our highly motivated learners.
- **French Immersion Program-** Designed for students who have been in French Immersion in elementary school, this program leads students to a dual-track Dogwood diploma.