

## Robert Service School Dance Policy

At Robert Service School we honour and seek to live by the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in construct of Trë'hude. Trë'hude is a Hän language term which translates as "living in a good way" and increasingly is evidenced in our school culture and proceedings such as daily announcements and messages at Good News Assemblies. Trë'hude is likely best described by a quote from local Elder Percy Henry.

"It is like for many years we have watched this thing you call 'education' occur in our town. I know there is much that can occur in the school that is good, but it does not make a person wise. In our culture, there is nothing more important than the learning that makes a person wise and a good human being" (Percy Henry, 2012).

Over the past few years there has been considerable conversation at Robert Service School on how Trë'hude can be authentically be enacted at RSS; that is ensuring we simply limit our focus on academic development and commit also to socio-emotional development. It is important to recognize that Trë'hude parallels the British Columbia Curriculum's focus on the recently declared Core Competencies, which encourages students' learning to have a balanced approach to the knowledge, skills and competencies necessary for leading a good life.

### **From the BC Curriculum:**

Education should lead to the development of the whole child—intellectually, personally, and socially. In a world of growing diversity and challenge, schools must do more than help students master the sets of knowledge and skills acquired through the standard subject areas. They must prepare students fully for their lives as individuals and as members of society, with the capacity to achieve their goals, contribute to their communities and continue learning throughout their lives (2016).

Along with the construct of Trë'hude, we value a school-wide approach in which we all "take care of ourselves and each other", known by Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in as Łëk'ät'r'ënòcha. Robert Service School has a long history of being a school in which care for all students is demonstrated by acts of tolerance, acceptance, support for change and expectation.

### **Policy:**

School dances and other social events involving students are expected to take place in a way that demonstrates we all "take care of ourselves and each other". Attending school dances and other social events is a privilege, and behaviours need to be respectful of self and others. The following actions are expected:

- Only current students and staff are allowed into the dance, except with special permission from school administration;
- Attending the dance is dependent on being present at school or with an excused absence on the day of the dance;
- All students must follow the RSS dress code, which does not allow for abusive, derogatory or illegal representation;

- Students are expected to behave in ways complying with RSS policies, specifically, there is no tolerance for aggressive, destructive, non-compliant, illegal, or abusive behaviour;
- Dealing with inappropriate behaviours will be done in the same way that the school currently deals with infractions - where appropriate, parent contact, removal, and follow-up meeting with family;
- Students are not allowed to leave and return to/ from the venue except with special permission from staff supervisors;
- A student may sign in a student who currently attends another high school (at door or preferably with prior permission);
- Dependent on age group attending, students may not leave dance until parent picks them up (unless prior permission from guardian);
- Music cannot be overtly vulgar;
- Time of dance may vary dependent on age groups participating;
- Only one entry point, all other entrances/exits must be locked or watched by staff;
- Dances can only operate with sufficient supervision;
- No bags, purses, or coats can be brought into the dance (coat check available)

Students who have violated this Dance Policy may not be allowed to attend school dances at the discretion of school administration.