



John Fredson School

Principal/Teacher - Ms. Diane Olmstead

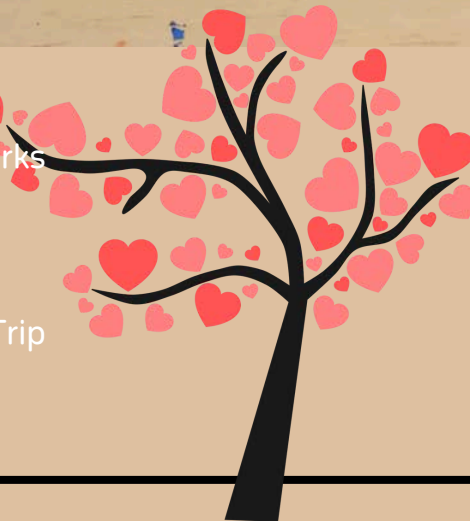
NEWSLETTER

February



What's in this issue

- Art Lessons with Ms. Angie
- Art Exhibition - Student Works
- Archery Lessons
- Life Skills Sessions
- Family Literacy Night
- HS Construction Site Field Trip
- Staff Spotlight
- Photo Gallery



John Fredson School Vision – Our vision is to instill knowledge and history, pride in culture, and confidence sufficient to be happy and productive in a modern world (along with a deep appreciation for Gwich'in values).



FEBRUARY 2025

SUMMARY PAGE

Art Lessons with Ms. Angie

An Inspiring Week of Creativity and Culture!

Our school recently welcomed Ms. Angie, a talented artist-in-residence, who spent a week bringing vibrant color and creativity into our classrooms.

In the Classroom

- Elementary students painted beautiful still-life bowls of fruit.
- Middle and high school students explored self-expression, choosing their own themes and subjects for painting.
- Students worked with a variety of mediums: watercolor, tempera, and oil paints.

After Hours: Murals in the Making


When the school day ended, Ms. Angie kept creating—late into the night, she worked on breathtaking murals in the gymnasium.

The mural theme: Parallel Wolves

- The left side features wolves beneath the moon, evoking a sense of quiet strength and unity.
- The right side showcases wolves under the sun, representing energy, warmth, and resilience.
- Together, the murals celebrate the balance of nature and the deep connection between art and local culture.

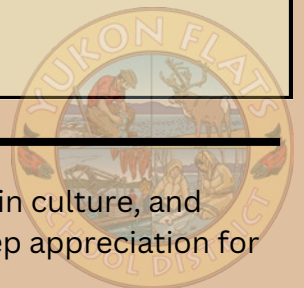
Student Art Exhibition

Before Ms. Angie's departure, John Fredson School (JFS) hosted a special art exhibition to showcase the incredible works students created during her residency. Families, friends, and community members gathered to admire the creativity, effort, and talent on display.

 Although Ms. Angie had to leave due to scheduling, she's promised to return soon. Her story—and her art—will continue!

Next Issue ...

We'll see the finished gym murals and share how Ms. Diane stepped in to lead a brand-new mural in the school's entryway!





FEBRUARY 2025

SUMMARY PAGE

Archery Lessons with Mr. Carson

Students across all grade levels had the exciting opportunity to learn the basics of archery during a week-long series of lessons led by Mr. Carson. With a focus on safety, technique, and fun, each class got hands-on experience and a chance to aim for the bullseye!

MS/HS Life Skills: Word Processing Workshop

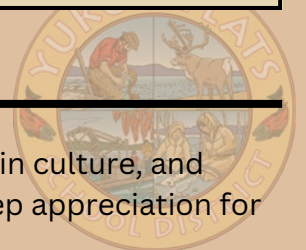
Ms. Cassie led a Life Skills session for middle and high school students focused on enhancing word processing skills. The hands-on lessons provided students with valuable tools to improve their digital literacy, a key skill for both academics and everyday tasks.

Family Night: Valentine's Day Event

Thank you to Mr. Jay and Ms. Vanessa for organizing a fun, literacy-focused Family Night! Students and community members enjoyed free books, Valentine's crafts, and activities that celebrated the joy of reading and learning together.

HS Field Trip

A construction site field trip for high school students was initiated through the initiative of Yukon Flat School District and John Fredson School last February 28, 2025 that offers hands-on learning experiences that bring classroom concepts to life. It provides insight into engineering, architecture, and skilled trades, helping students explore potential career paths in the construction industry. By observing real-world applications of math, physics, and design, students develop a deeper understanding of these subjects. The trip also fosters safety awareness, teamwork, and problem-solving skills as they witness professionals navigating challenges on-site. Additionally, interacting with industry experts can inspire students and broaden their career aspirations, making the visit both educational and motivational.





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Staff Spotlight

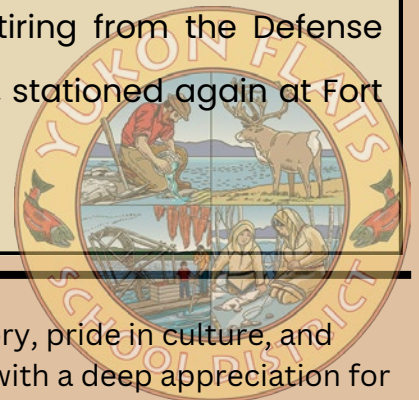
Angela (Angie) McCarty



I was born and raised in Danville, Virginia, where my love for art began at an early age. I was always drawing and painting, and when others recognized my talent, I continued to develop my skills. At 14, I won a regional art contest, and my painting was displayed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Throughout my youth, I had a wide range of interests. My Granny often told me, "You can be anything you want—you just have to work for it." I took her words to heart and pursued every passion

that inspired me. At 14, I also discovered my love for aviation during my first flying lesson. Although I studied art in college, I ultimately earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Aerospace Technology. I obtained a Commercial Instrument, Multi-Engine Instrument, and Instrument Instructor Pilot License, along with 13 different ratings. My aviation career began as a flight instructor before transitioning into commercial flying for courier and charter services. Later, I pivoted to hospital administration, overseeing three floors of a hospital as well as its morgue. Inspired by my Granny's belief that I could do anything, I pursued a career in law enforcement, joining the Special Investigation Division (SID) as an undercover narcotics agent. My career then led me to the Virginia Defense Force, where I served as a search and rescue pilot based at Fort Pickett, VA. For nine years, I flew search and rescue missions for natural disasters before retiring from the Defense Force. While in the reserves, I was recalled to active duty after 9/11, stationed again at Fort Pickett. Fortunately, our unit was not deployed for war on U.S. soil.

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Staff Spotlight

Angela (Angie) McCarty - Continued...

Despite my diverse career path, I always returned to my love of painting. I have created murals for both individuals and businesses, including one spanning 24 feet tall by 30 feet wide—about the height of your gym wall! Art has always brought me joy, as has my lifelong passion for animals. I got my first horse at age three and continue to love horses today. Traveling is another source of happiness; I have visited over 30 countries across five continents.

My husband and I owned and operated four roller skating rinks in Virginia and North Carolina, employing more than 100 people continuously for over 20 years. Now retired, we enjoy a quieter life. Our daughter, a registered nurse who shares my love for animals, lives nearby. When I travel, she helps care for my ducks, koi fish, and my two beloved dogs, Fiona and Copper.

Even in retirement, I continue to take on painting projects, such as the one I am currently working on in the John Fredson School gym. I love sharing my knowledge of art with students and fostering their creativity. My commitment to service has been a common thread throughout my life, which is why last year, I ran for the North Carolina State Senate. Although I did not win, I know Granny would be proud if I ran again—and I just might.





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Photo Gallery

Gym Mural



Family Literacy Night



Art Exhibition



HS Field Trip



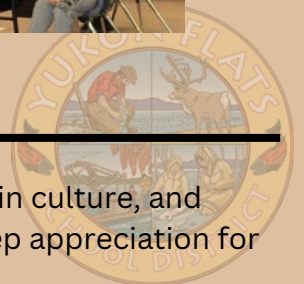
Archery Lessons



MS/HS Life Skills



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FEBRUARY 2025

Bulletin

February Dates

- Feb. 3rd to Feb. 7th - Battle of the Book district challenges.
- Feb. 3rd to Feb 12th - Art in Residence with Ms. Angie (Art Lessons)
- Feb. 10th to Feb. 14th - Progress Monitoring #7
- Feb. 12th - Community Art Show 5PM (Details TBA)
- Feb. 14th - Valentine's Day activities
- Feb. 14th - Literacy Night (5:30pm to 6:30pm)
- Feb. 17th - District Inservice (No Students)
- Feb. 18th - YFSD Board of Education Meeting at 3PM.
- Feb. 18th to Feb 21st - Matthew Stark visits for formal observations
- Feb. 21st. - IEP Meetings (Students and Times TBA)
- Feb. 24th to Feb. 28th - School Climate & Connectedness Survey
- Feb. 24th to Feb. 28th - Office Skills & Technology (MS/HS only) Schedule TBA

John Fredson School Staff

Principal/Teacher

Classroom Teacher

Classroom Teacher

Classroom Teacher

Gwich'in Teacher

Paraprofessional

Paraprofessional

Maintenance

School Cook

- Ms. Diane Olmstead

- Mr. Joel Brooks

- Mrs. Vanessa Fe Carmona

- Mr. Justine Villasencio

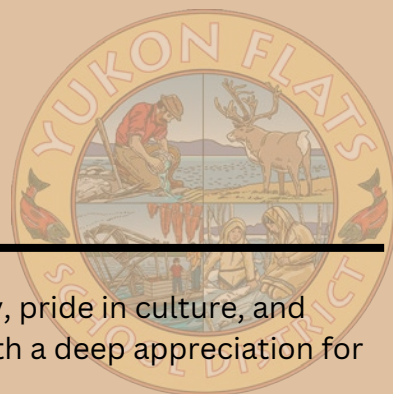
- Ms. Kathleen Tritt

- Ms. Darlene Christian

- Ms. Jamie Frank

- Mr. Jeremiah Druck

- Ms. Audrey Rolfe



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