

NEWS

Parents play role in student planning

STEVE KIDD
Western News Staff

Penticton Secondary School is trying something different next week. As happens every year, representatives from post-secondary institutions are dropping by the school to lead information sessions about their schools and try to lure the students to their institutions.

But this year, rather than just limit the information sessions to the students only, the forums have been scheduled for next Tuesday evening so parents can join in the fun as well.

"It's different this year," said Karen Boyd, a career counsellor at the school. "Usually we did it within the school day. But we're trying it differently this evening so parents can get the information as well."

Grade 11 and 12 students will be able to hear from three different institutions during the course of the evening, with the



Photo by Steve Kidd

Pen High students Shalev Troot (left), Chris Wanner, Clayton Cameron and Paulina Rios browse through some of the many university calendars and brochures available.

40-minute sessions starting at 7 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

While some students have already determined their future path, others have questions like whether to go to college or university, the different entrance requirements at each institution or which one offers the programs that suit them best.

"Programs offered at Okanagan College are different than those offered at Selkirk or Kwantlen," said Boyd. "Each

has its specialty."

Those three institutions will be in attendance, as well as 10 others from around the province, including BCIT, UBC, Thompson Rivers University and others. The evening is part of the "Get On It" program, which is delivered by the Post-Secondary Institutions of B.C. Sessions will be held in the Pen High gym and auditorium. No pre-registration is required.

It's an important evening

for the both students and now the parents, Boyd added. It's a big opportunity for students to pick up information that will help decide which post-secondary path suits them best.

"This is a way to expose the kids to what's offered out there and the differences between the institutions as well as the programs that are offered," said Boyd. "And how much it costs, sometimes that's a big reality check."