



# BES "Principal Update"

April 17, 2026

Dear BES Families,

What a great few weeks in this spring weather! It is so nice to see students and staff getting outside more and learning on the land in and around our school grounds. We are so lucky to live & learn in such a beautiful community 😊.

On that note, a friendly reminder to please send an **extra pair of clothes** (kids like to get dirty for some reason) and also **additional snacks and/or bigger lunches** as we are seeing more and more kids coming to the office looking for food on a daily basis.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact Ms. Dee in the office if your child would benefit from food from the school on a regular basis (and we will arrange it).

Huy cep q'u (Thank you),

BES Office Team

#bowserisawesome #goeagles

*We acknowledge and are honoured to live, work, and play on the unceded traditional shared territory of the Qualicum and Snaw'Naw'As First Nations.*

## **Important School Updates:**

- 1) **"Celebration of Learning" Week** (student led conferences) - will be happening the week of **April 27-May 1**. Classroom teachers will be sending out schedules and more information next week for parents/guardians to sign up. Here is the link to see the sign-up:

<http://bowser.schoolappointments.com>

2) **Family Drumming Night at Springwood Elementary** (everyone welcome) - Friday Apr 24 @ 4:30-6pm. See poster below for more information.

3) **Class Building for 2026/27** - over the next couple months, we will be starting the very complex process of building classes for next year. Please see the attached letter for our school district's policy on parent/guardian requests.

### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

**Mon Apr 20** - Fire Drill #5 @ 12pm

**Wed Apr 22** - K & Gr 6/7 Immunization Day & National Admin Assistant Recognition Day

**Week of Apr 27-May 1** - "Celebration of Learning" Conferences

**Tue Apr 27** - Pre-Kindergarten Program Starts @ 9-11am (Library) - continues every Tues & Thursday until Thur May 28th

**Thur Apr 30** - Class & School Photos

**Tue May 5** - National Teacher Appreciation Day

**Fri May 8** - Cross Country Meet @ Springwood Elementary (all day), PAC Pizza Day, Earthquake Drill #3 @ 2:30pm

**Thur May 14** - Professional Day (school not in session)

**Fri May 15** - Conference Adjustment Day (school not in session)

**Mon May 18** - Victoria Day Long Weekend Holiday (school not in session)

Wed May 20 - Grade 3 Swim Lessons begin (thanks PAC!)

### **BES PAC Updates:**

1) **Hilltop Greenhouses Fundraiser** -  **Bowser Elementary PAC – Annual Hilltop Greenhouses Fundraiser**

Spring is here, and so is one of our favourite traditions! **The Bowser Elementary**

PAC is excited to launch our annual Hilltop Greenhouses plant fundraiser—with a fresh new look for 2026.

This year, things are a little different: 🌻 All orders are placed online through our dedicated fundraiser page. 🌻 Choose from a beautiful selection of hanging baskets, annuals, planters, veggies, and more—perfect for Mother’s Day or refreshing your garden.

### How to Order

Simply visit our fundraiser page here: 👉

<https://hilltopgreenhouses.com/pages/fundlet/FWRKCAUS>

Browse, add your favourites to your cart, and check out—your purchase directly supports Bowser Elementary PAC programs and activities.


### Pickup Details

All plant orders will be available for pickup on:

 **May 6th–9th**  **After 5:00 PM**  **2759 Bradshaw Road, Qualicum Beach**

Please ensure you pick up during the scheduled window, as plants cannot be held beyond these dates.

### Questions?

Your fundraiser organizer is happy to help:  [kaitlynalan@hotmail.com](mailto:kaitlynalan@hotmail.com)   
250-240-4862

Thank you for supporting Bowser Elementary! Every purchase helps us continue providing great opportunities and experiences for our students. 🌸

<https://hilltopgreenhouses.com/pages/fundlet/FWRKCAUS>



# QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT

Yath éisum / Always growing / Grandissons ensemble

April 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

**RE: BUILDING COHORTS FOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR 2026-2027**

During the next few months, staff at our schools will be involved in the complex process of forming learning groups for the upcoming school year. This work includes projecting student enrollment and creating environments that make the most effective use of our staff and, most importantly, building balanced student groupings that can work together cohesively as learning communities. This is a challenging task as there are many factors that must be taken into consideration including:

- Social and emotional dynamics
- Academic strengths and needs
- Unique learning needs
- Class size goals

Staff take this work very seriously and collaborate extensively in order to make the best decisions about student placement. We strive to shape learning environments which will support the needs of **all** students.

There are many unknowns as we begin this task. For example:

- We are not sure who all of the teachers will be at our schools next year as the annual staffing process is not completed until late June.
- Some staff members may request, or be asked, to change their assignment for next year.
- We are never completely clear about our enrollment until early September so learner groupings must remain somewhat fluid.

As a result, the learner groupings that we create in spring are tentative and are not finalized until early in the new school year. For this reason, learner groupings will be kept confidential until they are finalized in September.

If you would like to provide staff at your child's school with input for next year, we encourage you to:

1. Talk to your child's current teacher; and then,
2. Send a note to the school principal outlining what you see as your child's learning needs, preferred learning style, or any other information you think might be relevant as staff work through the task of shaping learning environments for the upcoming year.

**We ask that you do not request a specific teacher.** Your input will be considered along with the other complex variables that go into constructing a learning group.

The **deadline** for submitting information regarding your child's learning group placement is **Thursday, April 30, 2026.**

Sincerely,

Gillian Wilson  
Associate Superintendent of Schools



Qualicum School District

Indigenous Education Family Nights presents:

# Drumming Night

ts-siye'yu 'u tthu st'ilum (becoming friends through song)  
with tsumqwutun (Lawrence Mitchell)

Friday, April 24, 2026 5-7pm

Location: Springwood Elementary

Dinner: Soup and Bannock

Teachings of the drum with tsumqwutun - song  
keeper and knowledge holder from Snaw-naw-as



All Families are welcome

tsunqwutun is a relative from the snuwuwus family. He is a language learner, a singer, and an artist of his nation. Our friend shares what it means to coast salish people: the importance of our relationship with our environment through song, dance, and hul'q'umi'num'. Recently completing his Masters in hul'q'umi'num', he has been working on his language for over 20 years. He is keen on sharing the magic that exists in this world through words, stories, songs and silence.



# RSVP

