



BALLENAS BULLETIN

#11 July 4, 2025

School Website: <http://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS>

We would like to acknowledge that École Ballenas Secondary exists on the shared traditional territory of the Snaw'naw'as and Qualicum First Nations.

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMIN TEAM

We would like to take one last opportunity to send a few quick updates, and to acknowledge the year that was! A special message of congratulations and recognition goes out, one last time, to the Grad Class of 2025. Thank you to all who celebrated this incredible group with us last week.

Additionally, as we wrap up another memorable year, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our students, parents, caregivers, staff, community coaches, volunteers, and the entire Ballenas community. Your ongoing support, dedication, and commitment make Ballenas a place where learning, growth, and connection thrive. We are grateful for the time, energy, and care you bring—together, we make a difference. Wishing everyone a safe, restful, and joyful summer!

When we return in August, we will send out communication about September start up. A few things to note:

- Our Bell Schedule has been updated to reflect a (slightly) later start time of 8:50
- We will work with all students throughout the month of September to set the stage for a weekly Homeroom and Flex time on Wednesdays. **This time will not start until October**
- A suggested supply list has been updated and can be found on our [website](#)
- Our Code of Conduct has been revised and can be found on our [website](#)
- As noted in the Code of Conduct, BSS is a distraction free learning environment, and the expectation for all is that cell phones are “Away for the Day” during instructional time. Your support in ensuring all students are aware of this ahead of September is appreciated. Teachers will work with all students when we return
- Students received schedules in June. As noted on Learning Updates that came out in July, counselling will be available to meet beginning August 24th. Booking for this will open on August 18th
- Ballenas will continue to use the My School Day App – information on this is found on our [website](#) and classes will go through it when we return in September. Students are welcome to download this handy tool in advance if they will be new to BSS, or have not yet done so during their time here. This app allows students to organize their school day, see their schedule, and have access to school announcements
- We are changing up fees for textbook deposits for next year. Textbook deposit fees will now be \$40, and paid/returned annually if library accounts are in good standing (all items returned in good condition). If you graduated this year – there was a cheque refund for you with your Learning Update in the office this past week (they'll also be available for pick up again at the office starting August 25th). If you are in Grades 8 - 11 and **paid this fee online**, you will have noticed a refund today. **For all other grades that paid by cheque or cash**, we will have a refund for you in September (details to be communicated in August). This will have everyone starting fresh with a \$40 textbook deposit fee payable at start up next year. As this will be a yearly process, to streamline this, payment online will be faster for refund processing
- Other fees will be communicated in August in our Welcome Back letter

All of our best for the months ahead – we are looking forward to seeing you all back again in September!