



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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January 20, 2023

Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that we are at the half-way point of the school year! Routines are well established and work can become challenging as students move along the learning continuums and expectations are increased. On Wednesday, February 8th, your child will receive a "Learning Update" (otherwise known as a Report Card). You will notice language that reflects your child's growth along learning continuums and will likely describe how much support your child requires for certain activities: direct support, guided support, or independence. The article below suggests some strategies to help your child become more independent, especially when they face increased challenges. Are you teaching your child how to be resilient? We face many challenges in our day-to-day lives and by working through challenges, we become even more resilient.

All students face obstacles. Encouraging resilience helps kids overcome them. Resilient students deal with challenges in positive ways – at home and at school. Answer yes or no to the questions below to see if you are helping your child develop resilience:

1. **Do you give** your child opportunities to make decisions? It's a skill that improves with practice.
2. **Do you talk** to your child about how you find a solution when you are faced with a problem?
3. **Do you talk** to your child about her strengths? Children draw on their strengths when facing challenges.
4. **Do you remind** your child when she's struggling how she has handled tough situations in the past?
5. **Do you listen** to your child when she is trying to make a decision without solving the problem for her?

How well are you doing? Mostly yes answers mean you are helping your child become more resilient. For no answers, try those ideas from the quiz.

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (February 2016, Vol.27, No.6)



Upcoming Non-Instructional Day

A reminder that we have a short week coming up at the end of January. School is not in session on **Monday, January 30th**. This is the District Wide Planning Day. EES staff will be attending sessions related to meaningful graduation and equity, environmental stewardship related to our work with seasonal rounds, and learning about the Qualicum and Snaw'Naw'as Indigenous communities.



Kindergarten registration opens next week! Please see message below for further information. If you have any questions, feel free to stop by the EES office or contact us at (250) 248-8446.

All new students must register online with their catchment area school. Information for those students wishing to attend a school outside their catchment is below.

If you know of any families who will need to be aware of this information, we ask you to please pass this along to them.

The graphic features a central blue speech bubble with text about online registration for the 2023-2024 school year. It is flanked by two cartoon children, a girl on the left and a boy on the right. Below the speech bubble are two boxes: a blue one for 'KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS OF CHOICE' and a green one for 'CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION'. The top left has the School District 69 logo, and the top right has the title 'Kindergarten REGISTRATION' with a date range and handprints.

School District 69 (Qualicum) **Kindergarten REGISTRATION**
January 23 to February 3, 2023

Online Kindergarten Registration for the 2023-2024 school year opens on January 23 through to February 3, 2023. To qualify for Kindergarten enrollment in September 2023, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2023. Proof of Age for a student includes a birth certificate or passport. Check out the School District website registration page to see what else you need.

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS OF CHOICE
French Immersion - when registering your Kindergarten on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to enroll your child in the French Immersion Program.
Primary Learning Community - when registering your Kindergarten on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to enroll your child in the Primary Learning Community Program.
More information and the application form for the Primary Learning Community can be found on the District website www.sd69.bc.ca.

CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION
The Board of Education believes that, in general, students should attend schools designated by the Board for their particular attendance area. Transfer of a student to a school outside of their catchment area will be considered upon written application of the parent to the Superintendent of Schools or designate.
Parents wishing to enroll their Kindergarten child at an out-of-catchment school within the district **MUST FIRST** register their child at their catchment school, and then make their cross boundary request by completing a cross boundary application form. The application process for the 2023-2024 school year will commence January 23rd until March 13th.
A fillable cross boundary application form can be found at www.sd69.bc.ca > About > Student Registration > Cross Boundary

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR GRADE 7 FAMILIES

We are in the process of planning for the transition of our Grade 7's from Elementary to Secondary school. Thank you for returning your transition planning surveys so quickly!

The flyers below outline the open house/information evenings planned at both high schools in our community. We encourage all Grade 7 families to attend both sessions to familiarize themselves with the secondary school programs and other offerings.

KSS and BSS staff will be visiting Errington Elementary School in February to meet with our Grade 7 students, provide them with course selection packages, and answer questions the students may have.



GRADE 7 PARENT/STUDENT INFORMATION NIGHT AT KSS

★
**Thursday,
February 16
6:30pm in the Multi-
Purpose Room (MPR)**

★
An information night for
parents of students
heading to grade 8 in
Sept. 2023

★
**We look forward to welcoming our
incoming grade 8 students and families to
the KSS Learning Community**

★
An Opportunity To:

- learn about **Kwalikum Secondary School** and the grade 8 program
- learn about the class selection and transition to high school process
- meet the administration and counselling team
- walk through the school

École Ballenas Secondary School

Building Successful Students

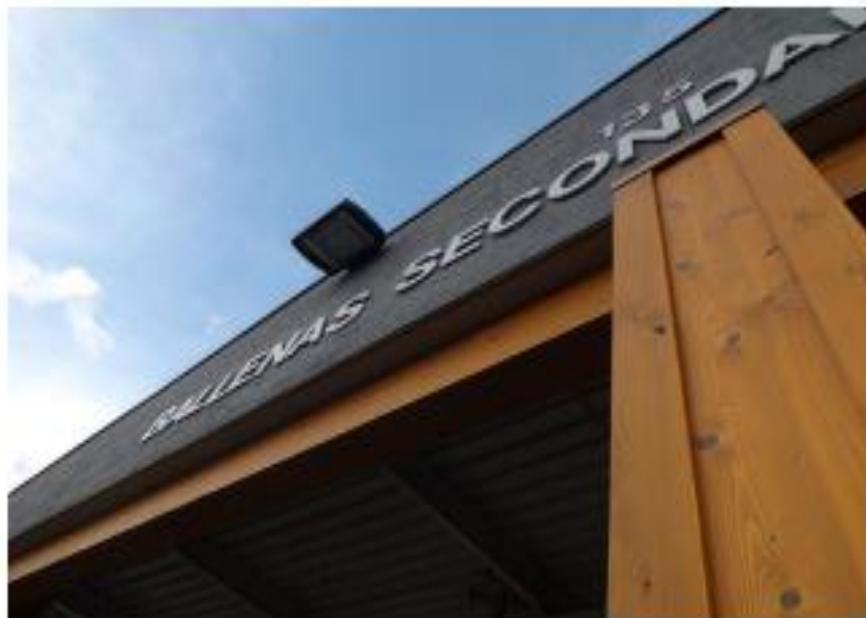


BSS Open House and 2023-2024 Grade 8 Information Session

Thursday, February 9th 6:30–8:00 PM

All parents and students who plan to attend Ballenas in the upcoming 2023-2024 school year are invited to our annual Open House. All Ballenas programs and departments will be on display throughout the school.

In addition, **next year's** Grade 8 students and families are invited to attend a special information session at 6:30 PM in our Auditorium.



Phone: 250-248-5721

Web: <https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS/Pages/>

Learning Updates

On **Wednesday, February 8th**, your child will receive a "Learning Update" (otherwise known as Report Cards).

Teachers take great pride in their work with students and families. They will continue to connect with you in a variety of ways throughout the year – through class newsletters, student planners and home folders, phone calls, emails, electronic portfolios, informal conversations, and the parent/teacher conference opportunities during the year.

If you haven't already, we encourage you to establish an ongoing mode of communication with your child's teacher so that you can understand where your child is at with various aspects of their learning, what challenges he/she is facing, and where to go next with learning.



Reminders

We are required to follow the BC Healthy Food and Beverage Guidelines when serving food in schools. If you are wanting to send treats to school to help celebrate a special occasion, please contact your child's teacher in advance to make arrangements. Food must be prepared and packaged in a Food Safe Certified facility.

- Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor use, along with a pair of inside shoes and an extra change of clothes. We also recommend having a warm coat, hat, umbrella, and gloves. We have a good supply of clothing and hand-knit items on hand. Please let us know if your child needs any warm clothing.
- When reporting your child's absence, please call the office at 250-248-8446 (after hours you can leave a message on our answering service – just listen for the option to report a student absence in the directory). It is important to let the office know if your child will be late or not attending school for the day(s) so your child is accounted for. It only takes a minute. If your child is not at school or late you can expect to receive a call to your main number. Thank you in advance for reporting early!
- School begins at 8:10am. If you are dropping off your child prior to 8:10am, please use the Lower Parking Lot. If you are dropping off after 8:10am, you may pull up to the front of the school. Students who arrive after 8:15am must report to the office before going to their classroom.
- Please make sure your child's teacher is aware of your child's after school schedule. We need to know if your child is getting picked up (and by who) or taking the bus.

Student Learning Survey

The Student Learning Survey is for students in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12, their parents, and staff.

The survey covers a wide range of topics and provides feedback on the implementation of the curriculum changes, learning environment, student wellness and satisfaction, student belonging and engagement, and career preparation. Questions were developed with input from partner groups, teachers and experts in educational measurement and special education. This survey will be administered to our Grade 4 and 7 students in the coming months. Parents of Grade 4 and 7 students are encouraged to complete this survey by clicking on the link below.

Parents may access the survey following the directions and link for **Direct Access** below. Surveys are to be completed by parents with children in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12. A parent may complete a survey for each child in the targeted grades. The parent survey is available in English, French and 16 other languages. Thank you in advance for your participation. The survey is open until midnight on **April 29, 2023**.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access. Acceptable browsers include Firefox, Internet Explorer, Chrome or Edge.
2. Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
3. Scroll down to the "Parent" section and select *Direct Access – no logon number required*; then select:
 - District: the name of your child's school district (69 – Qualicum)
 - School: the name of your child's school (Errington Elementary)
 - Language: the language of your choice
4. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.
5. When you are finished the survey, you will get a message "Thank you for sharing your views".

Pink Shirt Day

We are encouraging students to wear a pink shirt on Wednesday, February 22th to celebrate national pink shirt day. We hope students may have one from previous years and we do encourage "hand-me-downs" as children grow.

The pink shirt campaign started in eastern Canada by a group of youth who were protesting the treatment of a fellow student who chose to wear pink. Students were making inappropriate remarks about boys wearing pink, so several male students decided to wear pink themselves to stand up to the name-calling and to support their peers who chose to wear pink. They wanted to make a statement about one of our fundamental freedoms of expression. The tradition has continued for several years now. We look forward to seeing a "sea of pink" in our school on February 22nd! We continue to help our students learn how to solve problems in peaceful ways. Please see the link in the "general documents" section of our website for an interesting article that describes the difference between bullying, peer conflict, and mean behavior.



Principal Performance Appraisal

This month I will be engaging in a performance appraisal as part of a new district-wide process for all principals and vice-principals. Information will be gathered from surveys, interviews with staff, parents, and students, and then used alongside my own reflections and my supervisor's observations to create a report, and to help my supervisor and I to set my professional goals for the next few years. I am inviting you to be a part of this process by taking just a few minutes to respond to the questions in this survey and, if you like, adding a few comments.

The link below is attached to a Form only my supervisor (Associate Superintendent Gillian Wilson) can see, and she will be sharing data in chart form only and in comment themes without any names attached. Some quotes may be used in the report that goes into my personnel file, but again, these will be anonymous and content will be paraphrased if the source is identifiable.

<https://forms.office.com/r/JK60F44Gzh>

Thanks for helping out. I really appreciate your time and your feedback.

Sheila Morrison, Principal

NEW WAY TO PAY

Our district has made it possible to pay for any school fees online. If your student's classroom teacher has requested to use agendas, a sheet with detailed instructions on how to sign up for School Cash Online has come home. If your student's teacher is not using agendas this year a detail sheet will come home shortly. On our Errington Website there is a direct link to www.schoolcashonline.com, it is quite easy to sign up. Once signed up you will receive email notifications if there is a fee associated with your student. You are still able to pay for any school fees with cash or cheque, but we are offering the option to pay online.

As always if you need any help navigating this system please feel free to call the office and they will be happy to help you.



Munchalunch Hot lunches is **open** and ready for ordering.

January 27 – Pizza

February 10 – Sushi

February 24 – Ricky's

March 3 – Subway

March 17 - Pizza

Please note that all lunches close on Munchalunch a week prior to lunch date.

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/Errington/>

Use of Technology

We value the use of technology as an integral part of teaching and learning. Our handheld devices have become part of our daily routines and give us access to a wide variety of tools, including photographing our students doing all sorts of activities at school. We have noticed that some photos of our students have appeared on social media – we understand that people taking and sharing photos during school sanctioned activities are doing so with good intentions. What people may not realize is that we have a number of students who have media restrictions in place and parents have indicated they do not want their child's photo to appear publicly. In order to respect the privacy of our students, we ask that you do NOT download, copy, or distribute any pictures or other personal information through social media that contain images of students and/or student work other than your child's.





SPIRIT CLUB – 2021/2022

Mark these dates in your calendars and have your student join in some EES Wildcats Spirit fun:

- Friday January 27th Crazy Hat / Hair Day
- Tuesday February 14th Peace, Love, Friendship... Valentine's Day (wear red, white, pink)

School District 69 is hiring school bus drivers.

Come help us deliver the future!
Minimum Class 2 License with Air Endorsement Required.
For more information go to www.sd69.bc.ca



EES LIBRARY NEWS

This month under the Moon of The Shining Ice, we're featuring many wonderful books about the moon, winter season, weaving and storytelling. Come and check them out!

Seriously Awesome Series Book Draw:



Our Seriously Awesome Series Book Draw runs until spring break. Students are encouraged to take out a book belonging to a series, read it, then bring it back with an entry form to the Book Draw. Good luck!

DEAR - Wed January 18 is Drop Everything and Read Day: Mon January 23 is Drop Everything and Read Day to celebrate our School Library. Students and staff are invited to drop what they're doing, grab a great book and read from 11:05-11:35 a.m. You can join in at home, too! Ask us about some great books you'll love to drop everything for!

Leadership Lunch: On **Wed January 25**, we'll be inviting Term 1 Leaders to drive thru the Library and pick up their pizza lunch. This is our way to thank our wonderful leadership students for all they do every day in our school!



Gladiators Chess Club:

We'll be playing chess every Thursday at lunch in the library. The EES tournament will begin in February for those Grade 4 to 7 students who would like to compete. The SD69 District Chess Tournament will take place March 2 at Qualicum Elementary. As we had a lot of student interest, we'll also be holding a Primary Chess Day on Wednesdays.



Lost Books: If you have lost a book, you can replace it with a similar book from home. Please look for overdue books and return them to the Library.

Your Library Card: Did you know that your family members can take books out on your student library card? Ask us about bringing great books home for the whole family.

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook



Community Programs

We get numerous advertisements for community programs and opportunities to include in newsletters. Rather than inserting the whole advertisement in our newsletters, we will now provide the links below for you to click to view:

Other Community Events & Programs 2021

Please click on the PDF link below to view the events/programs offered – access is via the SD69 Community Page:

Rotary Youth Art Exhibition (Gr.6-7 students) – Mindfulness in May

19th Annual Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday – February 4th, 2023

SOS Winter-Spring 2023 Program Guide

Invitation to submit rock painting – Parksville Visitor Centre – ends Friday Feb. 10th, 2023

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Pages/default.aspx#/>

Information for Families:

Family Accident Reimbursement Plan

2022-2023 Board SD69 Public Meetings of the Board of Education

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Parent/Pages/default.aspx#/>

EES Calendar of Events

January	30	District Wide Planning Day – No School
February	8	Learning Updates get sent home
	9	BSS Open House/Information Evening for Grade 7 Students and Parents (see info in this newsletter)
	14	Career Fair for Grade 7 Students
	16	KSS Open House/Information Evening for Grade 7 Students and Parents (see info in this newsletter)
	17	Professional Development Day – No School
	20	BC FAMILY DAY – No School
	22	Pink Shirt Day
March	17	Last day of school before Spring Break
April	3	School Re-opens after Spring Break
	7	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	10	EASTER MONDAY – No School
	19	Scholastic Book Fair (In the library) – runs until Apr.25
May	18	Professional Development Day – No School
	19	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	22	VICTORIA DAY – No School
June	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early