



## Errington Elementary School Newsletter

Friday, April 24, 2026



Principal's Message

'Uy skweyul. Good Day.

As April draws to a close, we find ourselves fully immersed in *Tum qwil us*—spring, a season of ripening and growth. Pollen dusts the playground, flowers are beginning to bloom, and birdsong fills the air. Students are clearly enjoying the longer, brighter days and the welcome return of warmer weather.

We are looking forward to welcoming families into the school on **May 6** for our **Celebration of Learning and Student-Led conferences**. This event provides a valuable opportunity for students to share their learning, reflect on their progress, and take pride in their growth over the year.

While there are still a few months remaining in the school year, we have begun planning for the year ahead. If you know of families who have not yet registered their children for the upcoming school year, we encourage you to invite them to connect with our school office.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support.



## Celebration of Learning and Student-Led Conferences

Sign up now using this link:

<https://ees.parentconferences.net/>

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## 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 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 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 us with some input for next year, we encourage you to:

1. Talk to your child's current teacher; and then,
2. Send a note to Lori Marshall – [lmarshall@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:lmarshall@sd69.bc.ca) 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.**





## Health Education in April

Health Education is a part of the Physical Education curriculum and sessions will take place starting the week of April 20th. For younger classes this will mean a couple of classroom visits to talk about ways to stay safe and learn the scientific names for our private parts. For middle grades, it's a few more classes to discuss similar content in greater detail. For our older learners, we cover areas such as puberty, sexual health and identity, as well as ways to keep our bodies healthy and safe.

Below I've included the main learning outcomes from the P.E. curriculum that will be covered at each grade level.

### Kindergarten & Grade 1 (Mrs. Diewold, Mrs. Norman)

- Names for parts of the body, including male and female private parts
- Appropriate and inappropriate ways of being touched
- Reliable sources of health information

### Grade 1, 2, 3 (Mrs. Ludwikowski, Ms. MacLeod, Ms. Senchar)

- Names for parts of the body, including male and female private parts
- Strategies for accessing health information
- Strategies and skills to use in potentially hazardous, unsafe, or abusive situations

### Grades 3,4,5 (Mrs. Jeffrey, Mrs. Barclay)

- Describe ways to access information on and support services for a variety of health topics
- Strategies and skills to use in potentially hazardous, unsafe or abusive situations, including common lures or tricks used by potential abusers.
- Factors that influence self-identity, including body image and social media
- Physical, emotional, and social changes that occur during puberty, including those involving sexuality and sexual identity.

### Grades 5,6,7 (Mrs. Ray, Mrs. Petley-Jones, Mrs. Benoit, Mrs. L'Hirondelle)

- Practices that promote health and well-being, including those that prevent communicable and non-communicable illnesses.
- Sources of health information and support services
- Strategies to protect themselves and others from potential abuse, exploitation, and harm in a variety of settings
- Physical, emotional, and social changes that occur during puberty, including those involving sexuality and sexual identity, and changes to relationships

Thank you for your attention,

Mr. Avis [mavis@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:mavis@sd69.bc.ca)

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## Student Learning Survey 2025/2026

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in **2026** the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 & 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>. Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until May 1, 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 250-248-8446.

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## Qualicum School District

### 2026-2027 Budget Development Survey



The Qualicum School District Board of Education follows an annual Budget Development process each school year in order to establish the final annual budget for submission to the Ministry of Education.

To support the Qualicum School District Board of Education in their decision making during the annual Budget Development process, they are seeking input from educational partners, including administrators, employees, parents/caregivers, students and community members, to help inform priorities for the 2026/27 school district budget.

This short survey focuses on understanding what matters most to partners and where funding could make the biggest differences for students. Your responses are anonymous and will be shared in summary form with the Board.

**Click on the link below to access the 2026-2027 Budget Development Survey**

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=wtSAMuc3-Ue7cgV6Q2ecB65CrQy1959Dr0mCEJkzI79UM1NIRjAwNDA0Rfc5UjIKQTNyOFNISUhJTC4u&route=shorturl>

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### **Safer Schools Together**

Due to high demand, Safer Schools Together is continuing to offer complimentary FAMILY Sessions on the topics of **“Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities”** as well as **“Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding Against Cyberbullying and Sextortion”**. There is one training per month. Click here to find out more information: [erase Family Sessions](#)

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**LATE CROSS BOUNDARY APPLICATION PROCESS FOR 2026/2027 SCHOOL YEAR**

On-line Applications for LATE Cross Boundary Requests for students who wish to attend a school outside of their catchment area, as based on their home address, are now available to complete on the district website at:

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/Regxbound.aspx#/=>

LATE Applications will be considered at intervals throughout the remaining school year; however, a decision may not be made until after the first week of school in September.

Submitting an application form **DOES NOT GUARANTEE APPROVAL**. Acceptance will depend on space availability and school capacity.

Please be aware that if approved, the district reserves the right to rescind approval by September 30th if space is required for students who move into the catchment area school.

Transportation for a student choosing and approved to attend a non-catchment area school or program of choice is the responsibility of the parent.

If you have moved out of a school's catchment area since registering and the student wishes to remain at their current school, a cross-boundary form must be completed.

Once approved to attend a cross-boundary school, that becomes the student's catchment area school. If the student wishes to return to their original catchment area school, a LATE Cross-Boundary Form must be completed to request a return. Acceptance will depend on space availability and school capacity at that time of the request.

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## School Bus Registration

School Bus Registration for the 2026/27 school year is now open! Go to the Qualicum School District Transportation [website](#) to access the online application form. Get your application in **before the end of this school year** for the best opportunity to secure a spot for you child and to **avoid extra fees**.



### Busing Fee Summary Table

	ELIGIBLE RIDER FEES	COURTESY RIDER FEES
<b>Early - between April - June 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Free	\$175.00*
<b>Late - between July 1<sup>st</sup> - July 31<sup>st</sup></b>	\$25.00*	\$225.00*
<b>Late - after August 1<sup>st</sup></b>	\$50.00*	\$275.00*

\*Parents and caregivers who believe these fees will cause financial hardship in their household are encouraged to speak to their school principal about fee relief. Confirmation will be forwarded from the school principal to the Transportation Department.

## REGISTRATION PROCESSING TIMELINES

**April – June 30** only Eligible bus pass applications will be processed, on a first come/first served basis.

- If a bus reaches capacity, an *Eligible Rider wait list* will be created. You will be notified if you are put on a wait list.
- Courtesy rider applications received during this time will not be processed until after July 1.
- Exact bus route information will be distributed to families before the first day of school through My Ride K-12 website and App.

**July 1- onwards** Courtesy, as well as late Eligible bus pass applications will be processed on a first come/first served basis as space is available on the bus route(s) requested.

- Courtesy riders that are offered a space on the bus will be notified and asked to pay the necessary fees. When payment is received the application will be finalized. If payment is not made within 5 business days of being offered the space, the application will be re-dated and put back into the queue.
- If a bus reaches capacity, a wait list will be created. You will be notified if you are put on a wait list.
- Exact bus route information will be distributed to families before the first day of school through My Ride K-12 website and App.

**Applications received after Sept 1** will be considered on a wait list and only accepted on a first come first served basis as space on buses allow.

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**PAC News**



## Don't miss out on our PAC hosted Family Burger Night!

\$5 burgers plus concession. Bring your family to the school for a meal and some quality time together!

Garden Starter fundraiser orders will be available for pickup at Burger Night.

## PAC AGM

May 20, 6:00pm in the School Library

Join us for our 2025/2026 Annual General Meeting to get a summary of PAC's activities through the school year and meet next year's Executive nominees. This is a great opportunity to learn what PAC is all about and how you can be involved!



Scan this QR Code or click the link to find the EES PAC Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/eespac>

Our daily lunch program is underway and we are grateful to be able to provide meals at school for students.

Our dedicated PAC continues to offer Hot Lunch on specific Fridays. Ordering for both programs will be done through Munch-a-Lunch, however, it will be through separate accounts.

**\*\*Please note that the ability to order lunches is: 8 days prior for PAC lunches and the Wednesday prior to the date of the lunch for the EES Lunch Program.**



### **EES Lunch Program**

(daily lunch)

[Errington School Meals](#)

If you already have a PAC account use:

[ADD Errington School](#)

### **EES PAC Hot Lunches**

(select Fridays only)

[PAC Hot Lunches](#)

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## **Drop-off and Pick-up**

Please note that school begins at 8:30am. **If you are dropping off your child prior to 8:30am, please use the Lower Parking Lot.** If you are dropping off after 8:30am, you may pull up to the front of the school. Students who arrive after 8:35am must report to the office before going to their classroom.



Please make sure your child's teacher is aware of their after school schedule. We need to know if your child is getting picked up (and by who) or if they are taking the bus.

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## **News from our Library**

Lost and Overdue Books: please bring back your library books as others are waiting to read them. If you have a lost book, please bring a book of similar quality and genre to replace it, thank you!





# QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT Kindergarten Registration Is Now Open!

Online Kindergarten registration for the Qualicum School District (through MyEdBC) for the 2026-2027 school year is now open. To qualify for Kindergarten enrolment in September 2026, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2026. 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 to know and instructions on how to register your child online.

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

The District will offer a "Pre-Kindergarten" program in April and May. Incoming Kindergarten students must be registered at their catchment school in order to apply to participate in this program. If you have registered by Thursday, March 12th you will be sent an application via email, and those who register for Kindergarten after that date will be considered based on available space.

### KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS OF CHOICE\*

**Early French Immersion\*** - when first registering your Kindergarten child on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to apply to have your child in the French Immersion Program. Then complete the online Kindergarten French Immersion application Form.

**Primary Learning Community\*** - when first registering your Kindergarten child on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to apply to have your child attend the Primary Learning Community Program. Then complete the online Primary Learning Community application form.

More information and the links to the online application forms for French Immersion and the Primary Learning Community can be found on the District website at:  
<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Programs/Education%20Programs/Pages/default.aspx#/>

\*Application Forms for these Programs of Choice will be open from January 19 and close on January 30, 2026



### CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION

The Board of Education believes that, in general, students should attend their catchment area school based on their home address. Students who wish to attend a school outside of their catchment area may apply through the online cross boundary application process after registering at their catchment area school. (A Cross Boundary Application is NOT required if a student is accepted into a Program of Choice)

Additional information on the Cross Boundary Application process can be found on the following page of the district website:  
<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/Reqxbound.aspx#/>

The Cross Boundary Application Process will open once the Board has made any decision on proposed changes to the school catchment areas, particularly those that may affect Springwood, École Oceanside, and Nanoose Bay Elementary Schools.

## Local School Calendar 2025-2028

[Local School Calendar 2025-2028](#)



## Free and Lower-Cost Food in Oceanside

Across The Region	
<b>Elementary and Secondary Schools in Qualicum School District</b>	All schools offer meals at no or very low cost. Subsidies are available if students are not able to purchase the food. Speak with the school principal. Schools also provide snacks (in addition to meals) as needed.
<b>Manna Homeless Society</b> 250-248-0845 Email: oceansidemanna@gmail.com Website: <a href="https://www.mannahomelessociety.com/">https://www.mannahomelessociety.com/</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 'Manna Mobile' delivers needed provisions including groceries. Operating 365 days a year and covering the following areas: Nanoose Bay, Parksville, Errington, Coombs, Whiskey Creek, Hilliers, Qualicum Beach, Qualicum Bay and Bowser.</li> <li>Manna Wednesdays: offers an opportunity to stock up on weekend groceries at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen on Wednesdays from 11:00am to 1:00pm at Mt. Arrowsmith Salvation Army Community Church, 187 Alberni Hwy, Parksville.</li> </ul>
<b>Tina, Community Outreach &amp; Connection in Oceanside Services</b> 250-228-7877	Provides meals, a snack bin, pantry items, and produce from her minivan. Thursdays and Sundays at 4pm at the empty lot behind the McDonalds in Parksville. Afterwards on Thursdays and Sundays at the Smithers RV community in Errington. Also, mobile elsewhere in the region.
Arrowsmith	
<b>The Bradley Centre</b> 975 Shearme Road, Coombs 250-248-2336 Email: thebradleycentrebookings@gmail.com Website: <a href="https://www.thebradleycentre.com/assistance">https://www.thebradleycentre.com/assistance</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Connections Cafe: Thursdays, 11am-1pm \$2 for soup and coffee. Membership required.</li> <li>Sharing Table: Free food. Take what you need, leave what you can. Thursdays, 11am-1pm. Open to the public (no registration required).</li> <li>Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program. Runs June – October. For eligible members.</li> </ul>

Version: October 2025

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INSTRUCTED BY IMOGEN MCPHERSON-FORSTER

## Creative Kids at The MAC

# After School Art Club

FEBRUARY-APRIL

THURSDAYS 4-6 PM

Ages 8-15

\$25

PER CLASS

IN THE MAC STUDIO

McMillan Arts Centre (MAC)  
133 McMillan Street Upper Level  
Parksville, BC V5P 2H5  
(250) 248-8185  
[www.millanartscentre.com](http://www.millanartscentre.com)  
Gallery & Gift Shop Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 11am to 3pm

School  
for the  
Creative  
Arts

Creative  
Kids





## National AccessAbility Week Design Contest 2026



### Easter Seals BC/Yukon Design Contest

In Celebration of National AccessAbility Week in BC and Yukon, **May 31 – June 6, 2026**, Easter Seals BC/Yukon is challenging you to submit a T-shirt design.

#### Create Your Own AccessAbility T-Shirt Design

Easter Seals invites students from British Columbia and the Yukon in Grades 5-12 to create a design that symbolizes the theme:

#### Reimagining Play, Learning, and Community Through Accessibility

Canada's National AccessAbility Week celebrates the valuable contributions of Canadians with disabilities and recognizes the efforts of individuals, communities and workplaces that are actively working to remove barriers to accessibility and inclusion. For 79 years, a core mission of Easter Seals is to make the lives of people with disabilities better in British Columbia and the Yukon.

#### Two Grand Prizes Include (Age Group A – Grades 5-8; Age Group B – Grades 9-12)

- \$200 honorarium for the winning student
- \$750 for the winning student's classroom to purchase learning materials
- T-Shirts will be produced with the winning designs and will be given to the winning students.
- Finalists will receive a pizza lunch for their classrooms, generously donated by Panago Pizza.  
\*Pizza parties are subject to delivery availability at school locations, and while we will do our best to provide this lunch to winning classrooms, some limitations may apply.

#### Who Can Enter

British Columbia and Yukon youth in Grades 5-12.

#### Submission Deadline

Midnight on **Friday, May 1st, 2026**.

Charity Registration No. 119217248RR0001  
3981 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V5H 4H5  
[www.EasterSealsBCY.ca](http://www.EasterSealsBCY.ca)

*Easter Seals BC/Yukon is a service of the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities*

**FORED BC Society**  
For Education about our environment & natural resources  
[www.foredbc.org](http://www.foredbc.org)

**PHOTO, VIDEO & ART CONTEST FOR CANADIAN INDIGENOUS YOUTH**

Celebrating the rich cultural & heritage traditions of Indigenous people, FORED sponsors this annual contest with cash prizes for Indigenous youth.

Theme: **Traditional Knowledge & Medicine** Prize: **4 x \$150 prizes** with at least one national winner. **Group work shares prize.** 💰

**DEADLINE: MAY 22, 2026**

Interview a local elder about homemade salal tea on video? All creativity is welcomed.

Contest Details: Use our easy [website entry form](#). Entries may be mailed to address at bottom.

- Eligibility: youths aged 5-18 of First Nations, Inuit, Métis, or self-declared ancestry.
- Participants must include their name, band affiliation/ancestry, home address, phone & email, parent & teacher contact, grade & school on [website entry form](#) or by mail.
- Please include a brief description of how your artwork relates to traditional knowledge and medicine.
- **DEADLINE: May 22/26**

All original work accepted: i.e. crayon, paint, collage, photos, animations, videos etc. (.jpg, .pdf, .png, .mp4, .MOV). Minimum image size 2MB. Videos must be less than 3 min. Please have someone take a photo of you with your artwork if possible.

By entering, winners agree their names & entries can be published in local & social media, or displayed on BC Ministry of Education sites for Indigenous People's Day & our [website](#).

All entrants qualify for complimentary, honorary youth membership. No commercial use of entries.

Mailed entries won't be returned. Only winners will be notified.

See how Indigenous volunteer mentors integrate traditional knowledge into natural resources practices on our [YouTube](#). Follow us on social [@foredbc](#).

Complimentary teacher & youth activities by age group on Indigenous culture available [here](#).

Questions? Email [education@foredbc.org](mailto:education@foredbc.org).

FORED BC is a charitable association established in 1925. We work with volunteers on community-based sustainability projects. We thank our generous donors; the Province of BC & the Vancouver Foundation.

#213 - 4481 W. 10th Ave. Vancouver, BC V6R 4R8  
P: 604-737-8555 E: [info@foredbc.org](mailto:info@foredbc.org) W: [foredbc.org](http://foredbc.org)

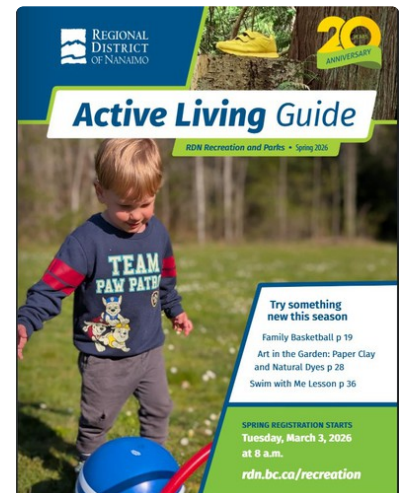
Support balanced education about our environment & sustainable natural resources. Trusted since 1925.

## RDN Active Living Guide

The RDN is no longer publishing hard copies of the Active Living Guide.

Please click the link below to access the guide online.

[Spring 2026 Active Living Guide](#)



## Community Events

[https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Pages/default.aspx#/=)



**Errington Elementary**

Errington is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

