



# ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Website: <http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>

Principal: **Mrs. Sheila Morrison**  
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February 19, 2021

## Principal's Message

Although the snow has provided for some fun in the past week, we are appreciating the sunshine and seeing some early hints of spring around the corner! Many important learning activities have been taking place. Routines are well established and work can become challenging as students move along the learning continuum and expectations are increased. With this, comes the need for greater independence. We continue our focus on supporting students to become more independent, especially when they face increased challenges and have a tendency to want to "give up". The article below shares some strategies on how to help your child develop the important skill of perseverance, also known as "grit". Researchers say "grit" is key to your child's school success:

What do spelling champions and West Point cadets have in common? It's a quality known as *grit* – the ability to stick with something even when it's hard.

Current research shows that grit is important. People who persist when a task gets challenging are most likely to be successful. To promote grit:

- **Teach your child to focus** on how good it feels to finish a tough task. "You did your homework. Now you can relax and enjoy yourself."
- **Emphasize starting.** People with grit don't put off unpleasant tasks. So help your child develop the habit of getting started. "You work on homework and I'll clean these drawers. Let's see what we can finish in 15 minutes."
- **Stress effort over ability.** Tell your child that success requires dedication and effort as much or more than intelligence. Notice every bit of hard work your child does and every small step of progress he makes.

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (March 2016, Vol.27, No.7)



## Update on Mask Expectations

The last newsletter included updates in regards to health guidelines. Upon clarification, the stronger mask requirements DO NOT apply to our Grades 5, 6, and 7 students in Elementary Schools. We continue to require all students to wear masks on school buses. Grade 5, 6, and 7 students in our Elementary Schools will continue to follow expectations outlined at the beginning of this school year:

- Wear a mask in high traffic and/or common areas;
- Wear a mask when outside their learning group;
- Wear a mask when you are not able to maintain a 2 meter distance in common areas inside the school.
- Wear a mask if you start to experience symptoms of illness and are waiting to be picked up.

Please ensure you continue to screen your child daily for symptoms of illness and keep your child at home if they are not well. To support daily screening, **a new K-12 health-checker app** has been developed for students and their families and can be found at: <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca>. The app will allow people to answer simple questions every day. It will inform them if they can attend school or if they need to self-isolate and contact 811 to be screened for COVID-19.

Additionally, **any visitor** to a school or worksite is required to wear a non-medical mask. Please call the office (250-248-8446) to make arrangements to collect or drop-off items. We reserve entry to our school for exceptional circumstances only. If you must enter the building, go only to the main office, maintain physical distancing, and keep your visit very short. We really appreciate your cooperation with this!

Please know we are doing everything possible to keep our students and staff safe during this pandemic. As we have experienced a higher number of COVID-19 cases on the central Vancouver Island and a few exposures in some SD69 schools, we pause to reflect on how close to home this virus really is. It is a good reminder to ask yourself, **“What can I do to reduce the risk of exposure for myself and my family”**. We know it is important to continue following the provincial health orders, follow the guidelines and protocols, and minimize our social contacts. As the months go by, we know how hard this is on everyone. Thank you for your continued support. We will get through this together! As Dr. Bonnie Henry continues to advise...be kind, be calm, and be safe.

### **Morning Drop-off**

For those students who are dropped off in the mornings, please remember that we encourage a staggered drop-off to help reduce crowds. Please drop-off your child as close to 8:12am as possible. School starts at 8:12am, but we wait to send attendance to the office until 8:30am. If your child arrives between 8:12am and 8:30am, they can go directly to their classroom. If your child arrives after 8:30am, they need to check in at the office.

We have noticed many cars pulling up to the school while buses are arriving. If you are dropping your child off BEFORE 8:12am, please use the lower parking lot. Students arriving AFTER 8:12am may drive up to the front of the school.



Kindergarten registration is ongoing. Please see below for further information about the new online registration.

Please contact us at (250) 248-8446 if you have any questions regarding the upcoming Kindergarten registration requirements.

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.



**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 69 (QUALICUM) IS MOVING TO  
ON-LINE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR**

**KINDERGARTEN" AND "PROGRAMS OF CHOICE" AND "CROSS BOUNDARY" REGISTRATION**

- **FRENCH IMMERSION SIBLING REGISTRATION ONLY - JANUARY 18 TO JANUARY 22**
- **ALL OTHER REGISTRATIONS WILL BEGIN ON JANUARY 25 TO FEBRUARY 5**

Policy 7015 Excerpt: "The Board of Education believes that, in general, students should attend their neighborhood school. Transfer of a student to a school outside of his/her catchment area will be considered upon written application of the parent to the Superintendent of Schools"

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**Qualifying Age:** To qualify for Kindergarten enrollment in September 2021, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2021.

**Required Documentation:** Proof of Age for student (Birth Certificate or Passport); Proof of Residency (see SD69 website for list of acceptable documentation or contact catchment area school: [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca) ~ About ~ Student Registration

**Where to Register:** On-line registration will be available on the district website: [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca) ~ About ~ Student Registration  
Please ensure you register at your neighbourhood (catchment) elementary school. School catchment information is available by using School Locator on the district website: [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca) ~ About ~ Student Registration ~ School Locator

**CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION**

**Cross Boundary Process:** Parents wishing to enroll their Kindergarten child at an out-of-catchment school within the district are to **make their request upon registration**. For students who are currently registered and wish to apply for cross-boundary, the application process for the 2021-22 school year will commence February 1<sup>st</sup> until the last Friday in March prior to Spring Break. A fillable form can be found at [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca) ~ About ~ Student Registration ~ Cross Boundary



**PROGRAMS OF CHOICE**

School District 69 (Qualicum) is proud to offer a range of Programs of Choice that provide unique and innovative learning opportunities for our diverse student population.

Programs of Choice are staffed consistent with the district's overarching methodology and philosophy regarding financial prudence. For these reasons, Programs of Choice classrooms are often (like regular classrooms) organized into combined grade configurations. All program options either align with or support the B.C. curriculum and help provide a pathway towards Grade 12 graduation.

The Board of Education is committed to Programs of Choice placement sustainability to the best extent possible, but must balance this commitment with emergent building capacity pressures, and the importance of students being able to attend their neighbourhood school. All Programs of Choice are reviewed annually as part of the budget process. Programs of Choice typically generate much interest and are continued each year, however they can be subject to cancellation due to enrollment and budgetary considerations. Please note that space in these programs is limited.

**NEW!**  
**Primary Learning Community Program** The Primary Learning Community Program is a new primary program for children between the ages of 5 and 8 years old which explores learning for students and educators through play, inquiry and curiosity. The community will encourage collaborative conversation between educators, learners and families. Play is the foundational principle of the program as research has indicated child development and growth requires children to practice, imagine, and be curious so that they are able to build resiliency and take necessary risk to grow and learn. Our goal for the Primary Learning Community Program is to work and learn in multi-age learning spaces.

**CEAP Program** The Collaborative Education Alternative Program provides a blended-learning kindergarten program that consists of home-schooling in addition to being supported by scheduled student activities at Qualicum Commons – CEAP classroom. Learning resources as well as support for parent(s) is provided by the program teacher.  
For more information, please contact the program at 250-752-5628 or visit the CEAP website at [www.ceap.ca](http://www.ceap.ca)

**French Immersion** French Immersion is intended to develop fluency in French learning to functional bilingualism. Students study in French while following the regular BC Curriculum Learning Standards. The French Immersion Program for Grades K – 7\* is located at Oceanside Elementary School. The French Immersion Program for Grades 8 – 12 is located at Ballenas Secondary School.

**Please visit the district website for further information regarding all District Programs of Choice:  
[www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca) ~ Programs & Services ~ Education Programs - Programs of Choice**

## **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 during April. 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 30, 2021.

### **To complete the survey:**

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access.
2. Go to [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey/access.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm)
3. Under the "Parent" section *Direct Access – no logon number required* select:
  - District: the name of your child's 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".

Ballenas Secondary School

Building Successful Students



## **BSS Virtual Open House for students and families coming to Grade 8 2021-2022**

**Thursday, February 25th 7:00 p.m.**

All grade 7 parents and students who plan to attend Ballenas in the 2021-2022 School Year are invited to attend the Virtual Open House. All Ballenas programs and departments will be on display along with the District Programs.

Join us via Zoom <https://sd69-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/3875132349> and have a chance to ask questions of the Ballenas team.



Phone: 250-248-5721

Web: [https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS/Pages/Default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS/Pages/Default.aspx#/=)



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

February 26 – Sushi Day

March 12 – Pizza Day

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

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

## Other Important 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 is in need of any winter clothing.
- If you haven't paid your child's school fees, please contact the school office or classroom teacher.
- 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!
- Due to current guidelines, school buses are **not** to be used for any other purpose (ie. play dates). The Transportation Department have asked that parents **do not send notes with their child requesting to ride another bus**. Students are only permitted to ride the bus they are registered with. Please refer to the School District website for all school bus information.

## Pink Shirt Day

We are encouraging students to wear a pink shirt on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup>! 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.



Popcorn sales continue, every Wednesday!! \$2.50 each or a punch pass online or in the office for \$20.00 (for 10 bags).

## PAC

Happy Friday!

Just wanted to let you know about both the current and upcoming fundraisers.

### Running all year:

- If you order Norwex through Beverley McCoy, she is donating her commission. <https://beverleycraig.norwex.biz>
- Through Munch-a-Lunch you can donate \$2.00 or more for the "Takes a Village" fund. We are currently using these donations to help kids and families that may need a little extra. We would also like to be able to buy Spirit wear so these Kiddo's can participate in the School's Spirit wear days.

### Coming up:

- We will be running a Colibri fundraiser in February. Check out their website for a sneak peek on what to order: <https://www.colibricanada.com/>
- In the spring we will be looking for plant donations. So, if you are planning of thinning your garden and getting rid of some plants or bulbs, please keep us in mind. We do have some transplanting pots available. We are also hoping to be able to sell veggie starters.



- Easter 2021 is fundraising with Purdys Chocolatier, just in time for Easter!

If you'd like to support us through purchasing some very sweet Easter gifts for friends, family and yourself, please click the link below:

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1043268-83076>

After you've signed in you can buy our amazing chocolates or invite others to join and support our Fundraising Campaign.

If you would like to pay by check, please address it to EES PAC with your order form.

**The Campaign runs until March 1, 2021.** The chocolate will be ready to go home on Thursday, March 11th.

I know every newsletter I ask for donations. I would like to invite you to our PAC meetings so you can see how we put these donations to work. And I want to THANK everyone, who has donated their time, money or kind thoughts. They are very much appreciated.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> **on ZOOM**. Hope to see you there!

Naomi  
PAC Chair  
[eespacchair@gmail.com](mailto:eespacchair@gmail.com)

## EES Library News



### Seriously Awesome Series Book Draw:

Our popular book draw is now on! It runs until March 12, 2021 (Spring Break). Students who check out a book in a series, can read it, and return it with an entry form to the draw. You can enter as many times as you wish, but must read the book! There are a ton of great fiction and non-fiction series in our Library, check them out! We will choose one winner per classroom, so make sure you enter to win!

### I Read Canadian:



This month we are celebrating our Canadian authors at EES. Did you know that Robert Munsch is Canadian? We invite students, staff and families to read a Canadian author this month and discover the many wonderful authors and illustrators who call Canada home. We have many of their books in our Library.

Families Who Read Together: We are very happy to lend out books to students and their families on your student library card.

Gung Hay Fat Choy: We have some wonderful books about China, the Lunar New Year, and the Zodiac stories in our Library this month - check them out!



Due to the ongoing pandemic and initial rollout of COVID vaccine, public health has postponed some routine Grade 6 and 9 immunizations originally planned for January and February. This delay is temporary and follows the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) guidelines for the school age immunization program. Routine school immunizations will resume in the coming weeks and continue until the end of the school year, resulting in immunizations being offered to all Grade 6 and 9 students before the end of June.

Public Health offered the first round of Grade 6 vaccines in the Fall of 2020 and will be contacting families in late Spring to book appointments for the second dose. Grade 9 consent packages were sent home from school last week. Please complete these forms and return them to the school ASAP. Public Health will receive these packages and contact families who wish to book an appointment. If you have any questions, please contact Oceanside Public Health at 250-947-8242.



## Words from our Wildcats



A new addition to our newsletter will be words from our students on various subjects. This month our focus is on the themes of friendship, kindness, and gratitude. The contribution this week comes from Mrs. Spencer-Dahl's Grade 4/5 class:

*How do you think being **grateful** more often can help improve your life?*

"I think it would make me a happier person"

"I think it would help me not be negative"

"I think it will help me sleep better and make me less stressed"

"It will make me more thankful for my friends"

"I think that it will make more people want to be around me"

"It helps me find the positive things in my life"

"It helps me with not get mad all the time"

"It helps me increase my energy"

We are practicing having an "attitude of gratitude" in Room 10.

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## 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.

### **SOS Child & Youth and Family Programs 2021**

Please click on the PDF link below to view the programs offered:

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Documents/SOS%20Winter%20PROGRAM%20GUIDE%202021-Jan-Mar.pdf>

### **Other Community Events & Programs 2021**

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

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Lists/Events/Attachments/1020/4-H%202021Enrollment.pdf>

[getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect](http://getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect)

<https://www.thenextgenartists.com/2021contest>

[ChARTing Change](#) [Read more](#)

[Oceanside Minor Softball Clinics - U12, U10 & U8 \(born 2009-2013\) FASTPITCH SOFTBALL WINTER/SPRING](#)

**Child & Youth Mental Health Anxiety Workshop (March 4, 2021) and, CYMH Collaborative & Proactive Solutions Sessions (April 7, 2021) – link below:**

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

## EES Calendar of Events

<b>February</b>	24	Pink Shirt Day
	25	BSS Virtual Open House for Grade 7 Families at 7:00pm
	26	Sushi Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
<b>March</b>	12	Last day of school before Spring Break
	12	Pizza Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
	29	School Re-opens after Spring Break
<b>April</b>	2	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	5	EASTER MONDAY – No School
<b>May</b>	21	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	24	VICTORIA DAY – No School
<b>June</b>	4	Professional Development Day – No School
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early