



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1390 Fairdowne Road, Errington, BC V0R 1V0
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Website: <http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>

Principal: **Mrs. Sheila Morrison**

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Principal: **Ms. Jennifer Fuhrmann**

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February 5, 2021

Principal's Message

During the month of February, many teachers are focusing on the theme of friendship. When children are younger, you will often see them playing in a big group, with several peers. As they get older, they start to determine who their solid friends are – those who they feel good spending time with, and those who share similar interests. The number of friends your child has may decrease as they develop more solid friendships. The issue of sharing friends is something we support many students with. We teach students the important skill of sharing a friend with another person who may or may not be one of their own close friends. Sharing friends teaches students about empathy and tolerance.

Often the ups and downs of friendships can interfere with learning as students worry about things that are going on with friends. The article below suggests just a few ways to tackle social problems before they affect school performance:

"I thought she was my friend!" Unfortunately, the classmate who seemed so friendly only wanted to copy your child's homework.

Learning how to deal with "friends" who turn out not to be friends is a tough lesson. And it's one that can affect your child's performance in school. And distract her from learning.

Talk to your child about the qualities that make a true friend and encourage her to stay away from classmates who seem:

- **Selfish.** Does the person seem to think and talk mostly about herself? Is she using your child in order to get something?
- **Phony.** Does the person say one thing...and then do another?
- **Dishonest.** Someone who is friends with your child only because she wants to cheat on a test is not really a friend at all.
- **Unreliable.** Did she say she'd walk home with your child after school, but then headed off to someone else's house instead?

Remind your child that she is worthy of *real* friends and should stay clear of those who are not.

"Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget." -G. Randolph

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

Health Update – Important Information from the Provincial Health Office



As per the announcements yesterday, there are some updates to be aware of. Please discuss with your child and contact us if you have further questions. The announcements include stronger requirements for mask wearing for middle and secondary students as well as staff, strengthened guidelines for physical education and music classes, a rapid response team in each health authority to help if there is a significant exposure/outbreak at a school, updated safety plans to be implemented at each school, and a health-checker app to support daily screening.

The new safety guidelines include that all **middle and secondary students** and **K-12 staff** will now be required to wear non-medical masks in all indoor areas, including when they are with their learning groups. The only exceptions are when people are:

- sitting or standing at their seat or workstation in a classroom;
- behind a barrier;
- eating or drinking; or
- medically exempt, in which case distancing and barriers are key

Prior to these changes, masks were required for middle and secondary students and all K-12 staff in high-traffic areas, like hallways, school buses, and outside of classrooms or learning groups when they could not safely distance from others. Those requirements remain in place.

For **elementary** students (grades K to 4), wearing masks indoors remains a personal family choice. In SD 69 our Board of Education has deemed that in the absence of middle schools our mask requirement for students as described above is for all students in grades 5 to 12.

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!

For staff and families, the daily health check remains a requirement, as do hand washing, staying home if you're sick, and of course abiding by the requirements list above.

Additionally, 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.

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.

Below are some links to the revised documents. Please note that all relevant pandemic information is always found on the SD69 website.

CDC K-12 Guidance (Revised)

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance-k-12-schools.pdf

Ministry K-12 COVID Safety Guidelines

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidlines.pdf>



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.



2021-2022 KINDERGARTEN AND PROGRAMS OF CHOICE REGISTRATION

Student registration window is from Monday, January 25, 2021 to Friday, February 5, 2021

KINDERGARTEN: To qualify for kindergarten registration in September 2021, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2021.

For further information please visit the district website at www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration

PROGRAMS OF CHOICE: School District 69 is proud to offer a range of Programs of Choice that provide unique and innovative learning opportunities for our diverse student population.

For further information please visit the district web-site at: www.sd69.bc.ca ~ Programs & Services ~ Education Programs - Programs of Choice

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS OFFERED!

EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM: Monday, January 18, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM
(Sibling Only French Immersion Kindergarten On-Line Registration begins Monday, January 18 to 22, 2021)

NEW! PRIMARY LEARNING COMMUNITY PROGRAM: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM
(Registration opens Monday, January 25, 2021)

COLLABORATIVE EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM: Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. via ZOOM

Visit the district website for links to the above sessions at www.sd69.bc.ca



**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 ~ About ~ Student Registration

Where to Register: On-line registration will be available on the district website: 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 ~ 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 1st until the last Friday in March prior to Spring Break. A fillable form can be found at 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

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 ~ Programs & Services ~ Education Programs - Programs of Choice**

Non-Instructional Days



Please remember that we have 2 days coming up later this month where students are not in session. Friday, February 12th is a Professional Development Day and Monday, February 15th is BC Family Day.

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 to those who have returned their "transition planning survey" slip to the school. If you haven't handed it in yet, please send it in as soon as possible.

Please see the flyers below from both Kwalicum Secondary School and Ballenas Secondary for important information about their upcoming virtual open houses.

Both virtual open house sessions will provide students and parents with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the secondary school programs and other offerings.

KSS and BSS staff will be visiting (virtually) Errington Elementary School soon to meet with our grade 7 students and provide them with course packages and answer questions the students may have.

Grade 7 Welcome to High School

KSS VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, FEB 18 AT 6:30 PM VIA ZOOM

[HTTPS://SD69-BC-CA.ZOOM.US/J/6299785951](https://sd69-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/6299785951)

WHO:

CURRENT GRADE 7 STUDENTS & THEIR FAMILIES WHO ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND KWALIKUM SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR GRADE 8 IN SEPTEMBER 2021

WHAT:

- LEARN ABOUT THE GRADE 8 PROGRAM
- BE PART OF A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE SCHOOL
- BRING QUESTIONS AND CURIOSITIES - WE WILL TRY AND ANSWER AS MANY AS WE CAN

WHY:

WE ARE PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR. OUR INCOMING GRADE 7 STUDENTS/FAMILIES ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR SCHOOL AND WE'D LIKE TO GET TO KNOW YOU!



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 11 – Subway Day

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 will be encouraging students to wear a pink shirt on Wednesday, February 24th 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 24th! 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).

EES Vintage Spirit wear

Errington Elementary Spirit Wear is going vintage!! Orders can be placed online using the link below to School Cash online or an order form is available from the school office. Cut-off date for ordering is Feb.19th, 2021. The logo shown below will be on black material.

<https://www.schoolcashonline.com/Home/SignIn>



Don't forget we also have EES masks on sale (black with EES logo) \$6.00 each.

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!



Just a reminder that the library is always looking for gently used book donations.

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 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 **February 9th, at 6:30pm on ZOOM**. Hope to see you there!

Naomi
PAC Chair
eespacchair@gmail.com



We would like to welcome the following student teachers who will be spending time at EES to complete practicum experiences:

Ms. Sammi Burk will be working with Mrs. Spencer-Dahl and her Grade 4/5 class.
Ms. Danielle Cossey-Sutton will be working with Mrs. Cochlin and her Grade 3/4 class.

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>

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

[Active Living Newsletter](#)

getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect

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

Family Literacy Week:

<https://virl.bc.ca/whats-happening/flw/>

<https://virl.bc.ca/for-set-to-host-q-and-a-on-the-indian-act-with-bob-joseph/>

<https://transition.meltwater.com/cus/follow/20210122.JyhJegLJW8.0>

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

<http://digitalresilience.ca>

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

EES Calendar of Events

February	11	Subway Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
	12	Professional Development Day – No School
	15	BC FAMILY DAY – NO SCHOOL
	18	KSS Virtual Open House for Grade 7 Families at 6:30pm
	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
March	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
April	2	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	5	EASTER MONDAY – No School
May	21	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	24	VICTORIA DAY – No School
June	4	Professional Development Day – No School
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early