



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1390 Fairdowne Road, Errington, BC V0R 1V0
Phone: (250) 248-8446 Fax: (250) 954-1593
Website: <http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>

Principal: **Mrs. Sheila Morrison**

Email: smorrison@sd69.bc.ca

Principal: **Ms. Jennifer Fuhrmann**

Email: jfuhrmann@sd69.bc.ca

March 5, 2021

Principal's Message

As we begin March, our thoughts turn towards spring break. So much has happened in the last year and the time away from school will be a good chance to reflect, rest and recharge our bodies and minds, and prepare for the spring term.

We continue our focus on supporting students to become more independent, especially when they face increased challenges. The article below provides some questions to think about:

Do you encourage your child to work independently?

"Mom, I can't do it. I need help!" Every child makes that plea once in a while. But if your child says it every day, you may need to help her become more independent.

Answer yes or no to the questions below to find out if you are fostering self-reliance:

1. **Do you tell** your child that you believe she can do it?
2. **Do you help** her break big projects down into smaller pieces that are easier to finish?
3. **Do you remind** her of the importance of effort? "You couldn't ride a bike the first time you tried. But you kept at it. You'll learn this, too, if you keep at it."
4. **Do you ask** her questions when she gets stuck? "What did you learn when you read the chapter?"
5. **Do you compliment** your child when she finishes work on her own?

How well are you doing? If your answers are yes, you are helping your child learn how to work on her own. For no answers, try those ideas.

Source: Elementary School Parents (March 2017, Vol.28, No.7)



Families on the Move?

Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. As planning is underway for next year, it is very helpful if we are aware of any students who will not be attending our school in September.

K-12 Daily Health Check – UPDATED

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.

Mask Expectations



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.

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 staggered drop-offs 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. If you have other family members dropping off your children, please remind them of our drop-off and pick-up procedures.

Parking Lot Safety



When using the drop-off/pick-up lane, please remember to pull forward as far as you can to reduce congestion behind you. When people stop right at the foot of the path to the school, cars tend to back up quickly around the bend. If you are parking in the lower lot, please make sure your child is with you when walking through the traffic towards the path. Please also remember to use your turn signals while using the drop-off/pick-up lane. After dropping off your child, please pull all the way around the loop rather than doing a “u-turn” through the lot.



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.

	<p align="center">SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 69 (QUALICUM) IS MOVING TO ON-LINE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR</p>
<p align="center">KINDERGARTEN" AND "PROGRAMS OF CHOICE" AND "CROSS BOUNDARY" REGISTRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FRENCH IMMERSION SIBLING REGISTRATION ONLY - JANUARY 18 TO JANUARY 22 - ALL OTHER REGISTRATIONS WILL BEGIN ON JANUARY 25 TO FEBRUARY 5 	
<p>Policy 7015 Excerpt:</p>	<p>"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"</p>
<p align="center">KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION</p>	
<p>Qualifying Age:</p>	<p>To qualify for Kindergarten enrollment in September 2021, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2021.</p>
<p>Required Documentation:</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Where to Register:</p>	<p>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</p>
<p align="center">CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION</p>	
<p>Cross Boundary Process:</p>	<p>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</p>
<p align="center">PROGRAMS OF CHOICE</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>NEW! Primary Learning Community Program</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>CEAP Program</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>French Immersion</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p align="center">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</p>	

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
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".

Cell Phone Use at EES



Cell phones are becoming an increasing distraction for students during learning and break times. We would like to remind parents that student cell phone use is not permitted during the school day. We would ask that if you need to contact your student during the day to please use the school phone (250) 248-8446 instead of texting.

We recognize that many students carry a cell phone, for a variety of different reasons. Our school expectation is for students to keep cell phones tucked away in their backpacks. If students are not comfortable with this, they can ask their teacher to place the phone in a locked cupboard during the school day. Electronic devices are NOT to be brought outside or around the school at recess or other break times.

Some classroom teachers allow students to use cell phones and other electronic devices in the classroom for research and learning purposes. Please ask your child's classroom teacher about specific guidelines they have around the use of electronic devices.

Devices are a fantastic tool and we continue to help students learn when and how to use them appropriately. Thank you for your support!

Planning for September

Soon we will begin developing a draft class organization for next school year. This includes projecting student enrolment and creating classes that make the most efficient use of our staff, while at the same time, observing provincial class size limits and building classes that can work together as a team. Attached below is a letter from the Associate Superintendent regarding class formation for September 2020. If you would like to provide input to your child's placement, please do this by **Thursday, April 15th**. Please note that parent input is one of a number of factors that guide us in the formation of classes. We must pay attention to the other important considerations outlined in the letter below, which contribute to an optimum learning environment for all children. While a smaller school such as ours has many benefits, we are also faced with a very limited number of classes at each grade level – which limits placement options.



SCHOOL DISTRICT No.69 (QUALICUM)

March 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

RE: BUILDING COHORTS FOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR 2021-2022

During the next month, staff at our schools will begin 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 in order 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 of 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 staff at your child's school with input for next year, we encourage you to:

1. Talk to your child's current teacher; and then,
2. Send a note to the school principal 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 15, 2021**.

Sincerely,

Gillian Wilson
Associate Superintendent of Schools

PO Box 430, 100 Jensen Ave. East, Parksville, B.C. V9P 2G5
Phone (250) 248-4241 Fax (250) 248-5767 www.sd69.bc.ca



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

- March 12 – Pizza Day
- April 1 – Subway Day
- April 16 – Pizza Day
- April 30 – Sushi Day
- May 14 – Lefty's Fresh Food Day
- May 28 – Pizza Day
- June 3 – Subway Day
- June 18 – 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.
- 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.



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

PAC News

Hello Errington Families!

I just want to say a huge thank you to all our volunteers. I really appreciate the time you give supporting our kiddo's.

A couple of things to mention. We have our monthly PAC meeting next week. It will be held through ZOOM. Topics we have been asked to put on the agenda include dress code and cell phones in the school. If you would like more information on either of these things please feel free to join us. The ZOOM link will be posted on the Errington School Facebook page, as well as the Errington School PAC page. If you don't have access to Facebook please email me prior to the meeting and I will send you the link.

We will also be starting to get ready for our spring fundraisers. As you know COVID has caused some complications with our fundraising. So please if anyone has a bit of time, we would be very happy to see more smiling faces to help out!

I also want to let the Errington Community know that PAC understands that some are struggling more than others, due to life challenges. If any of you need a little extra help, please do not hesitate to ask. You can email me directly or Mrs. Morrison. We are all here to support each other. Sometimes it just takes one helping hand to change the tide. 😊

Hope everyone is well and looking forward to Spring arriving (I know I am)!

*PAC Meeting: Tuesday, March 9th at 6:30 pm, **via ZOOM**. Hope to see you there!*

Naomi

PAC Chair

eespacchair@gmail.com

EES Library News

Seriously Awesome Series Book Draw:

Congratulations, EES! We are awesome readers! We set a record of 557 entries to our book draw.



Room 4 and 10 won for most class entries.

Our winners:

Mrs. L'Hirondelle's Grade 6/7 Class: Alyssa, Hunter

Ms. Holder's Grade 1/2 Class: Zoe, Nova

Mrs. Benoit's Grade 6/7 Class: Maddy, Aowyn

Mrs. Norman/Mrs. MacLeod's Grade KF/1 Class: Kaya, JJ

Ms. Virgin's Grade KF/1 Class: Krue, Ivan

Mrs. Diewold's Grade KF/1 Class: Johnathan, Leah

Mrs. Spencer-Dahl's Grade 4/5 Class: Ben, Farrah

Mrs. Cochlin's Grade 3/4 Class: Payton, Alexis

Mrs. Armstrong/Mrs. MacLeod's Grade 1/2 Class: Kinley, Alex

Ms. Ray's Grade 5/6 Class: Ella, Trinity

Ms. Petley-Jones Grade 5/6 Class: Saline, Marina

Ms. Senchar's Grade 2/3 Class: Wyatt, Ben

Ms. Rostron's Grade 3/4 Class: Sadie, Sophie

A big thank you goes out to our Senior Library Pages: Shyla, Ethan, Kayla, Mary and Adana for helping with our winner's prize giveaways on Thursday!

Inventory and new Library System: We are working on completing an inventory of our library next week as we prepare for the new District library system. It's called "Destiny" and is a cloud-based system which will dramatically increase our ability to source materials from the District and beyond.



LIVING
OUR VALUES

C·A·R·E

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 of wisdom from our students on various subjects. The contributions this week come from Ms. Petley-Jones' Grade 5/6 students and Ms. Cochlin's Grade 3/4 students:

In Ms. Petley-Jones' Grade 5/6 class, following a recent discussion about how we include others in play, Wyatt offered, "Be an up-stander instead of a bystander!"

Owen says, "Something I am looking forward to is doing more division [in Math]. I like hanging out with my friends at school. Being a good friend means I will help my friends when they are sad or hurt."

Mrs. Cochlin's Gr 3/4 Class has been working on kindness. Here is what some of her students have to say:

Aleyah says: "Kindness is being a good friend to others. It means not judging people for who they are. Being kind means giving second chances, being polite and using manners. Kindness is respecting others and being happy for other people. When you are kind, kindness comes back to you".

Tracy says: "If you are kind to others, others are kind to you. If you are caring to everybody around you, it can be hard, but in the end you can make lots of friends. Everyone has a kind heart".

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

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

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

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

**Spring Season Baseball Registration,
Child & Youth Mental Health Anxiety Workshop (March 4, 2021) and,
CYMH Collaborative & Proactive Solutions Sessions (April 7, 2021) – follow link below:**
<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Pages/default.aspx#/>

EES Calendar of Events

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