



# 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](mailto:smorrison@sd69.bc.ca)

Principal: **Ms. Florence Wong**

Email: [fwong@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:fwong@sd69.bc.ca)

April 1, 2022

## Principal's Message

Welcome back! We hope you had a safe and healthy spring break with your children. With the lifting of many public health restrictions and signs of spring appearing all around us, we enter this final stretch of the school year with optimism. Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have not yet collected your COVID self-test kit, please drop by the office to sign out one for each child who attends EES.

With the longer days and warmer weather, we hope that children are spending time outdoors. For those students who do spend time on the computer, the article below provides suggestions on how to make online safety a priority in your home.

Technology has changed how students learn and how they socialize. Millions of kids in all age groups are online every day – at home, at school, at friends' homes, at the library – and many are creating online content. We know that some of our students are active on social media platforms such as Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, and chat groups formed through gaming devices. Did you know that most of those sites have a minimum age requirement of 13 to acquire an account? To keep your child safe online:

**Discuss rules and expectations.** Use software that helps to protect kids, but supervise carefully, too. Only allow your child to communicate with people you both know when he's online.

**Set limits on screen time**, such as 10 hours or fewer **per week**. Remember that screen time includes TV, computer and video game use.

**Do not allow your child** to reveal personal information online, such as his name, phone number, school, passwords or location.

**Keep Internet access** out of your child's room. Only let your child go online if you can see what he's doing.

**Learn about websites** your child wants to visit. Are they safe? Do you approve of their content?

**Encourage your child** to be honest with you if something inappropriate occurs online. React calmly if this happens. Report your concerns to the authorities.

**Stay informed** about online safety. Visit sites such as [www.fosi.org](http://www.fosi.org) (Family Online Safety Institute) and [Netsmartz.org](http://Netsmartz.org) for more tips.

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (April 2013, Vol.24, No.8)

## K-12 Daily Health Check

Thank you for continuing to do the daily health checks. We appreciate that parents/guardians have kept their children home when they feel sick. This is the first line of defense in keeping our school community safe and healthy.

Please 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 K-12 health-checker app** 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 be screened for COVID-19. The following link will lead you to the more detailed BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool.

<https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>

## **Mask Update**

Students are no longer required to wear a mask or face covering while at school, though individuals may continue to wear a mask based on parent/caregiver's personal choice. The



office will continue to have non-medical masks on hand for those who have forgotten theirs but would like to wear one.

For families returning from travel outside of the country, the Government of Canada has provided the following requirements upon your return: For 14 days following entry into Canada, you and any children who travelled with you must properly wear a well-constructed and well-fitting mask when in public spaces, both indoors and outdoors. This includes schools and daycare settings.



Kindergarten registration is ongoing! Online registration can still be accessed through the SD69 District Website using the following link:

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

Please contact us at (250) 248-8446 if you have any questions regarding 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.



### **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.

## Planning for September

In the coming months, 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 2022. If you would like to provide input to your child's placement, please do this by **Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**. 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 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

### RE: BUILDING COHORTS FOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR 2022-2023

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 14, 2022**.

Sincerely,

Gillian Wilson  
Associate Superintendent of Schools

## **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 **Friday, April 29, 2022** and takes about 30 minutes to complete. Your responses are voluntary and anonymous, and your child will not be identified as a result of your participation in the survey. Any personal or identifying information will be deleted before results are stored. Data will be stored and accessible only within Canada.

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

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access.
2. Go to <https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp>
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".

Excellent health and care for everyone, everywhere, every time.



March 18, 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted many areas of health care, including routine immunization programs for children. As Island Health winds down operation of COVID-19 mass immunization clinics, our public health teams are turning their attention towards recovery, including helping families with young children get up-to-date on important routine immunizations.

B.C.'s routine immunization schedule includes a series of vaccinations at age 4, timed to coincide with entry to kindergarten. These vaccines provide important protection against illnesses like measles and tetanus. Island Health is scheduling extra clinics this spring specifically for young children to make it as easy as possible for parents and guardians to complete kindergarten vaccinations and get children up-to-date on their immunizations.

In the weeks ahead public health staff will be reaching out to families across Island Health to discuss the clinics and schedule appointments.

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

[www.immunizebc.ca](http://www.immunizebc.ca): This site provides extensive information about BC's routine vaccination schedule for infants, children, teens and adults. It also includes a comprehensive 'Question and Answer' section.

<https://www.islandhealth.ca/learn-about-health/immunizations/immunizations>: Learn about immunization programs in Island Health.



## SCHOOL DISTRICT No.69 (QUALICUM)

March 8, 2022

### A letter to all parents and employee representatives:

The Board of Education is circulating for consultation to all parents and employee representatives a Draft Local School Calendar and False Bay School Calendar for 2022-2023 as discussed at the February Regular Board Meeting.

The Board is awaiting direction from the Province regarding the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30<sup>th</sup>) which may affect the date for the September professional development day. Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> is being proposed for the District-Wide Planning Day. The False Bay School Calendar also indicates the proposed altered Fridays.

Dates on the Draft Calendars are tentative and are subject to revision.

The Board has scheduled final approval on the proposed 2022-2023 School Calendars at its Regular Board Meeting as follows:

**Date:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022

**VIA Zoom**

<https://sd69-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/64794344669?pwd=Zlp2Z3N1UGtVQWhVaFRZUEU3Y0VsQT09>

Meeting ID: 647 9434 4669

Passcode: 961900

**Time:** 6:00 P.M.

The Board encourages each school community to discuss the Draft School Calendars at meetings of the Parent Advisory Council and /or staff meetings as schedules permit. Feedback may also be submitted via the District website: <http://www.sd69.bc.ca/Contact/Pages/default.aspx>

Sincerely,

Eve Flynn, Chair  
Board of Education

Attachment

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



## DRAFT Local School Calendar 2022 – 2023

Designation	2022-2023
Days in Session	
Days of Instruction	
Instructional Hours Kindergarten	
Instructional Hours Elementary	
Instructional Hours Secondary	
Schools open <small>Regular start time – schools dismiss three hours early Ballenas and Kwalikum Secondary – grade 8 students only</small>	Tuesday, September 6
Ballenas and Kwalikum Secondary First day for grades 9-12 students	Wednesday, September 7
Pro-D Day - Non-instructional Day	TBC Monday, September 26 OR Thursday September 29
<b>National Day of Truth &amp; Reconciliation</b>	<b>Friday, September 30</b>
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 10
Conferencing Adjustment - Non-instructional Day	Thursday, October 20
Provincial Pro-D Day - Non-instructional Day	Friday, October 21
Remembrance Day	Friday, November 11
Winter Vacation Period	December 19 to January 2
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation	Tuesday, January 3
District-Wide Planning Day – Non-instructional Day	Monday, January 30
Secondary Semester Two Begins	TBD
Provincial Pro-D Day - Non-instructional Day	Friday, February 17
BC Family Day	Monday, February 20
Spring Vacation Period	March 20 to March 31
Schools Reopen after Spring Vacation Period	Monday, April 3
Good Friday	Friday, April 7
Easter Monday	Monday, April 10
School-Based Pro-D Day - Non-instructional day	Thursday, May 18
Conferencing Adjustment- Non-instructional day	Friday, May 19
Victoria Day	Monday, May 22
Final Day for Students - Schools dismiss three hours early	Thursday, June 29
Administrative Day - Non instructional Day	Friday, June 30

## Lost and Found – Now Online!

Has your child misplaced a jacket that was just purchased? Can't find a favourite sweatshirt? Looking for a single boot or a cloth mask? There's a good chance that it has been left somewhere at school.

We have created an online site that aims to reunite children with their lost and found items. It is set up like an online store – only there's no payment! During the checkout process, make sure you've included: Your name, contact information, child's first name and child's teacher's name. Once you've placed the 'order', we'll collect the item(s) and return it to your child. It is so easy! Check out our Wildcat Lost and Found Store using the link below.

<https://ees.itselementary.ca/>

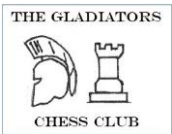
## Important Reminders



- 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.
- 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!
- 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.
- 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.



## News from Your Library



Our **EES Gladiators Chess Tournament** is over, and what a FINAL! Congratulations to our winners Tyson G, Silas, Adaya and Ben Z! Thank you to Mrs. Spencer-Dahl for helping with our tournament and our chess club leader, Tyson. And a special thank you to **Bellevue Veterinary Clinic** who have donated 12 brand new chess sets to our library! <https://bellevuevet.net/>



**April is Earth Month in our Library!** Check out our wonderful books and resources on the beauty of our earth, and what we can do to protect it! **Happy Earth Day on April 22!**

**Earth Month Leadership** students Anna B and Sienna W will be presenting many fun activities throughout April including a colouring contest! We will celebrate BEE DAY on April 20 and Celebrate our Pets Week from Apr 25-29.



**Spring Scholastic Book Fair** is coming Apr 21-26! There are many great books and gifts for children of all ages! All classes will be invited to come in and shop during the school day. On Monday Apr 25 from 2-3 pm Families are welcome! Thank you for supporting our Library.

**Return Your Library Books!** Take a look under the couch and beneath your pillow! When you return a book, someone else gets to read it! Thank you!

**Lost books** can be replaced with a book of similar quality and genre from home.

**Donate your good quality books!** We will always accept donations of great books in awesome shape - your gift of reading goes a long way, thank you!

Thank you.

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

## Washroom Etiquette



We continue to notice the student washrooms getting very messy each day. Toilets aren't flushed, urine is often on the floor in front of the boys' urinal, there are things in the toilets that should not be there (food and food wrappers, pens/pencils, etc.), there have been cases where graffiti has been written on the walls, and we've had crumpled and wet paper towels on the ceiling, on the walls, and inside the hand dryers (which is a very concerning safety hazard). This has caused plumbing issues and as we have had to close washroom stalls down during the day for cleaning, it reduces the number of toilets available for student use throughout the day. It also causes additional time to clean in the evenings when the custodial staff should be concentrating on cleaning the rest of the school properly. We are very concerned about the state of the washrooms and have been monitoring them throughout the day. We hope that you will help by reminding your children about responsible washroom use.



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

Friday Apr 8 – Pizza Day

Friday Apr 22 – Thalassa

Friday May 6 – Beach House Chinese

Thursday May 19 – Sushi

Thursday June 2 – Thalassa

Friday June 17 - Pizza

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

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



### **SPIRIT CLUB – 2021/2022**

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

- **MAY.19      SUNGLASSES DAY**

**Please note that our EES Spirit Wear ordering has now closed!**

**Oceanside Minor Baseball** is seeking students ages 12 to 18 who are interested in becoming a baseball umpire. Students can earn money and gain valuable school credits towards graduation. And have FUN!

Contact Will Chambers, Umpire Coordinator, at 250-616-4829 or email [oceansideblueump@gmail.com](mailto:oceansideblueump@gmail.com) for more information.



To Enhance **Life-Long** Learning



**WE'RE  
OPEN!**

**Errington After School  
Licensed Child Care**

Kindergarten to Gr. 5  
Monday to Thursday  
2:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

For more information  
please call  
250-954-3027  
or visit our website  
[www.oblt.ca/childcare](http://www.oblt.ca/childcare)



## **Community Programs**

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

## **Other Community Events & Programs 2022**

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

RDN Recreation and Parks Information for Spring 2022

The MAC School for Creative Arts Callout for YOUTH Exhibit, May 2022

The MAC School for Creative Arts Youth Art Lab

The MAC School for Creative Social Media for parents of Teens workshop with Dan Larocque

Oceanside Minor Baseball Registration 2022

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

### **Support for Parents:**

Multicultural Parent Circle

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mbTFRRf2BEaQxK7YpNkEs3VK3aLUlsxArawjZ6tQt9UNEozT1pVQkFYs1BHMUK1NjFVTIdTWFFJRyQIQCN0PWcu>

Vancouver Island Parenting Circle

<https://www.parentsupportbc.ca/>

### **Information for Families:**

**Family Accident Reimbursement Plan**

**2021-2022 Board SD69 Public Meetings of the Board of Education**

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

## EES Calendar of Events

<b>April</b>	15	GOOD FRIDAY – <b>No School</b>
	18	EASTER MONDAY – <b>No School</b>
<b>May</b>	4	Grade 6 Immunizations
	19	Wear your Sunglasses Spirit Day
	20	Conferencing Adjustment Day – <b>No School</b>
	23	VICTORIA DAY – <b>No School</b>
	25	Grade 7 Health Fair`
<b>June</b>	3	Professional Development Day – <b>No School</b>
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early