



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. Florence Wong**
Email: fwong@sd69.bc.ca

April 14, 2022

Principal's Message

This is the time of year when we reflect on the past school year and plan for the next. In this newsletter, you will find information about our upcoming "Celebration of Learning", Student Learning Surveys, an opportunity to provide feedback on the school district calendar for next year, and a letter about providing input on class placement for September.

With the lifting of public health restrictions, we are feeling optimistic about the weeks between now and the end of June. We recognize that staff, students, and families have varying comfort levels based on their own personal situations. We are taking a gradual, phased approach as we return to some of our usual spring activities. We ask that visitors continue to sign-in on the sheet by the front door, go straight to and from the office, and keep your visits short. If you have a message, delivery, or will be picking up your child early, please report to the office.

With the last few months of the school year upon us, it is sometimes hard to keep students motivated. The article below suggests five strategies that can help increase your child's motivation to learn:

Kids who are motivated to learn are likely to be more successful in school than those who are not. To motivate your child:

1. **Be a learner yourself.** Let your child see you read books. Watch educational programs. Attend school functions. Try new things. Show curiosity.
2. **Share what you learn.** Talk about new ideas or scientific discoveries with your child. Discuss things you read or hear.
3. **Show an interest** in what he is learning. Ask questions simply to learn and share - not to check up on your child.
4. **Let him know** you believe he can learn. If you show faith in your child's ability to learn, he will have more confidence in his ability.
5. **Stay positive.** If your child has problems in school, help him see that problems can be solved. Meet with the teacher to figure out ways your child can improve. Then discuss ways you can work together to help him succeed.

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (April 2017, Vol.28, 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>

Celebration of Learning/Spring Conferencing

Communicating student learning is an essential part of education. EES Teachers are planning an opportunity to connect with families during the week of April 25th and the week of May 2nd to celebrate the learning that has taken place so far this year.

This will be an opportunity for students to take a central role in sharing where they are at with their learning as well as sharing what they see as their next steps. Students will share their portfolio at this time. As educational researcher Anne Davies says, "When students communicate with others what they have learned, they come to better understand what they have learned and what they need to learn."

There will be up to 4 or 5 students per class sharing during a 30-minute block. Teachers will mingle with families during this time. Please see the instructions below on how to use the online appointment booking system. Most families will find this time very informative and won't have a need to have a separate appointment with the teacher; however, if you still feel you need to discuss specific questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher directly to book an individual appointment.

As we are still trying to limit large groups of people mingling inside our school, we ask that families please enter and exit their child's classroom through the OUTSIDE door.

School Appointments - Parent Instructions (Booking is available starting April 15, 2022)

1. Go to our school appointments web site: <http://ees.parentconferences.net>
2. Click to "**REGISTER**" (top box). *If you already registered last fall for a parent-teacher conference, please skip to STEP 10.*
3. Complete all the required fields.
4. Click "**REGISTER NOW**".
5. Click "**Add Student**".
6. Complete the required fields.
7. Click "**Insert**".
8. Next to your child's name, click on the **blue calendar icon**. Click on the **blue calendar** beside your child's teacher name. When teacher is highlighted, click on **View Calendars**.
9. Click on **an appointment day and time** that you would like to book. *Note your name is automatically put into the field at this time. Others who look on this calendar will not see your name, they will just see that the time slot is not available.*
10. Click **Book Appointment**.
11. **If you have more than one teacher:**
Go back to **Home**.
Click **Manage Students**.
Add **New Student**.
Complete the fields as above and continue with the rest of the process to book your other appointment(s).

Note: You can edit or delete names if you have made a mistake.

If you have any problems or questions, please contact the office at 250-248-8446. Thank you! We are looking forward to seeing you at the celebration of learning!



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.



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.

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".

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. 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

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: 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.



Grade 6 School COVID-19 Immunization Newsletter

Grade 6 Immunizations:

Public Health Nurses will be back in schools this spring to complete the grade 6 immunization program. COVID-19 vaccines were not available for grade 6 students when consent forms for routine immunizations were sent home in the fall. If you would like your child to receive their COVID-19 vaccine at school, please call your local health unit, Oceanside Public Health (Family Place), at 250-947-8242, to speak with a Public Health Nurse. In grade 6 parental consent will be obtained prior to immunizations being provided in the school setting.

For more information about **COVID-19 Vaccines** visit:

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/hfile124a.pdf>

If you have any questions, call Oceanside Public Health (Family Place) at 250 947 8242 or visit www.immunizebc.ca



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 30th) which may affect the date for the September professional development day. Monday, January 30th 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



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
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Friday, September 30
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/>

Day of Mourning



You may notice that our flags will be lowered to “half-mast” on Thursday, April 28th. This is to recognize April 28th as a “Day of Mourning” – an opportunity to stand together with the world's workers to remember those who have died on the job, and to reflect on what needs to be done to prevent more deaths and injuries. More information can be found on our website.

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



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 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 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



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 Youth Events

Qualicum Beach Triathlon 2022 – Registration is now open (online only).

Shane Koyczan Concert June 5, 2022 – Fundraiser for Ali Refugee Sponsorship Group

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#/>

Public Works Week

<https://pwabc.ca/training-and-events/public-works-week>

Summer Camps for Kids @ TOSH (for information please click on the link below):

<https://shop.theoldschoolhouse.org/collections/tosh-classes-and-workshops-1>

Support for Parents:

Multicultural Parent Circle

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mbTFRRf2BEaQxK7YpNkEs3VK3aLUisxArwjZ6tQt9UNEozT1pVQkFYs1BHMUk1NjFVTIdTWFFJRyQIQCN0PWcu>

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

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