



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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Vice-Principal: Ms. Florence Wong
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November 4, 2022

Principal's Message

We have continued to promote the common language used in our Code of Conduct for social responsibility: We are SAFE, We are RESPECTFUL, and We are RESPONSIBLE. The article below describes how performing chores can build responsibility and confidence:

Research from a 75-year Harvard study shows that children who are given chores become more independent adults. However, many kids aren't required to do as much today as they were in the past. They may be missing out on regular opportunities to develop positive character traits that could help them in school. To make chores a beneficial part of your child's schedule:

- **Choose carefully.** Pick jobs that are challenging yet manageable for your child. Give your child clear, step-by-step instructions and a few chances to do the task with you before going solo.
- **Schedule chore time.** Write it down on your family calendar and post it where everyone will see.
- **Limit rewards.** If you give your child an allowance, separate it from chores. Everyone in your family should be *expected* to pitch in. Make comments like, "It helps keep our house tidy when you collect the trash! Thank you!"
- **Make work fun.** Chores should not be intolerable or feel like punishments. Turn cleaning into a game by setting a time to "beat the clock." Or listen to music or an audiobook.
- **Make a "chore jar".** Write each household chore onto slips of paper and place in jar. During scheduled "chore time", make it a fun surprise by having each member of the family draw a chore to do!

Source: *Elementary School Parents*
October 2021
Vol.33, No.2

Parent Teacher Conferences

EES teachers will be meeting with parents throughout the next several weeks. Please see the information below to book an in-person conversation with your child's teacher. You can click on this link for direct access:

<https://ees.parentconferences.net/admin/>



If you are not able to schedule an appointment during one of the times listed, please contact your child's teacher directly to arrange an alternate time. The online booking system will open on October 31st at 9:00am.

School Appointments - Parent Instructions

1. Go to our school appointments web site: <http://ees.parentconferences.net>
2. Click to "**REGISTER**" (top box).
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!

Fire Safety

Today we had members of the Errington Volunteer Fire Department visit our classes and assist with a fire drill. This was a follow-up to the Fire Safety Week in October. The message students heard today outlined the importance of:

- Having an evacuation plan for homes, workplaces, and school in the event of a fire. An evacuation plan includes a route out from each room in the building.
- Having a designated meeting place outside and to go straight there without stopping or returning to collect treasured items.
- Changing the smoke detector batteries regularly.
- Practicing safe kitchen practices to avoid burns and electrical issues.

Daylight Savings Time



Remember to set your clocks back by 1 hour on Saturday night. Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 6th at 2:00am.



Remembrance Day



We will be gathering our students together for our annual Remembrance Day Assembly on Thursday, November 10th at 8:30am.

We will put out some seating for parents if you wish to attend.

Reminder that we there is no school next Friday, November 11th as we observe Remembrance Day.

Inclement Weather Procedures Reminder for Parents:

During this time of season, inclement weather may affect the safety and welfare of students. The next few months have less daylight, dark clouds which limit visibility, and wet roads which are harder to navigate. We encourage students to wear something reflective or lighter clothing so they can be more visible.

When snowfall or power outages have the potential to cause school closures, classes to be postponed, or School District bus services to be disrupted, alerts will be posted as quickly as possible on the district website (as power permits). The information will also be forwarded to media outlets.

Before a decision is made about whether buses will be running, or schools will remain open or be closed, the Superintendent consults with the General Manager of Operations. These administrators take the current and forecasted weather into consideration, and are in communication with Highways Maintenance, RCMP, our own crews, and other community members who can verify local conditions. District staff will be considering current road and weather conditions, and also whether schools have power. Freezing weather overnight may mean that conditions are hazardous for travel.

It is our intention to make decisions on whether or not buses or schools are operating by 6:15 am, and to have these decisions communicated to local media outlets by 6:30 am. Communication is by telephone contact, followed up by an e-mail message.

Parents/Guardians should continue to monitor their local media for any weather-related updates and the potential impact on school district operations (i.e. bus operations or school closures).

Parents/Guardians are also reminded to keep battery-operated radios handy and land line telephones plugged in to prepare for power outages. Since weather conditions can be very different in the various communities that make up our school district, we recommend parents/guardians exercise their judgement based on their own local circumstance when making the decision whether to send or drive their children to school. If a decision is made by the District to keep schools open but parents/guardians are concerned about safety issues, they are welcome to keep their children home. To view the full Emergency Preparedness and Closures policy 708, please click on the following link: [Policy 708](#)



Purpose

The Board of Education has the responsibility, under the *School Act*, to keep District schools in session for all students and staff according to the annual School Calendar established by the Ministry of Education. However, the Board of Education also recognizes that the health and safety of staff and students is of paramount importance and recognizes that schools may have to be closed temporarily at times for any of several reasons, including the following:

- Inclement weather
- Power outage
- Failure of heating or water services
- Emergency health issues
- Other emergency situations.

The Superintendent of Schools, or designate, has the authority to close schools by reason of weather emergencies or for other causes that might endanger the health or safety of students and staff.

School Closure

There are occasions when the General Manager of Operations, in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools, may decide not to run the morning bus routes due to hazardous conditions. Every effort will be made to make that decision no later than 6:15 a.m.

Changes in bus operations or school closures shall be communicated to the following media outlets, which usually make such announcements between 6:30 and 8:00 a.m.:

- CIBH Radio ("The Beach" – 88.5 FM) Parksville
- CHPQ Radio ("The Lounge" – 99.9 VM) Parksville
- CHWF Radio ("The Wolf" – 106.9 FM) Nanaimo
- CKWV Radio ("The Wave" - 102.3 FM) Nanaimo
- CKNW (980 AM) Vancouver
- CBC Radio One (690 AM) Vancouver
- CHEK TV News Victoria
- Parksville/Qualicum Beach News (PQB News)

Prior to the end of October each year, parents will be reminded through school newsletters of the procedures that will be implemented in the event of emergent conditions.

Emergency Early Dismissal

Each school shall have an established plan by which parents can be notified in the event of an early closure.

In those situations during the school day where an emergent situation arises or weather conditions deteriorate significantly enough that a Principal or designate has concerns for local road conditions in his/her school zone, the Principal or designate should contact the Superintendent of Schools. It is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools to notify the Principal or designate as soon as it becomes apparent that school emergency closure will be necessary.



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 69 (QUALICUM)
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES II TO BOARD POLICY 708
EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS - STUDENTS

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When an emergent situation occurs after school has begun it may be prudent for students to be dismissed and, therefore, staff will activate their plan to contact parents. On such occasions the Superintendent of Schools shall activate communication which notify parents that schools will be closed early and some or all bus schedules have been advanced.

If a school bus driver is unable to complete the school bus driver's normal bus run, the driver will so advise the General Manager of Operations. After discussion with the General Manager of Operations the driver will either return the students to their home school or deliver them to an alternate location identified by the General Manager of Operations. Parents will be advised of such route changes either by direct telephone contact or other means.

Inclement Weather and Clothing

Although we have enjoyed the extended warm weather, we are happy to see some rain in the forecast. It is extremely important for students to have appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor use, along with a pair of inside shoes to change into when inside the building. These shoes



are also used for gym use. We expect students to wear warm coats (hoods are a good idea) and we recommend boots, hats, gloves, and umbrellas. In general, students go outside to play during recess and lunch breaks, even if it is raining or snowing. Each day, we assess the combination of weather, wind, and temperature to determine whether or not it is suitable for the students to play outside. We recommend that students have a spare change of clothing kept at school in case of various emergencies. We have a very limited supply of clothing available.

Power Outages and Extreme Weather – What do we do when the power goes off at EES?

If the power is off for a portion of the day, school will most often continue as usual. We now have a generator at EES, which enables us to carry on with activities, including having access to running water!

We follow a “power outage protocol” and we keep in touch with BC Hydro to determine the expected length of the power outage. Any decisions to close the schools are made by the Superintendent of Schools, along with the Manager of Operations. Factors taken into consideration include the time of day, predicted length of power outage, and conditions surrounding the school area (i.e. power lines and/or trees down, adverse weather conditions, etc.)

When students are sent home due to a power outage or extreme weather event, it is carried out as follows: parents or the emergency contact identified by the parent is contacted (we have designated staff who contact parents). If parents or the emergency contact cannot be contacted students remain safe at school until the end of the regular day or until alternate arrangements can be made.

Students are not released from school without the parent or emergency alternate being contacted first. We do not permit students to go with friends or neighbors, etc, unless permission is obtained from the parent. This is a good time to remind parents to make sure they have listed a few different names as designated pick-up people. These could include family members, neighbours, or fellow parents. Please note we only have a few phone lines and it is a lengthy process to phone all parents. During a power outage we also have limited cell phone reception in the school. When possible, we will also use our School Messenger service, electronic newsletter email group, the EES and SD69 websites, and the EES PAC Facebook group to communicate information to families.

We ask parents to please refrain from calling the school during such circumstances as described above unless it is an emergency; this will help free up our phone lines and staff who are contacting parents. When students are picked up from school early, it is extremely important to use the sign-out system in the office before leaving the building so we can keep track of student attendance. When we expect a number of people picking up students at once, we move the sign-out system to the main foyer. Those arriving to pick-up children line up, sign-out and we have designated staff to go and get the students from their classrooms.



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 needs any warm 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!
- School begins at 8:10am. If you are dropping off your child prior to 8:10am, please use the Lower Parking Lot. If you are dropping off after 8:10am, you may pull up to the front of the school. Students who arrive after 8:15am must report to the office before going to their classroom.
- Please make sure your child's teacher is aware of your child's after school schedule. We need to know if your child is getting picked up (and by who) or taking the bus.

School District 69 is hiring school bus drivers.

Come help us deliver the future!
Minimum Class 2 License with Air Endorsement Required.
For more information go to www.sd69.bc.ca





Munchalunch Hot lunches is **open** and ready for ordering.

Thursday November 10 – Thalassa

Friday November 25 – Chinese Food

Friday December 2 – Thalassa

Friday December 16 – Pizza

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

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

NEW WAY TO PAY

Our district has made it possible to pay for any school fees online. If your student's classroom teacher has requested to use agendas, a sheet with detailed instructions on how to sign up for School Cash Online has come home. If your student's teacher is not using agendas this year a detail sheet will come home shortly. On our Errington Website there is a direct link to www.schoolcashonline.com, it is quite easy to sign up. Once signed up you will receive email notifications if there is a fee associated with your student. You are still able to pay for any school fees with cash or cheque, but we are offering the option to pay online.

As always if you need any help navigating this system please feel free to call the office and they will be happy to help you.

Use of Technology

We value the use of technology as an integral part of teaching and learning. Our handheld devices have become part of our daily routines and give us access to a wide variety of tools, including photographing our students doing all sorts of activities at school. We have noticed that some photos of our students have appeared on social media – we understand that people taking and sharing photos during school sanctioned activities are doing so with good intentions. What people may not realize is that we have a number of students who have media restrictions in place and parents have indicated they do not want their child's photo to appear publically. In order to respect the privacy of our students, we ask that you do NOT download, copy, or distribute any pictures or other personal information through social media that contain images of students and/or student work other than your child's.



News from Your Library

Welcome to another fabulous year of reading in our library learning commons!

November District Food Drive: Many of our District schools are working together this year on a District Food Drive, feeding families in our District. Your Leadership students ask you to bring in non-perishable food items, or a cash donation, to EES throughout the month of November. Our collection will be going to our local food bank. Thank you for supporting leadership programs in our schools, and helping feed our needy families this fall.

Autumn Scholastic Book Fair Nov 16-22: Books and stories bring us together! We will be setting up our Book Fair on Wednesday Nov 16. Book Fair will run from Nov 17 to 22 and teachers will be booking times to come and shop at the Fair. We will be open after school on Monday Nov 21 from 2-3pm for Families to come and shop. Online shopping will be available, the link will be sent out to teachers to share with families. Come have fun, buy a book and support your Library!

Legion Poster Contest: If you are a fabulous writer or an amazing artist, our local Legion would like you to enter their contest! Click here <https://www.legion.ca/communities-youth/youth-education/remembrance-contests> or check with your teacher for more details.



Deadline is Nov 15.

Lost or Damaged Books: Sometimes life happens, to our books too! If you have lost or damaged a library book, you can bring in a book that's in good shape and our students would like to read. **Thank you for bringing your books back!**

Student Leadership: Our student leaders are beginning to work in our school in many helpful ways: technology helpers, library pages, gym leaders, food and nutrition team, Blue bin group, Return It team, reading and math mentors. Thank you to our student leaders who work hard every day to make our school community a better place!



Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

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 2021

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

SOS Fall 2022 Program Guide

Parksville Curling Club – Junior Curling (Ages: 10-18)

Oceanside Community Track Fundraiser – Friday November 25th, 2022

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

Information for Families:

Family Accident Reimbursement Plan

2022-2023 Board SD69 Public Meetings of the Board of Education

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



SCHOOLS WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY

FOOD FOR FAMILIES

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DRIVE



**NOVEMBER
1-30**

**BENEFITTING
OCEANSIDE
FAMILIES**

GROCERY GIFT CARDS OR CASH ARE WELCOME

This year, schools are coming together to support our community! Please make a donation of a non-perishable food item, grocery store gift card, or cash to your child's school by November 30th.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SCHOOL DISTRICT 69 RESIDES
ON THE TERRITORY OF THE QUALICUM AND SNAW-NAW-AS FIRST NATIONS

6 Sessions

**FIND OUT THE RISKS &
WHAT PARENTS/CAREGIVERS NEED TO KNOW:**

Positives & negatives the internet provides
Challenges for youth today
Technology as a distraction
Media over consumption
Online predators
Challenges for parents & caregivers
How online information is collected & used
Opportunities technology provides
Data tracking & collection
Privacy
Personal online legal consequences
Concerning signs to look for
Sleep concerns
Account management
Exploitation
Nudes & sexting



**ALL SD69
PARENTS / GUARDIANS /
CAREGIVERS / STAFF INVITED!!!**

(Intended for an adult audience - you do not need to sign up in advance to attend)

- ✓ A new Link & Password to each session will be added to the SD69 District Website (calendar) the week before the event
- ✓ A Recording of the session will be made available for 48 hours after each broadcast
- ✓ Attendees will be able to download The White Hatters FREE web book: *Parenting in an Online World*

Questions? Email: sd69DPAC@gmail.com

SD69 DPAC Welcomes

The White Hatter

www.thewhitehatter.ca

Internet Safety & Digital Literacy!

Mark your Calendars!

- 1 Thursday, September 22nd @ 7pm-9pm
Social Media Safety and Digital Literacy
- 2 Thursday, October 6th @ 7pm-8:45pm
Online Predation & Exploitation
- 3 Tuesday, October 18th @ 7pm-8:30pm
Online Gaming - Concerns, Balance, Addiction & Opportunities
- 4 Thursday, November 3rd @ 7pm-8:30pm
Online Pornography, Radicalization, Shaming, and Disinformation
- 5 Thursday, November 17th @ 7pm-8:30pm
Supporting Youth Being Targeted by Aggression, Cyberbullying, Threats, Hacks, and Violence Online
- 6 Thursday, December 1st @ 7pm-8:30pm
Teen Sexting, Nudes, Distribution of Intimate Images, and the Law

EES Calendar of Events

November	10	Remembrance Day Assembly – Time to be determined
	11	Recognition of REMEMBRANCE DAY – No School
	7-18	Parent/Teacher Conferences – Exact dates and times to be determined soon
	16	Scholastic Book Fair (in the library) – runs until Nov.22
December	16	Last day of school before the Winter Break
January	3	School Re-opens after Winter Break
	30	District Wide Planning Day – No School
February	17	Professional Development Day – No School
	20	BC FAMILY DAY – No School
March	17	Last day of school before Spring Break
April	3	School Re-opens after Spring Break
	7	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	10	EASTER MONDAY – No School
	19	Scholastic Book Fair (In the library) – runs until Apr.25
May	18	Professional Development Day – No School
	19	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	22	VICTORIA DAY – No School
June	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early