



SPRINGWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Newsletter #11 April 22, 2026

Principal: Jesse Witte Vice-Principal: Lauren Nikirk

450 Despard Ave, Parksville, BC V9P 1J9

Phone: (250-) 248-2038 Fax: (250) 954-1825

Message from Principal

Hi Springwood Family

As we move into the final stretch of the school year, things really start to pick up. We've got a packed calendar full of exciting events, field trips, and celebrations. Please stay connected by checking our school website regularly and keeping an eye out for messages from the school — there's lots happening, and we don't want you to miss a thing.

With the beautiful weather arriving, a friendly reminder to help your child come to school prepared for the sunshine — hats, sunscreen, and reusable water bottles are all important. It's a great time of year to be outdoors, but it's also important to keep those regular routines at home, especially with the longer daylight hours.

Enclosed, is a letter from the district in regards to " Building Cohorts for next year ". It is very important that you read the whole letter and understand the process for building classes. Last year I received many requests from parents who did not communicate with their child's teacher about their thoughts and concerns. You need to have those conversations first before sending me any requests. I will direct all requests back to the teacher first. I firmly believe with consultation with your teacher the placement of your child will best support their needs.

Sincerely,

Jesse Witte

Principal, Springwood Elementary School

SPRING SING AND GLEE CLUB

I'm delighted to announce plans for a "Spring Sing" District collaborative choral event set to take place on Wednesday, May 20th with performances scheduled for 1:00pm and 6:30pm at SES in the school gym!

We're anticipating this opportunity to showcase approximately 150 students from QBES, NBES & SES who will be singing together for the students of SES in the afternoon, and an evening Spring Sing choral event for families and caregivers. We're anticipating approximately a 40-45 min concert.

At Springwood Elementary School Mrs. Burn and Mr. Friesen would like to start a Spring Sing Glee Club that would meet on Wednesdays at lunch time. Students from Grades 3 to 7 who want to sing in this glee club choir would come down to the Music Room at 11:35 where they would eat their lunches and then rehearse until the end of lunch recess at 12:30pm.

The glee club would begin rehearsals on Wednesday, April 8. We would hope that you could encourage as many students to join as possible as we are representing our school and hosting other schools.

**DISTRICT
SPRING SING**

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 20
12:30 PM & 6:30 PM
SPRINGWOOD GYM
(Approximately 45 minutes)

Featuring 150 singers from:
NBES · SES · QBES

Parking Information
No parking at the site during the day
Minimal parking available in the evening
Please park and walk

Spring Sing Choir Practice – Grade 3 to 7

I am starting a pick-up Spring Sing Choir practice for students in grades 3 to 7 every Thursday morning from 8:30 to 9:00 until the concert on May 20th. Students who couldn't (or don't) make it to Wed lunch hour choir practice can have another chance to sing the songs on Thursday mornings. If students want to come both days, Wed. Lunch and Thursday before school, they are welcome. This Thursday, April 23 will be our first extra practice. Please let parents and students know about this additional practice. With thanks Ros Burn

QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT - LATE CROSS BOUNDARY APPLICATION

PROCESS FOR 2026/2027 SCHOOL YEAR

On-line Applications for LATE Cross Boundary Requests for students who wish to attend a school outside of their catchment area, as based on their home address, are now available to complete on the district website at:

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

LATE Applications will be considered at intervals throughout the remaining school year; however, a decision may not be made until after the first week of school in September.

Submitting an application form **DOES NOT GUARANTEE APPROVAL**. Acceptance will depend on space availability and school capacity.

Please be aware that if approved, the district reserves the right to rescind approval by September 30th if space is required for students who move into the catchment area school.

Transportation for a student choosing and approved to attend a non-catchment area school or program of choice is the responsibility of the parent.

If you have moved out of a school's catchment area since registering and the student wishes to remain at their current school, a cross-boundary form must be completed.

Once approved to attend a cross-boundary school, that becomes the student's catchment area school. If the student wishes to return to their original catchment area school, a LATE Cross-Boundary Form must be completed to request a return. Acceptance will depend on space availability and school capacity at that time of the request.



QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT

Yath éisum / Always growing / Grandissons ensemble

April 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

RE: BUILDING COHORTS FOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR 2026-2027

During the next few months, staff at our schools will be involved in 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 30, 2026.**

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

Spring Celebration of Learning - May 13, 2026

WEDNESDAY MAY 13, 2026 - 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM

If you need any help making an appointment, please call the office 250-248-2038.

OPENS FOR BOOKING - MAY 4th, 2026

We are offering 1 option this term:

IN PERSON:

1. Go to our school appointments web site by clicking [School Appointments](#)
2. Register for an account by clicking the "REGISTER" menu tab and filling in the on-line form. Choose a user id and password for yourself and then click the "Register Now" button.
3. Add your children into the system by clicking the "Add a "student" button. Click "Insert New" button to add more children.
4. Click the "date" icon beside each child's name to schedule appointments. Select the staff you wish to book appointments with and the "View Calendars" button. Use the "Ctrl" or "Command" key to select multiple staff to view at the same time.
5. Click on available time slots to book your appointments and then click the "Book Appointments" button to save your bookings

School Bus Registration for the 2026/2027

School Bus Registration for the 2026/27 school year is now open! Go to the Qualicum School District Transportation [website](#) to access the online application form. Get your application in **before the end of this school year** for the best opportunity to secure a spot for you child and to **avoid extra fees**.

Busing Fee Summary Table

	ELIGIBLE RIDER FEES	COURTESY RIDER FEES
Early - between April - June 30th	Free	\$175.00*
Late - between July 1st - July 31st	\$25.00*	\$225.00*
Late - after August 1st	\$50.00*	\$275.00*

**Parents and caregivers who believe these fees will cause financial hardship in their household are encouraged to speak to their school principal about fee relief. Confirmation will be forwarded from the school principal to the Transportation Department.*

REGISTRATION PROCESSING TIMELINES

April – June 30 only Eligible bus pass applications will be processed, on a first come/first served basis.

- If a bus reaches capacity, an Eligible Rider wait list will be created. You will be notified if you are put on a wait list.
- Courtesy rider applications received during this time will not be processed until after July 1.
- Exact bus route information will be distributed to families before the first day of school through My Ride K-12 website and App.

July 1- onwards Courtesy, as well as late Eligible bus pass applications will be processed on a first come/first served basis as space is available on the bus route(s) requested.

- Courtesy riders that are offered a space on the bus will be notified and asked to pay the necessary fees. When payment is received the application will be finalized. If payment is not made within 5 business days of being offered the space, the application will be re-dated and put back into the queue.
- If a bus reaches capacity, a wait list will be created. You will be notified if you are put on a wait list.

- o Exact bus route information will be distributed to families before the first day of school through My Ride K-12 website and App.

Applications received after Sept 1 will be considered on a wait list and only accepted on a first come first served basis as space on buses allow.

SES Spirit Wear

Every Friday staff and students show their school spirit by wearing their Springwood gear.

T-Shirts \$22.00
Hoodies \$35.00
Hats \$30.00
Toques \$22.00



Please see the front office for purchase. Cash or Cheque accepted. If you would like to use the online option, please contact Candice in the front office.

POPCORN SALES- Every Wednesday

Popcorn Sales are Wednesdays \$2.50 a bag.



DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

Now that the weather is changing, students are often getting muddy and wet. Please make sure your child has a change of clothes at school, as they will be going outside for recess, gym, and Daily Physical Activity (DPA).



Thank you!

SCENT FREE

Just a reminder our District Policy is that all worksites are Scent Free environment



SES PAC INFORMATION

Please contact the PAC if you have any questions or concerns at spirngwoodpac@gmail.com



1 - As we move into Spring, this brings warmer weather as well as Field Trips! In addition, our PAC is looking for some solid volunteers for Hot Lunch Days and School Event Days. If you are interested in being a part of these and would like to volunteer your first step is to have a Criminal Records Check done. To obtain one is a quick and easy process. Come by the office with two pieces of ID. After that you will follow the online process for the application. Once approved we will reach out to let you know you can volunteer when needed.

mabel's labels FUNDRAISING

The Springwood Physical Education Department is excited to partner with Mabel's Labels! Their products are perfect for school, home, and sports, making organizing and identifying belongings easier and more fun.

Visit <http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com/> and search for Springwood Elementary School (Parkville)

 Purchase labels

 Shipped directly to you anywhere



Contact Jessica Threlfall @ jthrelfall059@gmail.com with any questions

Thank you for being a part of our trusted school community!

Important Dates

- *April 23 Class Photos*
- *Apr 23 Hot lunch – Pizza/Sushi*
- *May 7 Hot lunch - Tim Hortons*
- *May 14 - MATA District Pro-D - students do not attend*
- *May 15 - Conference Adjustment Day - students do not attend*
- *May 18 - Victoria Day - students do not attend*
- *May 21 - Hot lunch - Extreme Eatery*
- *June 25 - Final Day for Students - Schools dismiss three hours early*

Community Events



Mindfulness in May

The Art of Empathy and Kindness 2026
Open Call to Youth for Submissions
Grades 5-12 in SD 69 and Surrounding Area
Including Home Learners




EARLY SUBMISSIONS BY FEBRUARY 14TH FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED ON THE EXHIBIT POSTERS AND WIN EXTRA PRIZES

Visual Art: drawing, fabric art, painting, mixed media, sculpture.
Literary Art: poetry, song, music. **Photography:** digital, and print.

ALL WORKS DUE BY MARCH 13TH

Submissions will be displayed at the Qualicum Library during BC Youth Week and National Mental Health Week

SUBMIT ONLINE HERE:
<https://mindfulmay.artistquarter.com/>

Sponsored By:





EXHIBITION: APRIL 28TH - MAY 10TH
For questions or more info, contact Diane at moraninthemoon@gmail.com

FORED BC Society
For Education about our environment & natural resources
www.foredbc.org

PHOTO, VIDEO & ART CONTEST FOR CANADIAN INDIGENOUS YOUTH

Celebrating the rich cultural & heritage traditions of Indigenous people.
FORED sponsors this annual contest with cash prizes for Indigenous youth.

Theme: Traditional Knowledge & Medicine Prize: 4 x \$150 prizes with at least one national winner. Group work shares prize. \$

DEADLINE: MAY 22, 2026

Interview a local elder about homemade salal tea on video? All creativity is welcomed.

Contest Details: Use our easy [website entry form](#). Entries may be mailed to address at bottom.

- Eligibility: youths aged 5-18 of First Nations, Inuit, Métis, or self-declared ancestry.
- Participants must include their name, band affiliation/ancestry, home address, phone & email, parent & teacher contact, grade & school on [website entry form](#) or by mail.
- Please include a brief description of how your artwork relates to traditional knowledge and medicine.
- **DEADLINE: May 22/26**

- All original work accepted: i.e. crayon, paint, collage, photos, animations, videos etc. (.jpg, .pdf, .png, .mp4, .MOV). Minimum image size 2MB. Videos must be less than 3 min. Please have someone take a photo of you with your artwork if possible.
- By entering, winners agree their names & entries can be published in local & social media, or displayed on BC Ministry of Education sites for Indigenous People's Day & our [website](#).
- All entrants qualify for complimentary, honorary youth membership. No commercial use of entries.
- Mailed entries won't be returned. Only winners will be notified.
- See how Indigenous volunteer mentors integrate traditional knowledge into natural resources practices on our [YouTube](#). Follow us on social @foredbc.
- Complimentary teacher & youth activities by age group on Indigenous culture available [here](#).

Questions? Email education@foredbc.org

FORED BC is a charitable association established in 1925. We work with volunteers on community-based sustainability projects. We thank our generous donors: the Province of BC & the Vancouver Foundation.

2023-4882 W. 208th Ave Vancouver, BC V6R 4R8
P: 604-727-8555 E: info@foredbc.org W: foredbc.org

Support balanced education about our environment & sustainable natural resources. Trusted since 1925.

Book by Charles Mear and Tim Fiedler • Music orchestrated John Clancy • Vocal Arrangements by Chris Milon
Ballad music arranged by David Chasen • Lyrics by Nathan Tyson
Based on the novel 'Tuck Everlasting' by Kate DiCamillo

Qualicum Beach School of Dance

presents

TUCK EVERLASTING

The Village Theatre, Qualicum Beach

MAY 14th 17th

TICKETOWL.IO/QBSD

Originally Produced and Directed by Steven Berkoff • Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber • Lyrics by Tim Rice • Book by Cressida Cowell & Janet Kay, and Barry Brown
World Premier Produced by Alliance Theatre, Atlanta, GA Susan F. Quinn, Artistic Director, The Alliance Theatre

Spring 2026 Active Living Guide

Follow us on Instagram!



@springwood_wolves

CONTACT US:

Jesse Witte, Principal - jwitte@sd69.bc.ca

Lauren Nikirk, Vice Principal - lnikirk@sd69.bc.ca

Candice Nikirk, Administrative Assistant - cnikirk@sd69.bc.ca

Pamela Horrigan, Administrative Assistant - phorrigan@sd69.bc.ca

Phone - 250-248-2038

Fax - 250-954-1825