



SPRINGWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER #7 January 9, 2026

Principal: Jesse Witte Vice Principal: Lauren Nikirk
450 Despard Avenue, Parksville, BC V9P 1J9
Phone: (250) 248-2038 Fax: (250) 954-1825

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

Dear Wolf Pack!

Welcome back! We hope you and your families had a nice and restful Winter break. We are very excited to welcome everyone back to school and are especially thrilled to see our students enjoying the new playground. It has been wonderful watching them explore and have fun in the new space.

As we begin the new term, we look forward to settling back into our regular school routines. We appreciate your continued support in helping your child maintain consistent routines at home, including adequate sleep and being ready for school each morning.

Please remember to send your child to school with proper winter attire, as well as a change of clothes in their bag.

We would also like to remind families about health and wellness. If your child is unwell, please be cautious about sending them to school. When students come to school sick and need to be picked up, it can cause unnecessary stress for them. Keeping sick children at home helps everyone stay healthy.

We encourage you to spend some time with your child in the evenings reviewing schoolwork, reading together, or playing games—anything that helps keep their minds active and engaged. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. We value open communication and are always happy to help.

Once again, welcome back, and we wish you and your families all the best for a happy and successful 2026.

Sincerely,
Jesse Witte

NOTICE TO CHOIR STUDENTS AND PARENTS OF CHOIR STUDENTS:

Mrs. Burn with PAC's help will be having a Hot Chocolate and Cookie celebration for choir students, narrators and sound crew on **Wednesday, Jan 21 during lunch recess**. Choir students can come down to the Multi-Purpose room after they have eaten their lunch in their classrooms and have a cup of hot chocolate and a cookie package. Thank you for all your wonderful singing. Mrs. Burn

Kindergarten Registration 2026-2027

Kindergarten Registration for September 2026 will open on Monday, January 19, 2026. Please be sure to register as soon as possible after that date to assist us with class organization and staffing for the upcoming year.

Our district will be using the **MyEdBC on-line registration process for in-coming Kindergarten students only in January.** (The online registration process will remain available for use after the registration deadline; however, parents are strongly encouraged to register their child within the registration window to assist with classroom/staffing planning)

Things you will need for Registration:

- valid email address
- proof of child's age and citizenship (scan or photo)
- proof of residency (scan or photo)*
- most recent progress (report) cards (if applicable)
- additional documents may be required

[Complete list of acceptable documents.](#)

- *We are required to request and obtain a copy of proof of residency and reserve the right to request additional documents. Applications are not considered completed until all supporting documentation has been submitted.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Qualifying Age: To qualify for school enrollment in September 2026, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2026.

Cross Boundary Requests: Generally, students will attend schools within their catchment area based on the parent's/guardian's residence. In some circumstances crossing of catchment areas may be permitted upon request and are considered on an individual basis.

Parents wishing to enroll their child at an out-of-catchment school within the district **must first** register at their catchment school, include a note that they wish to make a cross-boundary request and then complete the on-line 2026-2027 Cross Boundary Request Form.

The [**2026-2027 School Year Cross-Boundary Applications**](#) process will open on an as yet to be determined date depending what occurs with the boundary change discussion.

***Applications will be considered based on space, staffing and capacity and you may not be advised whether or not your cross-boundary application has been approved until late August or even early September.**

PROGRAMS OF CHOICE:

PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR A PROGRAM OF CHOICE ALL NEW REGISTRANTS TO THE QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT MUST FIRST REGISTER THEIR CHILD AT THEIR CATCHMENT AREA SCHOOL. APPLICATION TO A PROGRAM OF CHOICE DOES NOT GUARANTEE ACCEPTANCE.

PLEASE REVIEW THE PROGRAMS OF CHOICE INFORMATION [ON THIS PAGE OF OUR WEBSITE.](#)

New Kindergarten registrants MUST first complete the online registration form and indicate in the 'Notes' field of the online registration form which Program of Choice you are interested in: Kindergarten French Immersion, STREAM or the Primary Learning Community, and then you **MUST also** complete the relevant Program of Choice application form for your child. **French Immersion** - French Immersion is intended to develop fluency in French learning to functional bilingualism.

Sibling Only Kindergarten French Immersion Applications (for siblings of students already attending French Immersion) will be held **January 12, 2026, to January 16, 2026**. Any siblings applying after that date will be included in the lottery with the non-sibling registrants.

The Kindergarten French Immersion application process for non-siblings will open on Monday, January 19, 2026, through to Friday, January 30, 2026 (see below) and placement will be determined by lottery.



QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kindergarten Registration

Opens January 19, 2026

Online Kindergarten registration (through MyEdBC) for the 2026-2027 school year opens on January 19, 2026. To qualify for Kindergarten enrolment in September 2026, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2026. Proof of Age for a student includes a birth certificate or passport. Check out the School District website registration page to see what else you need to know.

[https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/default.aspx#=%](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/default.aspx#=)

The District will offer a "Pre-Kindergarten" program in April and May. Incoming Kindergarten students must be registered at their catchment school in order to apply to participate in this program. If you have registered your child by Thursday, March 12th you will be sent an application via email and those who register for Kindergarten after that date will be considered based on available space.

PROGRAMS OF CHOICE (PoC)

Early French Immersion - when first registering your Kindergarten child on-line at their catchment area school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to apply to have your child in the Early French Immersion Program. Then complete the online Kindergarten French Immersion application form.

Primary Learning Community - when first registering your Kindergarten child on-line at their catchment area school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to apply to have your child attend the Primary Learning Community Program. Then complete the online Primary Learning Community application form.

More information and the online application forms for French Immersion and the Primary Learning Community can be found on the District website at:
[https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Programs/Education%20Programs/Pages/default.aspx#=%](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Programs/Education%20Programs/Pages/default.aspx#=)

Application Forms for these PoC will open January 19 and close on January 30, 2026

CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION

The Board of Education believes that, in general, students should attend their catchment area school based on their home address. Students who wish to attend a school outside of their catchment area may apply through the online cross boundary application process after registering at their catchment area school. (Not required if accepted into a Program of Choice)

More information on the Cross Boundary process can be found on the district website at:
[https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/RegBound.aspx#=%](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/RegBound.aspx#=)

PROPOSED SCHOOL BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Board of Education is currently undergoing a review of school boundaries. A Virtual Town Hall (information session) is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Visit the Qualicum School District Website for the video-conferencing link.
<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Lists/Announcements/Attachments/452/Virtual%20Town%20Hall%20-%20January%202014%202026.pdf>



VIRTUAL TOWN HALL RE: SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14TH AT 6:00 P.M.



Tune in to our Virtual Teams Town Hall if you are interested in potential changes to the elementary school catchments in the Parksville area. The conversation will cover typical responses to enrolment changes, district projections, and potential next steps.

[Join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 228 693 475 809 95

Passcode: JG6p9nY3

TOPICS:

- Updated Baragar demographic projections.
- Overall district enrollment projections have decreased compared to three years ago.
- Ongoing pressure at Springwood Elementary (new housing coming online) and École Ballenas Secondary (over listed capacity).
- Outline of updated projections, past changes, response options, and draft recommendations for Board consideration.

~ JOIN THE CONVERSATION ~

PAC NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Hot Lunch Winter/Spring Session is Open!

Our first hot lunch date of 2026 will be January 22nd, with cutoff for ordering & payment on the 15th of January by 3PM. Ordering is now open if you want to order in advance and not have to worry about it in January! Visit [Munchalunch](#) to place your order, and let us know if you have any questions! If you have a grade 7 student please do not order for the May 7th hot lunch date as they will be attending the Grade 7 Health Fair that day!

There is a **hot lunch donation** option that you will notice in the menus while ordering, thank you so much to all of you who have already donated this way in the first hot lunch session, and thank you in advance to those who are able to donate again this session. These funds ensure that students who would not be able to order hot lunch due to financial hardship will still get to enjoy hot lunch! Your donations put a big smile on some very sweet faces!

Please remember that If your student is absent on a hot lunch date that you have ordered for, you must let the office know by 10:30 AM if you want to pick up the lunch. Lunch pickup is between 12PM and 3PM from the office. If you do not call in, the lunch will be donated to another student. Please do not email or message PAC directly about picking up hot lunch for an away student as we are often too busy during hot lunch to check emails and messages and might miss it! Lunch orders cannot be cancelled after the cutoff date.

WINTER/SPRING HOT LUNCH SESSION	
Hot Lunch Dates	Order Cutoff
January 22nd Dominos/Sam's Sushi	January 15th - 3:00 PM
February 5th Tim Hortons	January 29th - 3:00 PM
February 19th Extreme Eatery	February 12th - 3:00 PM
March 5th Boston Pizza	February 26th - 3:00 PM
April 9th Chinese Kitchen/The Pretzel Guyz	April 2nd - 3:00 PM
April 23rd Dominos/Sam's Sushi	April 16th - 3:00 PM
May 7th Tim Hortons *Grade 7's away at health fair	April 30th - 3:00 PM
May 21st Extreme Eatery	May 14th - 3:00 PM

 SPRINGWOOD
PAC
Parent Advisory Council

SES SPIRIT WEAR

SES Spirit Wear Spirit Wear is back in full force!

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.

Candice Nikirk
School Accounts Secretary
Springwood Elementary
250-248-2038

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!



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

An advertisement for a Karate class. It features a person in a white gi with a yellow belt in the foreground, and another person in a white gi with an orange belt in the background, both in a karate stance. The text is overlaid on the image.

22nd Annual Qualicum Beach

Seedy Saturday

'It starts with a seed'

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

Saturday, February 7, 2026

10 am – 3:30 pm

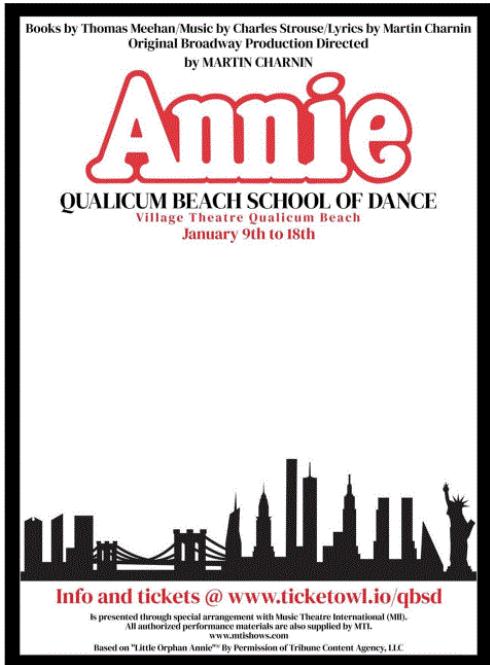
- Seed Swap
- Master Gardeners answering questions
- Seed, Plant and Garden-Related Vendors
- Demos
- Educational Displays
- Children's Activity
- Door Prizes
- Seedy Café
- Raffle Draw (cash only)
- No ATM on site
- Pesticide/chemical drop off (in original package)

Swap and Shop:
bring your seeds
for the seed swap
or buy local seeds
that have been
swapped!

Admission: suggested \$5 donation

Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday Association
www.qbseedyssaturday.ca • qbsschair@gmail.com
qbseedyssaturday • qbseedyssaturday

The image is a promotional poster for a youth basketball program. At the top left is the logo for ACRA (Arrowsmith Community Recreation Association), featuring a stylized green and blue swirl icon next to the acronym 'ACRA' in large, bold, blue letters, with 'ARROWSMITH COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSOCIATION' in smaller blue text below. To the right, a yellow box contains the text 'TUESDAYS JAN 20 - APR 21, 2026 6:30pm - 8:00pm'. The central part of the poster features a black and white photograph of a young girl with blonde hair, wearing a basketball jersey, in the middle of a jump shot. Overlaid on the left side of the photo is large, bold text: 'FREE DROP-IN YOUTH BASKETBALL' in white and orange. To the right of the photo is a yellow circle containing the text 'AGES 11-15'. Below the photo and text, a black box contains the message 'All levels welcome! Come build skills, shoot hoops, play games and have fun!' in white. At the bottom, another black box contains the text 'More information' and a website URL 'https://arrowsmithrecreation.ca/classes' in white. The bottom right corner features the logo for the Parksville-Qualicum Community Foundation, which is a stylized tree inside a circle, with the text 'PARKSVILLE-QUALUMICUM Community Foundation' in white.



UPCOMING DATES: - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 22	Hot lunch – Dominos/Sam's Sushi
Feb 5	Hot lunch – Tim Hortons
Feb 13	MATA District Pro-D Day – students do not attend
Feb 16	BC Family Day – students do not attend
Feb 19	Hot lunch – Extreme Eatery
Mar 5	Hot lunch – Boston Pizza
Mar 16 – Mar 27	Spring Break Vacation
Mar 30	Schools Reopen after Spring Break
Apr 3	Good Friday – student do not attend
Apr 6	Easter Monday – students do not attend
Apr 9	Hot lunch – Chinese Kitchen/The Pretzel Guy
May 7	Hot lunch – Tim Hortons
May 14	MATA District Pro-D Day – 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

Follow us on Instagram!
@springwood_wolves



CONTACT US:

Jesse Witte, Principal - jwitte@sd69.bc.ca
Lauren Nikirk, Acting Vice Principal - lnikirk@sd69.bc.ca
Candice Nikirk, Administrative Assistant - cnikirk@sd69.bc.ca
Pamela Horrigan, Administrative Assistant - pchorrigan@sd69.bc.ca
Phone - 250-248-2038

