



## Take Our Kids to Work™ Program



Dear Grade 9 Parents/Guardians

School District 69 (Qualicum) in cooperation with *The Learning Partnership of British Columbia*, business, labour, and our local communities, are happy to announce that we are again part of this national educational initiative.

This year, on **Wednesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>**, every grade 9 student in our district is expected to spend a day in the workplace, job shadowing a parent, relative, adult friend or a volunteer host. Our grade 9's will be joining the hundreds of thousands of other Grade 9 students across Canada who will also be participating learning first-hand about work and career opportunities as part of the Grade 9 Careers and Health curriculum. This job shadowing initiative allows the entire community—parents, teachers, employers and workers—to play a role in the career development of Grade 9 students.

**Grade 9 classes across the district will NOT be in session on this day.**

*Take Our Kids to Work* will provide opportunities for your Grade 9 student to:

- Explore career options in practical ways.
- Gain exposure to the skills required in today's workplaces.
- Begin career discussions with adults about the work they do.
- Gain a better understanding of the complexity of career choices and the benefits of early exploration.
- Develop an appreciation for the importance of obtaining their high school diploma and pursuing post-secondary studies.
- Develop an appreciation for their parents' roles in making a living and supporting their families.

A day at work will demonstrate the relevance of classroom lessons to students and adults. The project provides companies with an opportunity to showcase their work and to connect with members of tomorrow's workforce. This program was created through the philosophy that **"awareness leads to knowledge"**.

### What can Parents/Guardians do to assist?

1. Please start by assisting your Grade 9 student in arranging their work shadow/opportunity for this day. It is great when you can take your child to your own workplace to see what you do each day but if this is not possible help them choose another place to experience work for this day.
2. Encourage your place of employment to endorse this program and to consider offering an invitation not only to Grade 9 children of employees but to other Grade 9 students who could benefit from the experience.
3. Consider inviting a second Grade 9 student to accompany you and your child to work that day if you can.
4. Talk to your friends and colleagues about this day and the opportunities for them to become involved.

This initiative is a beneficial one from all perspectives - workplaces, educators, parents, and most importantly, our youth. Please take the time to assist your child's to maximize the exposure to work on this day.

For additional information on TOKTW, please view the national **website** <http://www.takeourkidstowork.ca>

**Bonus for the students. Hey grade 9's! ! "Take a selfie of yourself at work on this day and text it or email it to me and be entered in the draw to win 1 of 5 Timmy's gift cards. My cell number and email address are below. Draw will be Friday November 11<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy your day".**

Cheers

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