



# ESQUIMALT PARENT & STUDENT DOCKER

*May 5 - May 9*

Friday & Saturday	Musical -Legally Blonde Last shows, don't miss it!	7.00pm Esquimalt High Theatre
Monday May 5		
Tuesday May 6	Last day to pre-order your Yearbook	Online or Office
Wednesday May 7	Government Satisfaction Survey	Block B- reminder to students
Thursday May 8	ICBC Presentation: Smart Driving Decisions for Grades 11 & 12	Block D-Gym
Friday May 9		



## Save the Date

May 12	<b>PAC Meeting, 6.30pm. All Nations Room</b>
May 16	Pro D Day- No School
May 19	Victoria Day-Stat Holiday-No School
<b>May 21</b>	<b>Capstone Gala -3.30 to 5.30/Theatre</b>



## 2025 Yearbook – Order by May 6!

The end of the year is coming fast—don't miss your chance to reserve a copy of the **2025 Esquimalt Yearbook**! Make sure your memories are captured in print!

**Deadline to order:** May 6

**Cost:** \$52.35

**Order online:** [School Cash Online](#)

\*If you don't see the option to purchase the yearbook, **review your latest payments**. Some parents purchase this item in September/august and it is already paid.

**Need to pay in person?** See **Ms. Bradshaw** in the Office (cash, debit, or cheque).

**Need support?** Please speak with **Principal Ms. Garr**—we're here to help.





## 🎉 ***Legally Blonde: The Musical* – Final Shows This Week!**

Huge congratulations for our Musical Theatre Company on the opening weekend of *Legally Blonde*! We have heard so much positive feedback on your work and most importantly are so proud of the community that you are continuing to build! Behind this show is a dedicated team of **over 60 student performers and crew**, a **live band made up of community musicians**, and even **two very talented dogs**—all ready to bring this story to life on our stage.

There are still some tickets remaining for our last shows on May 2 & 3. Thank you for supporting our students and celebrating their incredible work. See you at the show! 💛

📅 **Last shows: May 2 & 3.**

🕒 **Show starts at 7.00 pm**

🎫 **Tickets: SOLD OUT/ Waitlist on the door at 6.00 pm, cash only**

## 🎵 **Support the Esquimalt Music Program**

If you'd like to support our **Music Program**, here's how to make a donation online:

1. Visit [esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca](https://esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca)
2. Click on **"Make a Donation"** (left-hand side menu)
3. Choose **"Esquimalt High School"** as the donation destination
4. In the **Tribute field**, select **"In honour of"**
5. Enter **"Music Program"** as the **honoree name**
6. You'll also have the option to receive a **tax receipt**

Thank you so much for your generosity and continued support! 🎵



## 🎓 **GRAD 2025: Review all the important dates** 🎓

Attention Grade 12 students and families! Graduation is just around the corner. Prepare your Capstone presentation and add all the important dates to your calendar. Your big day is almost here!

### **Important Dates**

- ♦ **May 21: Grade 12 Capstone Presentations**
- ♦ **June 2:** ESQ Grad Recognition Ceremony – UVic Farquhar Auditorium
- ♦ **June 21:** Grad Dinner Dance (Tickets go on sale in May)

### **Recognition Ceremony at UVic – Ticket Information**

#### **Step 1: Register**

✓ All grads **must** complete the registration form: [ESQ Grad 2025 Registration](#).

⚠️ **This is NOT your ticket order!** This form is required before purchasing tickets.

#### **Step 2: Purchase Tickets**

- Sales via **UVic Box Office: \$10 each** (+ box office fees), **max 6 per family** (more may open later)
- Buy **in person** or call **250-721-8480** (Mon–Fri, 9:30 AM–4:00 PM)
- **Everyone needs a ticket**, including babies (grads do not)
- **Accessible seating is limited**—please mention if needed
- Tickets sent to students' **@sd61learn.ca email**
- 💙 **Need support?** Speak with a counsellor or admin—confidentially

### **Grad Assemblies (\*Important: Dates Subject to Change\*)**

**May 28** – 1:00 PM (Grad Focus)

**May 30** – Block D (Cap & Gown Distribution)

**June 2** – Rehearsal at UVic (Grads away all day)



## Student Vote 2025: Our Results Are In!

Over the past week, students across Canada—including those at **Esquimalt High School**—took part in the **Student Vote Canada 2025**, a parallel election that encourages civic learning and hands-on experience with the democratic process.

We're proud of our students for taking the time to learn about political parties, explore the issues that matter to them, and cast an informed ballot. This experience helps build the foundation for confident, engaged citizens.



### Here are the national results as decided by students:

- **Conservative Party** – 165 seats (36.4%)
- **Liberal Party** – 145 seats (31.7%)
- **Bloc Québécois** – 18 seats (2.1%)
- **NDP** – 13 seats (14.5%)
- **Green Party** – 2 seats (7.5%)

The students elected a Conservative minority government, with the Liberal Party forming the official opposition. This result presents a different picture from the actual federal election, where the Liberals won 168 seats—just shy of the 172 needed for a majority. This contrast highlights the importance of participating in elections and engaging in our democracy.



### Want to explore more?

Visit the **Student Vote results platform** to see the national summary, results by province or electoral district, and even how each school voted: [studentvote.ca/results/canada2025](https://studentvote.ca/results/canada2025)

Thank you to all staff and students who supported this learning opportunity—and congratulations to our future voters for taking part in democracy!

## Vaccination update



Immunization Program is looking to update the information about public health and respond during an outbreak, under the Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation (VSRR). For that reason, Island Health is mailing letters to households of students whom immunization records are missing or incomplete. If you receive a letter, please update your child's records directly through the online Provincial Immunization Record Registry or drop your records at your local public unit health.

If your child's records are up to date, you won't be contacted and don't need to update the information.





# **Scholarships: Important Information**


## **Esquimalt High Scholarships and Bursaries**

A variety of scholarships and bursaries for students graduating from Esquimalt. This is a “one-application” process-- in other words, one application can be used for multiple awards. Gap year is OK for most (not the Lions Club).

 **Deadline: June 25<sup>th</sup>.**

 To view the list of awards, [click here](#).


 Applications are found on the Scholarship & Postsecondary Google Classroom. The application itself has TWO PARTS: paper submission and digital submission. Both parts must be completed to be considered for these awards.

 **Fun fact:** the number one reason why grads do not apply for these awards is that they do not have a letter of recommendation. Best get on this right now! 😊

## **GVTA Dependents Scholarship**

Open to any graduating dependent of a member of the GVTA

It is a draw! Get your application in and cross your fingers. Up to four winning students each year.

 Deadline to apply: **May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

 [Apply here](#)

## **ICA's Diversity Scholarships**


ICA's Diversity Scholarships are awarded to students from a diverse and/or immigrant background who demonstrate in their academic and community work active support for strong community values around diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Capital Region. Awards provide up to a maximum of \$5,000.

 Deadline to apply: **June 20, 2025**

 [Apply here](#)

## **The Looking Glass Foundation's Reflection Scholarship**

The Reflections Scholarship supports students who have lived experience with an eating disorder by helping them pursue their academic and career goals through education. It is awarded in recognition of someone's strength and courage in facing their eating disorder as well as their enthusiasm and tenacity for their chosen academic path and the career they plan to follow. The scholarship divides \$10,000 equally amongst the successful applicants.

 Deadline to apply: May 31<sup>st</sup>.

 <https://www.lookingglassbc.com/scholarship>



## ☀️ 4C Challenge Program Updates ☀️

### 🏆 Challenge Olympics – May 9

Our ESQ Challenge students will head to **Mount Douglas (PKOLS) Secondary** for this year's **Challenge Olympics** on **Friday, May 9**.

✳️ *Permission forms were due May 2.* If needed, forms may be emailed **by Sunday, May 4**, but no extensions can be granted after that date, as Mt. Doug needs confirmed numbers.

### 👋 Grade 8 Transition Day – May 15

After the main activities on **Thursday, May 15**, there will be a **Challenge info session** for current Grade 8s (next year's Grade 9s). Current Challenge students are encouraged to attend as friendly mentors and join the Q&A panel.

### 🎉 Spring Challenge Social – Date Change

Originally scheduled for **June 20**, the **Spring Social** date is being adjusted. Updated details will be shared soon.

### 📅 Late Entry Opportunities

There will be a few **open spots in the Grade 11 and 12 Challenge cohorts** for next year. Application details will appear in next week's Docker.

✉️ Questions? Contact **Challenge Coordinator** [Omdrea Walker](#)

## 💬 **Get Involved: Join the Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**

We warmly invite you to the Esquimalt PAC Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **Monday, May 12 at 6:45 PM** in the All Nations Room.

All executive roles are open for nomination, including:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

At Esquimalt PAC, we work together to support one another and make a positive impact on our school community. No experience needed—just your interest and enthusiasm!

✉️ Email us to [esquimaltpac@gmail.com](mailto:esquimaltpac@gmail.com) . We'd love to hear from you!





Ministry of  
Education and  
Child Care

## 2024/2025 STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY (SLS)

### Learning Survey for students & Parents

Our school is currently in the process of facilitating the Ministry of Education's Student Learning Survey to better understand student and family experiences in the education system. Students will be completing the surveys in their weekly Focus Blocks.

We also welcome parent feedback through the **Parent Survey** for those with children in grade 10, 11 or 12. The survey is available in English, French and 16 additional languages. [CLICK HERE](#) to access to the survey.



### Rhubarb & Container Donations Needed!

Do you have **extra rhubarb** in your garden or **clean plastic containers** (yogurt/sour cream or different size). Our Cooking Program would love your donations!

Donations can be dropped off at the School Office.

Thank you for supporting hands-on learning in our kitchen! 🍴

### 🎓 Upcoming Info Session: Camosun College & Accessibility Services

Camosun College is hosting an **Information Session** specifically designed for future students, including those who may benefit from connecting with the **Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL)**. This supports students who self-identify with a documented, diagnosed disability in achieving their educational goals.



📅 **Date:** Wednesday, May 14, 2025

🕒 **Time:** 6:00–7:00 PM

📍 **Location:** Online via Zoom

🔗 **[Click here to register](#)**

This session will provide valuable information for students with:

- ADHD
- Mental health challenges
- Learning disabilities
- Autism and other neurodivergent experiences
- Chronic health conditions
- Physical or sensory disabilities
- ...and others who may require academic accommodations or accessibility supports in college.

# Parent Connect: How to Check Report Cards online?

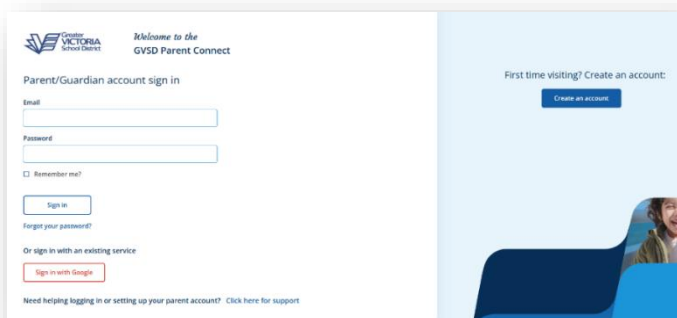
Our Learning Updates (Report Cards) are updated in the [Parent Connect Online System](#). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand.

Considering that 20% of the students in SD61 speak different languages than English and French, the service also includes Google Translate to support parents who prefer to communicate in other languages.

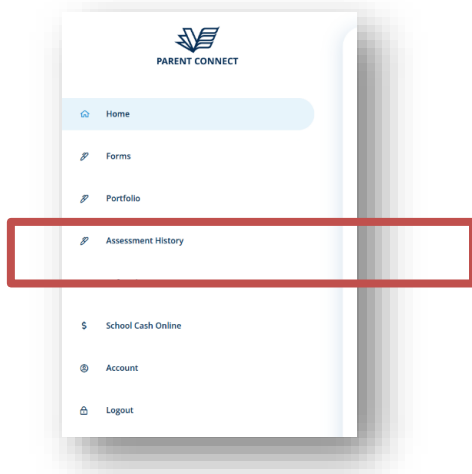
Paper copies will only be available **upon request** in person from the office.

How to create an account and access the system: [Parent Connect instructional video](#) or [PDF Instructions](#)

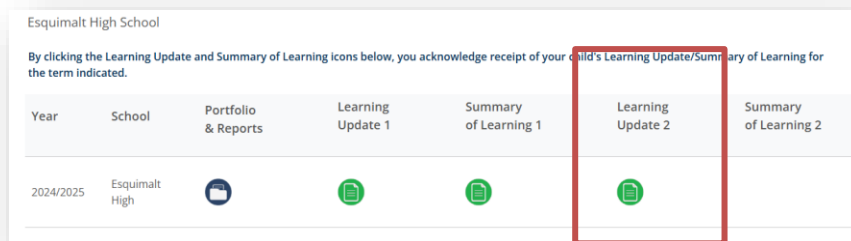
## How to access to the Learning updates? Here are the steps



1. Log In to the system with your email and password or with your Google (Gmail) account.
2. If is your first time, click in the blue bottom "Create an account".



3. On the left side panel click on Home. Click on the name of your student, if you only have one Student in the District.
4. Click on "Assessment History".



5. Click on **"Learning Update 2"**. A PDF file will download.
6. Check your Downloads file. Open the Report Card for your student.



# ATLETHICS

## Upcoming Track Events & Volunteering

### Track & Field Updates:

- 📍 Lower Island Championships – May 14
- 📍 Island Championships – May 20 & 21

All **track athletes** are also asked to volunteer at **Buccaneer Days**, taking place **May 8–11**.

➡ Please see [Ms. Thornber](#) to sign up and get more details.

💛 ❤️ Thank you for representing Esquimalt with dedication and spirit! 💛 ❤️



## CAREERS: CERTIFICATION OPPORTUNITY

**Food Safe Level 1 Certification: Great for Summer jobs!** 🍷 🥗 🍴

There are still some spots for this activity, open to Grades 9–12 (**priority to Grades 11 & 12**). Learn essential food safety skills and earn a valuable certification perfect for summer jobs in the food/hospitality industry.

📅 When? **Tuesday, May 6** ⌚ 8:30 AM – 3:16 PM (all day)

📍 Where? Lower Cafeteria

👉 [Sign up here](#)

✅ Students are responsible for checking in with their teachers and completing any missing work for that day.

More info? With Career Centre Coordinator, [Tarra Clarke](#).



## Dockside Dispatch: Student News in Action



We're excited to share **Dockside Dispatch**, our school's own news production featuring **student-created stories, reports, and more!** Catch the latest episodes and explore past features by visiting the **Dockside Dispatch Archive**:

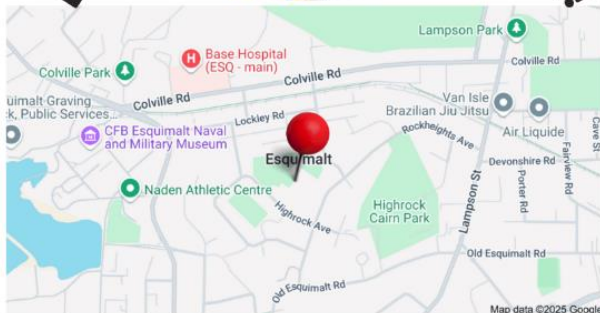
🔗 [Dockside Dispatch Archive – Click here](#)

Stay informed and support our talented students!

[New video!](#) 🎥



# BEE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR!



## REMINDERS

### Bee a Good Neighbour!

A reminder that our Student Code of Conduct extends beyond the walls of our school and into our community!

Please respect our neighborhood businesses and the private property of homes in the area.

Thank you for showing our neighbours how amazing ESQ students are!



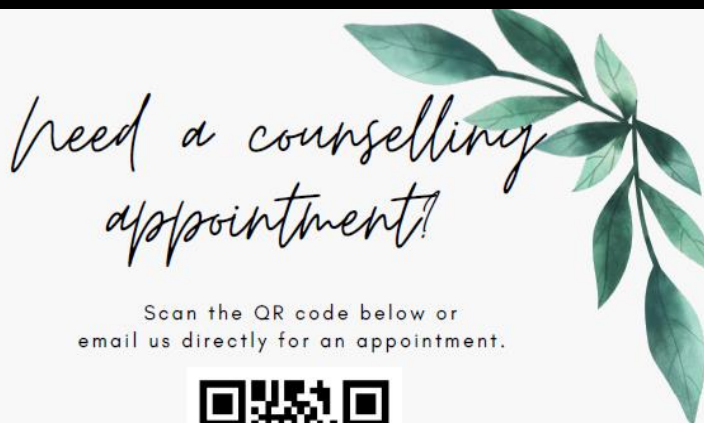
All students must get a parking pass from the office.

Student Parking is located at the far end of the upper parking lot.

ALL SUBJECTS/PROOFREADING SERVICES AVAILABLE

## ESQ Peer Tutors are here to help!

[bit.ly/esqtutorrequest](http://bit.ly/esqtutorrequest)



Scan the QR code below or email us directly for an appointment.



### SCHOOL BASED COUNSELLORS

Personal counselling, course changes, post-secondary and academic advising.

Allyson Hoffman (she/her)

(A to K): [ahoffmanesd61.bc.ca](mailto:ahoffmanesd61.bc.ca) \*Monday to Friday

Anastasia Andrews (she/her)

(L to Z): [aandrewsesd61.bc.ca](mailto:aandrewsesd61.bc.ca) \*Monday to Friday

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING

Tim Zemanek (he/him): [tzemanekesd61.bc.ca](mailto:tzemanekesd61.bc.ca)

### YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS (YFC)

Personal and family counselling. NOT COURSE CHANGES.

Bob Beattie (he/him): [bbeattieesd61.bc.ca](mailto:bbeattieesd61.bc.ca) \*Monday to Wednesday

Michaela Louie (she/her): [mlouieesd61.bc.ca](mailto:mlouieesd61.bc.ca) \*Tuesday to Friday

Tanya Hadley (she/her): [thadleyesd61.bc.ca](mailto:thadleyesd61.bc.ca) \*Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Emily Stark (she/her): [estarkesd61.bc.ca](mailto:estarkesd61.bc.ca) \*Fridays



# CREATING A SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION PLAN

A **WEBINAR** FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS & CAREGIVERS

Join leading adolescent **Clinical Psychologist** Dr. Hayley Watson, as she helps you create a **personalized step-by-step plan** for implementing **substance use prevention skills** in your home. Dr. Watson will focus on specific steps you can take to ensure that **you and your family are supported** as you teach substance use prevention skills to your child/youth.



## Key Takeaways:

- ✔ Learn the skills that will help prevent your child and youth from using substances
- 🧠 Navigate the challenges that arise while teaching these skills to your child/youth
- 🧠 Create a step-by-step plan for implementing substance use prevention strategies
- 🧠 Increase your ability to support yourself and your child/youth at the same time

**Time:** 6-7:30pm PST (*includes Q&A!*)  
**Date:** April 29th, May 7th and 8th 2025

Scan the QR  
Code to Register



**REGISTER NOW**

We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the  
Ministry of Education and Child Care



# Supporting Our Students: Food Programs at Esquimalt

At Esquimalt, we believe that no student should go through the day hungry. Our **Breakfast and Lunch Programs** are here to support those facing financial hardship, ensuring they have access to nourishing meals. If your family can provide meals from home, we kindly ask that you leave these programs available for those who need them most. That said, we understand that sometimes a student might need a little extra support, and we're here for those moments too.

For **everyone in our school community**, the **Rainbow Kitchen "Fridge of Love"** is always open! Students and staff are welcome to grab a snack—no questions asked, just kindness shared. 😊

Thank you for helping us take care of one another!

## Student and Family Affordability Fund

In March 2024, the Ministry of Education and Child Care provided districts with one-time **Student and Family Affordability Funds (SFAF)** to help families struggling with school-related costs. These funds offer **temporary, flexible, and private** assistance for school supplies and fees, ensuring support without stigma.

Funding use includes, but is not limited to:

### 1. Goods:

- Providing basic school supplies that might otherwise be purchased by parents, guardians, and students (e.g., pens, paper); and
- Supporting with clothing/footwear required for school sports or other school activities.

### 2. Fees:

- Waiving education-related fees (e.g., additional supplies for shop, culinary and craft classes, workbooks, camps, field trips, relevant cultural events, other student society meetings including those related to equity, diversity, and inclusion, and instrument and equipment fees or other fees charged by school districts); and
- Fees for school sports and other school activities.

If your family or student have any questions or require support, please reach out to Sarah Garr (Principal) by phone or email [sgarr@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:sgarr@sd61.bc.ca)

## CAFETERIA

The ESQ Café menu offers a hot lunch, salad and a variety of baked goods daily. The Café accepts reloadable cafeteria cards and cash. [Cards purchases or re-loads](#) will be ready for pickup at 11:30am in the office one business day after purchase.

### ESQ Café Menu –May 5-9

<b>Monday</b>	Tofu Pad Thai with Prawns
<b>Tuesday</b>	Bao Buns: Buttermilk fried chicken, gochujang passionfruit BBQ sauce, pickled daikon and carrot, cucumbers, mint. *Also available with tofu
<b>Wednesday</b>	Butter chicken Mac and cheese
<b>Thursday</b>	Turkey Kofta, Greek salad, hummus, pita, Tzatziki
<b>Friday</b>	Fish and chips, house made tartar, Kennebec Fries, coleslaw



Esquimalt High School's student newspaper, *Esquimalt Ink*, started off the month of May with the seventh issue of the school year.

#### Read all about:










- ✓ The federal election & Student Vote results
- ✓ An interview behind the scenes of ESQ's school musical, *Legally Blonde*
- ✓ Red Dress Day on May 5<sup>th</sup>, in memory of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
- ✓ Victoria Day history & events
- ✓ May Day
- ✓ National Turtle Day
- ✓ Mother's Day gift ideas → May 11

You can access to our lasts issue and all the publications from the last 10 years on [our school website!](#)

## Student Connect: Stay in Control of Your Digital Choices

[GVSD Student Connect](#) lets you manage your privacy and choose which online tools and services you want to use at school.

- ☒ **Review your consent choices** at the start of each school year.
- +** Need a new tool for a class? You can add consent anytime!
- ×** Changed your mind? You can remove consent if you're no longer using a tool or if tech is being misused.

 <b>Key Consent Items:</b>	 <b>Acceptable Use of Technology (Digital Tools You Control):</b>
 Yearbook & School Photos/Videos  School & District Media  Broadcast Media	 Google Workspace for Education  Adobe Creative Cloud  My Blueprint  Canva



### Reminder about taking photos and filming at Esquimalt

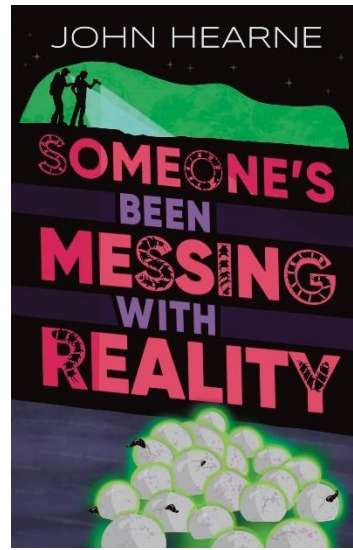
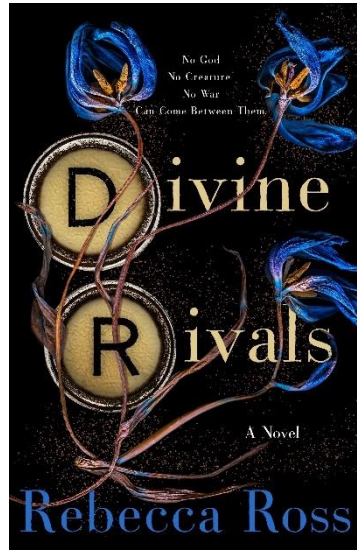
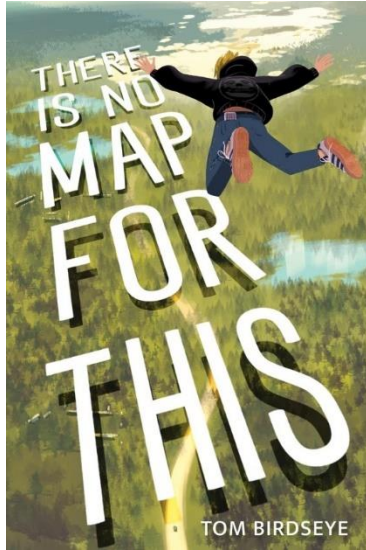
CONSENT is important.

BEFORE taking a student or staff members' photo or filming, you must ask for permission first.






## SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



### **New readings for Spring time**


Celebrate Spring with a great new novel from our school library! Thanks to the Esquimalt High School's **Parent Advisory Council (PAC)** and the **Township of Esquimalt** for supporting our school library and our students' rights to read!

Here are a few of our new novels, some classics and [some great new books by Indigenous writers](#) to get you started. Find these and more at [our school library learning commons website](#). 

## Mental Health Week 2025: May 5-11

Living with a mental health or substance use challenge is difficult—and **the pressure to hide it** can make it even harder. Many wear a “mask” to protect themselves from stigma, but the heavier the judgment, the heavier that mask becomes.

This **Mental Health Week** let's commit to **looking beyond the surface**. When we embrace honesty and vulnerability, we build deeper connections—and create a ripple of **courage, empathy, and support** across our communities.

Let's work together to make it safe for everyone to show up as their full selves. 

#MentalHealthWeek #UnmaskingMentalHealth

**Hiding mental health struggles doesn't make them go away**





# SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS

## Way to Go, Ultimate Otters!

Congratulations to our **Ultimate Otters** for qualifying for this year's **Island Championships in Courtenay**! Your teamwork, skill, and spirit continue to make us proud.

#GoOtters 🍷 🧡 🖤



## Girls Rugby

Good luck to our **Girls Rugby Team** as they wrap up league play this Monday!

A strong finish means a spot at the **Zone Championships in Duncan** on **May 12 & 13**.

Let's go, team! 🍷 🧡 🖤 #GoEsquimalt #RugbyStrong

## Tragedy at Lapu-Lapu celebration

Our hearts go out to those who were impacted by the tragic event that occurred at the Lapu Lapu event in Vancouver on Saturday.

We are flying our flag at half mast in recognition and support of our Filipino community and all of those who were impacted. ❤️







# SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



## ***Legally Blonde*** **Gallery**

Congratulations to our incredible **actors, singers, band members, crew,** and the **amazing staff** who made all **six performances of *Legally Blonde: The Musical*** such a success at the Esquimalt Theatre!

Your talent, dedication, and teamwork lit up the stage—bravo! 🌟

