



# Esquimalt Parent & Student Docker

**Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> – Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*"Every moment is a fresh beginning"*

Saturday, Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Bottle Drives to support EHS Clubs.</b>	10 am - 2 pm We do all the sorting
Mon. Sept. 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Student Verification Forms/Blanket Field Trip</b>  Food Safe Course (see below)	<b>B Block</b> (Forms given out today) ESQ. Lower Cafe
Tues. Sept. 19 <sup>th</sup>	GRAD Assembly <b>PAC Parent Advisory Committee</b> Food Safe Course (see below)	D Block <b>6:45 pm at the school</b> Esq. Lower Cafe
Wed. Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Focus Block Sign up before Wed. on Bit.ly Below</b>	<b>1:19 to 2:05 pm</b>
Thurs. Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup>	New Student Welcome and Clubs Day	Lower Café at Lunch
Fri. Sept. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Professional Development Day	No Scheduled Classes



## Save the Date

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>: School Chosen Professional Dev No Classes

Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>: Leadership Retreat

Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation No Classes

# ESQ IS OFFERING FOOD SAFE LEVEL 1



CERTIFICATION

**WHEN | SEPTEMBER 18 OR 19, 2023**

**WHERE | ESQ LOWER CAFE**

**TIME | 8:50 AM - 3:20 PM**

**bit.ly/esqfoodsafety2023**

*Students are responsible for notifying their teachers & completing any missed work*

Questions? Contact ESQ Careers

Mr. Henderson: khenderson@sd61.bc.ca or Tarra: tclarke@sd61.bc.ca

## Attention

### Parents/Guardians

Monday your student will bring home two forms for updating:

**Student Verification Form & Blanket Field Trip Form**

Please update and sign, then both forms are to be returned to B Block Teacher or Office.

Thank you!!

# GRADE 10 - 12 FOCUS BLOCK SIGN UP

STARTS **Wednesday September 20, 2023** (1:19 - 2:05) between Block C & D

## WHAT IS FOCUS BLOCK ALL ABOUT?

### Student Choice

- Time for Students to self-direct, explore and FOCUS on their learning
- An opportunity to catch up on work, get some help, or practice skills
- Students can work independently, in partners or small groups - it just depends!
- Teachers will not be assigning new work
- All students are required to attend FOCUS BLOCK.
- Staff will take/record **ATTENDANCE** and communicate home absents in the same manner as other scheduled classes.
- Instructional time: No clubs, sports, or rehearsals during this time

## HOW TO SIGN UP FOR FOCUS BLOCK?

**[bit.ly/ESQFB2023SEM1](https://bit.ly/ESQFB2023SEM1)**

- Provide us with your top THREE choices where you would like to spend your time
- Students will sign up once and remain with the same Teacher for all of Semester 1
- Teachers can support students in multiple teaching areas
- **Focus Block is for classes that you are enrolled in for Semester 1:**

**Example - if you DO NOT have Art this semester, you cannot sign up with Ms. Walker**

- **STUDENTS WHO DON'T SIGN UP FOR A FOCUS BLOCK WILL BE ASSIGNED A TEACHER/SPACE**

### **Welcome back!**

#### **Snapshot:**

We have made a few changes to the Snapshots for the 2023-24 school year.

- Firstly, we will introduce a new Snapshot bi-monthly starting in September.
- Secondly, the Snapshots for the year will focus on the significance of nurturing connections and community in your children's lives.

The September/ October Snapshot explores some of the agencies and services in our community for families. These agencies can serve as valuable partners, offering a wide variety of services designed to bolster families and enhance their overall well-being. By collaborating with these organizations, parents can tap into a wealth of expertise, guidance, and programs that address a spectrum of needs.

**Access the Snapshot Here: [September/October 2023 Snapshot – It Takes a Village](#)**



## Indigenous Education Department

Greater Victoria School District No.  
61 556 Boleskine Road, Victoria, B.C.  
V8Z 1E8

**Telephone:** 250 475-4124

**Fax:** 250 475-4109

*The Greater Victoria School District resides on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen people.  
We would like to acknowledge the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations on whose territory we live, we learn and we do our work.*

September 14th, 2023

Dear SD61 Parents/Caregivers:

This letter is being sent to all families in the Greater Victoria School District to provide information about the Indigenous Education Department (IED) and the services and resources this department provides to our SD61 learning community. This letter will clarify the definition of Indigenous Ancestry and explain how to self-identify on the school registration form.

The Indigenous Education Department (IED) supports the inclusion of Indigenous perspectives and resources that align with the BC Curriculum in our schools and classrooms along with providing holistic supports to students that have self-identified with Indigenous Ancestry. The staff of the IED provides guidance in our School District to weave Indigenous Knowledge and Ways of Being into district policies, classrooms and schools. Key areas include: Holistic Wellness; Social Emotional Learning; Land Based Learning; Arts and Culture; Advocacy for Indigenous students and families; and, the authentic use of Indigenous resources for schools and classrooms. The IED works with The Songhees Nation; The Esquimalt Nation; The Metis Nation Greater Victoria; The Urban People's Indigenous Advisory and an Indigenous Elders Advisory Council.

The BC Ministry of Education and Child Care defines Indigenous Ancestry as students who identify as First Nations, Status or Non-status, Métis or Inuit. The BC Ministry of Education and Child Care does not require proof of ancestry to self-identify. Parents and caregivers of students with Indigenous Ancestry may choose to self-identify on the school registration form under the section Indigenous Ancestry or by calling the school to request that they include this self-identification of Indigenous Ancestry on your child's school registration form.

Our Indigenous Education Department provides supports to all schools in the district along with supplementary supports for students who self-identify as having Indigenous Ancestry. The purpose of these enhanced learning experiences is to increase a sense of belonging, academic success and increase understanding and awareness within our School District. The Indigenous Education Department will connect with your family annually about the opportunities that may be available at your school, in the district and/or in the community as it relates to Indigenous Education. Participation in these programs, supports and services is always voluntary.

If you have questions, concerns, or wish to learn more about supports for students with Indigenous ancestry, please give us a call. For more information, please visit our website at: <https://ied.sd61.bc.ca/>

Dr. Shelly Niemi, Director  
Indigenous Education  
Department SD61



Hay'sxw'qa – Klecko Klecko - Gilakas'la – All My Relations

## **CUE: Canadian University Event**

On **Tuesday September 26, 2023** Esquimalt High School will be taking interested students to the: **Canadian Universities Event (CUE) at Oak Bay High School.**

This event hosts representatives from most of the major universities across Canada and provides students with an opportunity to explore their post-secondary options.

**Bus leaves ESQ: 10:15am**

**Bus Leaves Oak Bay High: 11:30am**

Students who attend this event will miss their BLOCK B class and are responsible for connecting with their teacher. The event is open to grade 10 -12 students, but priority is reserved for those students in grade 11 & 12.

Interested Students sign up at: **[Bit.ly/ESQCUE2023](https://bit.ly/ESQCUE2023)**



The poster features a large, stylized 'CUE' in yellow and orange at the top. Below it, the text 'CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES EVENT' is written in bold black letters. A QR code is on the left, and a central white box contains the event details. At the bottom, a list of 30 universities and colleges is displayed in three columns. The background is a gradient of orange and red with a wavy pattern at the bottom.

**CUE**  
**CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES EVENT**

*hosted at Oak Bay High School*  
**ESQ Careers is taking students to CUE**  
**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**  
For more information see ESQ Careers Team  
Tarra Clarke [tclarke@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tclarke@sd61.bc.ca) Ken Henderson [khenderson@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:khenderson@sd61.bc.ca)

**SIGN UP TO ATTEND [bit.ly/ESQCUE2023](https://bit.ly/ESQCUE2023)**

Acadia University	Memorial University	University of Alberta
Alberta University of the Arts	Mount Allison University	University of Calgary
Bishop's University	Mount Royal University	University of Fraser Valley
Brescia University College	Nipissing University	University of Guelph
Brock University	Ontario Tech University	University of Guelph-Humber
Burman University	Queen's University	University of King's College
Capilano University	Royal Military College	University of Lethbridge
Carleton University	Saint Mary's University	University of Manitoba
Dalhousie University	Simon Fraser University	University of New Brunswick
Emily Carr University	St Francis Xavier University	University of Northern BC
Fairleigh Dickinson University	St Thomas University	University of Ottawa
Huron University College	St Jerome's University	University of Saskatchewan
King's University College	The King's University	University of Victoria
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	Thompson Rivers University	University of Waterloo
MacEwan University	Trinity Western University	Vancouver Island University
Marine Institute	University Canada West	Western University
McMaster University		York University

 [cuebc\\_org](https://www.instagram.com/cuebc_org)  [@cuebcevents](https://www.facebook.com/cuebcevents)



## **Update from Counselling Team**

It is very important for students to check their email if they have made a request as that is how we are communicating any information to students.

Regular counselling appointments will start later this week. Need to make a counselling appointment? You can email counsellors directly or use the counselling request bitly: <https://bit.ly/ESQcounselling>

**SCHOOL BASED COUNSELLORS:** Course changes, postsecondary and career advising, solution-focused, brief counselling, and referrals to outside agencies.

Allyson (Ally) Hoffman (she/her): Students last names A to K. [ahoffman@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:ahoffman@sd61.bc.ca) Available: Monday to Friday

Anastasia Andrews (she/her): Students last names L to Z. [aandrews@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:aandrews@sd61.bc.ca) Available: Monday to Friday

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING:**

Tim Zemanek (he/him): [tzemanek@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tzemanek@sd61.bc.ca)




**YOUTH AND FAMILY COUNSELLORS (YFCs):** Personal and Family counselling (NOT COURSE CHANGES)

Bob Beattie (he/him): [bbeattie@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:bbeattie@sd61.bc.ca) Monday to Wednesday

Brianne Mendes (she/her): [bmendes@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:bmendes@sd61.bc.ca) Monday to Friday

Akki Mackay (they/them): [akkimackay@fairfieldcommunity.ca](mailto:akkimackay@fairfieldcommunity.ca) Wed-Friday

**If it is an emergency go to the counselling area or call the Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888.**

<p><b>ALL REFUNDABLE CONTAINERS ACCEPTED</b> pop, juice, beer, wine, liquor, bi-metal, milk... <b>no soup, ensure</b>   <b>OK - milk, soy, almond</b></p> 	<p><b>ROTARY BOTTLE DRIVE</b></p> <p><b>Location:</b> Esquimalt High School 847 Colville Road Entrance</p> <p><b>Dates:</b> Sat., 16 September Sat., 7 October Sat., 4 November Sat., 2 December Sat., 13 January</p> <p><b>Times:</b> 10 am – 2 pm</p>	<div data-bbox="797 1129 1388 1270"></div> <div data-bbox="797 1281 1388 1407"><p><b>Interact</b>  <b>Esquimalt High School</b></p></div> <div data-bbox="797 1417 1388 1711"><p><b>BOTTLE DRIVE</b></p><p><b>Saturday</b></p><p><b>10 am – 2 pm</b></p></div> <div data-bbox="797 1711 1388 1917"><p><b>Proceeds will support:</b></p><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local Charities</li><li>• Esquimalt High School</li></ul></div>
 <p><b>Deposit Here</b></p>		

## Student Costs Information 2023-2024

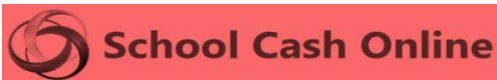
Text Book Deposit	\$20.00	Onetime deposit required for all <u>new</u> students. Deposit is refundable, upon request, when the student finishes/leaves the school provided there are no outstanding liabilities.
Student Activity Cost	\$25.00	Optional - provides student with photo ID card and supports special school events.
Grad Cost	\$40.00	Optional - recognition ceremony costs & grad cap/gown rental.
Yearbook	\$50.00	Optional – distributed in June 2024
Locker	\$7.00	Optional – locker includes a lock. Onetime cost for <u>new</u> students.

**For those who cannot pay online, cash or cheque will be collected at the school.**

Payments can be made by credit card through School Cash Online at <https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/>

Link is also available on the Esquimalt High website. A School Cash Online registration guide is attached.

*\*No student will not be denied the opportunity to participate in educational opportunities due to financial hardship. Please contact the Principal or a Vice-Principal if finances are an issue.*



Fast, safe, and convenient! **Greater Victoria School District** would like you to get started today and register. It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications of upcoming events and fees involving your child(ren).

**NOTE: If you require assistance, select the *GET HELP* option in the top right hand corner of the screen.**

## Step 1: Register

- Go to the *School Cash Online* home page  
<https://sd61.schoolcashionline.com/>  
and select the **"Get Started Today"** option.
- Complete each of the three Registration Steps  
\*For Security Reasons your password, requires **8 characters, one uppercase** letter, one **lowercase** letter and a **number**.

## Step 2: Confirmation

- A confirmation email will be forwarded to you.
- Click on the link provided to confirm your email and School Cash Online account
- Sign into account with credentials.

## Step 3: Find Student

**Note: Student Number is Not Required**

*This step will connect your children to your account.*

- Enter the School Board Name
- Enter the School Name
- Enter Your Child's Name & Birth Date
- Select **Continue**
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **Continue**
- Your child has been added to your account

## Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select **"Add Another Student"** option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select **"View Items For Students"** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

### Esquimalt Athletics

The Athletics season gets started very quickly with Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Rowing and Jr/Sr Volleyball. The year continues with Basketball & Wrestling starting in November, with Track and Field, Rugby, Badminton, and Girls Soccer all starting after Spring Break. All sports are open to all degrees of experience. The information from the Athletics Department is shared through the school announcements and from sign-ups posted by coaches. It is very important that your student is listening to the announcements on a regular basis as that is a consistent way to get information to such a high volume of students. We are really excited to be involving your students in athletics this year and getting everyone active. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Contact ESQ Athletic Director: Mike Thompson - [mbthompson@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:mbthompson@sd61.bc.ca)

The image displays two screenshots from the School Cash Online website. The top screenshot shows the homepage with a dark blue header, a yellow banner with the text 'Paying school items just got easier! Sign up to get started today.', and a 'What is School Cash Online?' section. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Find Student' section, which includes a 'School Information' form with fields for 'School Board Name' (set to 'School Board 1575') and 'School Name' (set to 'Eagle High School'). Below this is the 'Student Information' section with fields for 'Student Number', 'First Name', 'Last Name', and 'Birth Date'. A 'Continue' button is at the bottom, along with a link for '(No students? Click here)'.

## **FINE ARTS:**

### **Welcome to the Esquimalt Music Program!** Welcome to the Esquimalt Music Program!

Our music program offers various performing ensembles, including Concert Bands, Concert Choir, Jazz Bands, Vocal Ensemble, Rhythm and Blues Band, and Musical Theatre (cast and crew). All of these classes run outside of the timetable all year long. There are options for everyone with or without experience. Don't worry if you haven't signed up year; everyone is welcome. If you are interested in joining a music class, please join the Esquimalt Music Hub Google Classroom (code: 43fyt74) to access music-specific announcements, schedules, and information. Looking forward to a great year of making music!

### **Upcoming important dates:**

- **Monday, September 18th:** All Music Classes Begin

### **Improv Class and Club Information**

The first Improv class and club meeting will be Wednesday September 27, at 3:30 in the theatre. See Ms. Walker or check out our table at Clubs Day for more information.

Art Club is on Thursdays at lunch in the Art Room (room 223). Art Club starts on September 28.

*Omdrea Walker BEd, MEd, (she/her)*





**Orange Shirt Day: Size Youth Small to Adult 2XL available**

# ORANGE SHIRT DAY

## Shirts for Sale

ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL IS SELLING ORANGE SHIRTS WITH ORIGINAL ARTWORK CREATED BY RANDE COOK AN ABORIGINAL ARTIST FROM THE KWAKWAKA'WAKW FIRST NATION.

RANDE DESIGNED THE ARTWORK FOR ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SURVIVORS' SOCIETY.



SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN THE OFFICE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. CASH OR CHEQUE.

UNISEX SIZING. YOUTH & ADULT AVAILABLE.

STUDENT SALE \$8.00/SHIRT  
PUBLIC SALE \$15.00/SHIRT

FOR MORE INFO CALL 250.382.9226  
OR EMAIL [ESQUIMALT@SD61.BC.CA](mailto:ESQUIMALT@SD61.BC.CA)

## GRADS:

**SPIRIT WEEK** FOR GRADS!  
**SEPT 2023**

**MON 18** DRESS AS A CELEB

**TUES 19** TROPICAL VACATION

**WED 20** TWIN WITH A TEACHER

**THURS 21** COUNTRY VS COUNTRY CLUB

FOR MORE INFO, FOLLOW THE INSTAGRAM  
[@ESQ.GRAD24](https://www.instagram.com/ESQ.GRAD24)

**Cafeteria:** Reloadable Cafeteria Cards will be available for reload or purchase **Tuesday Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>** through School Cash Online. <https://bit.ly/ESQCAFECARDS>\*\*\*Re-loads will be automatically added current cards the following business day by lunch. If you have a card from last year please bring it to the Accounts Office so it can be reactivated.

For those of you paying with cash - lunch is \$7.00.

CAFETERIA MENU – Sept. 18 to Sept. 22	
<b>Mon.</b>	No Full Service
<b>Tues.</b>	No Full Service
<b>Wed.</b>	Full Lunch Service Today: Menu to be Determined
<b>Thurs.</b>	Full Lunch Service Today: Menu to be Determined
<b>Fri.</b>	No classes Professional Development Day