



Esquimalt Parent & Student Docker

March 31 – April 4

Happy April!

Mar 31	Welcome Back	School opens after Spring Break
April 1	Sidestepping the Power Struggle	Part 2: Starts see below for details
April 2		
April 3		
April 4		

Save the Date



April 7: Copernican Day/Assessment:

Block A: 9 to 11:30 am

Block C: 12:30 to 3 pm

April 8: Copernican Day/Assessment:

Block B: 9 to 11:30 am

Block D: 12:30 to 3 pm

April 9: Early Dismissal 2:27pm



Parent Learning Surveys:

Student learning surveys for grades 10, 11, and 12 will be conducted throughout the month of April in students Focus blocks. These surveys allow students, teachers, and administrators to share their educational experiences with the Ministry of Education.

Parents who wish to complete the survey, can do so here:

<https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp>

Any questions please contact: Ms. Sonja van der Putten at: svanderputten@sd61.bc.ca

Copernican / Assessment Days: April 7th and April 8th

Copernican days will be held on April 7 and 8th. During these days we will be running the Literacy 10 and 12 assessments as well as the Numeracy 10 assessments. Students who are currently enrolled in English 10 or 12, or Math 11, will be contacted to write these assessments. They are graduation requirements and require completing. If your child is unsure if they have written the relevant assessment or not, please have them contact the office. For more detailed information and sample questions, please feel free to access the Ministry of Ed sites:

Literacy 10: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-literacy-assessment>

Literacy 12: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment>

Numeracy 10: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-numeracy-assessment>

Any questions please contact: Ms. Sonja van der Putten at: svanderputten@sd61.bc.ca

WELLNESS RESOURCE FAIR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Victoria High School, 1260 Grant Street

9:00am - 3:00pm | All Secondary Students Welcome

Join us at the newly renovated Victoria High School (1260 Grant Street) to explore wellness resources offered by local businesses, non-profits, and other organizations. This student-led event will feature a variety of booths specializing in mental, physical, spiritual, and nutritional wellness options. Explore what our community has to offer from organizations including:

Learning Through Loss	The Victoria Sexual Assault Centre
Mental Health Recovery Partners	Victoria Disability Resource Centre
Island Health	Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre
Gender Spectacular	YMCA (Y Mind)
Métis Nation of Greater Victoria	NEED2
Trans Care BC	Substance UVIC
Victoria Women In Need Community Cooperative	The Gender Generation Project
British Columbia Art Therapy Association	Métis Nation British Columbia
One Ability	AVI Health and Community Services
BC Black History Awareness Society	The Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre
Bounce Back	Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement
BC Schizophrenia Society	Inter-Cultural Association

Contact your school principal for more information.



THANK YOU!

Victoria High School is hosting a Wellness Resource Fair on Wednesday, April 16, at 1260 Grant Street. This student-led event will feature a variety of booths focused on mental, physical, spiritual, and nutritional wellness. Students will have the opportunity to explore resources offered by local businesses, non-profits, and other organizations that support well-being.

Students will be bussed to and from the event. The bus will depart from Esquimalt High at 10:10 AM and will return by 11:50AM.

Interested students should sign up using the Google Form below. Sign-ups will be reviewed, and selected students will receive a confirmation email on their @sd61learn account.

Please submit your name by 3:30pm on Thursday, April 10th

docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScaFnfpZ52Rw2vCCjk_cpq0o16oVNfZzDTLFae4fUD_3YwYUw/viewform?usp=sharing

For more information, contact Ms. Garr or Mr. Koutougos.

GRAD 2025:

IMPORTANT GRAD INFORMATION: Attention GRAD families!
See important information about grad below (also in newsletter)



Important Dates:

May 21st: Grade 12 Capstone Presentations - May 21st
June 2nd: ESQ GRAD Recognition Ceremony UVIC Farquhar Auditorium
June 21st: Grad Dinner Dance (Tickets on sale in May)

Recognition Ceremony at UVic: Ticket Information

Students must fill out the REGISTRATION form <https://bit.ly/ESQGRAD2025Registration>

*this is NOT your ticket order- it is the information we need to sell the tickets to you and your family. ALL GRADS MUST DO THIS!

- TICKET SALES OPEN MONDAY APRIL 7th via UVIC BOX OFFICE
- Tickets will be \$10 each- (there are some box office fees on top of that)
- No more than 6 per family (more will be sold closer to the date).
- All Ceremony tickets are processed through the UVic Ticket Centre in person or by phone 250-721-8480 Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 9:30am –4:00pm.
- All persons entering the Auditorium for the event via the lobby must have a ticket, including babes-in-arms and toddlers (grads do not need a ticket- they are the show!)
- **Accessible seating is limited. Please indicate if you need accessible seating for wheelchairs at the time of your order**
- **TICKETS will be emailed to students' SD61 emails (@sd61learn.ca)**
- Please reach out to a counsellor or administrator if you need financial assistance with the tickets- this will be kept confidential

GRAD ASSEMBLIES:

All the upcoming assemblies will have a newsletter to bring home

Dates *subject to change*

****New Date** April 24 in C BLOCK**

May 28- 1pm to focus

May 30- BLOCK D (cap and gown distributed)

June 2- Rehearsal at UVIC- grads away all day

CAREERS:

ESQ CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Royal Canadian Navy: The Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP)

FSWEP is hiring high school students in grades 11 and 12 for summer positions supporting naval fleet repair work. Students will gain experience in various trade disciplines related to ship repair on the west coast, with 8 weeks of paid work supporting the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN)

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 04, 2025

ESQ CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

For more information or you would like to apply to any of the below offerings, please contact ESQ CAREERS TEAM:

Career Centre Coordinator: Tarra Clarke: tclarke@sd61.bc.ca

Career Educator: Mr. Henderson: khenderson@sd61.bc.ca

DUAL CREDIT

High school students can enroll in post-secondary courses/programs in their Grade 12 year that earn credits towards High School and Post Secondary transcripts

Why Become a Dual Credit Student?

- **Your school district covers your tuition!!!**
- Most courses are transferable to other colleges and universities
- Avoid the five-course crunch in your first year. Five can be a lot!
- Build your confidence going into future options

Ways to Explore Dual Credits

- **Camosun College:** Take a first year course or program: TRADES & NON TRADE OPTIONS AVAILABLE
- **UVIC USTART:** Pick from over 250 first year courses:

*Please note: **USTART APPLICATIONS DUE: April 04th**

SUMMER PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY

GRAPHIC DESIGN with Pacific Design Academy

SUMMER 4 week program in July that provides students with: foundational graphic design knowledge, connections to local companies, & enhance soft skills, gain life experience, & foster industry passion. Earn 4 Credits!

APPLICATIONS DUE: April 17th

DISTRICT PROGRAMS

SD61 District Programs offer students an opportunity to earn certifications, dual credits, pursue apprenticeships, or explore interests before graduation. The following programs are offered during **2nd semester** at:

- Esquimalt High School **AUTOTECH:** Earn Level 1 Automotive Service Technician
- Lambrick High School **TASK:** Trades Exploration

APPLICATIONS DUE: April 15th

TRADES OPPORTUNITY

Royal Canadian Navy: The Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP)

FSWEP is hiring high school students in grades 11 and 12 for summer positions supporting naval fleet repair work. Students will gain experience in various trade disciplines related to ship repair on the west coast, with 8 weeks of paid work supporting the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN)

APPLICATIONS DUE: April 04th

ATHLETICS:

Soccer:

Girls Soccer have a game after Spring Break:

Any questions or concerns contact: baris@sd61.bc.ca



Track and Field:

Track and Field Practices Weights before school 7:30 am Mondays and Thursdays. On the Track Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:30. First Track Meet is April 2 at UVIC All meets on Wednesdays after school (at UVic)

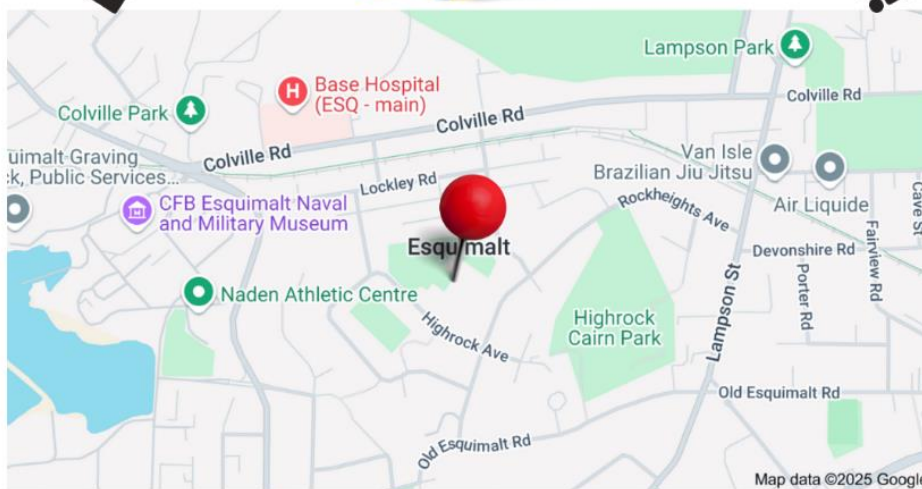
Any questions please contact Ms. Thornber at: sthornber@sd61.bc.ca



Bee a Good Neighbour!



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!!

Parent Connect:

Parent Connect is an online service developed by the Greater Victoria School District to expedite consent requests and access Learning Updates (report cards). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand. The service also includes Google Translate to support parents who prefer to communicate in languages other than English.

Learning Updates (report cards) are shared digitally with both parents and students through Parent Connect and Student Connect.

All Learning Updates will only be shared via [Parent Connect](#) and [Student Connect](#). Paper copies of Learning Updates will only be available upon request in person from the office.

Please click on the link below for information on how to create an account and access Parent Connect. When you access the account, student Learning Updates will be available as a pdf document.

[Parent Connect instructional video](#) and link to the portal.

[PDF Instructions for how to access Parent Connect](#)

Student Connect:

GVSD Student Connect allows students to review privacy information and choose which online digital services they consent to use. Students should review their current consent items at the start of each school year.

New items can be added at any time (for example if a student needs access to a service in Gr. 11 that they did not need previously). Consent can also be revoked at any time if a student is misusing technology.

Important consent items in Student Connect include:

- School Yearbook and In-School Photo/Video Consent
 - School and School District Media Consent
 - Broadcast Media Consent
 - Student Acceptable Use of Technology

Permissions for Digital tools:

- Google Workspace for Education
 - Adobe Creative Cloud
 - MyBlueprint
 - Canva

Student Connect: <https://studentconnect.sd61.bc.ca/>

REMINDERS:



Dr. Allison Rees

Presents an Eight Week Parenting Course



Sidestepping the Power Struggle

- Learn to work with your child's unique temperament
- Discover effective parenting strategies
- Develop effective communication skills that create harmony

Based on research, taught by a seasoned educator and therapist, this course will satisfy parents with kids of all ages. Attend in person (location to be announced) or on Zoom.

Eight Tuesday Evenings in Two Parts: Part One: Feb. 18th to March 11th

Part Two: April 1st to April 22nd From 7:00 to 8:30

Go to lifeseminars.com to register



*Need a counselling
appointment?*

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): ahoffman@d61.bc.ca *Monday to Friday

Anastasia Andrews (she/her)

(L to Z): aandrews@d61.bc.ca *Monday to Friday

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING

Tim Zemanek (he/him): tzemanek@d61.bc.ca

YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS (YFC)

Personal and family counselling. NOT COURSE CHANGES.

Bob Beattie (he/him): bbeattie@d61.bc.ca *Monday to Wednesday

Michaela Louie (she/her): mlouie@d61.bc.ca *Tuesday to Friday

Akki Mackay (they/them): akmackay@d61.bc.ca *Monday to Thursday

Ask first.



**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.

Food Programs at Esquimalt:

A reminder that our **Breakfast and Lunch programs** are intended for those students who are experiencing financial hardship/need. While we appreciate that other students may at times need to access breakfast on occasion, we are asking that those students who are able to access food at home please do so.

Please note that the **Rainbow Kitchen "Fridge of Love"** is open and accessible to ALL staff and students, regardless of financial need! 😊

Student and Family Affordability Fund:

In March 2024, the Ministry of Education and Child Care provided districts with additional **one-time Student and Family Affordability Funds (SFAF)**. The Student and Family Affordability Fund is intended to support families with costs associated with going to school that they may be struggling to pay. The aim is to make life more affordable for families who are temporarily facing financial challenges and need temporary assistance with the current cost of school supplies and education-related fees. The funds will be provided in as flexible, private and stigma-free manner as possible.

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



CAFETERIA: The Esq Café menu offers a hot lunch, salad and a variety of baked goods daily.

Lunch \$7.00, Salad \$5.00 Baked Goods range from \$1.50-\$5.00

The Café accepts reloadable cafeteria cards and cash.

Cafeteria Cards will be available to purchase on [School Cash Online](#) September 14, 2024. Cards purchases or re-loads will be ready for pickup at 11:30am in the office one business day after purchase. If you have a card from last year please bring it to the Accounts Office so it can be reactivated.

What's on the Menu? ESQ Café – March 31 to April 4

Monday	No Service
Tuesday	To Be Determined
Wed.	To Be Determined
Thursday	To Be Determined
Friday	To Be Determined

HAVE A GREAT SPRING BREAK!!





ESQ GRAD 2025 Lock- In was so fun! Swimming, karaoke, dodgeball, games, Mario Cart, yummy snacks and great people. Thanks to [@esqparksandrec](#) for hosting this awesome crew last night and thanks to the brave volunteer chaperones...



Teacher Student

We're seeing double! Lots



Esquimalt High Chess Competition:

Once again thank you to everyone that worked to make this an excellent event. Congratulations to Pearson College for being the 2025 champs and to all the participants for their time and dedication to this great game.