



ESQUIMALT PARENT & STUDENT DOCKER

Dec. 1 - Dec. 5

Mon. Dec. 01		
Tues. Dec. 02	Winter Music Concert	Part 1
Wed. Dec. 03		
Thurs. Dec. 04	Winter Music Concert	Part 2
Friday Dec. 05	Challenge Winter Social Gym and Cafe	6:30 to 9:30



SAVE THE DATE

DEC. 6	Bottle Drive 10am to 2pm
DEC. 8	GRAD Photo Retakes
DEC. 9	GRAD Photo Retakes
DEC. 10	Early Dismissal 2:27pm
DEC. 11	Lockdown Drill 9:10 Block A

**PLEASE RETURN
FIELD TRIP
FORMS TO THE
OFFICE.**

REPORT CARDS (Learning Updates) were published Nov. 21st and are now AVAILABLE through Parent Connect!

Be sure to follow directions below (Page 15) to check.



New Edition for Dockside Dispatch:

Here is the latest episode of dockside dispatch!

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCGdjG1wUBBL_WnNrsPfUB96OHPiHLI4G&si=B-5UAQP5jqAvAt_W



ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL

847 Colville Road, Victoria, B.C. V9A 4N9

phone 382-9226 fax 361-1263 esquimalt@sd61.bc.ca

FOUNDED 1915
"ESSE QUAM VIDERI"

December 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On **Thursday, December 11th**, at approximately **9:10am during Block A**, Esquimalt High will be conducting a lockdown drill.

Lockdowns occur when there is a perceived threat to the safety of students or staff, usually by an intruder who has or is thought to have a weapon. Our Superintendent has requested that all schools in the district conduct a lockdown drill each year.

We are currently going through a process to prepare for this drill. Teachers will be informing students and answering any questions they may have about the drill and lockdown procedures. Administrators are also available to answer questions.

The drill will last approximately one hour. An administrator will come on the P.A. system and say, "Attention, this is Mr./Mrs. _____ speaking. This is a lockdown drill. I repeat, this is just a drill. Lockdown."

At this time, teachers will go to their doors, check hallways for students and if necessary direct them inside. Doors will be closed and locked, window blinds closed and students will be instructed to remain quiet, out of sight and off electronic devices. The expectation is that students take the drill as seriously as they would a fire or earthquake drill.

If during the drill, students find themselves in a hallway, they are to go quickly to the nearest washroom. If in the washroom, they should remain there, shut the door and lock it if possible, then get in a cubicle and raise their feet. Students in the gym area will be instructed by a teacher to go to an equipment storage room, the weight room, or a change room. For the purposes of the drill, any students outside, such as a PE class will assemble at the far end of the field.

The administration and officers from the Victoria Police Department will spend 30-45 minutes inspecting the halls and grounds to assess the lockdown response. Administration and police officers will go door to door to end the lockdown drill.

Please discuss this with your child(ren). If you have any questions or concerns about the drill or lockdown procedure, please call one of the school administrators at 250-382-9226.

Sincerely,

Sonja van der Putten
Vice-Principal

Esquimalt High

FOOD

DRIVE

Support Esquimalt families by
donating canned goods and
non-perishables



December 3-17
CANNED FOOD | NON-PERISHABLES



DROP-OFF IN B BLOCK CLASSES

Class with the most donations eat first at
Santas Breakfast on Friday, December 19th



Santa's Breakfast

2025

*Organised by ESQ leadership, supported by staff
volunteers, school clubs and the music program*

*December 19,
8:50 - 12:00*

*Talent show
12:00 - 1:30*



*Talent show
sign up*



Winter Challenge Social

Friday, December 5

6:30-9:30

***Food**

***Music**

***Games**



In the cafeteria & gym

Theme is "Comfy & Cozy!"

**ESQUIMALT HIGH
SCHOOL'S**

12TH ANNUAL
GINGERBREAD
HOUSE SALE
FUNDRAISER

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
CULINARY PROGRAM
PROCEEDS GO TO THE
SANTA ANNE CATHOLIC
HOUSE KITS \$20.00 EACH**

ORDER AT:

<https://bit.ly/esggingerbread25>



ORDER DEADLINE
NOV. 30, 2025
SEE LINK FOR FULL DETAILS

Deadline is Nov. 30th



1ST
**GRAD
MOVIE
NIGHT**

When: 6:00-9:00 PM
November 26th

Where: The school theatre
Bring your PJs and a
travel mug!

Fantastic Mr. Fox



GRAD 2026

GRAD Winter Formal \$45
Tickets on Sale by Office Nov 12- 26
Dec 18, 2025 6:30-10pm

Students must arrive by 7:30 or they will not be admitted

NO INS AND OUTS

NO SMOKING or VAPING on the venue property

This is a school event and our code of conduct applies to all students!

Address:

Delta Hotels Victoria Ocean Pointe Resort 100 Harbour Road

We are in the Harbour Room and will enter via the Harbour Foyer located on the Harbour side of the hotel. Come straight through the main lobby, down the stairs and the entrance is on your right hand side.



Parking: The hotel parking is \$8 - free parking available in the surrounding areas - or even better - get dropped off!!

Note:

This is APPETIZERS/Small Bites only, so have a meal before you arrive - lots of yummy food for all- but not enough for dinner for all - **please alert us to any allergies**

Dance!! Have fun!!!

Hello Grads and Parents!

Exciting news! Your online gallery from your grad portrait session is now live! Visit this link to access your gallery:
<https://vando.imagequix.com/K9L3W9Z>

You will use the QR code that was given to you at your appointment.

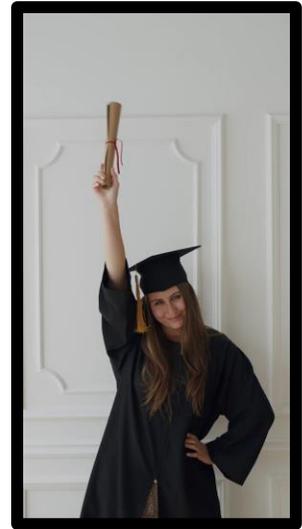
Your order deadline is: December 19, 2025

Missing your login code? No problem!

Visit <https://www.mountainwest.ca/support-for-families>

Click on "Looking for your login code? Enter the information required.

Your code will be emailed within 1 business day.



Regarding yearbook image selection:

Log in to view your grad images

Click on 'Choose Yearbook Pose' at the top of the page, and then "Select Photo"

Photos that are eligible to be selected will appear; after you have chosen, click confirm.

The deadline to select your yearbook image is: **November 28, 2025**

*** If you miss selecting a pose by the date indicated,*

our team will select one for you! If you wish to change your pose after the deadline has passed, a handling fee will apply.

Photo Retakes

If you missed the opportunity to have

graduation photos taken during the first sittings or wish to have retakes done, please visit the link below to book an appointment.

This is an important reminder!

Your graduation photo must be taken by Mountain West Studios in order for your image to be included in your school yearbook and on the commemorative composite of the graduating class.

Grad Cap and Gown/Fashion Retakes - December 8, 2025

[https://app.acuityscheduling.com/schedule/04313d09/appointment/85949505/calendar/12869991?appointmentTypeIds\[\]=85949505](https://app.acuityscheduling.com/schedule/04313d09/appointment/85949505/calendar/12869991?appointmentTypeIds[]=85949505)

Kind Regards

Tim Zemanek

Teacher: ELL; ISP Support; English

Esquimalt High School

847 Colville Rd,

Victoria, BC V9A 4N9

WHO WE ARE AT ESQ

Esquimalt High school values **diversity, equity and inclusion**, ensuring that all students, staff and guests feel **safe and respected**. Relationships form the foundation of our school community - as such, we strive to create a culture that fosters **belonging and connection** to support **academic success and social-emotional well-being**.



DO's - How We Shine

- Show kindness, respect and inclusivity through our words and actions
- Take care of ourselves, our school and our community
- Arrive on time and ready to learn
- Use technology and resources responsibly, including storing cell phones out of sight unless permitted by the teacher
- Build a safe, welcoming space for everyone
- Choose words and actions that lift others up
- Make healthy choices for yourself and others
- Solve conflicts respectfully
- Be creative, original and honest in your work
- Express your ideas and opinions using respectful, polite and inclusive language
- Step in and speak out if you witness acts that don't align with who we are as a community



Reference: <https://esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca/student-info/code-of-conduct/>





Strengthening Connections

**Empowering Indigenous Futures:
Explore, Connect, and Thrive!**

December 8th - 12th, 2025

Thinking about your future? Connect with Indigenous recruiters and advisors from post-secondary institutions across BC at your school!



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



SIMON FRASER
UNIVERSITY



BRITISH COLUMBIA

UVIC



Native
Education
College
Since 1967

Contact your Indigenous Support Worker for more information.

DUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY: Health & Early Learning & Care Dual Credit STARTS January!

Grade 11 or 12 students with an interest in the following areas should connect with ESQ Careers re: Semester 2 Dual Credit Opportunities.

- Early Learning & Care
- Mental Health & Addictions
- Community, Family & Child Studies
- Educational Assistant & Community Support
- Practical Nursing
- Health Care Assistant
- Certified Medical Lab Assistant
- Medical Office Assistant
- Medical Radiography

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

Connect with ESQ Careers for more Information/To apply:

Career Coordinator Tarra: tclarke@sd61.bc.ca | Career Teacher Ms. Martinsen kmartinsen@sd61.bc.ca

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

In-School Mentoring: Connecting High School Students with Young Learners

In-School Mentoring is a program offered through Big Brothers Big Sisters that runs throughout the school year on an ongoing basis:

- Each Volunteer Teen Mentor (14 years old and up) is paired with a child (Kindergarten to Grade 5) at a nearby elementary school.
- Mentors and mentees spend one hour together once per week at the school.
- Activities include connecting and sharing interests, playing games and sports, doing arts and crafts, etc.
- Mentors receive training and support.
- Mentors are provided with activity ideas and supplies for visits.

Connect with ESQ Careers for more Information or to Apply

Career Coordinator Tarra: tclarke@sd61.bc.ca | Career Teacher Ms. Martinsen kmartinsen@sd61.bc.ca

Athletics:

X-Country:

X-Country is entering into the off season, but we will continue running Tuesday and Thursday after school (prepare for cooler weather and rain) and adding strength training sessions in the morning 7:30 am Monday Wednesday and Friday on school days.

Any questions email Sarah Thornber at sthornber@sd61.bc.ca

Go Dockers!



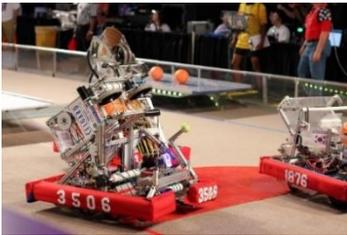
NEW Model United Nations Club!

The Model United Nations Club is a student organization that simulates the real-world work of the United Nations. Members take on the roles of delegates representing different countries, debating global issues, and working together

to find diplomatic solutions. First meeting:

- **When:** Tuesdays
- **Location:** Room 330
- **Time:** lunch

Robotics: Saturday December 13 Esquimalt High will be hosting an official FIRST Technical Challenge Qualifier tournament for robotics teams from Vancouver Island (spectators welcome).



Rotary
Victoria-Saanich

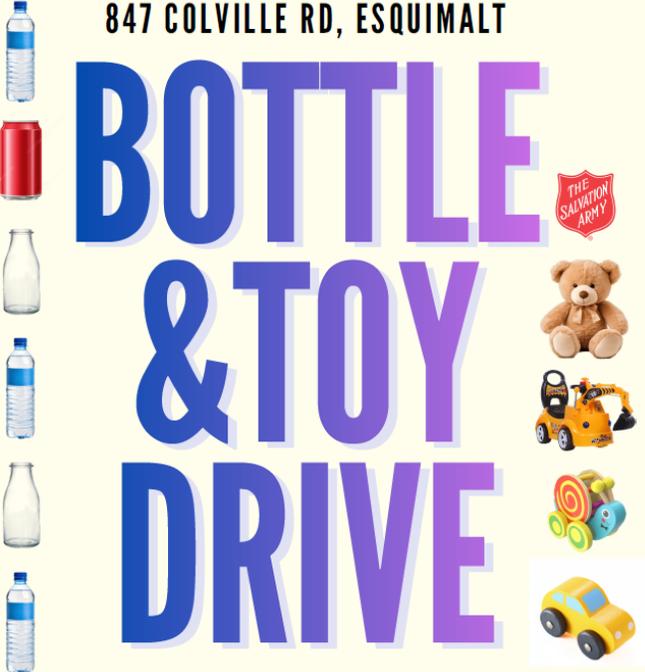
DEC. 6, 2025
10AM - 2PM

NEXT BOTTLE DRIVE
JAN. 10, 2026

847 COLVILLE RD, ESQUIMALT

BOTTLE & TOY DRIVE

PLEASE BRING BOTTLE DONATIONS TO HELP FUND OUR
HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS PROGRAMS
NEW, UNWRAPPED TOYS WILL BE DONATED THROUGH THE SALVATION ARMY





Youth Night

Youth Night will be starting October 2nd from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM every Thursday at the NLC.



Come Join Us!

Mark your calendars! We have a lineup of events planned for everyone. All newcomer immigrant and refugee students in grades 8 - 12 registered in School District 61 are welcome to join us at the NLC (located at Victoria High School).



If you enjoy arts and crafts, games, and other fun activities planned by VIRCS staff and volunteers please contact enable@vircs.bc.ca for any questions.



Youth Night for newcomers at the NLC at Victoria High School on

Thursdays: I am delighted to announce that again this scholastic year VIRCS (Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre) and I are co-hosting a weekly **Youth Night (grades 8 - 12)** for newcomer immigrant and refugee youth at the NLC at Victoria High School. Youth Night will occur on **Thursdays beginning October 2 from 4:00 - 6:00 PM**. See above for a map of the NLC for your reference as well as a poster about the event. Yes, there will be pizza! 🍷 😊

Grade 8 – 12 newcomer immigrant and refugee students

are welcome to register anytime for Youth Night with the QR Code on the poster or at the following email address: enable@vircs.bc.ca

Warmest regards,
Samantha Rubin (she/her)
District Multicultural Liaison Support Worker
Email: srubin@sd61.bc.ca Welcome Centre: (250) 475-4157

bit.ly/esqtutorrequest
SIGN-UP FOR
PEER TUTORING
ALL SUBJECTS: ALL GRADES
bit.ly/esqtutorrequest

PEER TUTORING AT ESQUIMALT!

The Esquimalt High Peer Tutors are looking for students to help! All grades, all subjects! Use the bit.ly to make a request. Mrs Bjornson will connect with you within 1 or 2 days. Feel free to visit Mrs Bjornson in 211a if you have any questions. ✦ Peer tutoring services are FREE!

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.

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 Funding 2025-2026

For those families who require support with costs directly related to school, such as school fees, school supplies, field trips, school sports or school activities, we now have some limited funding available. Please contact Sarah Garr (Principal) at sgarr@sd61.bc.ca if you have any questions and/or would benefit from some support.

Parents' Advisory Council (PAC):

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) welcomes all parents and guardians to their meetings. **The next meeting is Jan. 12 at 6:45 pm.** The PAC is an important part of our school, and we value our partnership with our parents. A student's school experience is enriched when parents, staff and students are working together.

Does Your Student Drive to School?

Student drivers will need to **register** for a parking permit to park on school grounds. Please complete the parking permit application attached in full and return it to the office.



Health and Safety: ESQ School Nurse

We have Youth Health Clinic at Esquimalt High on Tuesdays 1130-2 in the medical room. Students can access the nurse for general questions during breaks.

Services provided outlined below:

- **Contraception (birth control) dispensing**
- **Emergency Contraception dispensing (aka morning after pill)**
- **Referrals for IUDs**
- **Pregnancy testing (discuss options, referrals etc if needed)**
- **Sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment**
- **Urinary tract infection testing and treatment**
- **Immunizations**
- **Naloxone administration training and kits available**
- **Free condoms and lube**
- **Sexual health questions/educations**
- **Support following a sexual assault (either support accessing SA resources or can support myself)**

DROP-IN Youth Clinic

TUESDAYS
11:30AM - 2PM

@ Medical Room

Services include:

- ✓ Contraception (e.g. birth control)
- ✓ Emergency Contraception (e.g. Plan B)
- ✓ STI testing & treatment (sexually transmitted infections)
- ✓ Pregnancy tests
- ✓ Sexual decision making
- ✓ Free condoms & lube
- ✓ Immunizations



Need help NOW?

Scan QR code or visit www.SexAndU.ca

For more resources and other options to get care locally, visit SmartSexResource.com



FREE. Confidential. No judgement. Everyone is welcome.



Cafeteria: The ESQ Café menu offers a hot lunch, salad and a variety of baked goods daily. The Café accepts cash and reloadable Café cards. Café cards can now be loaded through the student’s account on School Cash On-Line.

CAFETERIA ESQ Café Menu – Dec. 1 – Dec. 5

Mon.	Calamari with charred lemon aioli, Greek salad and pita
Tues.	Birria taco, salsa verde, feta cheese, pickle onion Also refried bean tacos
Wed.	Beef dip, horseradish aioli, shaved roast beef, rosemary jus
Thurs.	Crispy chicken bao buns, passionfruit gochujang BBQ, pickle daikon and carrot Also available tofu
Fri.	Chorizo poutine, house cut fries, cheese curd and chorizo country gravy Wild mushroom gravy available for vegetarian

Host an International Student



JOIN VICTORIA'S HOSTING COMMUNITY

Short Term Stays (2 weeks - 3 months) & Long Term Stays (5 months +)
Middle School Students & High School Students

\$1260 per month provided for student support (pro-rated for short term programs)



250-592-6871
homestay@sd61.bc.ca
www.studyinvictoria.com



Parent Connect: How to Check Report Cards online?

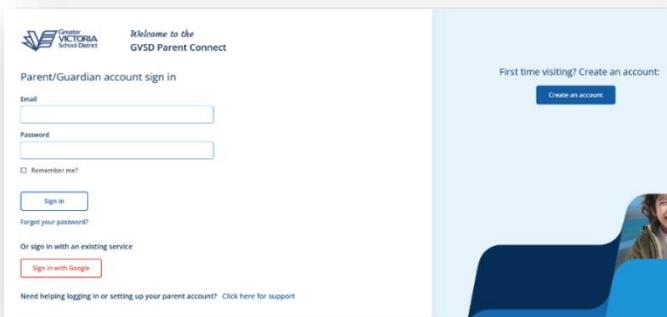
Our Learning Updates (Report Cards) are updated in the [Parent Connect Online System](#). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand.

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.

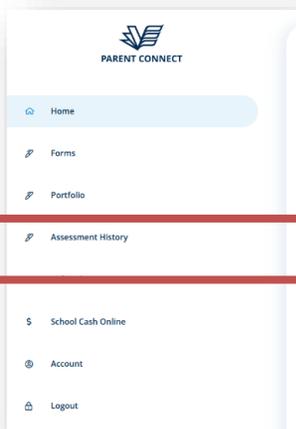
Paper copies will only be available **upon request** in person from the office.

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

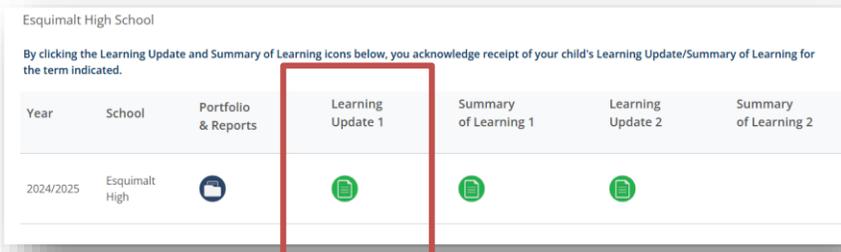
How to access to the Learning updates? Here are the steps



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 1". A PDF file will download.
6. Check your Downloads file. Open the Report Card for your student.



SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



Another epic Beischer pie contest comes to a close! 🕒 🏆

Block A

1st place Koen & Lennon Lemon Pie, 2nd place Jillian & Marley Peanut Butter Chocolate Pie, 3rd place John, Albert & Maria Peach Mango Pie

Block B

1st Place Ralena & Franzi Pumpkin Pie, 2nd place Cruz & Alvin Blueberry Lemon Zest, 3rd place Juliette, Victoria & Ella, Tiramisu Pie

Block D

1st place Shahid & Kat Cool Choco Deluxe Pie, 2nd place Emma & Luisa Leopard Custard Crumble, 3rd place Isaac & Ash Fruity 6/7 Pie

Thank you to all of the bakers and judges!



