



ESQUIMALT PARENT & STUDENT DOCKER

Feb. 16 to Feb. 20

Mon. Feb. 16	Family Day Stat	<i>NO Scheduled Classes</i>
Tues. Feb. 17	Course Planning 2026-27 Assemblies: Students will receive information and rough draft course Planning Sheets	
Wed. Feb. 18	GRAD ASSEMBLY *Note date change* Course Selection 2026-27 Parent Information Evening Q & A BC's Drug Crisis Presentation	During Focus Block 7pm via Microsoft Teams SJ Willis Auditorium 6:30 – 7:30pm
Thurs. Feb. 19	Good Copy Course Selection 2026-27 planning forms will be filled out Winter Dance Food Safe Level 1 Certification	Handed in during B Block Lower Café 8:30 – 3:16
Friday Feb. 20		

Coming Soon

COMING SOON...

MONTH OF FEB	Course Selection 2026-27
FEB. 23RD – 27TH	Grades 10, 11, 12 Student Survey during B Blk
FEB. 24	Fire Drill Block C 12:45 pm
FEB. 24 – MARCH 5	District-Wide Student Password Reset
FEB. 27	Challenge Movie Night with Mt. Douglas ESQ Theatre 6-9:30
MARCH 5	Parent Teacher Meeting
MARCH 7	GRAD Swim – In

2026-27 Esquimalt Course Planning:

What to expect:

Feb. 17: Course Planning Assemblies: Students will receive information and rough draft course planning sheets

Grade 10s during B Block

Grade 11s during C Block

Grade 9s during D Block

FEB. 18: PARENT INFORMATION EVENING 7PM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

FEB. 19: GOOD COPY COURSE PLANNING FORMS WILL BE FILLED OUT AND HANDED IN DURING BLOCK B



Parent Information Session for Grade 10-12 Course Selection on Wed. Feb. 18th **7pm Microsoft Teams**

Counsellors/Admin will hold grade-specific assemblies for students on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 in the Theatre to review the course selection process for the 2026-2027 school year. Students will be given time during to complete course selection forms during B Block on Thursday, February 19, 2026.

In addition, Grade 9-11 families are invited to an online Course Selection Information Session via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at 7pm.

Final copies of Course Selection Forms are due on Thursday, February 19th, 2026 in the Main Office.

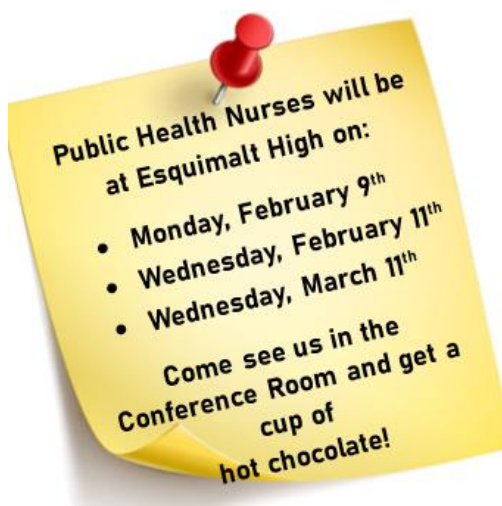
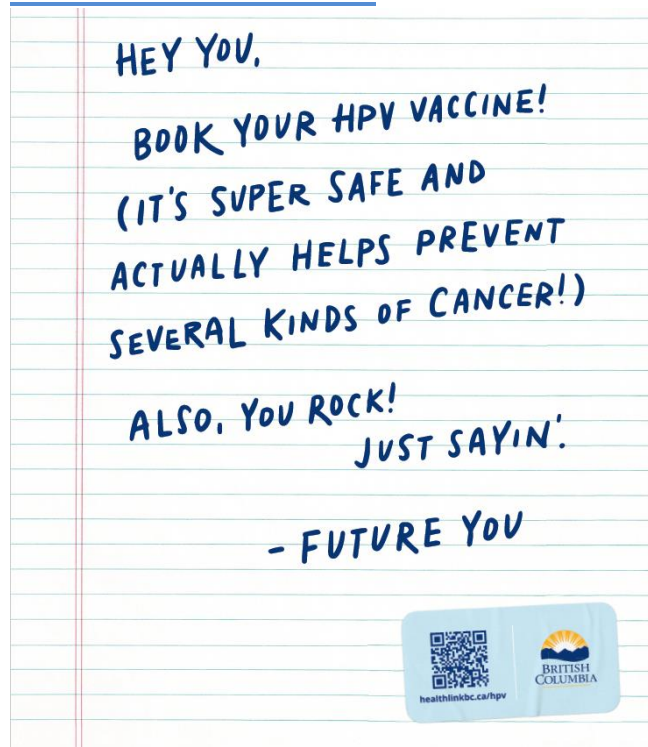
Grade 10-12 **Virtual (Teams) Course Selection Parent Info Session on Wednesday, February 18th at 7pm-8pm

**Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Meeting Link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/21855432444862?p=r06od6h48FqPqjXder>

School Vaccinations



Cancer Prevention

Campaign (including HPV clinic) for Grade 11/12 students. This is also a chance for **all grades of** students who may have **missed** vaccines, or aren't sure which ones they've had, to catch up. Nurses can check your vaccination records online.

It's time for the Student Learning Surveys!

- **Why:** to inform the Ministry of Education student experiences, to improve schools, to support planning and funding and to balance perspectives
- **For whom:** gr 10, 11, 12, teachers, parents, and administrators

Students will write this survey during their Block B class in the week of Feb 23-27th. Parents are encouraged to also complete the survey

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

The more participation we have, the better informed the Ministry of Education is about the current needs in our schools. Please take the time to complete the survey! (20-30 minutes in length).

Parent Connect: How to Check Report Cards online?

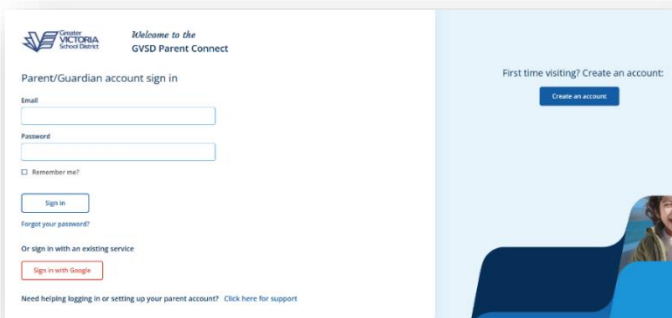
Our Learning Updates (Report Cards) are updated in the [Parent Connect Online System](#). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand.

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.

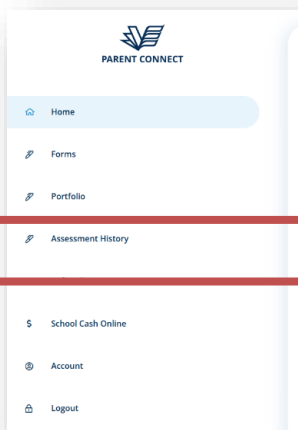
Paper copies will only be available **upon request** in person from the office.

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

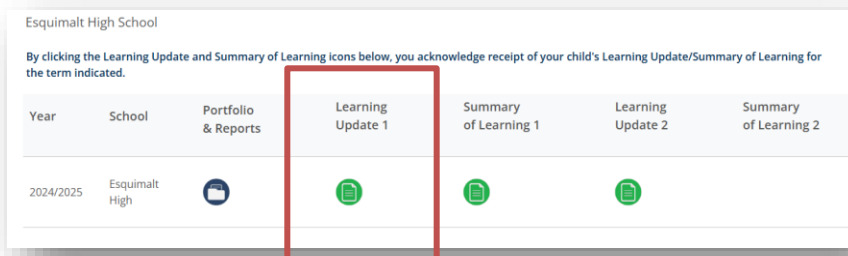
How to access to the Learning updates? Here are the steps



1. Log In to the system with your email and password or with your Google (Gmail) account.
2. If it 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.




Password
Reset
District Wide

FEB. 24 – MARCH 5

DISTRICT-WIDE STUDENT PASSWORD RESET


To better protect student accounts, all schools in the district will be updating student passwords. This is a security update to help keep student account information affirmation.

WHAT TO EXPECT

-  Students will be prompted to create a new password between February 24 and March 5
-  This applies to desktop logins (sd61) and Chromebook / Google accounts (sd61learn).
-  School staff will be on hand to assist any students who need help changing their password.

PASSWORD REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ At least 8 characters
- ✓ At least one uppercase and lowercase letter
- ✓ At least one number
- ✓ At least one special character like ! @ # \$ %
- ✓ No spaces



GRAD 2026

Grad Spirit Week number 2!

We're so happy for all of you!

Teacher Twin Terrific Tuesday Time!



Feb 17

Dress like the 2000's.



Feb 18
(And grad assembly - focus block)

ABB day!
Anything but a backpack.
Feb 19. If you bring one, SHAME!



Soccer parent vs Barbecue enthusiast



Feb 20
Cookie Decorating at lunch!

ATTENTION, 2026 GRADUATES!

THE GREAT GRAD LOCK-IN

AN EPIC OVERNIGHT HURRAH
MARCH 7, 10PM - 6AM

ESQUIMALT REC CENTRE
\$30 - INCLUDES FOOD, DRINKS, ACTIVITIES FOR THE NIGHT

SWIMMING POOL, GAMES, SPORTS, MUSIC, KARAOKE, FOOD
TICKETS ON SALE - FEB 19- FEB 27TH BY THE MAIN OFFICE AT LUNCH

The Great GRAD Lock-In

March 7th 10pm - 6am



STARRY NIGHT SCHOOL **DANCE** **Open to All Grades**

Tickets go on sale at lunch
Feb. 11th until lunch Feb. 19th

No ticket sales at the door

**Guest List in the Office: sign
up for guests by Monday
Feb. 16th**

STARRY NIGHT

RUN BY ESQ LEADERSHIP
CONCESSION RUN BY BIPOC

FEB 19. 6:30 - 9

\$5/TICKET

LIVE DJ



LET'S TALK ABOUT BC'S DRUG CRISIS



Real questions. Real answers. No judgment.

Wonder what's really going on with toxic drugs in BC?
Not sure what's fact and what's just rumors?

VCPAC invites families & teens to come ask your questions and hear from people who work on the front lines.



Use the QR code to submit
your anonymous questions
ahead of time.

With:

- **Dr. Jill Wiwcharuk**
Addiction Medicine Physician
- **Davana Harlow**
Clinical Coordinator, Discovery Youth &
Family Substance Use Services
- **Katy Booth**
Researcher, Canadian Substance Use Research UVIC
- **Shae Perkins**
Harm Reduction Peer Educator, AVI Health &
Community Services
- **Aura Boggs**
Education Team, AVI Health & Community Services

SJ WILLIS AUDITORIUM

Wednesday, February 18th - 6:30pm to 7:30pm

923 Topaz Ave, Victoria, BC

No wrong questions. Just information and support.

BC's Drug Crisis Information Session for Parents & Teens

- Wednesday, February 18th, 6:30pm-7:30pm at SJ Willis Auditorium
- Join experts in the field to ask questions and learn about the current state of BC's toxic drug crisis and things you can do to keep yourself & your friends safe
- Please let us know you're coming here: <https://forms.gle/kgzTUzTZjBtkH3aJA>

VCPAC SAFETY TOWNHALL

FEBRUARY 26, 2026

ON-SITE CHILDMINDING AVAILABLE!
PIZZA & GAMES FOR THE KIDS.


CREATING SAFE & CONNECTED SCHOOLS

- K-12 Safety Framework
- Data and Trauma-Informed Practices
- Shared Responsibility among Partners

COME SHARE YOUR STORIES & ASK QUESTIONS!

SPEAKERS

- **DEB WHITTEN**, SD61 Superintendent
- **SEAN POWELL**, SD61 Associate Superintendent
- **GEOFF JOHNSON**, Former Superintendent
- **CHRIS CLARKE**, GVTA Health and Safety Officer

 **Feb 26, 2026**
6:30-8:30PM

 **ESQUIMALT HIGH**
847 Colville Rd.

FREE TO REGISTER

<https://forms.gle/z3zU9VA64ZAWqz7R8>



VCPAC Safety Town Hall

- Thursday, February 26th, 6:30pm-8:30pm at Esquimalt High
- Onsite childminding with pizza & games available for kids
- Come hear about SD61's safety plan and ask questions directly to the district
- Speakers include Deb Whitten (Superintendent), Sean Powell (Associate Superintendent), Geoff Johnson (Former Superintendent) and Chris Clarke (GVTA Health & Safety Officer)
- Please let us know you're coming here: <https://forms.gle/Khzfkp5ResGUViVUA>



New Edition for Dockside Dispatch:

Here is the latest episode dockside dispatch #12!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5u2fhl992mY>

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/>





ESQUIMALT FIRE & RESCUE

FIREFIGHTER ACADEMY

Spring Break 2026

Hands-On Firefighter Training Grades 10 - 12

Interested in saving lives & helping your community?

Program Details

WHEN: March 16–20, 2026

TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Esquimalt Fire Station

WHO: Grade 10–12 students

(preference to Grades 11 & 12)

SPOTS: ONLY 8 STUDENTS

WHAT YOU WILL DO

- Hands-on training
- Explore Firefighting
- Build Skills
- Work Together

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- Firefighter Gear & SCBA
- Handlines & Hydrants
- Fire Attack & Search
- Auto Extrication Tools
- Rescue Scenarios
- First Aid & CPR



APPLY NOW
LIMITED SPOTS



SCAN TO APPLY
bit.ly/esqfirecamp2026

Questions? Contact ESQ Careers Team:

Tarra Clarke tclarke@sd61.bc.ca | Career Educators: Ange Coutts acoutts@sd61.bc.ca | Kristi Martinsen kmartinsen@sd61.bc.ca

- **Auto Extrication Tools:** Use rescue tools to cut and access vehicles
- **Rescue Scenarios:** Take part in realistic fire and vehicle simulations
- **First Aid & CPR:** Learn lifesaving emergency response skills

Spring Break Firefighter Academy – Esquimalt Fire & Rescue

Hands-On Training – Explore firefighting. Build skills. Work together

The **Esquimalt Firefighter Academy** offers an opportunity for 8 **high school students** to explore the world of **firefighting** while building a sense of **community service**. Through a **week-long program** of **supervised, hands-on training**, participants learn the **fundamentals of firefighting** at the **Esquimalt Fire Station**.

What Students Will Experience

Students engage in **physical and skill-based activities** designed to strengthen **teamwork**, build **confidence**, and increase **safety awareness**. These experiences provide valuable insight into a potential **career in firefighting or emergency services**.

Activities Include:

- **Firefighter Gear & SCBA:** Learn how essential firefighter equipment is used
- **Handlines & Hydrants:** Practice managing firefighting water supply
- **Fire Attack & Search:** Train in fire suppression and rescue techniques

Program Details

When: March 16–20, 2026

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Where: Esquimalt Fire Station | 101–1151 Esquimalt RD

Who: Grade 10–12 students (preference given to Grades 11 & 12)

Please note LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

Interested students Sign Up: bit.ly/esqfirecamp2026

Connect with ESQ Careers for more Information/Application

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

CERTIFICATION OPPORTUNITY

FOOD SAFE LEVEL 1 CERTIFICATION Opportunity

WHEN: Thursday February 19, 2026

TIME: 8:30 – 3:16 ALL DAY

WHERE: Lower Cafeteria

- Students are responsible for checking in with their teachers re: missing work ect.
- **Limited seats are available:** Open to grade 10 -12 students, but priority is reserved for those students in grade 11 & 12.



If interested,
please Sign Up at:
bit.ly/esqfoodsafes2

Dual Credit: Earn Post-Secondary Credit While in High School

With next year's course selection coming up, now is the perfect time to explore Dual Credit opportunities — **Trades and Non-Trade options available!**

Dual credit courses **give students the opportunity to take a** post-secondary course while still in high school. **Students earn** both high school graduation credit and post-secondary credit at the same time, **while experiencing** college-level expectations **taught by post-secondary instructors.**

Why choose Dual Credit?

- **Tuition is fully sponsored by SD61**
- **Credits are often transferable** to other post-secondary institutions
- **Helps reduce the five-course crunch** in your first year after graduation
- **Supports a smoother transition** to post-secondary learning with Highschool Support
- **Strengthens post-secondary applications** by demonstrating readiness for academic rigor

Connect with ESQ Careers to find out if Dual Credit is a good fit for you!

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

Athletics:

Track Season:

Track Season starts **April 1 st.** No Fooling.

Training starts on **Monday Feb 9 th!** Monday and Thursday Weightroom at 7:30 am

Tuesday and Thursday after School Meet in the weightroom at 3:30 pm.

Contact Ms. Thornber in room 301 for more information

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

Girls Soccer Try Outs:

Junior girls tryout on Wednesday or the grass right after school

Senior girls on Friday on the grass immediately after school

Any questions please email Mr. Aris at: baris@sd61.bc.ca

Docker Athletics:

A little **DOCKERS ATHLETICS** update for you as we approach the transition from the Winter Season to Spring Season of play on the BC School Sports calendar. *note: Groundhogs, gophers, and other fossorial beings do not dictate the changing of the seasons.*

Dockers Basketball

- **Jr Boys** - will be competing for the **Div 2 City Championship** on **Monday, Feb 9 @ 4:15 PM at PCS**. The boys will require early dismissal as they will be required to travel to Pacific Christian Secondary by their own means (some may access public transit).
- **Sr Boys** - won their AAA Playoffs "play-in" match last night and advanced to the first round of the **AAA South Island playoffs**. Their next game is **Monday, Feb 9 @ 7:30 PM at Reynolds**.
- **Jr Girls** - wrapped up their season last night after a loss to Stelly's in the second round of the Div 2 playoffs.
- **Sr Girls** wrapped up their season last week.

Spring Sports

- Girls Soccer - Girls, Jr & Sr
 - **** BIG NEWS **** In addition the annual Sr Girls' soccer team we are making preparations for a dedicated JUNIOR Girls' soccer team at Esquimalt.
 - See Brandon Aris for additional information.
- Track & Field - Girls & Boys, Jr & Sr
 - Training starts on Monday Feb 9th
 - Mondays and Thursdays Weightroom at 7:30 am
 - Tuesday and Thursday after School Meet in the weightroom at 3:30 pm.
 - Contact Ms. Thornber in room 301 for more information
- Ultimate - Senior mixed gender
 - See Caterina Williams for more information
- Rugby 7's - Girls & Boys, Jr & Sr
 - Posters are up and around the school
 - Interested Boys meet in the weight room this Friday at lunch.
 - See Moonlight and Thompson for more information
- Golf
 - See Witzke
- Badminton - mixed gender
 - Rak... I'm hoping we can *rally* together for a quick chat about the upcoming season. Nothing too *intense*, just a friendly little *warm-up*. Let's *serve* up a time to meet, get on the same *court*, and make sure we're ready to *smash* it this year.



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. 😊

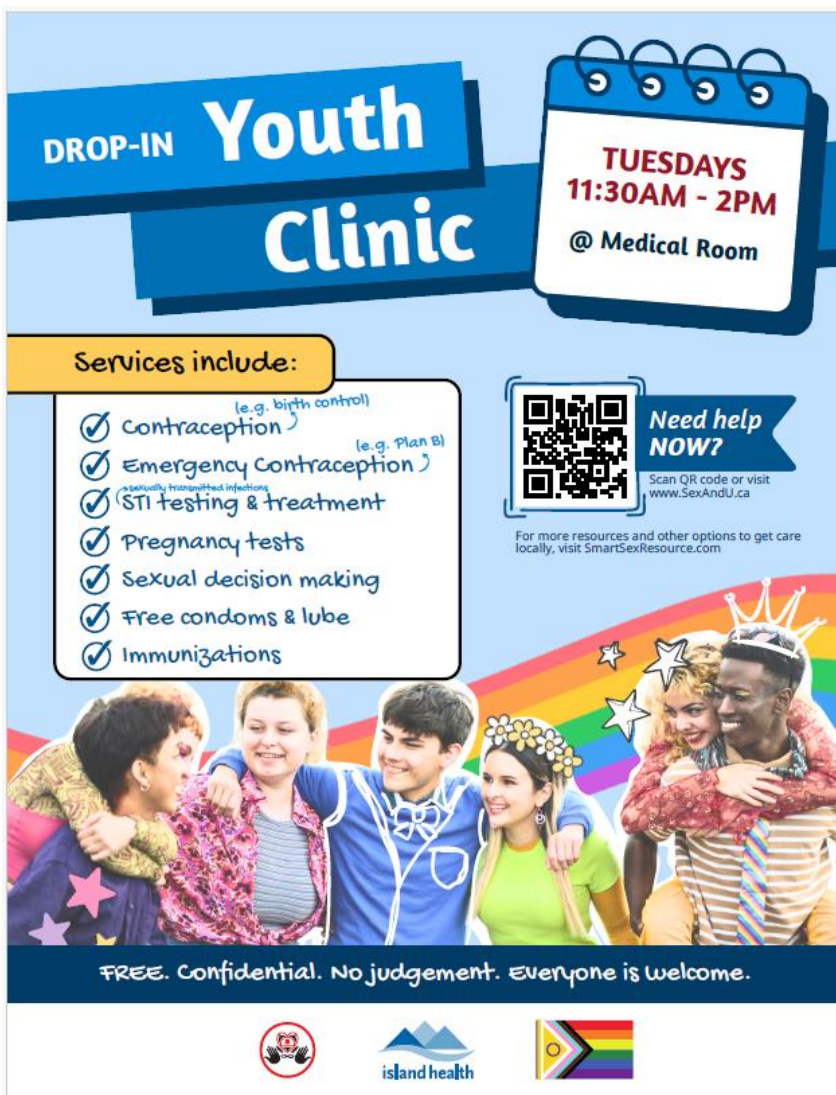
Thank you for helping us take care of one another!

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 Feb. 9 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.



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.

island health

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)

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 – Feb. 16 to 20

Monday	Family Day No Scheduled Classes
Tuesday	Pasta and meatballs
Wednesday	Pork souvlaki, Greek salad, pita, tzatziki also available falafel
Thursday	Nasi Goreng, Indonesian Fried rice, finished with fried egg and crispy onions
Friday	Butter chicken, basmati rice, mango chutney, naan also available Aloo Gobi

I quit for me

Are you thinking about
quitting or cutting down
on vaping or smoking?

*Delivered by QuitNow and developed by Health Canada with
the help of teens, organizations, and researchers.*

Sessions will go over the health risks of nicotine use for your mind and body, proven quit methods, building your quit plan, dealing with stress without vaping or smoking, and staying quit long-term.

Schedule

Begins February 3rd

Tuesdays, 7pm
45-minute Zoom
sessions

Age

13 - 18 years

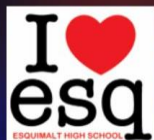
Get a \$10 gift card for
every session attended

REGISTER NOW

Questions? Contact Beth Clark
clark@bclung.ca



quitnow.ca



SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



English First People's Grade 10 Class:

English First People's grade 10 class hosted their little buddies from Vic West this week for a farewell celebration complete with drumming, gift economy exchange, and a game of Werewolf! Thank you Mr. Christie and the grade 5s, we had a blast!



Goodbye Basketball Senior Girls Grade 12s ☹️

Last game of the season for Sr. Girls Basketball, with flowers for our Gr. 12s who will be graduating this year. 🙌 Thank you to our coaches and families for your support!



Boys Basketball:

Convincing playoff wins for both our Sr and Jr Boys Basketball teams! Both squads continue their playoff push next week. Go Dockers! 🏀



SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS

Black History Month



Black History Month, celebrated in February, is a dedicated time to recognize the contributions, achievements, and resilience of Black individuals throughout history, and into the present day. The theme for 2026 is "Honouring Black Brilliance Across Generations from Nation Builders to Tomorrow's Visionaries". Stay tuned for activities and events throughout the

Another successful music retreat at Camp Pringle!

It was awesome!!! What a great group and huge shout out to Ms Allison and Mr Leeson!!!

