



# ESQUIMALT PARENT & STUDENT DOCKER

**April 13 to April 17**

Mon. April 13	<b>PAC Meeting</b>	<b>6:45 All Nations Room</b>
Tues. April 14		
Wed. April 15	<b>Early Dismissal ESQ Charity Concert</b>	<b>2:27 pm 11:20am GYM</b>
Thurs. April 16	<b>Lockdown Drill</b>	<b>12:45pm during C Blk</b>
Friday April 17	<b>Term 3 ends</b>	



### COMING SOON...

<b>APRIL 20</b>	<b>Term 4 Begins</b>
<b>APRIL 24</b>	<b>School Chosen Professional Development</b>
<b>APRIL 24 -26</b>	<b>Musical Theatre Production</b>
<b>APRIL 30</b>	<b>Term 3 Marks Published</b>



## VCPAC Annual General Meeting

**Thursday, April 16, 2026**

7:00-9:00 pm

Reynolds Library and on Google Meet

<https://tel.meet/fvc-doix-uvq>

**All parents are welcome to attend.**

### VCPAC Call for Nominations

VCPAC is accepting **nominations for the VCPAC Board** in accordance with our [revised bylaws](#) (February 2026).

Each **active member PAC** is invited to nominate a parent from their school community to stand for election to the Board at the **VCPAC Annual General Meeting**.

To submit a nomination, please complete the online form at the link below:

👉 **VCPAC Board Nomination Form:**

<https://forms.gle/cprg3vEGdBtvyyaD6>

The form includes eligibility requirements, PAC confirmation, and nominee consent. Advance nominations are encouraged, though nominations may also be accepted from the floor at the AGM in accordance with the bylaws.

Thank you for supporting strong parent representation across SD61. If you have any questions, please contact [nominations@vcpac.ca](mailto:nominations@vcpac.ca).

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Karen Anderson, VCPAC Administrative Assistant on behalf of VCPAC Executive



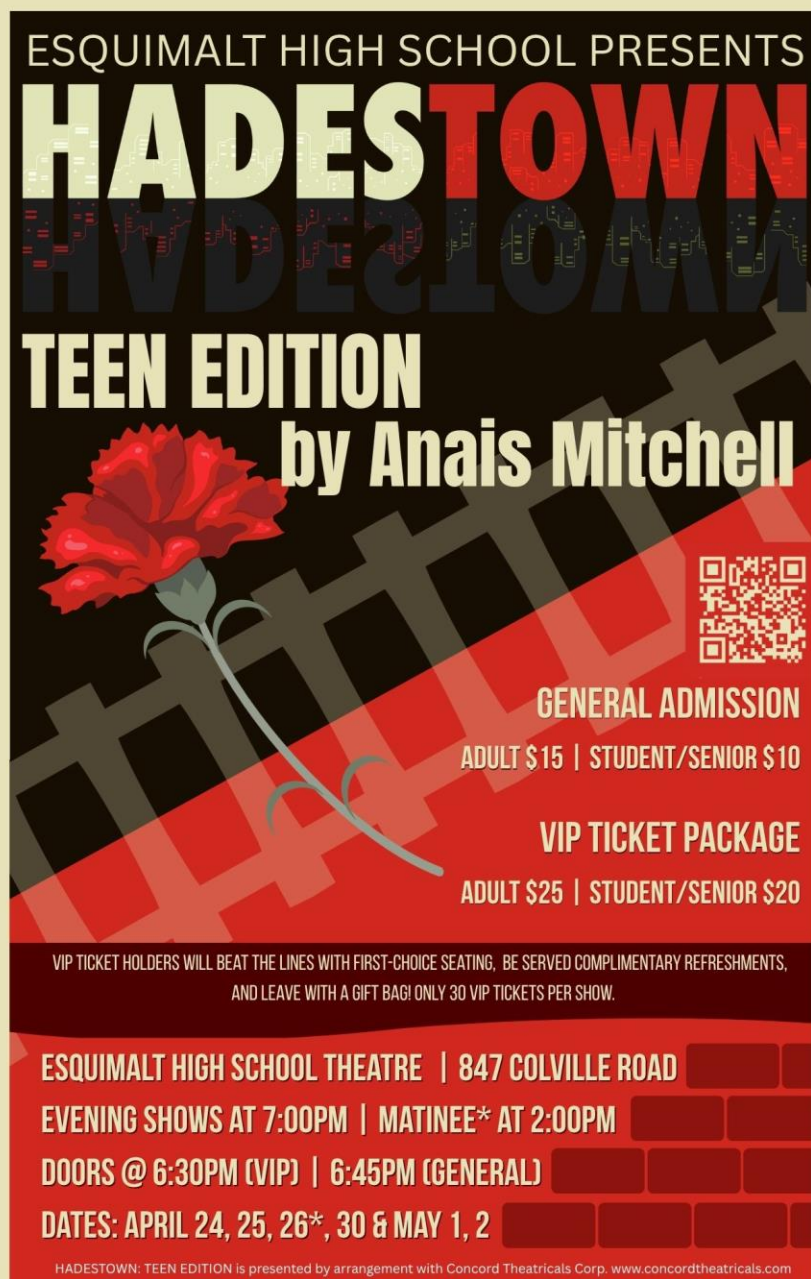
## **ESQUIMALT HIGH MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS:**

We are very excited to invite you to Esquimalt High School's musical production of *Hadestown: Teen Edition!*

Join us in this contemporary re-telling of a Greek tragedy as we follow Orpheus on a journey to the underworld to save his beloved, Eurydice. Steeped in music inspired by New Orleans jazz, this show is full of valuable lessons about power, freedom, and the consequences of losing trust in the ones you love.

Our company of over 60 students and our live band of community members cannot wait to welcome you to our production. Shows will take place at the Esquimalt High School Theatre on April 24, 25, 26, 30, and May 1, 2. Evening shows start at 7:00PM and the April 26th matinee starts at 2:00PM.

Treat yourself to a VIP Ticket Package\*, which includes your very own tote bag filled with show-inspired goodies, complimentary snacks, and first pick of seats! For tickets and more information, please go to <https://cur8.com/21786/project/138770>.



ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS  
**HADESTOWN**  
TEEN EDITION  
by Anais Mitchell

GENERAL ADMISSION  
ADULT \$15 | STUDENT/SENIOR \$10

VIP TICKET PACKAGE  
ADULT \$25 | STUDENT/SENIOR \$20

VIP TICKET HOLDERS WILL BEAT THE LINES WITH FIRST-CHOICE SEATING, BE SERVED COMPLIMENTARY REFRESHMENTS,  
AND LEAVE WITH A GIFT BAG! ONLY 30 VIP TICKETS PER SHOW.

ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE | 847 COLVILLE ROAD  
EVENING SHOWS AT 7:00PM | MATINEE\* AT 2:00PM  
DOORS @ 6:30PM (VIP) | 6:45PM (GENERAL)  
DATES: APRIL 24, 25, 26\*, 30 & MAY 1, 2

HADESTOWN: TEEN EDITION is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Corp. [www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

Please note there is a service fee attached to the online sales. Any refunds or exchanges are done directly through the website. If the cost of the ticket is a barrier, please contact us to arrange tickets.

- Friday, April 24th 7:00PM  
OPENING NIGHT
- Saturday, April 25th 7:00PM
- Sunday, April 26th 2:00PM  
MATINÉE SHOW
- Thursday, April 30th 7:00PM
- Friday, May 1st 7:00PM
- Saturday, May 2nd 7:00PM  
CLOSING NIGHT

\*To fully enjoy the VIP experience we suggest arriving before the doors open at 6:30pm (1:30pm for the matinee).

**Kaehlen Allison** (she/her)  
Music Teacher

**Wednesday  
15<sup>th</sup> April  
11:20am**

**Entry by  
donation**

**Gym**

**Esquimalt Charity  
Concert**

*Brought to you by Social Justice 12*

**All donations goes  
to ourplace**



**ourplace**

Hope and Belonging

**Featured Bands**

**Belladonna  
Endorphins**





# 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"

April 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On **Thursday, April 16th**, at approximately **12:45pm during Block C**, 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



## ATTENTION GRAD FAMILIES:

### **TICKET SALES OPEN TUESDAY APRIL 7th ONLINE**

UVIC TICKET INFORMATION \*\*\* this is a NEW ticket purchasing process!\*\*\*

All students eligible for the Grad ceremony should have now received an email from the UVIC box office

- Tickets will be \$10 each (plus \$1.50 service charge per ticket)
- No more than 4 per family - more MAY be sold closer to the date- we will email families in May regarding this process. PLEASE NOTE: We have had over 70 families express a need for extra tickets so there will be limited availability- stay tuned- we are really hoping we can fit everyone in!
- All Ceremony tickets are processed through the UVic Ticket Centre ONLINE  
[https://purchase.tickets.uvic.ca/Events?attribute\\_Genre=Event](https://purchase.tickets.uvic.ca/Events?attribute_Genre=Event) or in person at UVIC box office
  - Families must create an account with the STUDENT EMAIL (@sd61learn)- PLEASE DO THIS A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO TICKET SALE DATE
  - 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. Accessible seating must be purchased directly via the box office in person or by phone** 250-721-8480 The UVic Ticket Centre is located in the lobby of the Jamie Cassels Centre B Wing, where the Auditorium is located. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 9:30am –4:00pm.
  - TICKET confirmations will be emailed to students' SD61 emails (@[sd61learn.ca](mailto:sd61learn.ca)) and the e-tickets will be released one week prior to event
- Please reach out to a counsellor or administrator if you need financial assistance with the tickets- this will be kept confidential

**E-Tickets will be sent to the student sd61 email.**

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU REQUEST ANY REQUIRED ACCESSIBLE SEATING BY ordering by phone or in person**  
**see above**

**All students accounts have been created. For your first time logging in you will need to reset your password. We HIGHLY recommend you do this before the on-sale date.**

**If using a mobile device, we recommend turning in landscape to see the full menu.**

## **FYI:**

Please note that the Victoria–Esquimalt Replacement Project may affect travel to Esquimalt High School for commuting students and families.

Letter notice link: <https://www.bchydro.com/content/dam/BCHydro/customer-portal/documents/projects/victoria-cable-replacement/victoria-esquimalt-construction-work-letter-2026mar18.pdf>

## **Explore France and Spain Spring Break 2027!**



Mr. Stéphane Patenaude is organizing a 12 day international trip to France and Spain for Spring Break 2027. This is a trip booked though EF Tours and is for any students currently in grades 9-11. If you would like to know more, such as the full itinerary and the price, please click on [THIS LINK](#) for a full description of the trip.

If you have any questions, feel free to email Stéphane Patenaude at [spatenaude@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:spatenaude@sd61.bc.ca) . Thank you!"



**ESQUIMALT ATOM SMASHERS**  
2025 • 2027

# bottle drive

Rotary Club of Victoria-Saanich

## Esquimalt High Robotics Team Going to World Championships

**Help us get there!**

**Drop off 11 April 9AM-3PM**  
**Tillicum Mall** *parking lot near Old Navy*

**OR we pick up!**  
email us from now until April 11  
[esqatomsmashers@gmail.com](mailto:esqatomsmashers@gmail.com)

check out our video!

**The Esquimalt Atom Smashers** are heading to the World Championships in Houston, Texas, and we are looking to have the largest bottle drive at Tillicum Center (by Old Navy on Tillicum Rd) on Saturday, April 11, from 9 am-3 pm. We accept all recyclables. For those who cannot make the drop off, we can pick up at your place anytime between now and the bottle drive - **email** us at [esqatomsmashers@gmail.com](mailto:esqatomsmashers@gmail.com) or **text** at 250.880.1636 to arrange a time to stop by. Thank you for supporting our learning.

# Parent Connect: How to Check Report Cards online?

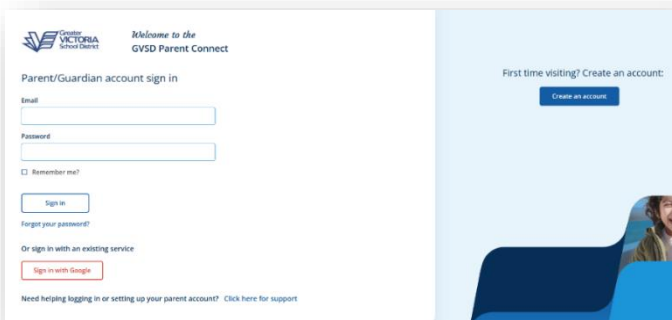
Our Learning Updates (Report Cards) are updated in the [Parent Connect Online System](#). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand.

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.

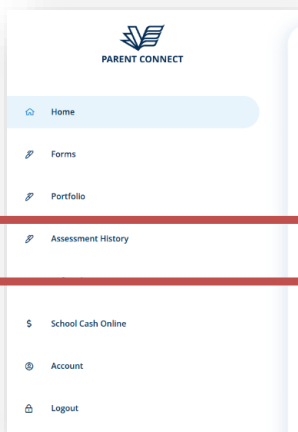
Paper copies will only be available **upon request** in person from the office.

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

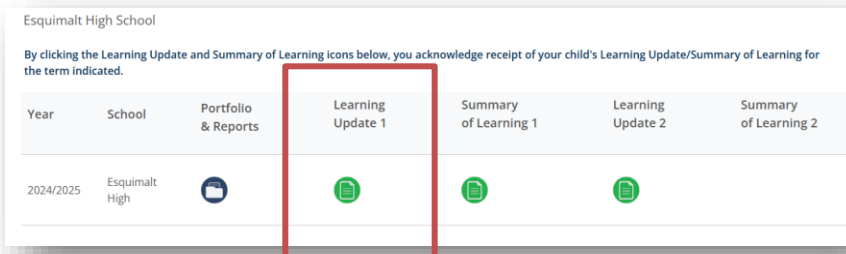
## How to access to the Learning updates? Here are the steps



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.



# Esquimalt High Robotics Team Going to World Championships!



check out  
our video!

Team 7287 won FIRST's most prestigious honour: **The IMPACT Award**  
not by making robots - by *building up and giving to our community*

## Urgent Fundraising Help Needed!



### Help get us there

All programs & travel made possible by sponsors and community donations.  
We receive no government funds  
World Championship expenses (est. \$71,000) far exceed entire annual budget!  
Goal: Raise \$50,000 by April 15, so all team members can attend!

I M P A C T	OVER <b>300,000</b> People introduced to robotics over last 3 years	<b>155 +</b> Students This Year	<b>75+</b> FIRST LEGO LEAGUE Students	<b>60+</b> FIRST TECH CHALLENGE Students	<b>20+</b> FIRST ROBOTICS CHALLENGE Students
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**ACCESS  
CREATES  
OPPORTUNITY**

Our team members provide:  
**FREE** robotics summer camp  
**FREE** primary school Lego robotics coaching to students and teachers  
**FREE** community coding workshops

**INCLUSION  
CREATES  
BELONGING**

tax deductible  
**DONATE**



**SPONSOR**  
brand exposure

Contact: [tokeeffe@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tokeeffe@sd61.bc.ca)    [EsqAtomSmashers@gmail.com](mailto:EsqAtomSmashers@gmail.com)    [EsquimaltAtomSmashers@gmail.com](mailto:EsquimaltAtomSmashers@gmail.com)

### **New Edition for Dockside Dispatch:**

**Here is the latest episode dockside dispatch #15!**

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eaZBIBSpRxDxiLsv\\_LSdgEU17yItVrUy/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eaZBIBSpRxDxiLsv_LSdgEU17yItVrUy/view?usp=sharing)

# 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/>



### **Parents' Advisory Council (PAC):**

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) welcomes all parents and guardians to their meetings. **The next meeting is April 13 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.



## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Step Up Youth Program - Explore Careers In Healthcare**

High school students (ages 14–18) can explore careers in healthcare through the **Step Up Youth Volunteer Program**. Participants gain hands-on experience in hospitals or long-term care homes while practicing Island Health’s **C.A.R.E. values**: Courage, Aspire, Respect, and Empathy.

Volunteers commit to **one 2-hour shift per week from September to April**, helping with activities such as administrative support, social engagement with patients and residents, musical entertainment, and special events. Volunteers can also attend a **monthly guest speaker series** and may be eligible for **Island Health scholarships and bursaries**.

For an application - apply directly on the **Island Health website**

## **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 rigour

### **Ways to Explore Dual Credits**

- **Camosun College:** Take a first-year course or program: TRADES & NON TRADE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

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

Career Coordinator Tarra: [tclarke@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tclarke@sd61.bc.ca) | Career Teacher Ms. Coutts [acoutts@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:acoutts@sd61.bc.ca)

## **Summer Opportunities:**

### **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 Graduation Credits!** -

**APPLICATIONS DUE: April 17th**

### **FASHION DESIGN** with Pacific Design Academy - **NEW PROGRAM!!!**

SUMMER 4 week program in July that provides foundational fashion design knowledge, connections to local companies, & enhance soft skills, gain life experience, & foster industry passion.

**Earn 4 Graduation Credits! - APPLICATIONS DUE: April 17th**

### **Connect with ESQ Careers to apply or for more information:**

Career Coordinator Tarra: [tclarke@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tclarke@sd61.bc.ca) | Career Teacher Ms. Coutts [acoutts@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:acoutts@sd61.bc.ca)

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

On **Thursday, April 23**, ESQ Careers will take students to the SD61 Career Fair at Archie Browning Sports Centre.

The event features 90+ exhibitors from post-secondary and industry sectors, offering

Career insights and networking opportunities.

**Connect with ESQ Careers to apply or for more information:**

### **Details:**

- **Time:** Block C (students will miss class—please check with teachers)
- **Location:** Archie Browning Sports Centre (1151 Esquimalt Rd)
- **Bus departs ESQ:** 12:20 p.m. (front of school) & **Return bus departs:** 1:45pm
- **Who:** Grade 11 & 12 students
- **Transportation:** Due to limited seats on the bus, students who **sign up** and **return permission forms** will have the option to walk to and from.
- **Permission Forms:** Due by **Monday, April 20 at 12:00 p.m.** (submit to office)



**To Sign Up:** [bit.ly/esqcareerfair2026](https://bit.ly/esqcareerfair2026)

If you have any questions or concerns about this event, **please contact ESQ Careers Team:**

**Career Centre Coordinator:** Tarra: [tclarke@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tclarke@sd61.bc.ca) | **Career Teacher:** Ms. Coutts [acoutts@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:acoutts@sd61.bc.ca)

## **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 14th**

**Connect with ESQ Careers to apply or for more information:**

Career Coordinator Tarra: [tclarke@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:tclarke@sd61.bc.ca) | Career Teacher Ms. Coutts [acoutts@sd61.bc.ca](mailto:acoutts@sd61.bc.ca)

## **Athletics:**

### **Track Season:**

Track Season starts **April 1 st**. Weekly meets are starting at Uvic every Wednesday starting at 3:30.

April 1, 8,15,22,29, May 5

We will leave the school by 2:45 on those days.

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](mailto:sthornber@sd61.bc.ca)

## **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](mailto:sgarr@sd61.bc.ca) if you have any questions and/or would benefit from some support.

## **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](http://www.SexAndU.ca)

For more resources and other options to get care locally, visit [SmartSexResource.com](http://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 – April 13 – April 17

<b>Monday</b>	Steak and prawns, grilled sirloin, prawns finished with bearnaise, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans
<b>Tuesday</b>	Jerk chicken taco, pineapple salsa, habanero crema, pickled onions
<b>Wednesday</b>	Roast beef dip, rosemary jus, potato chips
<b>Thursday</b>	Lasagna, beef or veggie served with garlic focaccia
<b>Friday</b>	Bbq pulled pork sandwich on brioche, served with honey jalapeno coleslaw

## 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!



# SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS

## **GIRLS SOCCER PICS:**

Some great action shots of girls' soccer taken by our photography teacher Chris Dahl!





# SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



## Drone Activity at ESQ:

Thank you to [@thestarfishca](#) for bringing their YouthView drone-based workshop to Ms. Alpert's Environmental Science 12 class!

Students were able to use drone and ground-based capture tools to see our local community and better understand how cities are designed for sustainability, and what innovations might be possible to create a more climate-resistant community.

