



ESQUIMALT PARENT & STUDENT DOCKER

April 6 to April 10

Mon. April 6	Easter Monday	<i>No Scheduled Classes</i>
Tues. April 7		
Wed. April 8		
Thurs. April 9	Capstone Check In #2	3:30 – 5pm
Friday April 10		



COMING SOON...

APRIL 13	PAC Meeting 6:45 in All-Nations Room
APRIL 15	Early Dismissal at 2:27 pm
APRIL 16	Lockdown Drill
APRIL 17	Term 3 ends
APRIL 20	Term 4 Begins



CAPSTONE 2026 ✕

CHECK-IN #2

MEETING ▢ ✕

09 April 2026
3:30-5:00pm

- Reflection Assignment ✓
- Connect to Core Competencies
- Bring it to the meeting
- Be prepared to chat about it

Classrooms and appointment times posted on GC and posted in main stairwell. Please be on time.



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 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) 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 . Thank you!"



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



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 to arrange a time to stop by. Thank you for supporting our learning.

Parent Connect: How to Check Report Cards online?

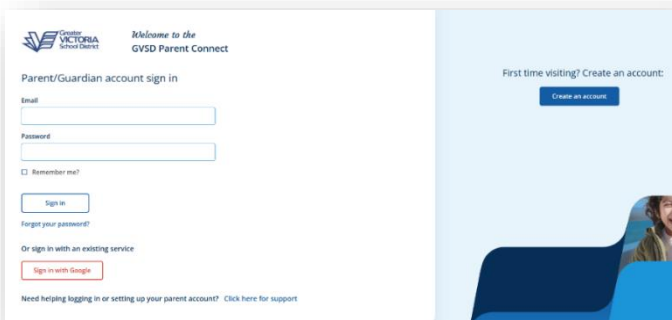
Our Learning Updates (Report Cards) are updated in the [Parent Connect Online System](#). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand.

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.

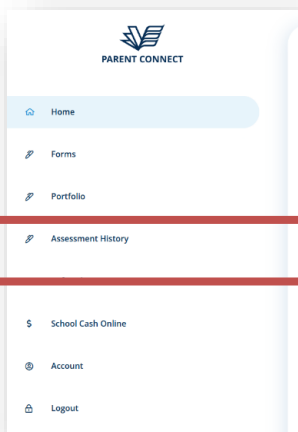
Paper copies will only be available **upon request** in person from the office.

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

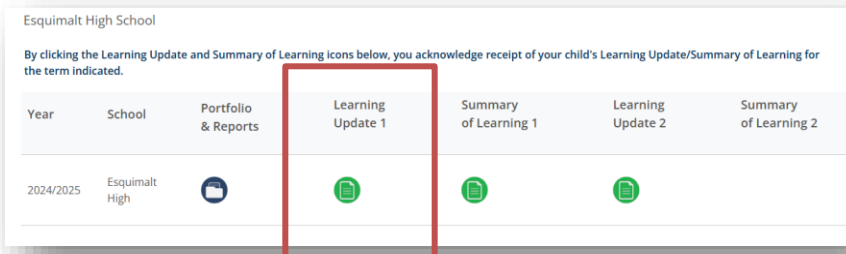
How to access to the Learning updates? Here are the steps



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 300,000 People introduced to robotics over last 3 years	155 + Students This Year	75+ FIRST LEGO LEAGUE Students	60+ FIRST TECH CHALLENGE Students	20+ 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

EsqAtomSmashers@gmail.com

EsquimaltAtomSmashers@gmail.com

New Edition for Dockside Dispatch:

Here is the latest episode dockside dispatch #14!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0mLtXJuiFE&list=PLCGdjG1wUBBL_WnNrsPfUB96OHPiHLI4G&index=1

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**

SPRINGBOARD Opportunity – Future in Justice

Are you interested in a career in law or the justice system? *Future in Justice: Pathways & Partnerships* is a free one-day **workshop and networking event designed for Indigenous and BIPOC self-identifying female students in Grades 11 and 12**. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about careers in the legal field and connect with legal professionals.

The event will take place **April 10, 2026 (9:00 AM – 3:00 PM)** at the **Victoria Courthouse (850 Burdett Ave, Victoria, BC)**. **Applications due by Friday, April 2nd 2026**

Connect with ESQ Careers to apply or for more information:

Career Coordinator Tarra: tclarke@sd61.bc.ca | Career Teacher Ms. Coutts acoutts@sd61.bc.ca

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
- **UVIC USTART:** Pick from over 250 first year courses: **USTART APPLICATIONS DUE: April 07th**

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. Coutts 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 | Career Teacher Ms. Coutts acoutts@sd61.bc.ca

SAVE THE DATE: More info to come ...

Annual SD61 Career Fair | Archie Browning

On **Thursday April 23, 2026** during Block C ESQ Careers will be taking interested students to the annual SD61 Career Fair @ Archie Browning Curling Arena. Over 90 different exhibitors, covering a wide range of post-secondary and industry sectors will be showcasing a variety of careers represented by passionate professionals that are excited to talk with our students about their jobs, how they got there, and what they love about them! Open to grade 11 -12 students. **Limited seats are available.**

Connect with ESQ Careers to apply or for more information:

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

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.

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 – April 6 – April 10

Monday	Easter Monday no scheduled classes
Tuesday	Chicken piccata, herb risotto, grilled asparagus
Wednesday	Chicken focaccia club: House made focaccia, roasted chicken, basil pesto, tomato jam, brie cheese, Red Barn bacon, arugula
Thursday	Ahi tuna poke bowl: togarashi rice, marinated ahi tuna, compressed cucumber and pineapple, avocado, ponzu vinaigrette, gochujang pearls
Friday	Halibut fish and chips, house made tartar

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

EXCITING STUDENT TRIP TO JAPAN:

After years of planning and anticipation 32 students from Esquimalt High School and Spectrum Community School travelled to Japan during Spring Break on an odyssey designed and led by teachers Gerry Budda and Tom Gordon. The group travelled across Japan by bus, bullet train, aerial tram, train and ferry to see most of the major UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Tokyo-Hiroshima corridor (and get some screaming deals on the coolest shoes!)

We stayed in traditional inns in remote mountain villages, walked historic shopping districts, toured a restored samurai castle and the original emperor's palace. We fed holy deer at Todai-ji Temple, and Kasuga Grand Shrine in Japan's first capital city of Nara returning to Kyoto to join thousands of others walking the old streets to the Kiyomizudera Temple high above the city.

Along the way students and chaperones dined in traditional Japanese style in banquet halls, learned how to prepare local dishes, looked down on steaming volcanic craters, crossed the most crowded intersections with thousands in the world's biggest city and enjoyed the comforts of bathing in traditional hot spring baths.

Near the end of our trip in Hiroshima we explored the beautiful Shukkei-en Garden <https://en.japantravel.com/hiroshima/shukkei-en-garden/84> before visiting the Atomic Bomb Dome and Peace Memorial Park and Museum https://hpmmuseum.jp/modules/info/index.php?action=PageView&page_id=158&lang=eng



And on our last day we ferried to the sacred island of Miyajima to visit the Itsukushima Shrine - site of the "floating torii" - over 900 years old and the "quintessential symbol of Japan" <https://www.japan-guide.com/e/e3401.html>

All along we were grateful for the help of our incomparable Japanese tour director, Yoshi Tajima, who shared her stories of growing up in Nagasaki, traditional songs and her love of her family, culture, language and country.

Our whirlwind tour showed us a country on the cutting edge with traditions that span centuries and provided a perspective like no other on our place in the world and ourselves.





SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS

Thank You for Sharing:

Thank you to Leadership students for joining our staff Culture and Climate Committee to share their input and perspectives on how we can continue to create a safe, inclusive and welcoming community at Esquimalt High. Your voices matter and are important to us!

