



ESQUIMALT PARENT & STUDENT DOCKER

Sept. 28th – Oct. 2nd

Mon. Sept. 28		
Tues. Sept. 29	Orange Shirt Day National day for Truth and Reconciliation- Assembly	
Wed. Sept 30	National day for Truth & Reconciliation	No scheduled classes
Thurs. Oct. 1		
Friday Oct. 2	Esq Band Masterclass Evening Victoria Royals Chuck-a-Puck Grad Fundraiser	See info Below

SAVE THE DATE



OCT. 3	Robotics Bottle Drive- Tillicum Mall
OCT. 8	Student Photo Retakes
OCT. 9-12	Robotics Team Event
OCT. 12	Thanksgiving-No Classes
OCT. 19	PAC Meeting
OCT. 21	Parent/Teacher meetings
OCT. 23	Pro-D Day- No Scheduled Classes

Student/Staff Photo Retakes Oct. 8
Students will be called down for missed photos by Grade over the announcements.



Attention:

The **Student Verification Forms** are on Student Connect for you to review!

ATTENTION STUDENTS: PLEASE ENSURE YOU LOCK YOUR VALUABLES UP AND LOCK UP ANY MONEY. DO NOT LEAVE ANY VALUABLES / MONEY IN THE GYM CHANGEROOMS OR THE GYM AREA AS THEY MAY GO MISSING.



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day

On Tuesday, September 29th we will be holding assemblies in recognition of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day, which is observed on Wednesday, September 30th. We encourage all students and staff to wear **orange** to remember the tragic history of residential schools, to honour the children whose lives were taken, to stand with the survivors who carry their truths and to support the families and communities who live with this legacy every day.

Hello Families! Student Photo Information:

Exciting news! Your online gallery from your school photo session is now live!

- Please visit this link to access the gallery: <https://vando.imagequix.com/K9L3W9Z>
- The login code to access your images is on the yellow QR flyer your child was given on photo day. Please check with them.
- Any active email address can be used to login.
- Your order deadline is: October 7 2026 (after the deadline a late fee is applicable)

Missing your login code? No problem!

1. Visit <https://www.mountainwest.ca/support-for-families>
2. Enter the information required.
3. Your code will be emailed within 1 business day.

Catch Up Photo Day:

- Did you miss the first photo day or are needing a retake? Retakes are offered for expression, poor posture, or head tilt; not for personal style changes (ie: change of clothing or hair). Please note all glass glare is removed on final prints.
- If you would like your photo taken, we will be at your school on: October 8 2026

[Click Here](#) to find out more about ordering.

Phone: 1.888.644.4494

Email: help@mountainwest.ca



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!

Cafeteria:

The cafeteria accepts cash and cafeteria card for payment. Cafeteria Cards can be purchased through SchoolCash Online starting September 22, 2026. Cafeteria Cards take 1 full business day to load.

CAFETERIA ESQ Café Menu – Oct. 6 – Oct. 10

Monday	Pulled Chicken Chili or Veg Chili with Cornbread
Tuesday	Fish and Chips, Beer Battered Ling Cod, House cut Fries Coleslaw and <u>tarter</u> sauce
Wednesday	Stat Holiday- No Service
Thursday	beef dip, Shaved roast beef, house onion rings, horseradish aioli, served with rosemary jus, and kale Caesar salad
Friday	pulled pork burrito, house tortilla chips, <u>pico de gallo</u>

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.



FOCUS BLOCK

Wednesdays (1:19 - 2:05) between Block C & D

WHAT IS FOCUS BLOCK ALL ABOUT?

Student Choice

- Time for Students to self-direct, explore and FOCUS on their learning
- An opportunity to catch up on work, get some help, or practice skills
- Students can work independently, in partners or in small groups - it just depends!
- Teachers will not be assigning new work
- All students are required to attend FOCUS BLOCK.
- Staff will take/record **ATTENDANCE** and communicate home absences in the same manner as other scheduled classes
- Instructional time: No clubs, sports, or rehearsals during this time

A FEW THINGS TO NOTE!

- FB has been implemented into the timetable between Block C & D (1:19 - 2:05)
- Will run ALMOST all Wednesdays (*except for ESQ Staff Collaboration days*)
- Staff will be taking attendance: **All students are required to attend Focus Block**
- Attendance will be recorded and communicated home in the same manner as your other scheduled classes

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!



Out of Timetable Blocks:

The student Schedules will show the following Blocks when the classes are before school, at lunch or after school. If the student will be absent, please let us know the block the student will be away during this time.

Attendance Letters for Classes	
Block Letter	Time of Class
A	See Bell Schedule
B	See Bell Schedule
C	See Bell Schedule
D	See Bell Schedule
E	Focus Block
F	Mon Before School
G	Tues Before School
H	Wed Before School
J	Thurs Before School
K	Fri Before School
L	Mon Lunch
M	Tues Lunch
N	Wed Lunch
P	Thurs Lunch
Q	Fri Lunch
R	Mon After School
S	Tues After School
T	Wed After School
U	Thurs After School
V	Fri After School



ESQ 2027 Europe Trip

M Stéphane Patenaude, Mme Claudia Donald and Ms Kyra Kristmanson are organizing a 12 day international trip to France and Spain for Spring Break 2027. This is a trip booked through EF Tours and is for any students currently in grades 10-12. For students in grade 9 this year, we ask that you contact M Stéphane directly at spatenaude@sd61.bc.ca with your inquiry before registering. We have a few spots left, and are looking to prioritize older students for now, but please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested. 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.

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 as well as before/after school.

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)



SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



CAREERS:

ESQ Careers Opportunities:

Canadian Universities Event (CUE) – FULL!

Signed up but haven't returned your permission form?

IMPORTANT: Your seat is NOT YET confirmed

We have more students interested than seats available. Return your signed parent/guardian permission form to the office ASAP.

CUE DETAILS

- **Tuesday, Sept. 29 | Block B**
- **Oak Bay High School**
- **Depart ESQ: 10:10 AM | Return: 11:30 AM**

Permission forms can be found in the office or by emailing Tarra Clarke: tclarke@sd61.bc.ca

Interested in Early Learning & Care?

Grade 11 & 12 students interested in working with children and families can get a head start on post-secondary through Dual Credit!

ELC 170 – Working with Family & Community is a Camosun College course that explores families, child development, diverse perspectives, and how Early Childhood Educators build respectful and supportive partnerships with families.

Course Details:

- Camosun Interurban Campus
- Fridays, 3:00–5:50 PM
- January 8 – mid-April
- Application Deadline: September 30, 2026 ELC170 poster 2026-2027

This is a great opportunity to experience a college course while still in high school and learn more about the Early Learning & Care pathway to becoming an Early Childhood Educator (ECE).

Questions or To apply see ESQ Careers:

- **Tarra tclarke@sd61.bc.ca**
 - **Mr. Henderson khenderson@sd61.bc.ca**
-

Chuck-a-Puck Fundraiser – October 2

Come out and support the Grad Class of 2027 while cheering on the Victoria Royals!

We'll be running our Chuck-a-Puck fundraiser at the Victoria Royals game on Friday,

October 2, when they take on the Swift Current Broncos.

We have discounted tickets available for just \$17, so grab some friends and family and come out for a fun night of hockey while supporting our grads!

Tickets can be purchased from the Main office between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. from September 28–October 2, or you can email Tim at tzemanek@sd61.bc.ca to arrange tickets and pick-up

Every ticket helps us raise money to support Grad 2027 activities and keep costs as reasonable as possible for our students.

Hope to see lots of you at the rink!

Plus the Royals are actually good this year! Lots of future NHLers.

Police Camp

Spring Break

March 13 to 20, 2027

8 day leadership program for students in
Grade 10, 11 or 12

in partnership and hosted at

St Margaret's School



- Leadership development
- Daily physical training
- Day and night police scenario simulations
- Social responsibility and life skills

Applicant interviews will be held
November and December 2026.



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO APPLY TODAY**

Application closing on Friday, October 30th at 3pm.

Presented by

GREATER VICTORIA POLICE
FOUNDATION





MARINE CAREERS 2026 EXPO

Come see your
Careers Team in the
Counselling wing for
more information.

THE LINEUP

ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY • CANADIAN COAST GUARD •
THE CANADIAN MARINE CAREERS FOUNDATION

WITH EXHIBITS FROM

ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA DEFENCE AND MARINE INDUSTRIES • BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST PILOTS LTD. • BC FERRIES • BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY • BRIZO MARINE • CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY • CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE ENGINEERING • CLEAR SEAS • CHANTIER DAVIE CANADA INC. • FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA • FLEET DIVING UNIT (PACIFIC) • HALSEA MARINE • HECATE STRAIT EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY • HORIZON MARITIME • HULLO FERRIES • KOTUG CANADA • PACIFIC PILOTAGE AUTHORITY • SAAM TOWAGE • SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF CANADA • THE CSL GROUP INC. • TRANSPORT CANADA • WESTERN CANADA MARINE RESPONSE CORPORATION • WESTERN MARITIME INSTITUTE



MARINE CAREERS EXPO

OCTOBER 3, 2026

VICTORIA, BC

HMCS MALAHAT

HOSTED BY:

ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY | CANADIAN COAST GUARD
CANADIAN MARINE CAREERS FOUNDATION



Canada

DUAL CREDIT COURSE OPPORTUNITY IN EARLY LEARNING & CARE (ELC) TO BECOME AN ECE

ELC 170 - Working with Family & Community

Students will be introduced to understanding the changing roles of families in our current society. Students study developmental tasks of families, historical and emerging themes with an emphasis on supporting families and establishing respectful, reciprocal partnerships. Students will be introduced to Indigenous world views in order to broaden their thinking about children and their families, including the impact of residential schools and on-going colonization and skills of reconciliation. Families are viewed within a strengths-based perspective and special emphasis is placed on the knowledge, skills, beliefs and values required to work in partnership with diverse families.



CAMOSUN



SOUTH
ISLAND
PARTNERSHIP



Course Delivery Details

@ Interurban Campus

Friday 3 - 5:50pm

Jan 8 - mid April

Classes held over Spring Break

Course Co-requisites:
C+ in Eng 12

Applications Due
September 30, 2026



For More Information Contact ESQ Careers:
Tarra tclarke@sd61.bc.ca or Mr. Henderson khenderson@sd61.bc.ca

Parents' Advisory Council (PAC):

Our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) welcomes all parents and guardians to their meetings. **The next meeting is October 19th 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. Please see below for a quick description of Parents' Advisory Council.

Esquimalt High School PAC Executive, 2026-2027

- **President – Dylan Reeves**
- **Secretary – Kirsten Andersen**
- **Treasurer – Jessica Truswell**
- **Member at large – Yoni Bremner**
- **VCPAC/BCCPAC Rep – Mark Weston**

PARENTS' ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

WHAT IS THE PAC?

The PAC provides a forum for membership to exchange ideas, express concerns, and ask for support in all matters relating to the school.

PARTICIPATE

Executive | Committees | Events

Through the Executive, the PAC advises the board of school trustees, school principal and school staff respecting any matter relating to École Secondaire Esquimalt High School.

Committees may be formed based on need and interest. Examples of committees include Indigenous Relations, Communications, and Alumni.

Opportunities to volunteer exist year-round. Tell us about your special skills and how they can help the school community.

MEETINGS

General Meetings | Annual General Meeting | Special
General meetings are open to all PAC members. Check the school e-newsletter or the PAC Facebook page for dates and times.

Yearly, there is an Annual General Meeting (AGM) wherein a new Executive is named.

Occasionally, a meeting may be called to discuss a topic of special interest to membership. Socials happen, too!

We can't wait to meet you!

DID YOU KNOW?

You must opt-in to be included in PAC correspondence. Send us your email address, or follow us on Facebook to stay informed. Also, keep an eye out for us in the weekly school newsletter.

Make sure your voice is heard.



esquimaltpac@gmail.com



ESQUIMALT.SD61.BC.CA/
PARENT-INFO

**847 COLVILLE RD
VICTORIA, BC V9A 4N9**



PAC 101

CONNECT, LEARN, COLLABORATE

Hosted by VCPAC (Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils)

Whether you are curious about PACs, considering volunteering, or have just joined your PAC executive, this session will help you understand how PACs work, meet other parents across the district, and explore ways to get involved.

Learn about the roles of school PACs and VCPAC, discover the resources available through VCPAC and BCCPAC, and find out how families can contribute in ways that fit their time and interests. Enjoy pizza and light refreshments, then join a friendly round-table discussion to share ideas about what helps families participate, the challenges and opportunities your school faces, and the resources PACs can share.

Experienced PAC members are especially encouraged to attend. Your insights will help shape the round-table conversations, and this is a great opportunity to brainstorm with other schools.

Thursday, October 1st | 5:45 - 8:00 PM

SJ Willis Education Centre

(923 Topaz Ave, Victoria, BC) | Meeting Room A

5:45 PM	PAC 101 presentation
6:15 PM	Pizza and light refreshments
6:45 PM	Round Table Group Discussions
7:45 PM	Next steps & wrap up



Please RSVP with your dietary restrictions here:
<https://forms.gle/kMpoNw4bWzQ24ffYA>

No prior PAC experience is required. All parents and caregivers in the district are welcome.

If you have any questions, please email kendalls@vcpac.ca.



\$20/Dozen



<https://forms.gle/1vuiXsVtyUrvbYJf6>

PAC Fundraiser to support the amazing selection of clubs, sports and programs that Esquimalt High offers to our students. Pick up at school on **Wednesday, October 21st 3:00-6:30PM** during the Fall Parent Teacher Interviews.

Only 250 boxes available! On sale until sold out.

Scan QR code or click link for order form.
Payment by e-transfer to esquimaltpac@gmail.com

OCTOBER 3 2026

ESQUIMALT ROBOTICS

BOTTLE DRIVE

Time: 10AM-2PM

Location: Tillicum Mall,
South-East parking lot

Proceeds being shared
with community robotics
including: Macaulay
Elementary & Shoreline
Middle schools

Text your address to 250-857-1531 for bottle pickup



Student and Family Affordability Funding 2026-2027

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.



Student Costs Information 2025-2026

Textbook Deposit	\$22.00	Onetime deposit required for all <u>new</u> students. Deposit is refundable, upon request, when the student finishes/leaves the school provided there are no outstanding liabilities.
Student Activity Cost	\$27.00	Optional - provides student with photo IDcard and supports special school events.
Grad Cost	\$42.00	Optional - recognition ceremony costs & grad cap/gown rental.
Yearbook	\$53.00	Optional – distributed in June 2025
Locker	\$8.00	Optional – locker includes a lock. Onetime cost for <u>new</u> students.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Payments can be made by credit card through School Cash Online at

<https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/>

Link is also available on the Esquimalt High website. A School Cash Online registration guide is attached.

Payment by cash, cheque, debit, and credit is accepted in the office for those who cannot pay online.

**No student will not be denied the opportunity to participate in educational opportunities due to financial hardship. Please contact the Principal or a Vice-Principal if finances are an issue.*

Fast, safe, and convenient! **Greater Victoria School District** would like you to get started today and register. It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you will begin to receive email notifications of upcoming events and fees involving your child(ren).

NOTE: If you require assistance, select the *GET HELP* option in the top right-hand corner of the screen.

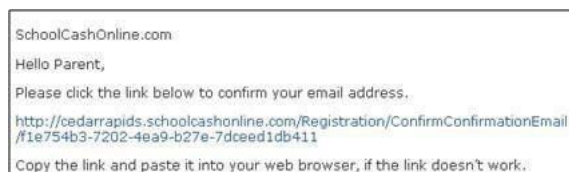
Step 1: Register

- Go to the *School Cash Online* home page
<https://sd61.schoolcashonline.com/>
and select the ***“Get Started Today”*** option.
- Complete each of the three Registration Steps
*For Security Reasons your password, requires **8 characters, one uppercase** letter, one **lowercase** letter and a **number**.



Step 2: Confirmation

- A confirmation email will be forwarded to you.
- Click on the link provided to confirm your email and School Cash Online account
- Sign into account with credentials.



Find Student

School Information

School Board Name: School Board 1575
Looking for a student in a different school board? ☐ ?

School Name: ?

Student Information

Do you have the student number? ☐

Student Number: ?

First Name: *

Last Name: *

Birth Date: *

Date format: mm/dd/yyyy

(No students? [Click here](#))

Step 3: Find Student

Note: Student Number is Not Required

This step will connect your children to your account.

- Enter the School Board Name
- Enter the School Name
- Enter Your Child's Name & Birth Date
- Select ***Continue***
- On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select ***Continue***
- Your child has been added to your account

Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student

If you have more children, select ***“Add Another Student”*** option and repeat the steps above. 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select ***“View Items For Students”*** option. A listing of available items for purchase will be displayed.

Parent Connect: How to Check Report Cards online?

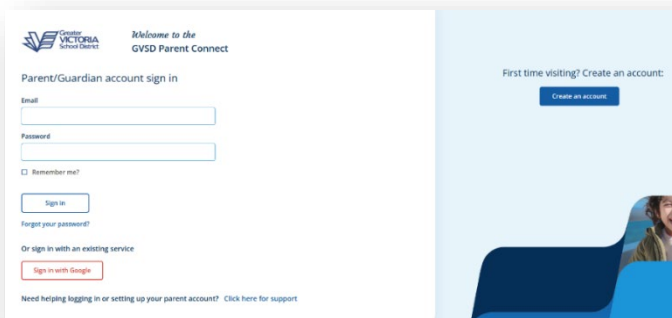
Our Learning Updates (Report Cards) are updated in the [Parent Connect Online System](#). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand.

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.

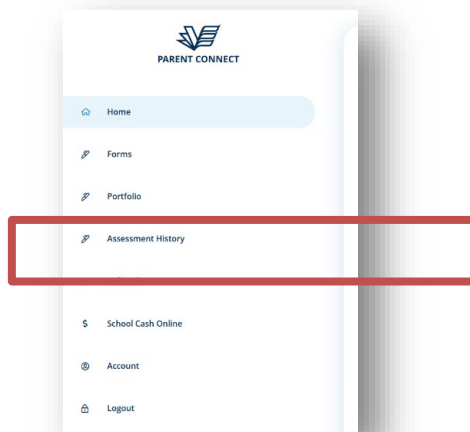
Paper copies will only be available **upon request** in person from the office.

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

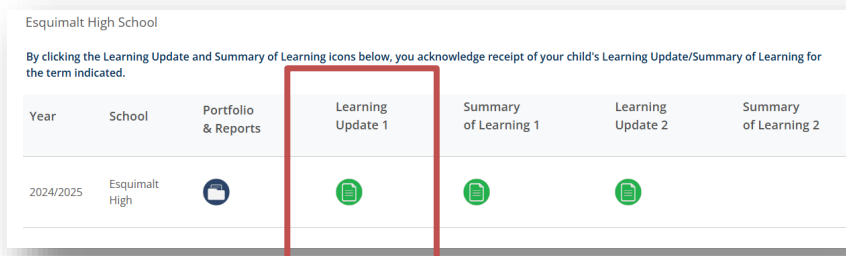
How to access to the Learning updates? Here are the steps



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

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 school community

