



Coyote Connections

WEEK OF: Sept 5 - 8

welcome
- BACK -

Monday – Sept 4	❖ LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
Tuesday – Sept 5 Mini Block Rotations A/B/C/D	❖ WELCOME BACK - 9 am Homeroom – (lists posted in the foyer) Mini Block Rotations – Early dismissal & bus pick-up at 11:50 am 9:00 -Blk A / 10:10 -Blk B / 10:45 -Blk C / 11:20 -Blk D
Wednesday – Sept 6 A/B	❖ Homeroom (A Block) – (attendance & form collections) ❖ Regular day of classes: 9 am – 3:15 pm
Thursday – Sept 7 C/D	❖ Homeroom (A Block) – 15 minute check-in (form collections) ❖ Grade 12 Assembly – 9:20 am (theatre) ❖ AP Inquiry 12 Parent Meeting – 7 pm in the library
Friday – Sept 8 A/B	❖ Homeroom (A Block) – 15 minute check-in (form collections) ❖ Grad Presidential Candidate’s Meeting – Lunch in Rm 129

Sept. 12: Grade Assemblies – Gr. 9-11

Gr. 9 Parent Info Night – 6-7pm (theatre)

Gr. 12 Parent Info Night – 7:15-8pm (theatre)

Sept. 13: **SCHOOL PICTURE DAY** (Retake Day - Oct. 24 (am))

Mandatory Gr. 12 Parent Zoom – 7 pm (Grad Retreat Information)

Meeting Link: <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/66338858857>

Sept. 18: PAC Meeting – 6:30 pm in the Library. All Parents are Welcome!

Sept. 20: Post-Secondary Institute Fair – 9-10:30am (community gym)

Sept. 21: Grad Presidential Speeches & Retreat Day – Group #1, Oyama Ziplines

Sept. 22: Grad Breaky, Presidential Speeches & Retreat - Group #2, Oyama Zipline



LOCKERS!

Gr. 9: Assigned in Math during first week.

Gr. 10-12: Given in homeroom by student request.

**MyEd Password
Resets Email:**

ges@sd23.bc.ca

CESS WELCOMES the following new staff:

To all the returning staff and especially our new staff, welcome to George Elliot for the 2023-2024 school year. We could not be luckier for the caring, dedicated people that serve our school community and Lake Country. Our school vision statement is "Love, Learn, Thrive," and each staff member – CEA, custodian, teacher, support worker, and administrator – know the importance of generosity, creativity and kindness to see every member of our school become their very best. Have a great school year!

CEA's:

Ms. Jen Birchwater

Mr. Tynen Chatten

Ms. Brenda Hansen

Ms. Jessica Mateus-Lyttle

Ms. Denise Mott

Indigenous Advocate:

Ms. Cynthia Livingstone

Teaching:

Ms. Josee Arcand

Ms. Marnie Birkeland

Ms. Michelle Erickson

Ms. Jennifer Hall

Ms. Domenic Johnson

Ms. Amanda Loewen

Ms. Paulina Lwowska

Ms. Brandi Makus

Ms. Lisa Marples

Mr. Tyler Ortwein

Ms. Rhonda Rogers

Ms. Kristine Teichman

Teaching Interns:

Ms. Emily Epp

Mr. Scott Konkin

Ms. Lindsay McGrail

Mr. Gabriel Mu



CESS Vision Statement: Love. Learn. Thrive.





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SEPTEMBER 5-8

IMPORTANT START-UP INFORMATION

STUDENT VERIFICATION SHEETS: Each student will be receiving their individual student data verification sheet in homeroom. It is important that these be reviewed by their parents/guardians and returned to their homeroom teacher as soon as possible. Current information on file is crucial in keeping families updated. Please sign this form even if there are no changes required. We really appreciate your quick attention to this document.

GENERAL FIELD TRIP PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION: Every student is required to have a general field trip permission form on file for each school year. This permission form enables classroom teachers to take their students off site for walks in our community throughout the year (ie: Terry Fox Run, Rail Trail walks, etc.). These forms will be given out in homeroom and we've also included the form [here](#), for those who are able to complete this from home. Please have your child bring these back to their home room class as soon as possible. Thank you!

GESS PAC (Parent Advisory Council) MEETINGS: PAC meetings will be held on Mondays, once a month throughout the school year. **All parents are welcome** and invited to attend these meetings. The first meeting will be held in the GESS library at 6:30 pm – Sept. 18th.

2022-23 GESS PAC Executive:

President: **Craig Stephen**

Vice President: **Jenny DeGelder**

Secretary: **Michelle Boudreau**

Treasurer: **Tanya Leshuk**

Members at Large:

Jodi Cochrane, Jana Gray,

Renee Faulkner

PAC Email: gesspac001@gmail.com

Upcoming PAC Meetings:

- * September 18
- * October 23
- * November 20
- * December 11
- * January 22
- * February 26
- * **NO March Meeting**
- * April 22
- * May 13
- * June 24 - AGM

Student MEDICAL Information

Parents/Guardians: To support our students diagnosed with medical conditions, please fill out the important applicable forms that have been provided on our website under the Medical tab. Please email them to our school email at ges@sd23.bc.ca or bring them into the main office.

Link to these documents: [MEDICAL](#)

- * Medical Alert Planning
- * Medication at School
- * Anaphylactic Student Plan
- * Diabetes Support Plan
- * Seizure Action Plan





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PLEASE VIEW OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT AND IMPORTANT UPDATES! www.ges.sd23.bc.ca

*Keep a sharp eye on the calendar as changes are made quite frequently.

STUDENT FEES: Please pay all student fees online by visiting our website at www.ges.sd23.bc.ca and click on the **School Cash Online** button to register. The student activity/cultural fee is \$30, Yearbook Fee (optional) is \$40 and the Grad Fee is \$125. *Fees will be posted early September.*

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT: The purpose of the George Elliot Code of Conduct is to provide and maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment for all students and their learning. [Code of Conduct](#)

The Central Okanagan Public Schools' Appeal Process

Policy 460 – Appeals states that “A student or a parent of a student who is entitled to an educational program in the Central Okanagan Public Schools may appeal a decision of an employee of the Board of Education which significantly affects the education, health, or safety of the student”. For a complete description of the Appeals Policy along with the recommended steps to follow in attempting to solve a problem, please refer to Policy 460 – Appeals that can be accessed from the Policies link under the Board of Education heading on the Central Okanagan Public Schools homepage at www.sd23.bc.ca.

The Central Okanagan Public Schools' Financial Hardship Clause

Within Board Policy Regulation 425R – Student Fees (www.sd23.bc.ca), the Board of Education has indicated “that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship”. This clause in the Regulations provides for the private and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual students and families, while preserving the dignity of families which may be unable to pay. Please contact the school Principal if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE: The process for report student absences is done through the School Messenger app. <http://www.sd23.bc.ca/Pz>

To learn how to report your child’s absence at GESS and get the app, please visit:

<http://www.sd23.bc.ca/schoolmessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/z>

ACCIDENT INSURANCE:

Central Okanagan Public Schools does not insure expenses for **student injuries** that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance. The Kids Plus Accident Insurance Program that was previously offered to our students was discontinued in 2019. The IA Financial Group now offers the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) which is a voluntary plan that provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses, and critical illness. To apply for the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan or to find out more, visit <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>.





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BUS STUDENTS:



Students must be registered in order to ride the school bus. Please visit the school Transportation website for more information: [SD23 Transportation](http://www.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/transportation/policies/Pages/default.aspx#/). Should you have further questions, please contact the Transportation Department at 250-870-5151. Traveling on a school bus is a privilege which may be suspended or revoked for a student not observing school District regulation 475R, the GESS Code of Conduct, and other procedures established by the Board of Education. (Please visit [http://www.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/transportation/policies/Pages/default.aspx#/=](http://www.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/transportation/policies/Pages/default.aspx#/) to read the regulations)

GRADE 12 INFO:

*Sept. 8 – Any grade 12 students interested in being **PRESIDENT**? You must attend the candidate meeting Sept. 8 at lunch – Room 129

*Sept. 12 – **Grad Council** meetings are every Tuesday morning at 7:30 am in Room 129 (Annex). First Meeting is 7:30 am on Sept. 12th
ALL GRADE 12s WELCOME!

*Sept. 13 – **MANDATORY** Grade 12 Parent Mtg via Zoom at 7:00 pm. Grads, if you want to go on the Zipline Retreat, your parent/guardian **MUST** attend this meeting.

Mtg link: <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/66338858857>

GESS - ABCD Block Rotation

Student timetables continue to show numbers to identify block periods. Below is an example of how to translate your timetable into the ABCD block rotation.

Your timetable printout says:	1-2(1) 1(1) 2(1) = A	3-4(1) 3(1) 4(1) = B	1-2(2) 1(2) 2(2) = C	3-4(2) 3(2) 4(2) = D
Rotation:	A/B	C/D	B/A	D/C
9:00 – 10:20	Period 1 Drawing & Painting	Period 1 Career Life	Period 3 Social Studies	Period 3 Foundations of Math
*8 minute break from 10:20 – 10:28	Period 2 Drawing & Painting	Period 2 Career Life	Period 4 Band	Period 4 Foundations of Math
10:28 – 11:45				
11:45 - 12:30	LUNCH			
12:30 – 1:50	Period 3 Social Studies	Period 3 Foundations of Math	Period 1 Drawing & Painting	Period 1 Career Life
*8 minute break from 1:50 – 1:58	Period 4 Band	Period 4 Foundations of Math	Period 2 Drawing & Painting	Period 2 Career Life
1:58 – 3:15				

Example Schedule:

Description	Room	Teacher	Term	Schedule
SOCIAL STUDIES 10	207	Cormock, Jillian	FY	3(1)
CONCERT BAND 10	107 BAND	Ryga, Sergei	FY	4(1)
YEARBOOK 10	125	Ford, Bennett	FY	5(1)
THEATRE PRODUCTION 10	105 DRAMA	Schwartz, Lee	FY	6(2)
DRAWING & PAINTING 10	132	Hansen, Angela	S1	1-2(1)
CAREER LIFE EDUCATION	211	Warawa, Ashley	S1	1-2(2)
FOUNDATIONS OF MATH AND PRE-CALCULUS 10	130	Ohashi, Tyler	S1	3-4(2)

Term descriptions: FY is Full Year, S1 is Semester 1, S2 is Semester 2
Anything with a block 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9 is outside the timetable

BC Demographic Survey – Closes Sept 29

The Government of B.C. is taking action to address systemic racism in provincial programs and services. This is an important part of their work to make the province more equitable, inclusive and welcoming for everyone. The survey contains demographic questions that will be used to identify and understand systemic racism in government programs and services. You can preview and complete the questionnaire in [multiple languages](#).

This survey was developed and is being delivered in line with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples to define themselves and ownership of their data.

Everyone in B.C. is encouraged to take the [BC Demographic Survey](#) to help address systemic racism and improve public services. As a public service provider, we are [sharing the survey](#) to help make B.C. more equitable and inclusive for everyone. For more information about the survey and other work happening under the Anti-Racism Data Act, please visit: <https://antiracism.gov.bc.ca/>.

The information in this survey is collected under Section 2 of the [Anti-Racism Data Act](#) and Section 26 (a), (c), and (e) of the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#) (FOIPPA). It is collected and kept confidential in accordance with the [Statistics Act](#) and only used for statistical and research purposes. When survey results are published, your responses will be combined with the responses of others so that you cannot be identified.

Questions? [Visit Common Questions about the BC Demographic Survey](#)

