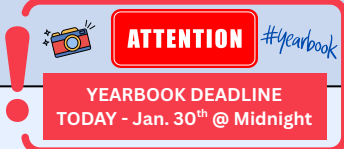




Coyote Connections

WEEK OF: Feb. 2 – 6

Monday – Feb. 2 B/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>metal Monday</i> 	 ATTENTION #yearbook YEARBOOK DEADLINE TODAY - Jan. 30th @ Midnight
Tuesday – Feb. 3 D/C		
Wednesday – Feb. 4 B/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Lounge: ALL SUBJECT academic peer support @ lunch – rm. 136 	
Thursday – Feb. 5 D/C		
Friday – Feb. 6 B/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness Clinic – Public Health Nurse in the am • Pizza \$2/slice • Grade 8 Tour & Course Information in the pm • Report Cards posted to MyEd Portals – End of Day 	

Feb 9 – Gr. 9 & 10 Course Selection Assemblies in the theatre
 Feb 10 – Gr. 11 Course Selection Assembly in the theatre (pm)
 Feb 11 – '26-27 Course Selections open
 – Grade 9-11 Parent Info Night (6-7pm) – theatre
 – Grade 8 Parent Info Night (7:15-8:15pm) – theatre
 Feb 12 – Grad Prom Fundraiser – Silent Online Auction
 Feb 13 – Pro-D Day – **No classes**
 Feb 16 – Family Day – **No School**
 Feb 19 – Gr. 11 – YDI Survey in afternoon
 Feb 20 – Wellness Clinic – Public Health Nurse in the am
 Feb 28 – Parent/Guardian Symposium (COPAC Partnership)
 @ 8 am – 4 pm (Board of Education Learning Centre)



Dear George Elliot Families,

My name is Rob Aviani, and I am very grateful to be joining École George Elliot Secondary School as the new principal.

Over the past few weeks, I've been working closely with Mr. Laird to ensure a smooth and thoughtful transition. I've also had the chance to visit the school several times, and each visit has left me even more impressed. Your children are so welcoming, and they have been eager to share not only what they're learning but also what they love about their school. Our staff are exceptional. Both teachers and support staff demonstrate deep care for students and our community.

I have been able to connect with a few parents through our PAC and have recognized many familiar faces from my time at HMS and DRE. Thank you to everyone who has already reached out with kind words and support.

I look forward to meeting many more families soon. If you would like to connect, please feel free to contact me anytime by email at rob.aviani@sd23.bc.ca or by phone at 250-870-5102.

Our vice principals, Mrs. Hall and Mr. Mayer, have been very helpful during this transition. The school's administrative assistants, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Komant, Mrs. Spannier, Mrs. Boisvert, Ms. Zaufenberger, and Ms. Polson are an amazing team. As we move into the coming weeks, our staff will be busy preparing for graduation and supporting students with next year's course selection.

Thank you for welcoming me to George Elliot.

All the best,
Rob Aviani





Coyote Connections

WEEK OF: Feb. 2 – 6



SCIENCE OLYMPICS

Physics and Biology students engaged in a cross-curricular competency challenge, working in teams to design solutions connected to their course learning. They applied key competencies: questioning and predicting, planning and conducting, analyzing and evaluating, applying and innovating, and communicating. Capping of this challenge, students enjoyed a celebratory final-day demonstration of their solutions.





Coyote Connections

WEEK OF: Feb. 2 – 6

GRAD ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAKE COUNTRY BOTTLE DEPOT FUNDRAISER:
Have refundables? Donate them to the 'GESS GRAD' account at the Lake Country Bottle Depot. There's no need to sort them! Proceeds go towards prom for this year's grad class.

Please visit the [grad website](#) for more details on grad events and general grad information.

GRAD PHOTOS FEBRUARY 12-23

BOOK NOW

VISIT WWW.ARTONA.COM AND CLICK 'BOOK NOW', OR SCAN THE QR CODE.

THERE IS AN INITIAL \$60 FEE THAT CAN BE REFUNDED IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO PURCHASE PHOTOS.

ALL GRADS MUST HAVE THEIR PHOTOS TAKEN FOR THE COMPOSITE.



SKATE LIKE AN OLYMPIAN



Our skaters start in Kelowna then race all over Canada!



FREE Try-It Session Feb. 9th @ 5:45-6:30p
MNP Place Rink #2

All ages and experience levels welcome!!

kelownaspeedskate@gmail.com for registration info



LICENSED SPRING BREAK CAMP

City of Kelowna day camps pack your week with gym games, creative crafts, outdoor adventures, and a splash-filled swim trip to Parkinson Rec Centre. Join our awesome staff for a fast-paced, fun-loaded adventure!

Watson Rd Elementary

Bankhead Elementary

Age 5-12

Registration

Registration must be completed through the Program Manager.
Please contact for more information.

Bankhead: bankheadkelowna@gmail.com

Watson Road: wraspkelowna@gmail.com

Subsidy available!

DAYS OF DANCE CAMP

Let's Move and Groove!

Students dive into Jazz, Ballet, Musical Theatre, Hip Hop, and more while building confidence and learning core movement skills. It's a fun, creative way to express yourself through dance.



LOCATIONS:

- Kinsmen Fieldhouse - Mar 16-20
- Parkinson Recreation Centre - Mar 23-27

REGISTRATION:

- Sign up on our website



Only 42.50

rec.kelowna.ca or 250-469-8800



Do you CARE about kids and climate?

Become a Mentor!

Support local middle + high school students designing real climate solutions in our community.

"Mentoring a grade 11 student as part of the CARE program was one of the most rewarding things I've done. I watched him bring his idea to life while building skills in planning, collaboration, and community outreach. It's inspiring to see young people leading climate action – and to know I played a small part."

Jade Brunt
Community Engagement, Purpl
Board Director, Habitat for Humanity

- 10-30 hours over 3 months (Feb–May)
- Support youth with your diverse experience + passion – from carpentry to caregiving to tech to entrepreneurship to art and beyond
- No teaching experience needed
- Help turn climate anxiety into climate action

CARE is a practical, hands-on student and community education and engagement program delivered in Vernon and Central Okanagan school districts. Students explore and create real-world climate solutions that support local and global climate goals.

To support their learning, CARE matches each student team with a community mentor. THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN!

83% of CARE Mentors felt more positive about our future after volunteering with young people!

LCFD/GESS FIREFIGHTER BOOTCAMP



When: March 16 - 20, 2026

Time: 8am - 4:30pm lunch provided

Cost: \$75

Deadline: Friday, February 27th for Student Applications



September 2026 School Registration Applications begin February 2 @ 7 AM.
For more information, please visit [THIS LINK](#) on the GESS website.

Family Day Fun

at MNP Place

Monday, Feb. 16, 2026
1 - 4 p.m.

Free! Donations are greatly appreciated in support of Central Okanagan Search & Rescue.

Featuring fun and games for the whole family, including a Park & Play bouncy castle, active games, try-it sports scavenger hunt, and free skating! Skate rentals available on site, make sure to bring your own helmet.

Plus win prizes!



CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:

kasey@freshoutlookfoundation.org

climateactionrippleeffect.org

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER

https://bit.ly/CARE_Community



GESS Vision Statement: Love. Learn. Thrive.



Coyote Connections

WEEK OF: Feb. 2 – 6

2026/2027 School Year Calendar

Days in session	189 (3 summer Pro Days August)
Number of days of instruction	182
Number of non-instructional days	7
Schools open	Tuesday, September 8
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Wednesday, September 30
Administrative Implementation Day	Friday, October 9
Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)	Monday, October 12
Early Dismissal #1 (1:30pm), Parent/Teacher Open House	Thursday, October 15
Teacher Professional Day	Friday, October 23
Remembrance Day (schools closed)	Wednesday, November 11
Winter vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, December 21 – Friday, January 1
Statutory holiday (schools closed)	Friday, January 1
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Monday, January 4
Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)	Friday, February 12
Family Day	Monday, February 15
Early Dismissal #2 (1:30pm), Parent/Teacher Open House	Thursday, March 11
Spring vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, March 15 – Thursday, March 25
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Tuesday, March 30
Good Friday (schools closed)	Friday, March 26
Easter Monday (schools closed)	Monday, March 29
Early Dismissal #3 (11:45am), for Grade 12 Capstones	Thursday, May 13
Victoria Day (schools closed)	Monday, May 24
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Wednesday, June 30

2027/2028 School Year Calendar

Days in session	189 (3 summer Pro Days August)
Number of days of instruction	182
Number of non-instructional days	7
Schools open	Tuesday, September 7
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Thursday, September 30
Administrative Implementation Day	Friday, October 8
Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)	Monday, October 11
Early Dismissal #1 (1:30pm), Parent/Teacher Open House	Thursday, October 14
Teacher Professional Day	Friday, October 22
Remembrance Day (schools closed)	Thursday, November 11
Winter vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, December 20 – Monday, January 3
Statutory holiday (schools closed)	Monday, January 3
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Tuesday, January 4
Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)	Friday, February 18
Family Day	Monday, February 21
Early Dismissal #2 (1:30pm), Parent/Teacher Open House	Thursday, March 16
Spring vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, March 20 – Thursday, March 31
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Monday, April 3
Good Friday (schools closed)	Friday, April 14
Easter Monday (schools closed)	Monday, April 17
Early Dismissal #3 (11:45am), for Grade 12 Capstones	Thursday, May 18
Victoria Day (schools closed)	Monday, May 22
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Friday, June 30

