



ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY

Punhwe'num - May 2025 Newsletter

Cowichan Monthly Teaching

Hiiye'yutul tst 'u to' mukw' stem 'i 'u tun' a tumuhw
Everything in nature is a part of our family, we are all relatives

'Uy skweyul Alexander Families,

The next few weeks will continue to be filled with field trips for many classes, please check in with your student(s) to see if they have permission forms that need filling out, so they don't miss out on the special events! If you are missing a copy of a field trip form, feel free to contact the office at 250-748-8148.

Since our last newsletter, the entire school had the opportunity to attend an exciting ArtStarts performance at the school, titled *Magnetic North*. It was a high-energy event that everyone thoroughly enjoyed! Huy tseep q'u to the Alexander PAC for supporting this fantastic event.

On May 21st, students in Grade 4-7 will be competing in our annual Track and Field competition at the Cowichan Sportsplex. Feel free to come out and cheer your students on!

May 30th is going to be an exciting day as we are hosting an Open house followed by our Alexander PAC Fun Fair! Beginning at 1:00pm please join us in the back field for drumming and dancing followed by barbequed hotdogs for families and guests. At 2:30 – 5:00 our PAC hosted Fun Fair begins. There will also be a bouncy obstacle course, face painting and plenty of other games for the whole family. Bring your loonies and twonies and put your name in to win prizes. This year we have over \$2000 in prizes to be won! *Students must be supervised by a parent or guardian.*

It's a wonderful time of the year and we are so fortunate to share it with the amazing learners of Alexander!

Ann Kissinger & Brenda Lee

Alexander PAC News!
YOU'RE INVITED!



Kindergarten Registration 2025-2026

Online registration forms are still open for families to register children born in 2020 for kindergarten. Schools will accept registrations from families living within their catchment area, or for children whose older siblings have an approved out-of-catchment request and will be continuing to attend the school. Any family wishing to register their child in an out-of-catchment school may apply by submitting an out-of-catchment request form available online. Early registration supports both district and school planning! Here is a link to the registration page: <https://sd79.bc.ca/parents-students/kindergarten-registration/>



We are excited to be getting ready to welcome our new and returning students for the 2025-2026 school year! Our school supplies initiative is now underway. For those of you that are new to the school or just need a refresher, here is a little information. We have partnered up with the local office supply company and are organizing a program where students have their school supplies provided to them directly in their classrooms. This promotes equality and ensures each and every child in school will have the supplies they need for the school year.

A fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) will be collected from students to cover the cost of school supplies, which are stored in the classrooms and provided as needed throughout the school year.

Here are some options for making a payment:

- Cash
- Debit
- Credit

Please let us know if you are unable to pay the fee. We will ensure each child gets supplies.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions and would like more information, please email alexanderheadsecretary@sd79.bc.ca.

Spring Grade 6 Immunization Clinic Reminder!

Consent packages for grade 6 students were sent home from the school in the fall.

Public health nurses will be returning to offer grade 6 immunizations in school-based clinics with the consent of a parent/guardian/representative on Human papillomavirus

(HPV) vaccine is recommended in grade 6 as part of the B.C. immunization schedule to prevent 6 types of cancer (cervical, oropharyngeal, anal, vaginal, vulvar, and penile cancers).

The B.C. immunization schedule for grade 6 students is 2 doses 6 months apart. Contact the local Health Unit at if you have any questions.

The Importance of Attendance

As we head into the last couple of months of the 2024-2025 school year, it is never too late to build the habit of good attendance at school.

Did you know...

- Students can still fall behind if they miss just one or two days every few weeks.
- Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves.
- Good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and university.

Dates to Remember

May 30 – Open House and School Fun Fair (**Save the Date!**)

June 26 – Grade 7 Year End Celebration (morning)

June 26 – Last Day of School & 2 hr. Early Dismissal

School Schedule



Supervision Begins at 8:20 Daily

8:20 – Kitchen Opens for Breakfast

8:45 – Classes Begin

11:20-11:43 – Eating Time

11:43-12:28 – Outside Play

2:28 – Dismissal

School Fees



School Fees 2025/2026

The Board of Education reviews fees for schools and academies every school year. The *School Act* section 82 permits a Board to charge a deposit for educational resources. Boards may also charge fees for materials, supplies, equipment and instruments not considered educational resource materials. Schools may charge deposits for materials given to students and provide refunds upon return.

Standard District Fees

- Graduation Fee (basic cost): up to \$75
- Student Activity Fee for Secondary Schools: \$25
Covers the costs of guest speakers, school events and activities, student recognition, student leadership, celebrations, and lockers.

Specialty/Certification Fees

Materials and equipment beyond that which is necessary to meet the required learning outcomes. i.e. woodworking: upgrading from pine to oak for a particular project. Certification fees for courses such as Food Safe and First Aid are charged at a cost recovery basis. Please contact your child's school to confirm fees/upgrade costs.

Specialty Value Added PE Courses

Fees range from \$30 to \$300 per year depending on program expenses:

- Rock Climbing \$100 (Quw'utsun Secondary and Quamichan School)
- Ice Hockey \$300 (Quw'utsun Secondary) \$30 (Lake Cowichan School)

Academies with fees

- Quw'utsun Secondary School Rugby Academy Fee \$6,050 per year for local district students and out of province, and \$15,000 for International students.
- Cowichan Open School Performing Arts Academy Fee \$4,500 per year.
- Frances Kelsey Secondary School Ice Hockey Academy Fee \$1,565 per year.
- Frances Kelsey Secondary School Soccer Academy Fee \$350 per year.
- Frances Kelsey Secondary Equestrian Academy \$3,300 per year.

Academies with no fees

- Frances Kelsey Secondary School Trails Outdoor Academy
- Frances Kelsey Secondary School Fine Arts Academy

Refundable Deposits

Refundable deposits will be collected for educational resource materials such as textbooks, reusable workbooks and novels. Refunds will be issued once students have returned the educational resource materials.

In some secondary schools the refundable textbook deposit is applied to the graduation fee unless otherwise specified by parent(s).

<u>Secondary School</u>	<u>Textbook Deposits</u>
Chemainus Secondary	\$25 (refundable)
Quw'utsun Secondary	\$25 (refundable)
Frances Kelsey Secondary	\$25 (refundable)
Lake Cowichan School	\$25 (refundable)
Quamichan School	\$25 (refundable)
Alternate Ed Programs	N/A
Distributed Learning K-12	\$50 (refundable)

Hardship

Where financial hardship exists that would prevent student participation in a curricular or co-curricular activity, fees will be waived. Fees and deposits will not become a barrier to participation in required activities or programs as per *Admin Procedure 506 – Financial Hardship*.