

2026.04.09 SD8 Weekly Bulletin - Family Edition



Mission - We inspire and support each learner to thrive in a caring learning environment

INFORMATION TO SHARE WITH SCHOOL FAMILIES / PARENTS / GUARDIANS

Food Equity Program

Are you aware of our Food Equity Program? This program ensures students have access to nutritious food every day so they can learn, grow, and thrive with dignity.

[Read more here!](#)

Safer Schools Together: ERASE Family Sessions

Due to high demand, we continue to offer our complimentary FAMILY Sessions on the topics of “Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities” as well as “Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding Against Cyberbullying and Sextortion”. There is one training per month.

You can find the trainings and more information here: [erase Family Sessions](#)

Family Engagement Night:

April 9, 2026 - 6:00 pm - Scholarships: What to Expect During Adjudication

Review for students and families.

[ZOOM LINK](#)

PASSWORD: parent

DPAC Meetings (virtual)

Find meeting dates, agendas, DPAC contacts and more [here!](#)

Next meeting is April 16 from 6:00-8:00 PM PST - hope to see you there!

Attendance

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school - and themselves. You can help your children start building this habit early so they learn that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help your children do well in school, post-secondary, and at work.

Should We Worry About Our Kids Missing a Few Days of School Once in A While?

Well ... yes and no.

We all want the best for our children and teens. We want them to do well in school and graduate with every opportunity for success. To do that, students have to be in school to learn.

People who study the effects of missing school often use the term “chronic absenteeism.” That means missing about 10% of school days in a year - which is about 2 days each month. Students who are not chronically absent are less likely to fall behind in their school work, and they often find it easier to

maintain friendships. Two days per month does not sound like much, but it is almost a month of learning time. So should we worry about our kids missing a few days of school once in a while?

Maybe not ... *if the absences don't happen often.*

- ▶ We all get sick every so often ... and students attending school when they are not feeling well is not good for them or for other people.
- ▶ Sometimes it might be impossible to avoid scheduling an appointment on a school day.
- ▶ *Perfect* attendance is not necessary for students to be successful. But if absences are regular and frequent, we should all be paying attention, because it can impact learning. The good news is that we can work together to help our students get to school regularly.
- ▶ We can talk about the value of education and the importance of attendance, so all students know we expect them to be in school.
- ▶ We can remind each other to track how many days our children and teens are missing.
- ▶ We can help each other get our children to school if something unexpected comes up.
- ▶ We can help celebrate students who are trying hard to make it to school and who are improving their attendance.

Families, community members, and schools can make a difference together. We all have a role to play.

Interior Health
KINDERGARTEN CLINICS
For Children entering Kindergarten Sept 2026

**IS YOUR CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN THE FALL?
IF SO, THEY'RE ELIGIBLE FOR THEIR
KINDERGARTEN IMMUNIZATION BOOSTERS!**

NELSON HEALTH CAMPUS
902 ELEVENTH STREET

DATES:
MON, MAY 25th 9:00 - 4:00
FRI, JUNE 12th 9:00 - 4:00

CALL PUBLIC HEALTH TO BOOK
☎ 250-505-7200
Op 1, ext 1

[SD8 News](#) - catch up on the latest announcements, Board Highlights and news in SD8!

[Superintendent's Report](#) - Read the latest blog from Superintendent Smillie to find out what's being celebrated and what is going on around the district this month!