



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

Message from the Chairperson

Many of you know that our education plan, Pathways to Learning, has resulted in important gains for our students - gains of which we are quite proud. But we have also collected significant evidence of student vulnerability and it will be one of our key goals, over the next few years, to address that. The recent “refresh” process, designed to fine-tune our education plan, is in part designed with this in mind.

Our plan remains essentially the same: instructional strategies designed to build core competencies within our students. This means that learning looks slightly different than it did for many of us when we were students. A different approach makes sense, of course, because it is only by employing new strategies that we can achieve improved results.

The Board of Education is confident that these plans will continue to result in an excellent education for all our students, and in particular in improved connections to learning for our most vulnerable.

- Rick Price, Board Chair

Board of Education

Rick Price, Chairperson
Ian Kent, Vice-Chairperson
Rebecca Barley
Celeste Bickford
Michelle Butler
Cynthia Higgins
Rachael Lythe

rprice@sd48.bc.ca
ikent@sd48.bc.ca
rbarley@sd48.bc.ca
cbickford@sd48.bc.ca
mbutler@sd48.bc.ca
chiggins@sd48.bc.ca
rlythe@sd48.bc.ca

Superintendent of Schools:

Lisa McCullough (604) 892-5228

lmccullough@sd48.bc.ca

Secretary-Treasurer:

Mohammed Azim (604) 892-5228

mazim@sd48.bc.ca

Board of Education Meetings

Regular Board of Education meetings are usually held at 6:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month from September to June. The schedule is posted [here](#).

If you would like to appear as a delegation before the Board, please submit your detailed request two weeks prior to the Board meeting. The 'Application to Appear Before the Board' form is available [here](#). Please contact the School Board office (604) 892-5228 if you require additional information.

StrongStart

StrongStart registration is from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., September 3-6, 2019. Proof of age (birth certificate) is required. This drop-in program, designed for 3 and 4-year-olds, begins the second week of school. Children up to 5 years of age are welcome! StrongStart Centres are located at Valleycliffe Elementary, Squamish Elementary, and Signal Hill Elementary. Children must attend with a parent or caregiver. This program is free.

Kindergarten

Children eligible for September 2019 registration for Kindergarten must have their **5th birthday on or before December 31st, 2019. A Birth Certificate is required for registration.** For most elementary schools, regular kindergarten classes do not start until the second week of school. Please contact your catchment area school for more details. Contact information for all schools can be found on our [School District website](#).



French Immersion

In Squamish, Early French Immersion for Kindergarten/Grade 1 entry is being offered as a Program of Choice at Garibaldi Highlands and Squamish Elementary Schools. Late French Immersion (Grade 5 entry) is available at Spring Creek Community School in Whistler and Signal Hill Elementary School in Pemberton.

New Student Registrations

Only students new to the school district this year need to register. Registration for new students will commence on August 26th and stay open until August 29th at 4:00 p.m. Boundaries are designated for each school. Students may be permitted to attend a school other than their catchment area school, however they must first register in their catchment area school, and then apply for a transfer. Registration forms and applications for transfer are available at the School Board office, schools, and on our [School District website](#). Completed registration forms are to be submitted directly to the catchment school.

School Calendars

The School District has adopted school calendars for 2019-2020, which include a two-week spring break. The complete list of non-instructional days for each school is available on the [School District website](#), by

contacting the individual schools, and the School Board Office at (604) 892-5228.

Bussing

The Sea to Sky School District wishes to provide students with a safe, effective, and efficient transportation system to and from school, for students under certain circumstances. School bus transportation is provided for:

- Kindergarten to Grade 3 students living more than 3.2 km from the nearest school, and;
- Grade 4 to 12 students living more than 4.0 km from the school in their catchment area.
- Exceptions to the above may be made upon application to the Board, where hazardous conditions exist.

Please click on the link below to find the appropriate bus route in your area. Hard copies will also be available at the school board office, schools, and the Pemberton bus garage.

[Squamish Area Bus Routes 2019-2020](#)

[Whistler Area Bus Routes 2019-2020](#)

[Pemberton Area Bus Routes 2019-2020](#)

There may be changes to routes due to the location of students. Any adjustments will be made in September when final numbers are available, and will be posted at that time and distributed to the schools.

Valleycliffe Student Bussing to Howe Sound Secondary School

Students in grades 10 to 12, living in the Valleycliffe neighbourhoods of Ravens Plateau, Crumpet Woods, and Valleycliffe Plateau, are eligible to ride the school bus to and from Howe Sound Secondary, with a valid school bus pass. Students at Howe Sound Secondary School who qualify to ride the Valleycliffe bus will have a special identification number appear on their Student ID card that will be issued after school photos are taken in September. Once issued, students must carry and show their Student Photo ID card to the bus driver in order to be admitted onto the bus. Until the passes have been issued, drivers will have a list of students who qualify to ride the bus, and will be asking students to provide their name upon boarding.

Transportation Assistance for Students with Special Needs

In circumstances where students with special needs live outside of the walk limits, and in the opinion of the Director of Instruction: Learning Services, are unable to ride the school bus, a transportation assistance allowance may be provided to the parents. Parents of students with special needs requesting transportation assistance for their child must make an annual application to the Director of Instruction: Learning Services, by September 30th each year.

Student Conduct on School Buses

Students must follow the Regulations for Conduct on School Buses as specified in [Policy 701 Transportation of Students](#) and the accompanying [Regulation](#).

School Bus Safety Reminder



Yellow flashing lights mean CAUTION, get ready to stop.
Red flashing lights mean STOP.

Please **do not** pass the school bus in either direction when the **red lights** are flashing, as children could be running to get on or off the bus. Children's lives depend on you stopping! If you witness anyone not abiding by these rules, please call the RCMP with a description of the vehicle and license plate number.

Homestay Hosts Needed in Whistler & Pemberton!

We are looking for families who are interested in opening their homes to an international student. Receive **\$1,500 (Whistler)** or **\$1,200 (Pemberton)** per month/student and enjoy a unique cultural experience while sharing the beauty of our region! Commit to four months, a full school year, or longer. We will work with you to find the right fit for your family.

[Click here](#) to learn more about becoming a host family or contact our Homestay Coordinator, Steve McCullough at smccullough@sd48.bc.ca

Homestay Referral Bonus!

If you know someone else in the Whistler area who may be interested in hosting an international student, refer them to us and you could receive \$500!



First Day of School Information for School District No. 48

Kindergarten students usually start the second week of school. Please contact the school if you have not already received confirmation of start date and time, or check out your school's website for Kindergarten entry details. [Click here for links to all our school websites.](#) **Grades 1 to 12** students' first day of school is September 3rd, 2019.

School	Phone	Open For Registration	Principal Vice-Principal	Start/End Times for Grades 1-12 (unless otherwise noted) Tuesday, September 3rd
Blackwater Creek Elem. Gr K-4	(604) 452-3330	Aug. 26, 2019	Roberta Kubik, Acting Principal Linda McLagan, VP	8:30 to 10:00 a.m.
Brackendale Elementary	(604) 898-3651	Aug. 26, 2019	Karen Saengar, Principal	8:50 to 10:00 a.m.
Don Ross Middle School, Gr 7-9	(604) 898-3671	Aug. 26, 2019	Cory Hartling, Principal Jenelle Kresak, VP Shaun Jakob, VP	Grades 8-9 , 8:25 to 11:15 a.m. Grade 7 , 10:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Ecole Garibaldi Highlands Elementary	(604) 898-3688	Aug. 26, 2019	Erin Boisvert, Principal Danielle Verge, VP	8:55 to 10:00 a.m.
Howe Sound Secondary Gr 10-12	(604) 892-5261	Aug. 26, 2019	Nick Pascuzzi, Principal Antony Blaikie, VP	Grade 10 students 8:58 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Grade 11 and 12 students 11:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.
Mamquam Elementary	(604) 898-3601	Aug. 26, 2019	Ryan Massey, Principal	8:48 to 10:00 a.m.
Myrtle Philip Community School	(604) 932-5321	Aug. 26, 2019	Jeff Maynard, Principal	Grade 1-7 students 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Kindergarten – 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Pemberton Secondary	(604) 894-6318	Aug. 26, 2019	Krista Brynjolfson, Principal Brienne Aldcroft, VP	8:40 to 10:20 a.m.
Sea to Sky Online School	(604) 892-5904	Aug. 26, 2019	Nolan Cox, Principal	Same as the schools they reside in (HSS, WSS and PSS)
Sea to Sky Alternative School	(604) 892-5904	Aug. 26, 2019	Nick Pascuzzi, Principal Keith Gallant, VP	Drop In 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Signal Hill Elementary	(604) 894-6378	Aug. 26, 2019	Roberta Kubik, Principal Alysa Patching, VP Mario Tenisci, VP	8:45 to 10:10 a.m.
Spring Creek Community School	(604) 935-3822	Aug. 26, 2019	Stuart Bent, Principal Karen Larochelle, VP	8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Squamish Elementary	(604) 892-9307	Aug. 26, 2019	JiAi Cho, Principal Barb Busalacchi, VP	8:55 to 10:00 a.m.
Stawamus School Programs of Choice Cultural Journeys & Learning Expeditions	(604) 892-5904	Aug. 26, 2019	Brayden Gordon, Principal Keith Gallant, VP	9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Valleycliffe Elementary	(604) 892-9394	Aug. 26, 2019	Sarah Hain, Principal	8:49 to 10:00 a.m.
Whistler Secondary	(604) 905-2581	Aug. 26, 2019	Robin Kirk, Principal Diane Hart, VP	Grades 9 – 12 , 8:42 to 10:20 a.m. Grade 8 , 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.