

Mr. Mike Safek, Principal

Mrs. Shannon Miller, Vice-Principal

Semester 2 Begins Monday, February 3

Please be aware that the first day of Semester Two is Monday, February 3. Please ensure your child attends the first day of Semester Two as it will be a full day of classes.

Satisfaction Surveys

The Provincial Satisfaction Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents, teachers and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. This month the Satisfaction Survey will be administered to students in grades 10 and 12, their parents, and all school staff. We encourage parents to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus for improvement. The survey contains standard questions for the Province. This year, the survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the internet at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm. Any computer with an internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. All that is required is a logon number which will be provided in a letter with the report card. Provincial, district and school reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site, without a logon number. The e-survey site will be open until April 30, 2014.

Report Cards

*Semester 1 final report cards will be mailed home the week of **February 10, 2014**.* If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress, or feel you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Grade 9 Parent Night

On **Thursday, February 22**, OSS is hosting a Grade 9 Parent Night. The purpose of the evening is to give parents an overview of the grade 10 - 12 school years. These are the years that count towards graduation and the choices students make can greatly affect their options in the future. We will be discussing Grad Requirements, Scholarships, Academic interventions, Secondary School Apprenticeship and Work Experience as well as Math Pathway options. We hope all parents of grade 9 students come to this informative evening. The meeting will begin at 6:00 pm in the Theatre.

How to Contact Us

5800-115 Street
Osoyoos, BC
V0H 1V4

Phone: 250.485.4433

Fax: 250.495.2669

Web: osoyoossecondary.ca

OSS Pac Meeting

A reminder that the February PAC Meeting takes place on **Monday, February 24, 2013, at 6:00 pm** in the OSS Library. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Hot Lunch/Salad Bar

The Hot Lunch/Salad Bar program is on hold until we have secured a new caterer. Troy Bratton, who has been providing OSS with hot, nutritious lunches for the past two and a half years, will be leaving Osoyoos. We would like to thank Troy for his service.

Passport to Education — Procedures and Decisions

The Passport to Education Program recognizes and rewards student achievement in Grades 10 to 12 in a broad range of academic and non-academic areas according to guidelines set out by the Ministry of Education. The intent of the program is to motivate all students to study consistently during the years leading to graduation, and to encourage secondary school students to pursue further education through post-secondary institutions and job-training programs. Passport awards are used to assist students with tuition towards their post-secondary education and/or job training programs.

General Criteria

For Grade 10 and 11 stamps (each worth \$250):

1. Two-thirds of the weighting must be on the academic component - on a student's course grades - the best five provincially authorized courses and/or BAA (Board/Authority authorized) courses, (locally developed courses should not be included). We take the best mark (school mark, or combined school and provincial). Work experience, withdrawn, adapted/modified are not included.
2. One-third of the weighting should recognize the non academic components such as effort, work habits, citizenship and school/community involvement.
3. A student does not have to graduate to earn a Grade 10 and/or Grade 11 stamp.

For Grade 12 stamp (worth \$500):

1. Two-thirds of the weighting must be on the academic component – on a student's course grades – the best five provincially authorized courses and/or BAA (Board/Authority authorized) courses, (locally developed courses should not be included). We take the best mark (school mark, or combined school and provincial). Work experience, withdrawn, adapted/modified are not included.
2. One-third of the weighting should be based on a student's Graduation Transition Standards, also recognizing effort, work habits, citizenship and school/community involvement.
3. A student must be a graduate to receive the Grade 12 stamp.

Okanagan Similkameen Board of Education

Please join us in the official opening of Southern Okanagan Secondary School. Tours and open house will follow the official opening.



February 6, 2014
1:30 pm
SOSS Gymnasium



Learning Forum: Social Emotional Learning — A School Community Approach

Parents, students and community members are invited to join us at our February learning forum to hear how Okanagan Falls Elementary School is providing students with the skills and connections they need to be successful learners. Come out and see how their total school approach to social emotional learning is making a difference.

February 12, 2014 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at
Okanagan Falls Elementary School
1141 Cedar Street, Okanagan Falls



News for our Grads....

Grade 12 Graduation Ceremony and Requirements

This year's Grad Ceremony is on Thursday, June 26 at 6:00 pm. For students to participate in the Grad Ceremony and the Dry Grad trip, they must:

- Be on track to complete the required Graduation Program courses.
- Be on track to have earned the required number of credits (minimum of 80).
- Have successfully completed the Graduation Transitions program requirements by May 2.
- By mid-May, have a strong enough academic standing in semester 2 classes, to reasonably expect that the student will successfully complete their required courses and credits.

At the conclusion of this semester and once final grades are in, we will contact parents of students who are not on-line to graduate to review options for Semester 2 and graduation. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Miller or Mr. Safek at 250-485-4433. In Semester 2 we will review grad students' progress in late April with the intent of helping students remain successful and on-line to graduate.

- Week of April 28 — Review Semester 2, Report 1 marks
- Week of May 3—9 — to ensure their Grad Transitions requirements are complete

After these dates we will monitor students' progress and do our best to help students be successful. Please call us if you have any questions.

Planning for next year...

Mrs. Miller has now met with all Grade 12 students. Meetings included discussions about next year's plans, semester two course selection, and scholarships and bursaries. It is our hope that students are feeling they are on track and prepared as they enter their last semester of high school. If students or parents have any questions, please contact Mrs. Miller at any time or you can go to our website at osoyoossecondary.ca/grads for links to helpful information.

Financial Aid

For information on student loans, go to StudentAid BC website at: <http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentaidbc>. BC Scholarship and Bursary info can be found on our Facebook page which can be accessed from our website under the scholarship and bursary tab. Students can also go to: <http://www.bcscholarships.ca/> for more information.

2014 Scholarships and Bursaries

We are anticipating a great selection of scholarships and bursaries to be available to students for our 2014 Graduation Ceremony on Thursday, June 26, 2014, at 6:00 pm. A meeting for Grade 12 students (graduates) will be held **February 25 during C block at 10:05 am** to review the application process for the various awards. To ensure sufficient time for the selection process, completed applications must be received in the school office by **Friday, March 14, 2014**. Students will be considered for awards only if the required application forms/letters are submitted. Information and application procedures can be found on the school website after the February meeting.

Grad Photos

Graduation photos are scheduled from ***Wednesday, February 26 until Friday, February 28***. Come to the office to book your photo time.

To Do List for the Grads..

- Ballot #2 is due right after sweatshirts arrive
- Nomination for **Class Valedictorian**
- Nomination of a **Speaker for the Ceremony**
- Nominations for **Grad Songs (in and out of ceremony)**

Graduation Transitions

Graduation Transitions is a graduation requirement. All grads have received a paper and e-copy, and should be at least 50% complete by now. We have had monthly Grad Transitions help sessions as well to support students in their Grad Transitions work. The next help session is on Monday, February 17 at 3:00 pm in our library.

Grade Assemblies

We will be holding grade assemblies over the next few weeks to review, as per School Act requirements, our Code of Conduct and SD53 Policy and expectations for student behavior. Attached with this newsletter is our Code of Conduct and the District Policy for student behavior. Please take time to review each. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Safek or Mrs. Miller at 250-485-4433.

Trades and Work Experience Programs

Our district has worked hard over the past several years to expand learning opportunities for students wanting to pursue a career in the trades. Mr. Rod Kitt has done much of the “heavy lifting” in our district to broaden the scope of what is available to our students in preparing for a career in trades. Currently available to students wanting to pursue a career in trades are the following:

- Work Experience
- Second School Apprenticeship Program
- Ace-It Program
- Gateway to the Trades Program

Each program is unique and provides different features and benefits for students. If you are interested in learning more, or seeing if one of these could be an option for your child, please contact Mr. Kitt at 250-408-8365.

Education and Career Fair 2014

The annual Education and Career Fair will be held at the Delta Grand Hotel in Kelowna on February 3, 2014. All Grade 11 and interested Grade 12 students will be attending. Students will leave OSS on Monday, February 3 at 8:30 and return at 2:45 pm. Please contact Mrs. Miller if you have any questions.

Help Available for all Students

The PIT (Positive Intervention and Tutoring) continues throughout the second semester. This program runs from 2:50 - 3:50 pm Monday to Thursday and is designed to assist students with their assignment completion. All students are free to attend.

OSS Yearbook Club

The OSS Yearbook Club is pleased to inform you that a Yearbook is being produced for the 2013-14 year. Yearbooks are on sale at a cost of \$45.00 for a 60 page full-colour hard cover edition. Students will be in the OSS Concourse at lunch breaks until the end of March to take orders. Don't miss out on this opportunity to have your personal collection of graduation and/or high school images in a peer-created package to keep your memories alive for years to come.

Okanagan College Education Assistant Certificate Program

Attached to this newsletter is information regarding the Education Assistant Certificate Program that is being offered in Oliver February 3 to June 19.

Global Awareness and Student Parliament News.....

Make the World your Valentine

Inspire and celebrate the power of love to break the cycle of poverty. In February, Student Parliament and Global Awareness members are selling buttons to raise money to support sustainable development in *Free the Children's Adopt a Village* program. Every button comes with a card that tells a story how love can change the world.

The buttons will be sold at lunch for donations of \$2 or more until Valentine's Day, Friday, February 14, 2014.



The Power of Love Program:

LEARNING for 57 million children who are still out of school.

PURE for the 783 million people who lack access to improve sources of drinking water.

A CURE for the 40 million children who don't have access to even the most basic health care.

FREEDOM for the 2.4 billion people living on less than \$2 a day.


GROWING for the 870 million people in the world who don't enough to eat.

FREE THE CHILDREN

Rattlers Athletic Calendar — February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Gr 8 Boys BB at Princeton Jr B BB at SSS	5	6 Gr 8 Boys BB Home Jr B BB Home	7	8
9	10	11	12 Sr B&G BB at Keremeos	13 Gr 8 Boys BB Home	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

February 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 ABCD	3 Semester Two Begins	4	5	6	7	8
9 CDAB	10 Family Day	11	12 Grad Valentine Dance	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY 	15
16 BADC	17	18 Gr. 9 Parent Mtg	19	20 Early Dismissal at 12:45	21	22
23 DCBA	24 PAC 6:00 pm Library	25 Scholarship & Bursary Mtg	26 12:05 Dismissal for Inquiry Time Grad Photos	27 Grad Photos	28 Grad Photos	

OSOYOOS SECONDARY SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

Rationale - In order to maintain a safe, caring and orderly school environment, Osoyoos Secondary School has adopted a code of conduct which prohibits discrimination based on the BC Human Rights Code. The code of conduct is intended to ensure that all members of the OSS community, regardless of race, colour, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, and mental or physical disability have equal access, status, acceptance and safety within the school setting. Furthermore, the code of conduct assists in maintaining a balance between rights and responsibilities for the individual and the group. This code of conduct applies to both staff and students and is in effect at all school functions at all times regardless of the location or time of the event.

Expectations - It is expected that all members of the OSS community abide by the code of conduct and that all members uphold the code of conduct and report incidents that breach the code. As much as possible, the school will ensure the anonymity and safety of those who make a report. It is expected that any conduct that disrupts the learning environment of the school, whether explicitly or implicitly addressed by the code of conduct, be deemed unacceptable.

Guidelines – The overriding principle of the OSS code of conduct can be summarized by the word “respect”. At all times, members of the OSS community are expected to display respect for themselves and others as well as respecting the teaching and learning environment. The Osoyoos Secondary School Code of Conduct grid will be displayed prominently in all areas of the school and will serve as a visual aid which summarizes the code of conduct.

The following are some general conduct guidelines for members of the Osoyoos Secondary School community.

Respecting Community Space – The school setting, which includes classrooms, library, hallways, concourse and grounds, is shared space. As a result, there is a need to be considerate of everyone who makes use of the space. Therefore, running, boisterous talking, shouting, misuse of furniture and vandalism will not be tolerated.

Respectful Community Interactions – The members of the OSS community are encouraged to interact with everyone in a respectful manner. Therefore, rudeness, insolence, disruptive behaviour, swearing, vulgarity, loitering, bullying, fighting, and/or aggressive and dangerous behaviour are unacceptable.

Respectful Community Attire – The school setting is a work environment. Members of the school community are expected to dress in a manner that is not distracting or offensive. Any clothing displaying, implying or advertising drugs, alcohol, tobacco, pornography, racism or intimidation, is unacceptable. Furthermore, any clothing that does not meet the OSS dress code is also unacceptable.

Respectful Community Health & Safety – The members of the OSS community are encouraged to pursue healthy and safe lifestyle choices. Therefore, possession and/or use of drugs and/or alcohol before school and during school hours will not be tolerated. Smoking is discouraged and is not allowed on school property at any time. Possession of weapons, or use of an item as a weapon, is prohibited.

Consequences – A breach of the code of conduct by any member of the OSS community will result in consequences. As much as possible, consequences will be of a restorative nature rather than punitive and may include restitution, repair, mediation, conferencing, service, or assistance. Consequences will take into consideration any special circumstances the community member may be facing at the time of the incident including age, special needs, maturity, and extraordinary circumstances. In addition, violators will be involved in the development of meaningful consequences through guided reflection of their behaviour. As students mature, it is expected that their increased level of personal responsibility and self-discipline will result in an increased ability to self-monitor behaviours that comply with the code of conduct. When this is not the case, consequences will escalate rapidly. Furthermore, the school will notify parents, RCMP, social service agencies, counselors or school board when deemed appropriate and/or necessary.

Grid Summary – The grid below is a helpful summary of the code of conduct that will be posted throughout the school.

	Respect Yourself and Others	Respect Learning and Teaching	Respect the School Environment
In the Classroom We...	<p>Are open minded, positive and supportive</p> <p>Encourage new ideas</p> <p>Show mutual respect</p> <p>Make healthy choices</p> <p>Assist peers</p> <p>Do not criticize</p> <p>Do not discourage</p>	<p>Are prepared and on time</p> <p>Are cooperative and participate fully</p> <p>Practice academic honesty</p> <p>Remain on task</p> <p>Do not cheat or plagiarize</p> <p>Do not disrupt</p>	<p>Clean up after ourselves</p> <p>Treat school property with care (i.e. textbooks, computers, school equipment)</p> <p>Keep desks, tables and chairs clean</p> <p>Ask permission to borrow items</p> <p>Do not litter</p> <p>Do not use graffiti</p>
In All Settings We...	<p>Address others politely and respectfully</p> <p>Are courteous and comply with requests of school staff</p> <p>Keep our hands off others and their belongings</p> <p>Do not discriminate, bully, threaten or harass others</p>	<p>Follow area rules for conduct (i.e. library, gym, theatre, hallway)</p> <p>Dress appropriately according to the OSS Dress Code</p> <p>Do not disturb other classes or the learning of others</p> <p>Do not socialize in the hallways during class time</p>	<p>Use appropriate language and volume at school sponsored activities</p> <p>Put all of our litter in the garbage</p> <p>Do not possess or use drugs, alcohol or weapons</p> <p>Do not deface or vandalize school property</p>

POLICY

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53
(Okanagan Similkameen)

WEAPONS, VIOLENCE & INTIMIDATION

Reference: F-2

Revised: June 25, 2008

WEAPONS, VIOLENCE, AND INTIMIDATION

The Board of Education wishes to promote and contribute to a safe and secure environment for students, and endorses the use of constructive means to resolve conflicts. The Board recognizes its responsibility in ensuring a secure environment for students and staff in which they will be safe from violence and intimidation and views education as the means to achieve a peaceful and harmonious learning environment. The Board expects schools to foster an environment that is weapons-free and violence-free and firmly believes that weapons and violence cannot be tolerated on school premises, or during school activities, both on or off school premises. It concurs with the definition of a weapon in the Criminal Code of Canada, Section 2: “weapon” means anything used, designed to be used or intended for use (a) in causing death or injury to any person, or (b) for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, includes a firearm.

The following are strictly prohibited:

- weapons or explosives of any kind on school premises, school buses or during school activities,
- possession of any instrument (including instruments not normally intended for violence or weapons use) or explosives designed to inflict injury or to create fear in someone,
- intimidation and/or verbal, written or other non-verbal threats which induce fear of injury or other physical harm,
- use of the internet for the purpose of seeking or sending information for preparing explosives or weapons.

Failure to abide within the bounds of this policy will result in serious consequences for offenders as per Policy F-3 – Student Conduct/Discipline.

REGULATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53

(Okanagan Similkameen)

WEAPONS, VIOLENCE & INTIMIDATION

Reference: F-2

Revised: June 25, 2008

WEAPONS, VIOLENCE, AND INTIMIDATION

All students, parents/guardians and staff shall annually be made aware of this Policy and Regulations.

Where a Principal/Vice Principal has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that a student has:

- a weapon on his/her person, or in a locker, or in a desk, or in a school bus, or in any location on school property, or on a school field trip, or
- displayed or brandished a weapon in a threatening or intimidating manner, or
- assaulted another person with a weapon, or
- distributed media which portrays violence as an acceptable norm, or
- intimidated or used any threats against individuals or groups, or
- used the internet or other media forms for the purpose of seeking or sending information for preparing explosives or weapons, or intimidate another person

then he/she, depending on the nature, severity of the situation, and student circumstances shall undertake actions based on Policy F3: Student Conduct & Discipline – Procedures for Student Behavior and Interventions.

POLICY

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53
(Okanagan Similkameen)

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

Reference: F-3
Approved: June 24, 2009

District Expectations

The Board of Education believes that a positive school and district environment promotes respect for the dignity of individuals and the diversity of the school community; respect for the property of others; a drug, alcohol and smoke free environment; intolerance of bullying and harassing behaviors; and solutions which provide for non-violent conflict resolution. The Board believes that safe school environments are necessary for students to learn and achieve and for staff to support student learning. Discrimination is not part of such an environment therefore the Board is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free from all forms of discrimination. As a result, the Board supports and endorses the values and objectives contained in the Canadian Multiculturalism Act, the BC Multiculturalism Act, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the BC Human Rights Code.

Schools in partnership with staff, parents and the community will develop:

- a written school code of conduct which encompasses the District values that shall be provided to all students. A copy of the school code of conduct shall be filed with the office of the Superintendent of Schools;
- plans of action which include governance, prevention and intervention and will consider the needs and concerns of all members of the school community;
- opportunities to facilitate students and staff acquiring the knowledge and skills which build positive interactions and avoid violent confrontations at school; and
- reflective and proactive practices which model positive classroom and school interactions and maximize the learning opportunities for all students.

In recognition of these beliefs, the Board supports the following:

- all students have a right to an educational program which addresses their individual needs while being treated fairly;
- the design and implementation of student discipline procedures must focus upon the needs and aspirations of all students; and
- all adults must share responsibility for supporting all students in the development of positive relationships.

Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to act in a manner that enables all students and staff to participate effectively in the educational community.

While on school premises, going to and returning from school and at all school sponsored games and functions, whenever and wherever held, every student shall be subject to the code of conducts established by the school and the district. Students are expected to:

- attend school on a daily basis except in cases of illness, family need, or medical excuse;
- be punctual and prepared for classes;
- apply themselves to their educational program in a manner commensurate with their ability;
- demonstrate respect, tolerance and acceptance of others including the rights of others;
- resolve conflicts in a non-violent manner; and
- respect personal and school property.

REGULATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53
(Okanagan Similkameen)

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

Reference: F-3
Approved: June 24, 2009

PROCEDURES STUDENT BEHAVIOUR AND INTERVENTION

It is recognized that school staff must work with parents or guardians to address student behavior issues. Parents or guardians should be notified in the event of serious or repetitive behavior issues and prior to any student being sent home, if suspended.

When the misbehavior of a student impacts another student or involves onlookers, appropriate interventions will be taken to address the needs of all of those involved (i.e. the student who has engaged in the misbehavior, the student who was the subject of the misbehavior and any onlookers).

When the actions of a student jeopardize access to a safe and positive school environment, various strategies will be initiated and may include:

- referral to the school counsellor and/or behavior teacher, school based team, school administration;
- involvement of parents or guardians;
- reallocation of school based resources and staff;
- consultation with district Student Support Services and/or administrative staff;
- access outside support or community agency support;
- natural consequences;
- in-school suspensions;
- part time placements;
- placement in another school;
- restorative/restitution processes;
- co-operative discipline plan;
- district level suspension review;
- referral to alternate programs; and
- out-of-school suspensions.

When needed, a Positive Behaviour Support Plan (PBS) may be developed for the student by appropriate school personnel, parents, possibly the student and in some cases community and district personnel. The PBS should:

- target problem behaviors;
- include functional assessment of problem behaviors when appropriate;
- define specific goals, including replacement behaviours and timelines;
- describe interventions, including strategies to change negative behaviors, teach appropriate skills and outline positive and negative consequences; and
- monitor effectiveness of the plan.

REGULATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

Reference: F-3
Approved: June 24, 2009

Student Suspensions

Principals and Vice-Principals, Directors, Assistant Superintendents and Superintendents or designates are authorized to suspend students in accordance with this policy and to take other disciplinary action to that of a kind, firm and judicious parent.

Students are expected to comply with the school and district codes of conduct, the school rules authorized by the Principal, and other policies and regulations authorized by the Board and, may be suspended from school for non-compliance.

Generally, student suspensions will occur only after interventions of a lesser form or alternate methods of discipline have been utilized. It is recognized, however, that there may be occasions when the behavior of the student is sufficiently serious to warrant a suspension, even though no previous disciplinary actions or other interventions have taken place. When a suspension is initiated, an opportunity should be provided to parents to meet with the school administrator to discuss the student conduct and related matters. As well, an alternate educational program will be provided, interventions will be outlined, and a plan for re-entry will be developed.

At the time of any suspension verbal notification, including the reasons for and length of the suspension shall be provided to the parents or guardians with written notification to follow. The Principal or designate shall attempt to ensure the safety of the student until the parent or guardian is notified. The written notification shall also inform the parent or guardian of the access to appeal to the Board.

When the Principal considers that a student has committed repeated or serious breaches of the district code of conduct, school rules or other policies or regulations authorized by the Board; or the Principal considers that the conduct of the student warrants a suspension in excess of 5 days, the Assistant Superintendent or designate will be notified.

The Assistant Superintendent shall provide the parents and/or student with the opportunity to meet to review the circumstances related to the suspension as well as the student's prior disciplinary record, academic progress record, assessments and other pertinent information. The Assistant Superintendent may give any direction he/she considers appropriate.

REGULATION

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53
(Okanagan Similkameen)**

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

**Reference: F-3
Approved: June 24, 2009**

Should the parents wish to appeal the decision to suspend the student to the Secretary Treasurer, or designate, the Board of Education will convene a hearing to determine whether there has been a significant impact on the student's health, safety or education as a result of the decision. If the Board deems that any of one of the three areas has significantly affected the student, the Board shall provide the parent and/or student with an opportunity to address the Board in accordance with its appeal bylaw. The Board shall decide on the appeal and may take one or more of the following actions:

- confirm the suspension or consequences set out for the student;
- vary the length of the suspension or any conditions of the suspension;
- reinstate the student to the school;
- reinstate the student to school with conditions;
- place the student in another school or program; and/or
- provide services appropriate to the student's needs in another manner (YouLearn.ca).

The Superintendent or designate shall inform the parent and/or student of the decision of the Board of Education.