

BARRIERE SECONDARY COUGAR NEWS



What's Happening This Week

MONDAY, September 21

- Pro-D (No School for Students)

TUESDAY, September 22

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WEDNESDAY, September 23

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THURSDAY, September 24

- Terry Fox Run

FRIDAY, September 25

September 21 – September 25

Tenth Moon

Pesqelqlélten
many salmon month

Upcoming Dates

- September 29 Orange Shirt Day
- September 30 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (School Closed)
- October 12 Thanksgiving (School Closed)

**Secwepemcúl'ecw yi7élye ell,
re tmicws re Simpcw n7élye.**

**Acknowledge that we are on
the territory of the
Secwepemc Nation,
specifically the territory of the
Simpchw People.**

Cafeteria Menu

Monday

- Pro-D Day (No School for Kids)

Tuesday

- Tortellini w Meat Sauce and Garlic Toast or Taco Salada Bowl

Wednesday

- Chicken Caesar Wrap or Perogies w Sausage

Thursday

- Ham, Cheese, Lettuce, and Tomato Sandwich w Veg or Spaghetti w Meat Sauce & Garlic Toast

Friday

- Hot Dogs & Fries or Chicken Strips w Fries

Camp Cougar!

Student feedback says that this was the best Camp Cougar yet! Thank you to Mr. Fielding and the staff for organizing the day and to the grade 12s for being amazing peer mentors for the colour teams.



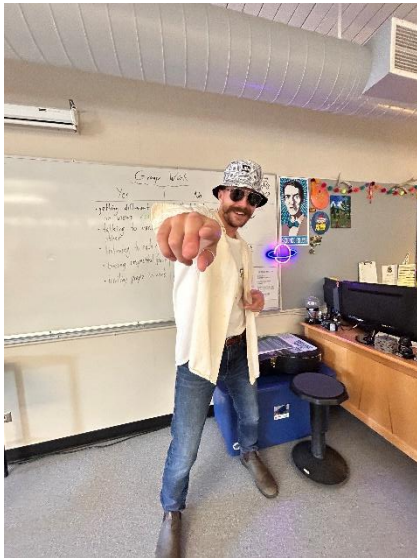
BSS Staff Profile

Welcome Mr. Powers

Mr. Powers grew up in Williams Lake and brings a strong connection to the outdoors and local communities into his teaching. Before becoming a teacher, he studied Natural Resources Science at Thompson Rivers University and spent several summers working with BC Wildfire in the Cariboo, where he discovered a passion for mentoring and supporting newer coworkers. This experience led him to pursue teaching as a way to continue working with youth, share the importance of caring for natural spaces, and help students find inspiration while developing meaningful life skills.



He is excited to be returning to Barriere Secondary School for his second year and be part of this welcoming community again. This year, Mr. Powers is teaching Grade 7/8 in our Learning Community, as well as an Intro to Spanish mosaic. Outside of the classroom, he enjoys disc golf, music, board games, hockey, and is currently learning Spanish - reflecting his love of languages and the opportunities they create. Mr. Powers also runs the music/guitar club and chess club at the school and loves participating in school spirit days!



In his teaching, Mr. Powers is passionate about creating structured, supportive learning environments where students feel safe to take risks, build independence, and grow both academically and socially. He values clear routines, strong relationships, and open communication with

families, and he looks forward to working together to support students throughout the school year.

BSS Personal Device Policy

Please speak with your child prior about the [BSS Digital Device Usage Policy](#). While the official language is in the link, what it means is that personal devices, such as cell phones are not to be used during class time and not to be on their person during class time. Phones must be stored in their lockers during class time.

At Barriere Secondary School we believe that the foundations of a safe, caring, and welcoming school environment are fostered and maintained through a focus on inclusivity and equity-focused education implemented and supported through a progressive continuum of supports.

Cafeteria

The cafeteria will be open on Thursday, September 14. Cash is accepted or you may purchase your child(ren) lunch cards through the [SchoolCash](#) Online system.

Breakfast Program

The **Free** Breakfast Program has started. For those new to BSS, every weekday from 8:00 am – 8:25 am all students can enjoy a free breakfast.

Course Change Requests

If a course change is needed for Graduation or Post-Secondary requirements, or due to incorrect course assignment, please request an appointment. Continue attending your original classes until you have completed the processes the change.

Lost and Found Items

If students have misplaced clothing or personal items they will be placed on the table at the entrance to the school where students and families can collect the items. If you happen to be in the school, please have a look. Unfortunately, we do not have space to store these items for long periods of time. We will periodically be packaging unclaimed items and donating them to charity.

FEES and SchoolCash

School Fees for Semester 1, Grades 7-9 will be posted in SchoolCash Online within the next couple of weeks.

Semester 1 school fees for Grades 10-12 will be posted in SchoolCash Online middle to end of September once schedule changes are finalized.

Student fees (enhancement fees for field trips and athletics for example) now include a processing fee for all payment transactions using online payment options. This processing fee, which was approved by the Board after the budget consultation process last spring, represents actual costs the Board incurs for using online fee payment services. Cash and cheque payments will not incur this processing fee. We recognize that fee increases can be challenging for families. School District 73 is committed to ensuring that no student is excluded from an educational program or activity or extracurricular activity because of financial need as outlined in the District's Administrative Procedure 506: Student Financial Assistance.

Leaving Early or Reporting Absences

Under "Safe Arrival": Did you know there is a safe arrival app? This makes reporting absences that much easier! You can find more information [HERE](#).

A reminder to parents that ALL absences/ lates /early dismissals should be recorded on our Safe Arrival system prior to 8:30 am on the day of the absence/ late / dismissal (you can also report absences in advance, if they are known). Please review [THIS](#) link for more information and instructions.



Students! Parents! Supporters! You're invited to The Kamloops Community Post-Secondary Info Evening!

Thursday
October 1, 2026
6:00pm-8:00pm
Henry Grube
Education Centre
245 Kitchener Cres.

Explore your post-secondary options at this evening event with 13 universities and colleges from across BC — open to students, parents, caregivers, and supporters!

Meet representatives from:

Selkirk College



RMC • CMR
ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE CANADA

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE
NIC

TRINITY WESTERN
UNIVERSITY

VIU



CAMOSUN
COLLEGE

THOMPSON
RIVERS
UNIVERSITY

UVIC

OC
Okanagan
COLLEGE



POST-SECONDARY BC | postsecondarybc.ca

BSS Bell Schedule for the 2026/2027 School Year

The [bell schedule](#) for the 2026/2027 school year will be changed slightly from this year. The start end times for the day will remain the same but there will now be two blocks before lunch and two after lunch. This change will allow for lunch to take place earlier in the day, hopefully helping to ensure students have better access to food throughout the day.

TIME	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
8:25 A.M.	Warning Bell		
8:30 - 9:48	A	C	D
9:48 - 10:04	16 Min LONG BREAK		
10:04 - 11:22	B	B	B
11:22 - 12:19 (warning 12:14)	LUNCH		
12:19 - 1:37	C	D	A
1:37 - 1:43	BREAK		
1:43 - 3:01	D	A	C
3:01	DISMISSAL		



Barriere Secondary School

Learning Goals 2026-2027



Engagement	Foster student connection and care by engaging all educational community members.
Mental Health	Create a school environment that supports positive mental health.
Culture	Foster a safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive school culture.

For more information please check out the Barriere Secondary School Learning Plan at the following [LINK](#).

Admin Message

Dear Barriere Secondary School Community,

What an amazing day for Camp Cougar! Thank you to all of the grade 12s who made the day so special for the entire school. We have a very special school community, made better by every student, family member, and staff member at BSS. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the BSS community BBQ. We had great weather and loved the opportunity to connect with so many families.

A reminder that Monday, September 21 is a district Pro-D day and there is no school for kids. We look forward to having everyone back with us on Tuesday, September 22.

Have a safe weekend, and please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

Chris Spanis
Vice-Principal

Derek Markides
Principal