

KSA Community Connection

1390 Ninth Avenue, Kamloops BC V2C 3X5
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Office Hours 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the curtain closes on the 2025–2026 school year, I find myself deeply moved by the growth we have witnessed within our school. This year, our community was guided by three powerful words: Imagine, Innovate, and Inspire. At KSA, these are not just concepts; they are the heartbeat of our daily work. In every classroom, on every stage, and through every hallway display, I have watched our students imagine new possibilities, innovate through their unique artistic processes, and inspire one another with their courage. We saw this spirit come alive through multiple elementary and secondary performances which were truly full of imagination and creative risk-taking.

Our School Learning Plan goals lead our work, we have seen a mix of between academic inquiry and artistic excellence. We continue to focus on the foundations of literacy and numeracy through an arts-driven approach, proving that creative thinking is a vital academic tool. Whether it was through our bridging K-12 through the arts or our collaborative work with community partners, our students are developing the resilience and social responsibility needed to navigate an ever-changing world.

To our incoming Kindergarten students, welcome to the KSA family. We were so excited to meet many of you during our Kindergarten Kickoff, and we cannot wait to see what you bring to our school as your journey of imagination begins. To our graduating Class of 2026, you have been a true source of inspiration. You have led our school with heart, from your mentorship of younger students to your final showcases. As you move beyond KSA, I challenge you to continue to innovate and inspire those around you just as you have inspired us. Your leadership and artistry will be missed, and we are so proud of the legacy you leave behind.

A heartfelt thank you to our KSA PAC for their tireless dedication and for being the essential support system that allows our students' visions to take flight. Your partnership is the foundation of our success, and we look forward to welcoming new and returning parents into this vital work this fall. I am especially excited to celebrate our collective success with you and our families at the PAC BBQ on June 18th.

To all our families, thank you for your ongoing trust and for being our partners in education. It is an honour to lead such a vibrant community and to work alongside you this year. I wish you a safe, restorative, and art-filled summer. May the months ahead be a time to rest, reflect, and find new sources of inspiration to recharge for the journey ahead.

Artfully yours, Kukwstsétsemc,

Mr. B. Lloyd

Proud Principal of 500 KSA STAR STUDENTS!



ATTENTION

Do not park, drop off, or pick up in the staff parking lot *OR* in front of the school on 9th Avenue.

This is to ensure the safety of all students.

Parents are asked to drop off/pick up their child on Fraser Street. The roadway by the bridge on Fraser street is drop off only. Please do not park in this area. We believe strongly in the safety of our children, therefore, please make sure you are aware of parking and traffic routines at our school. Students are reminded to follow road safety at all times. Students are required to use the crosswalk and look both ways before crossing the street.

School Safety & Visitor Procedures

As part of our continued commitment to school safety, new signage has been installed at both the front and back entrances of the school. These signs are to remind all visitors to report directly to the office through the front door of the school, where visitor name tags will be issued. This includes parents who are dropping their children off at their lockers in the mornings. As part of our morning routines, we encourage students to carry and organize their own belongings at their lockers. This helps them build independence and confidence as they start their day.

After School Plans

As a reminder, please inform after-school daycares and transportation of any daily changes, especially if your child will not be attending. With so many after-school arrangements in place, it's important to ensure no child is overlooked. If your plans change, please call the school office so staff can notify both the teacher and your child.

To maintain a secure and organized environment during after-school activities, all visiting sports teams and spectators are asked to enter through the gym entrance rather than the main school entrance.

REMINDER THAT DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND.

Graduation Updates

- June's Graduation Newsletter linked [HERE](#)

Important Dates for Grads

Monday, June 8- Grad Parade at KSA for staff and students (after lunch)

Thursday, June 11- District Honours Grad at TRU 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Friday, June 12 - Commencements at TRU Grand Hall (see link above)



Saturday, June 13 - Grand March and Prom (If you have questions regarding Prom or Grand March, please email ksagrad2026@gmail.com, they will help you out!)

Monday, June 15- Indigenous Grad at Sandman Centre from 5-8pm



Congratulations **Clara Foucault** who was named the Valedictorian for the Class of 2026!

Graduation Information

Transcripts can be ordered via the Ministry of Education website. [HERE](#) are directions on how to order them.

STUDENT TRANSFERS FOR 2026/2027

We are working hard preparing for the coming year. If you are planning on **moving** your child to another school for the Fall of 2026, please let the **KSA office know ASAP** so that we can make the appropriate arrangements for the student's file. Registrations need to be completed at the receiving school.

Fun Day!

Fun Day is coming up on Monday, June 22 from 9am to 11:30am. This event is a wonderful morning spent outside. Our objectives are to promote physical literacy and cooperative games as a part of the Physical Education curriculum, a sense of community across the grades from K-7, and to promote a connection with friends from other classes. Our amazing PAC is providing Goldfish and Freezies and NuLeaf Produce Market has donated apples for the snack station. We recommend packing a few small snacks as well because kids still get hungry and their snack will not be at the regular time.

We ask that students dress in their house team colour this day (blue coyotes, purple orcas, orange rattlesnakes, black ravens, pink moose, red wolves). Dress in this colour in some way to promote team spirit.

Please have your child wear sunscreen and a hat, as we will be outside. Bringing a water bottle is a really good idea, but PLEASE WRITE THEIR NAME ON IT.

Pod Sharings:

The pod sharing season has come to a close for another year. Congratulations to all students and staff for their hard work, creativity, and dedication to learning and sharing through the arts. Our strong school community is especially evident throughout the month of May, as we gather each week to support one another and celebrate the unique learning experiences that make our school so special.



Young Authors

KSA had a number of students that attended Young Authors at the beginning of May. Everyone did an amazing job. Big shoutout to two of our students for making Honourable Mention. Way to go Clara and Imogen!

Miss Dickinson's class had an exciting and memorable day at Pine Park as we released our coho salmon fry into the stream! Throughout the year, students carefully observed and learned about the



salmon life cycle while caring for our classroom salmon. It was a wonderful hands-on learning experience that helped students develop a deeper appreciation for nature, conservation, and the importance of protecting local ecosystems. We are so proud of our young scientists and the care they showed for our salmon journey from egg to fry! A huge THANK YOU goes out to our parent volunteers - without you this trip would not be possible.

Young Artists

Four students from KSA participated in Young Artists this year. Young Artists is a District art initiative that celebrates elementary age artists from across the District. Schools select winning pieces that are then sent to the Henry Grube where the Young Artist committee decides on the winning pieces for the District. These winning pieces are framed and hung at the board office for the year. All the art work is celebrated at an exhibition held at the Old Courthouse Gallery, and the selected students participate in a day of art at TRU, learning from local artists in workshops. Then, finally, the students present their art work to the board office and the members are able to speak with them and ask them questions about their art work. The selected winners from our school this year are: Elora (Gr 4), Marlin (Gr 5), Amelia (Gr 5), and Alicia (Gr 6).



Ultimate Success!

This was the first year of the KSA Ultimate Frisbee team. Ultimate is a coed non-contact sport that is likened to a cross between soccer and football. It started in the late 1960's and early 1970's at various North American universities and since then it has expanded across the world. High schools in SD73 started forming teams around five or six years ago.

KSA was happy to become the newest team in the league. We had a great turnout of twenty-one players, including six girls. This was important as teams must match genders when playing a point, rotating between lines of four of one and three of the other. KSA's team consisted of students from grades 8-12 and were coached by Jon McCaugherty, Kevin Roy, and Jennifer Pendergast.

While the team had a rough start when it came to wins and loses the players learned the rules, the various positions and about the 'Spirit of the Game' which places the responsibility for fair play, honesty, and respect entirely on the players. Ultimate is self-officiated by the players (not coaches) and does not have referees, highly competitive play is encouraged, but never at the cost of safety, mutual respect, or the basic joy of playing.



KSA Ultimate would not have started without the enthusiasm of students such as Lucas (Gr.12) and captains Preston (Gr. 11) and Gwen (Gr. 12). The team finished with three wins for the season, several close games and a fourth place finish in our division at a tournament in Kelowna. Players and coaches had a great time and are looking forward to expanding on our successes next season. Several members will be trying out for the Kamloops club team, Helios', also coached by Jon McCaugherty. We hope to have even more players join the fun so if this interests you come on out next spring!

Track and Field

KSA had 60 students go to the Zone Track Meet. From those 60 students, 13 of them made it to the District Track Meet. KSA came home with quite a few ribbons and top 8 placements! Go stars GO! ★ *Mr. McBride needs all the jerseys back please and thanks!

Secondary Music

On May 11th, KSA's Secondary Music Program took its students on a four-day overnight trip to Rockridge Canyon Retreat Centre near Princeton, BC. This was a joint effort with music programs from around the district, with over 200 students in attendance!

On this trip, students were sorted into Senior Band, Junior Band, Jazz Band, and Choir, and were given brand new music to learn with their newly formed (and absolutely massive) ensembles. Students were able to learn from different instructors from around the district, including local music teachers, Chris Perry (esteemed clinician from Kelowna), and our Fine Arts Coordinator, Tomas Bijok. Students worked hard to learn their new music, and were challenged to put on a Showcase Concert after just four days of rehearsals, which was a smashing success!

When they were not in rehearsal, students were able to mingle with their peers from around the district, and had many fun activities to enjoy, such as: ziplining, high-ropes, swimming, paddleboarding, basketball, soccer, beach volleyball, disc golf, pool, ping-pong, and much,

much more. Our students had a blast, learned a lot, and represented KSA in a professional manner.

Join us at our June 5th concert, "In Bloom - Dinner and a Show!" to raise funds for future trips like this!



DINNER & A SHOW!

In Bloom

Friday, June 5th
KSA Gym

5:00pm
10:00pm

FEATURING:
KSA Choir | KSA Junior & Senior Bands | KSA Jazz Band
Special Guests: Beyond Brass

Snacks and Lunches

We have seen an increase in students requesting food at the office. Please ensure you have sent enough snacks and lunch for your student(s). If your child attends after school care, they may need extra food for their time at daycare.

Growing minds need a lot of food!

Please pack cutlery for your child(ren).

KSA PAC NEWS

There are several ways in which you can be an active parent at Kamloops School of the Arts. Our Parent Advisory Council meets on a regular basis, and the meeting dates are published in the school newsletters and on the PAC KSA Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ksapac>



JUNE PAC UPDATE

IMPORTANT PAC DATES:

- **Fri June 19 - Panago Pizza** PAC Hot lunch (order by *Sunday Jun 19*)
- **Thur Jun 18 - PAC Family BBQ** **Volunteers Needed!**
- **Tue Sep 8 - PAC's Sip Into September** after drop off

NEXT PAC MEETING: Sept 2026 Unless we have something urgent come up in June.

From the last PAC MEETINGS:

AGM: A new executive was elected for the 2026-27 school year (July1-Jun30). Thank you to our outgoing members and their families for the time they have given to our school. We gave a special mention to Kevin Klassen, who has been one of the Popcorn Dads for a very long time! He has been a PAC executive since 2017, and at almost every event.

2026-27 Executive Members:

Chair - Stefan Schweizer DPAC Rep 1: Amanda Hamoline

Vice Chair - Holly Therrien DPAC Rep 2: open

Secretary - Samantha Gidora Director at Large 1: Emmy Aerius

Treasurer - Stephanie Drake Director at Large 2: Sarah Krausert

Past Chair: Theo Williams Director at Large 3: open

The members holding these positions might change at the September meeting as life happens!

General Meeting:

Guest attendees included Superintendent Mike St. John and Board Trustee Cara McKelvy. The Elementary Art Room committee presented a slide show highlighting KSA PAC -the commitment, hard work, volunteer hours, and financial support parents and families give to KSA, from its inception in 2004. They discussed the events that led to the Elementary Art Room decision reversal from the district (the art room stays as it is!) and they focused on the questions that remain unanswered from the School District regarding the process of how this decision was made, and the decisions around adding an additional District Resource Room (DRR) to the school, concerns around safety of the location of the room and ratios, and how to future-proof KSA's art programming in the future. This slide show deck will be available in the May 27 2026 Meeting Minutes.

We were told the new DRR will be placed in the current staff room on the main floor, and the new staff room will be upstairs, replacing the book & photocopy room. The new construction of their space has started in the school.

Superintendent Mike St John spoke of the value of inclusion and the success of KSA, and was unable to answer most of the posed questions from April 15th pac meeting, citing privacy concerns, and that the FOI might be able to answer more of the detailed concerns. The Committee submitted a Freedom of Information (FOI) request from the district mid-May, and expect a return by the end of the school year.

A new Committee was created to look at recruiting new students to the secondary program, as it hasn't had a lot of highlight in the community recently. They will work with admin and district policy. Volunteers welcome!

Plans for next year's events were discussed, including needing a Volunteer to **Lead the Halloween Dance**, a school kick-off fundraiser to send the entire K-12 school to the Salmon Run in September, and 'Sip into September' a **Back-to-School gathering for Parents only after drop-off** on the front lawn.

END of YEAR FAMILY BBQ! June 18, 2026 - 5:30-8:30pm Volunteers & Bakers Needed!

Get ready to celebrate a fabulous year! KSA PAC Year End BBQ will feature a delicious BBQ, Basket Raffles, Cake Walk, Outdoor Games, Bouncy Castle, Face Painting & Chris the Clown. This BBQ is a fun way to celebrate the end of the school year together, and in order for it to happen, it requires a lot of parents/community support, each doing a little bit.

We are currently looking for:

-**Event volunteers** (pre-event shopping, set-up, BBQ help, activities, clean-up)

-**Cake & cupcake donations** for our popular Cake Walk

Important note about the Cake Walk If we do not receive at least

15 sign-ups for cake or cupcake donations, the Cake Walk will not run.

We need your help to make this all happen!

Please use the easy sign up to volunteer or donate baking:

volunteersignup.org/EWR8J

BBQ PRE-ORDER for food is now open on Munchalunch! Remainder of food and drinks after pre-orders are filled are by a first-come basis, and will be limited to reduce unsold items, as per previous years. *Thank you for pre-ordering for your family!*

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/ksa>

PAC will soon be asking for donations for the **Basket Raffles** again. Each classroom has a theme for their basket. Previous years' contributions have created the most wonderful prizes! Thank you!

SIP INTO SEPTEMBER: join us on the front lawn by the Gym Entrance on the first day of school! After dropping-off your students, come by and enjoy *good* coffee and teas, and a few treats. This is for the grown-ups only, but those with littles not yet in school are welcome, including new Kindergarten families! As we get back to the ride & grind, we'll deserve some coffee after chaos!

Recent PAC Supports for KSA Students: Pod-sharing supplies, Elementary Fun Day, Track and Field, Graduation celebrations for Grade 12 and Grade 7, Bursaries, Battle of the Books, Athletics Clubs, to name a few!

PAC Welcoming Committee met with new Kindergarten parents, created an updated Welcome to KSA letter, is looking ahead to recruiting and welcoming new students, and events for September's first day of school. If you have any other ideas, please email board@ksapac.ca

PAC's Monthly HOT LUNCHES!

June 19 lunch is from **Panago Pizza**, please order by end of day on Sunday, May 10th. Secondary students can order, too!

To place your order, please visit: <https://munchalunch.com/schools/ksa>

Remember to select the "Kamloops School of the Arts (PAC)" button at the bottom!

Thank you to *Holly* and *Stefan*, and other Hot Lunch Parents that organize, pick up the meals, and makes sure it all runs smoothly!

Special thanks to *Ms. Covington's Blue Door Stitches* group, for delivering the Hot Lunches each month this year. We appreciate it!



POPCORN THURSDAYS \$1 & SLUSHIE DAYS \$2!

Any K-12 student can buy popcorn on Thursdays for \$1. Since there is a limit of how many Slushies can be served each week, PAC has organized the following groups to purchase on Slushie Days, and leftovers can be purchased by secondary students.

Pod 1: June 18 | Pod 3: June 4 | High School: June 11

STAY UP TO DATE over the SUMMER!

You might see a few shares about opportunities for students, Mabel's Labels deals, and info for the start of the year. For the latest news and updates, use the KSA PAC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ksapac>. We recommend that you **turn on your notifications for this group** so you don't miss anything. Or send us an email! board@ksapac.ca

Thank you so much for another year of supporting KSA and each others' students through the PAC! Every single volunteer hour and financial support is sincerely appreciated!

KSA PAC NEEDS YOU!

Are you an accountant or just great with numbers?
Do you love staying organized and want to be involved in
the heart of our school community?

KSA PAC is seeking a new Treasurer for next year!

You don't need to be an expert—just someone
comfortable with basic bookkeeping and able to
attend monthly PAC meetings. The books are already
well maintained, making for an easy transition!

Time commitment is approx. 6-10 hours per
month; sometimes more, sometimes less



SECONDARY COLLABORATION (STAR) BLOCK 2025/2026

We are excited to inform you about our upcoming Secondary Collaboration Days at Kamloops School of the Arts. These sessions are designed to provide a valuable opportunity for secondary teachers to engage in Collaborative Inquiry, fostering a learning environment where educators can focus on new strategies to support student growth.

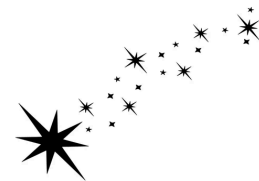
Collaboration Days will take place on the following dates:

- **June 18**

During the Collaboration Block (8:30 - 9:45 AM), secondary teachers will work in teams to explore ways to enhance student learning. The focus of this time will be on Collaborative Inquiry, which encourages teachers to engage in reflective discussions and informed action.

Secondary students are invited to come to school at the regular time in the morning (8:30 am) and will be supervised by a selection of secondary teachers and Certified Education Assistants to catch up on school work, participate in a school club or spend time reading a novel. Students who are caught up on their school work have the option to come for the start of D block at 10:00 am. As per the new technology policy, cell phones and any other devices that connect to the internet will not be allowed during the collaboration block.

Please note: This new Collaboration schedule **ONLY** affects *secondary* students. Elementary students will continue to follow the regular scheduled day.



COUNSELLING CORNER

Trust is the foundation of every relationship, it makes us feel loved and safe. We learn about trust and relationships from birth on.

Relationships are not static, they are always changing. Friendships are extremely important to our children/teens. We need to teach them about helpful, healthy relationships.



*"We'll be friends forever" said Piglet.
"Even longer" said Pooh.*



Volunteer Appreciation Tea

The community of KSA would like to thank all of our amazing volunteers. We would like to invite you to a morning of coffee, tea, muffins, and a little entertainment, hosted by students.

If you have volunteered in any capacity this year, please let us thank you!

When: June 18th 8:30am-9:30am

Where: Room 109

RSVP: jcoates@sd73.bc.ca

Kamloops School of the Arts

presents

Wednesday June 17, 2026
6:00-8:15PM
Sagebrush Theatre



Music & Lyrics by
Elton John & Tim Rice
Additional Music & Lyrics by
**Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin,
and Hans Zimmer**

Book by
Roger Allers & Irene Mecchi

Based on the Broadway production
directed by
Julie Taymor

Music Adapted & Arranged and
Additional Music & Lyrics by
Will Van Dyke

*Disney's The Lion King Jr. is
presented through special
arrangement
with and all authorized
materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International,
New York, NY
(212) 541-4684
mtishows.com*

Director/Music Director/
Choreographer/
Stage Manager
Lindsay Williams

NEW HORIZONS



KSA Dance
breaking through
new artistic ground
and possibilites.



Tickets \$15.00 through Kamloops Live! Box Office



DON'T FORGET!

★ ★ ★

KSA PAC

FAMILY BBQ

THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH

5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.



Games & Activities | BBQ | Obstacle Course Bouncy Castle



Since 1993

Soccer Day Camps

...more than just a soccer camp!



Keep the SAVINGS Rolling,
Pay Less Today,
Until June 1



- ✔ July & August weeks
- ✔ Morning & Full Day sessions
- ✔ Ages 5 to 13
- ✔ Before & After Care available

For more
information:

 royalsoccerclub.com

 800-427-0536

For location & registration details visit our website.

Mornings Starting from **\$165***/week

Full Days Starting from **\$249***/week

* Limited time, discounts vary, see website
Additional discounts for week 1 & 6 (4 day weeks)



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Have a great SUMMER

From KSA

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IMPORTANT KSA DATES

Please note: events/dates are *subject to change*- please check with the teacher/organiser to confirm.

JUNE	5	Dinner and a Show
	11	District Honours Grad
	12	KSA Graduation Commencement
	15	Indigenous Grad
	17	The Lion King/New Horizons at the Sagebrush Theatre
	18	STAR Collaboration session for secondary students
	18	Volunteer Appreciation Tea
	18	PAC Family BBQ
	19	PAC Hot Lunch Panago
	22	Elementary Fun Day
	23	Last Day Secondary/Award ceremony
	24	Grade 7 Ceremony
	24/25	Secondary project completion
	25	Last day of elementary classes 12:39 Dismissal
	26	Administration day (no school)
JULY	1	Canada Day
	2	Secondary Learning Updates published on MyEd

SD73 Important dates can be found [HERE](#)

Click to read more information or learn how to use the following resources		
MyEd BC for Parents	SchoolCash Online	Attendance and Safe Arrival
Cell Phone Expectations	Personal Digital Device Guidelines	Grad Information

MEDICAL POLICY

Please contact the school if your child has any health issues or potentially life-threatening conditions that we need to be made aware of. No medications (prescription or non-prescription) are to be administered by school district employees without prior written consent of the parent/guardian and doctors must sign a Request for Administration of Medication at School form which includes written medical advice from a physician. This form must be renewed/resigned each school year.

Head Lice (From Interior Health, Recommended Head Lice Management document)

Head lice can affect anyone, and are most common in the 3-11 year old age group. Head lice are annoying and may cause itching, but they do not cause disease. Reactions to head lice can subject children to teasing, bullying and isolation. For these reasons, head lice infestations should be treated.

Current research shows that school exclusion, early dismissal and no-nit policies do not prevent or control head lice infestations. In fact, these practices further stigmatize children, erode their self-esteem and interfere with learning. No-nit policies in schools and daycares are discouraged by both the Canadian Pediatric Society and American Academy of Pediatrics.

If there are economic reasons that a student’s parents cannot purchase treatment supplies, the school will obtain the recommended products on the parents’ and student’s behalf.

What can Parents do to help the prevention of head lice?

Take a proactive approach in understanding lice facts and myths:

- Check the heads of all family members on a weekly basis.
- Increase this to daily head checks when a case of head lice has occurred in your child’s classroom or one of the family members has been in contact with head lice.
- Treat only when live lice or live nits are found.
- Learn what these look like as it is easy to misdiagnose. Use a recommended treatment.
- Teach your child about prevention of head lice (avoiding head to head contact, not sharing hats, brushes, helmets, etc.).
- Tie long hair back.
- Refer to the Interior Health School Health Website for more information
<http://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourHealth/SchoolHealth/HeadLice/Pages/default.aspx>