

BARRIERE SECONDARY COUGAR NEWS



What's Happening This Week

MONDAY, December 15

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TUESDAY, December 16

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WEDNESDAY, December 17

- Christmas Luncheon

THURSDAY, December 18

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FRIDAY, December 19

- Last Day of Classes Before Christmas Break

Monday, January 5, 2026

- First Day of Classes

Upcoming Dates

- December 17 Christmas Luncheon
- December 19 Last Day of Classes
- December 22 – January 4 Christmas Break

Basketball Tournament Dates

- Tier 1 Jr. Boys Tournament - Jan. 16/17
- Tier 2 Jr. Boys Tournament - Jan 23/24
- Jr. Girls Tournament - Jan 30/31

December 15 – December 19

Pesllwélsten
abandoning month

**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
Simpcw People.**

Cafeteria Menu

Monday

- Beef Burritos or Chicken Dinner w/ Roasted Potatoes and Veg

Tuesday

- BLT w/ Veg or Chicken Penne Pesto Alfredo w/ Garlic Toast

Wednesday

- Christmas Luncheon (Turkey Dinner)

Thursday

- Tomato Basil Soup w/ Bun or Mac & Cheese w/ Wieners

Friday

- Chicken Caesar Wrap or Shepards Pie

Christmas Luncheon

A huge thank you to Laura and her team of volunteers from the Lions Club of Barriere and the Barriere community for putting on the Christmas Luncheon next Wednesday, December 17. This beloved annual tradition at Barriere Secondary brings so much joy as a start to the holiday season. Laura you are greatly appreciated.

Thank to the BSS PAC

PAC continues to support the guitar program at Barriere Secondary. Every Wednesday at lunch, a professional teacher works with students in developing their guitar skills. Students are welcome to join at any point of the year, regardless of experience and there are several guitars

they can borrow during the lessons. In addition to having fun learning alongside friends, students are taught instrument safety, musical theory and foundational skills. Most are able to start playing songs within a month. Musicians themselves, Mr. Powers and Mr. Cordeiro support students in their learning and would be happy to chat with any students with questions about attending the lessons.

From the Athletics Department

A reminder that fees from have been posted. We are now moving into basketball season, and fees must be paid in order for athletes to participate in out-of-town tournaments. Please contact the office or check out your child's SchoolCash account for outstanding balances.

From the Main Office

- Please use the automated system/app from Safe Arrival (see below for more information) to mark students late or absent in the morning. Cut off is around 9:00 am when the call out is usually sent.
- School fees are posted. Please pay school fees as soon as possible

FEES and SchoolCash

School fees and athletic fees are now posted and can be paid through Schoolcash. If you are looking to stop by the school and pay fees using cash, exact change would be appreciated.

Starting September 2025 individual student fees (enhancement fees for field trips and athletics for example) will 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.

Barriere Secondary School - Schedule of School Fees 2025-2026

School Fee invoices are distributed to students

September 2025 for Semester 1 and February 2026 for Semester 2

Please note that paying online has a processing fee (on average 5%) incorporated in the cost to be paid online, which was approved by the Board after the budget consultation process last spring. These represent true transaction fees charged by the District's processing platform.

Payments made to the school by cash or cheque should be submitted at the lower amount specified below. Kindly ensure payments are made in the exact amount, as no change can be provided.

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE - \$10.75 online / \$10.00 cash or cheque

Charged to ALL students for supplies to support general school activities over the school year.

LOCK RENTAL - \$6.50 online / \$6.00 cash or cheque

Charged to ALL students. Students will be assigned a lock by the school at the beginning of the year and will be expected to return the lock at the end of each year until they leave the school. Students are required to use the lock provided by the school.

GRAD FEES - \$89.00 online / \$85.00 cash or cheque

Charged to Grade 12 graduating students includes: Lifetouch grad photo sitting fee, grad gown rental, souvenir hat & tassel, souvenir grad photo composite in folder and other grad incidentals.

YEARBOOK-OPTIONAL FEE - \$42.00 online / \$40.00 cash or cheque

Optional fee to pre-order the school yearbook and keep those GREAT school memories!

FEE SCHEDULE FOR COURSE ENHANCEMENTS

The following Fee Schedule represents maximum amounts that would be charged in each of the classes. The items listed are descriptions of consumables for courses, with more specific details to be given within the course outline from the classroom teacher.

	online	Cash Cheque		online	Cash Cheque
Mosaic			Technology Education		
Mosaic 7 and 8 Supplies for ADST (Applied Design, Skills and Technology) activities including wood, art supplies and groceries	\$31.50	\$30	Art Metal 10-12 Metal, casting, supplies, gas, solvents, fasteners, welding/brazing consumables, abrasives and jewelry supplies	\$47.25	\$45
Visual Arts			Metalwork 9-12 Metal stock, sheet metal, gasses, solvents, fasteners, welding/brazing consumables, abrasives, and hearing protection	\$47.25	\$45
Art Studio 9	\$26.25	\$25	Woodwork 9-12 Wood, adhesives, fasteners, abrasives, blades, finishing products, and other consumables	\$42	\$40
Art Studio 10-12	\$26.25	\$25	Skills Exploration 10-12 Building materials: lumber, plywood, fasteners, electrical supplies, and plumbing supplies	\$52.50	\$50
Photography 11	\$36.75	\$35	Information Technology 9-12	10.75	\$10
Media Design	\$21.25	\$20	Entrepreneurship and Marketing	\$5.50	\$5
Media Arts	\$10.75	\$10	Fitness and Conditioning 11-12	\$47.25	\$45
Home Economics			Human Performance 9-12	\$31.25	\$30
Food Studies 9-12 Groceries and supplies for labs	\$52.50	\$50.00			
Textiles 8/9 For materials and associated costs	\$31.50	\$30.00			
Textiles 10-12	\$31.50	\$30.00			



Welcome to the Cougar Pride Grad Newsletter—
Our Post-Secondary, Scholarship & Awards
Newsletter!

This will be your go-to source for Post-
Secondary, Scholarship, and Awards information.
A new edition will be released at the beginning of
each month, with regular updates as new

opportunities arise — so check back often!

Be sure to explore the Resources section at the end of the newsletter for important information on post-secondary registration, transcript requests, and reference letters to support your next steps after graduation.

For more information reach out to Ms. Domingo and checkout the latest edition here:
<https://app.smore.com/n/4p3b8>

BSS Personal Device Policy

Please speak with your child prior to them coming on Tuesday about the [BSS Digital Device Usage Policy](#). While the official language is below, what it means is that personal devices, such as cell phones are not to be used 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 4. 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.

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.

BSS Bell Schedule for the 2025/2026 School Year

The [bell schedule](#) for the 2025/2026 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		



Member of
JA Canada



JA Company Program

Build Your Own Start-up!

Career Education, ADST

Grades 9-12

Program Options: Facilitated by volunteers from the Barriere Lions Club

Join us to gain the tools and resources to launch your start-up! Collaborate with like-minded peers in a dynamic, hands-on program that builds teamwork, decision-making, and critical thinking skills while teaching the essentials of starting a business.

Program Details

- Date & Time: 16 weeks afterschool program- exact dates and times to be determined.
- Location: Barriere Secondary School
- Capacity: 15 students (minimum 6 to operate)
- Mentorship Opportunities: Students will collaborate with business leaders and entrepreneurs from the local community

Visit jabc.org/companyprogram to learn more or contact Craig Lovell, at c.lovell@jabc.org.

Learn More



About JA British Columbia

JA British Columbia (JABC) is a not-for-profit impact organization that delivers free hands-on, immersive education in 97% of the school districts in British Columbia.



Barriere Secondary School Learning Goals 2025-2026



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](#).

Empowerment Through Support

Youth Day Treatment

Tuesday & Thursday

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

235 Lansdowne St.



Week 1

The Bigger Picture of Substance Use: Introduction to Boundaries, emotions & Safety.

Presenters: City of Kamloops & BGCK on Human Trafficking and Internet Safety

Week 2

Harm Reduction: Identity, Adolescent Development & SMART recovery.

Friday:
Pumpkin Carving at Garden Gate

Week 3

Safety First & Stigma: Mindfulness, Substance Safety & Post- Acute Withdrawal Syndrome (PAWS).

Presenters: KSAC on Consent and Healthy Boundaries.

Friday :
Mountain Biking

Week 4

Drugs: Stimulant Substances, DBT DEARMAN Skills & Youth Resiliency.

Presenters: Interior Health on Overdose Prevention and Naloxone.

Friday:
Horseback Riding

Week 5

Cognitive, Social & Emotional Competence: Thoughts, Feelings & Actions.

Friday:
Connection through Movement at Riverside Park.

Week 6

Social Connections: Belonging, Purpose & Social Awareness.

Friday:
Indigenous Ways of Knowing in The Land

Week 7

Health and Wellness: Problem Solving, Decision Making & Discharge Planning.

Friday:
Blazers Game

Starting October 21 to December 5, youth ages 14-20 who face substance use challenges, can access a youth day treatment that seeks to strengthen wellness through education, practice, fun activities, and connecting with others.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT ACCESS AT 250.377.6500 OR EMAIL VIRGINIA.KLAMMER-VALENZUELA@INTERIORHEALTH.CA



Interior Health



UBC Geering Up
Kelowna, Okanagan



Kelowna Middle and High School STEM Workshops

STEM + Sustainability: Hands-On Workshops for Your Classroom

Geering Up Engineering Outreach sends our passionate STEM instructors to your classroom to lead engaging, hands-on workshops. Through creative design challenges and real-world problem solving, students explore how technology, innovation, and sustainable thinking can help build a cleaner, smarter future.

Workshop Dates & Offerings

Dates available from January to June 2025.

Smart Tech for Sustainable Living

Grades 8-9 | ADST, Science

Use Arduino in this hands-on coding session to explore how technology can make our homes more energy efficient.

Designing Sustainable Schools in 3D

Grades 10-12 | ADST, Science,

Environmental Science, Engineering

Use TinkerCAD to explore how technology and design can reduce environmental impact.

Innovating with Clean Energy Design

Grades 10-12 | ADST, Science

Examine energy conservation, clean energy, and Canadian and international innovations while learning Onshape CAD.

Workshop Schedule

- Designed for classes of up to 30 students
- Up to three 75-minute workshops per day

Cost

Many of our middle and high school workshops are supported by funding – contact us to learn more about eligibility and how to book.

Learn More & Sign Up

Email: kelowna.geeringup@ubc.ca

Website: geeringupokanagan.ca



Learn more and submit a booking request at bit.ly/wkshp25 or scan QR code

A network member of

actüa



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Faculty of Applied Science

Welcome to ROMI



RURAL OUTREACH & MENTORSHIP INITIATIVE

WHO ARE WE?

We are a diverse team of medical students from all around Canada who have come together with a single purpose: to support youth living in rural and remote communities!



WHAT DO WE DO?



- Connect you with a mentor in medical school to answer your questions
- Introduce you to careers in medicine and healthcare Provide you with insight into the application process for medicine and give you an idea of what a day looks like for a medical student
- Host group workshops to help with academic skills and career advice
- Share experiences about the transition from high school to university

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

- Meet with your mentor 1-2 times per month (approximately 30 minutes) on a platform that you and your mentor agree on (zoom, google meet, phone)
- Meet with your mentor for 7 months until the end of the year. You will have an opportunity to continue the program after this if you are interested.
- Attend scheduled group activities



WHAT KIND OF GROUP ACTIVITIES CAN YOU EXPECT?

- Interprofessional Healthcare Professionals Panel
- Careers within Medicine Panel
- Panel of students from different post-secondary institutions
- Information session on scholarships and bursaries

REACH OUT TO US!

Please email romi.mentorship@srpc.ca with any questions or scan the QR code to sign up for the program if you are interested!



Admin Message

Dear Barriere Secondary School Cougar families,

As we enter the final week of school before the winter break, we want to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our entire school community for the energy, kindness, and commitment you have shown throughout this term.

One of the true highlights in the upcoming week will be our annual Christmas Luncheon. This cherished tradition would not be possible without the incredible generosity and effort of Laura and the dedicated volunteers from the Lions Club of Barriere. Their time, care, and community spirit make this event special for our students and staff each year, and we are deeply grateful for their continued support.

As we prepare to head into the holiday season, we want to wish all of our families a safe, joyful, and restful break. May this time be filled with connection, celebration, and moments of peace.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for a new year of learning when school resumes on Monday, January 5. We are excited for all that 2026 will bring to our students, staff, and community.

Warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Warmly,

Andres Ruberg
Vice-Principal

Derek Markides
Principal