

BARRIERE SECONDARY COUGAR NEWS



What's Happening This Week

MONDAY, February 23

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TUESDAY, February 24

- CAST – Community Support for Children & Youth @ Henry Grube Centre 245 Kitchner Cres. 4:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, February 25

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THURSDAY, February 26

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FRIDAY, February 27

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Upcoming Dates

March 3 Simpcw Career Fair
March 4 PTI
March 11 & 12 Grad Photo Retakes
March 16-27 Spring Break

February 23 – February 27

Pellctsi'pwenten
cache pit 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

- Tortellini w Meat Sauce & Garlic Toast or Quesadilla w Spanish Rice

Tuesday

- Pizza Banquettes or Pesto Alfredo w Garlic Toast

Wednesday

- Chicken Caesar Wrap or Nachos

Thursday

- BLT w Veg or Chili w Cornbread

Friday

- Greek Wrap or Chicken Fingers & Fries

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.

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.

Ministry of Education 2025/2026 Student Learning Survey

The Provincial Student Learning Survey collects feedback from parents, teachers, and students on topics like school environment, safety, and achievement. This helps schools plan and gives a broader district and provincial perspective.

In early 2026, students in grades 7, 10, 11, and 12, along with their parents/guardians and school staff, will take the survey. Participation is encouraged, as the results help highlight strengths and areas for improvement.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name (Barriere Elementary-Secondary).

The e-survey site will be open until May 1, 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at (250) 672-9943.

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.

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.

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

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.

continuum of supports.

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.

| Mosaic | online | Cash Cheque | Technology Education | online | Cash Cheque |
|--|---------|-------------|--|---------|-------------|
| 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>

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 | | |

Community Supports for Children & Youth

Empower Your Family with
Community Connections!

Are you curious
about community
supports as your
child enters
kindergarten?

Would you like more
information from
organizations that
can help support
your family or
school-aged child?

Are you wondering
about services that
may be available as
your youth
approaches
adulthood?

February 24, 2026
4-6pm (drop-in)

Henry Grube Education Centre
(245 Kitchener Crescent)

Snacks and
Doorprizes!!



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops-Thompson)

Learn about local programs and services designed to
support your child's unique journey. Together, we can
build a stronger, more inclusive community!

Questions?



Henry Grube Education Centre (250) 376-2266



\$30

Rotary
Club of Kamloops West



2026 Golf Cards

Use the card up to
4 times at each course

Pineridge Golf Course

Two green fees for \$45 Mon-Thurs anytime. Valid on green fees only, carts not included.

The Dunes at Kamloops

18 holes guest walking rate of \$80 Sunday to Wednesday after 1pm. Power cart extra. Must be booked in advance.

Bighorn Golf & Country Club

2 for 1, Based on our 18 hole prime season rack rate.

Shuswap Lake Golf Course at Blind Bay

25% Off one regular priced peak season prime time 18 hole green fee. Valid Mon-Thurs after 11am and Fri-Sun/Holidays after 1pm.

Chinook Cove Golf & RV

2 for 1 green fees only, weekdays after 1:30pm and weekends after 2:30pm. Excludes holidays.



\$30



\$30

See website and card for details and restrictions. kamloopswestrotary.club

2026 Great Deals Restaurant Cards

Visit each restaurant
up to 4 times!

HOJA MONGOLIAN GRILL

256 Victoria St.

Purchase one adult buffet and get a second buffet for half price Mon-Wed (dine in only)

MOXIES KAMLOOPS RESTAURANT

225 Lorne St.

Half price wine ANYTIME.

DENNY'S North Shore

898 Tranquille Rd

Free appy with purchase over \$40.

All week 5pm-9pm.

NOBLE PIG

650 Victoria St.

Buy one appetizer and get the other for half price ANYTIME.

UNDERBELLY

120 5th Ave

Buy one appetizer and get the other for half price ANYTIME!

THE COLUMBIA DINER

555 Columbia St W.

Two for one lunch or dinner entrée.

Any day, anytime.

See website and card for details and restrictions.



Rotary 
Club of Kamloops West

\$30

How to buy:

 kamloopswestrotary.club

YOUTH INTENSIVE DAY TREATMENT PROGRAM

--- Support that meets you where you're at

PROGRAM DATES:

📅 March – April 10

Schedule: Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays

SNACKS & GOOD VIBES INCLUDED.

*Change doesn't have to be rushed.
Sometimes it starts with connection.*

WHAT YOU'LL FIND HERE:

- A supportive group environment
- Space to talk about substance use and mental health
- Practical tools for coping and daily life
- Engaging activities that build connection and confidence

ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE

- Bowling
- Horseback riding
- Creative activities like paint & sip
- Group outings and hands-on activities

LOCATION:

235 Lansdowne Street,
Kamloops, BC

Hours:
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

To learn more or join:
310-MHSU (6478) or 250-377-6500
Ask for ACCESS





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

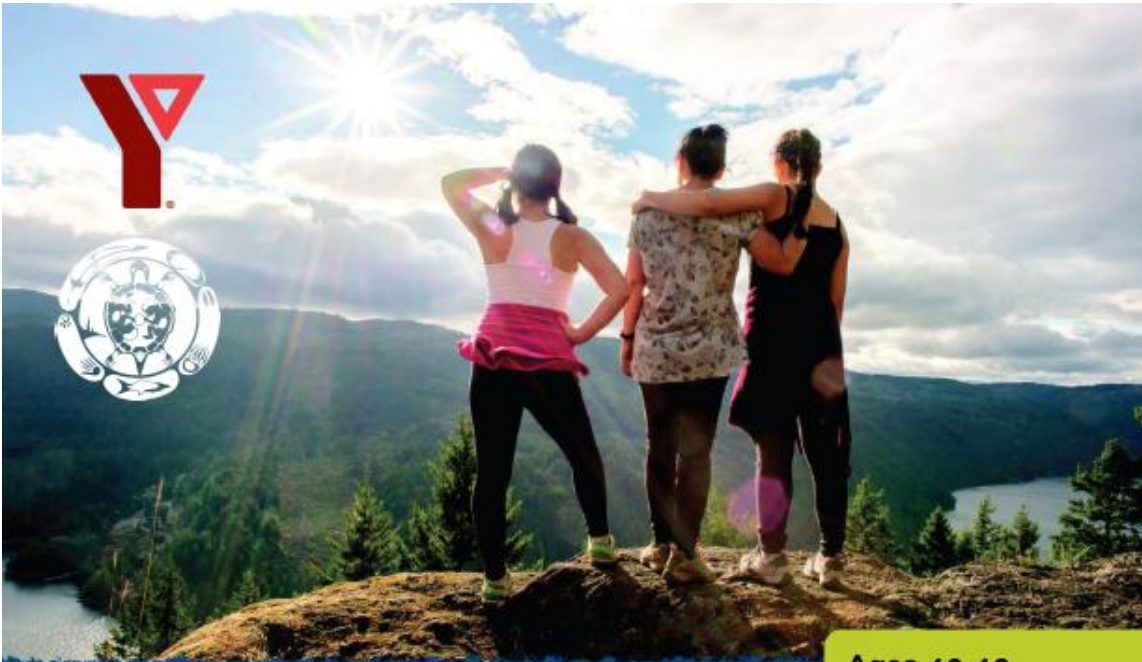


Engagement Foster student connection and care by engaging all educational community members.

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](#).



Ages 13-18

* No cost to participate!

Learn to Manage Stress Mind Medicine Groups

Everyone experiences worries and stress. Mind Medicine Groups are here to help young people develop coping strategies and build social connections.

To register, contact:

Arpuneet Kaur

Arpuneet.kaur@secwepemcfamilies.org

250-320-7608

Ruben Ferrero

Ruben.ferrero@secwepemcfamilies.org

778-694-4979

Mind Medicine - 7 Weeks

Wednesdays – 3pm to 4.30pm

Starting date: January 28th

153 Kootenay Way, Kamloops

This free program is run by caring, trained staff,
in a safe supportive environment.

Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Secwépemc Child and Family Services:

153 Kootenay Way, Kamloops, BC

Ph: 250-314-9669 Fax: 250-314-9609



Admin Message

Dear Barriere Cougar Families,

This time of year brings meaningful opportunities for connection and learning. We are looking forward to upcoming school activities that celebrate kindness, community, and perseverance. Qualities we see in our Cougars every day. February is also a time when many families in our region take part in winter recreation, whether that's skating, skiing, or enjoying the beautiful outdoor spaces that make our community so special. Living near the North Thompson Valley reminds us how fortunate we are to learn and grow in such a stunning setting.

On Wednesday, March 4, students will be dismissed early at 12:30 p.m., with buses departing at 12:35 p.m., to allow time for Parent–Student–Teacher Interviews. We warmly invite you to join us between 1:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to meet with teachers, discuss your child's progress, and celebrate their learning and successes. We look forward to connecting with all families who are able to attend.

Inside our classrooms, learning continues at a strong pace. Our staff remain focused on supporting each student's growth—academically, socially, and emotionally. We are proud of the resilience and kindness our students demonstrate daily, and we are grateful for the partnership we share with you.

Thank you for your continued support of Barriere Secondary School. Together, we ensure our Cougar community remains safe, caring, and focused on learning.

With appreciation,

Andres Ruberg
Vice-Principal

Derek Markides
Principal