



# NORKAM SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2026 | WWW.NKSS.SD73.BC.CA | 250-376-1272



## GOOGLE FOR EDUCATION ACCOUNTS DEACTIVATION RISK

A number of students have not submitted an up-to-date consent form for Internet-Based Resources.

**This consent form must be submitted to NorKam Secondary School before February 2, 2026 to ensure uninterrupted access to student Google for Education (GEDU) accounts.**

Emails have been sent to students and guardians who have not yet submitted a form. Please check your email.

When GEDU accounts are deactivated after February 2, students will lose access to Chromebooks, Google Classroom and other internet-based resources.

To ensure uninterrupted access to GEDU, students and their guardians must complete this form ([click link for form](#)) and submit it to the main office at NorKam. Paper copies of this form are also available at the office.

## GRAD PHOTO RETAKES

Grad photo retakes are on **Mon, Feb. 9th** and **Tues, Feb. 10th**.

### A few things to note:

- There are brochures at the main office with more information.
- Please include graduate's name and phone number when booking.
- Grads must come 10 minutes prior to their appointment.

➡ See page 3 for more details and the link to book an appointment.

## YEARBOOK SALES

The pre-pay deadline for a yearbook is **April 30th**.

The cost is **\$45** and may be purchased online through School Cash or at the office by cash or cheque.

A limited number of extra copies will be ordered, so be sure to order by April 30th to guarantee a copy.

## SERVING UP SCHOOL SPIRIT

This year's Pancake Brunch was a huge success! We would like to extend a sincere thank you to **Ms. Amanda Jensen** for organizing the school-wide **Pancake Brunch!**

Ms. Jensen, along with staff and PAC parents worked together to make this year's brunch a memorable success.



### Together we served:

- 2700 sausages
- 2590 hashbrowns
- 2980 pancakes
- 48 gluten free sausage patties



A *delicious* WAY TO CELEBRATE COMMUNITY

## IMPORTANT DATES

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Double block (BB/AA)   | Jan. 12   |
| Double block (DD/CC)   | Jan. 13   |
| Double block (AA/BB)   | Jan. 19   |
| Double block (CC/DD)   | Jan. 20   |
| Project Completion Day | Jan. 26   |
| Project Completion Day | Jan. 27   |
| Q2 Term End            | Jan. 27   |
| Semester 2 Starts      | Jan. 28   |
| Mosaic Change          | Jan. 28   |
| Pro-D (No School)      | Feb. 6    |
| Grad Photo Retakes     | Feb. 9/10 |

## ADMINISTRATION

**PRINCIPAL: MRS. R. SDOUTZ**  
**VICE PRINCIPAL: MRS. N. STEWART**  
**VICE PRINCIPAL: MS. A. JENSEN**

## COUNSELLORS

Mrs. Kelsey Taylor (A-H)  
Ms. Katie Friesen (I-Me)  
Mrs. Erin Theunissen (Mi-Z)

## SECRETARIES

Mrs. Brittany van der Merwe  
Mrs. Deanna Kucko  
Mrs. Tanya Storey  
Mrs. Valerie Cadoret  
Mrs. Deb Collins (COUNSELLING)

## OFFICE HOURS

**MONDAY—FRIDAY**  
**8:00AM TO 3:45PM**

# GRAD 2026

**SEE LAST PAGE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING GRAD 2026**

## LIBRARY COMMONS

**Happy New Year from the NorKam Library!**  
We hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday.

Did you make any New Year's resolutions?  
Want to read MORE this year?

Start the year with a new YOU! Check out the New Arrivals display unit in the Library for fresh titles, and have a look at our great selection of QUICK READ novels [high-interest novels with 200 pages or less]!

As well, check out our New Year window display in the office hallway for great fiction and non-fiction titles.

Ask Mr. Hafeli or Mr. Regnier if you want to read anything in the display case!

### TEXTBOOK RETURNS:

Semester 1 ends **January 27th**. Please make sure ALL textbooks DUE from Semester 1 are returned to the Library by **Wednesday, January 21st**.



Students attending project completion days can return textbooks when they have completed their missing assignments.

### REMINDER

- If you eat in the library, please respect the space and clean up your garbage (crumbs too!) !
- **FOOD IS ONLY ALLOWED AT THE LARGE BROWN TABLES.**  
No food or drink near the bean bag chairs, in the project room, or near the leather chairs or the sofas. Thank you!



\*\* DON'T FORGET, MR. HAFELI WILL PROOFREAD YOUR WORKS CITED PAGE ANYTIME! MY PROOFREADING IS 100% GUARANTEED, SO WHY NOT TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO LET HIM GIVE IT A ONCE-OVER? \*\*



## Enjoy the New Year and 2026!!!

Mr. Hafeli & Mr. Regnier

## FUTURE EDUCATION



The BCGEU Scholarship program seeks to foster member engagement, and provide fair, accessible scholarship opportunities for applicants.

The program strives to promote diversity, inclusion, and equity to make post-secondary education a viable choice for members and their families.

The BCGEU scholarship program supports members and their families in their post-secondary pursuits. We are proud to support students to achieve their learning goals.

- BCGEU President  
Paul Finch



### WHO WE ARE

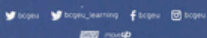
The BC General Employees' Union (BCGEU) is one of the largest and most diverse unions in British Columbia. We represent over 95,000 members who work in the provincial public service as well as the broader public and private sectors.

We trace our beginnings back to the early 1900s when provincial civil servants first formed an association to address their working conditions.

Since then, the BCGEU has continued to organize and represent thousands of workers outside of government - including health care, community-based social services, post-secondary education, libraries and local governments, highways maintenance, credit unions, and casinos - and we continue to grow!

The BCGEU is affiliated to district labour councils and the BC Federation of Labour, and is a component of the National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE). Through NUPGE, we are affiliated to the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC), Public Services International (PSI) and the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Association (IUFA).

bcgeu.ca



## 2026 BCGEU Scholarships

bcgeu.ca/scholarships

APPLY  
NOW!

## NEW FICTION!

The NorKam Parent Advisory Committee has graciously granted the Library funds to purchase fiction for all students!

We have already started to buy requested and new fiction books out of this generous grant! If there is a title, a series, or an author you would like to see on our shelves, please use the form on the [NorKam Library page](#) or stop by the Library to fill out one of our request forms.

If you'd prefer, speak to Mr. Hafeli in-person to make a request.



**KAMLOOPS**  
IMMIGRANT SERVICES  
TOGETHER WE'RE BETTER

**Family Sports Nights / Lunar New Year  
Decoration Making / Cross Country  
Skiing**

Kamloops Immigrant Services has an action packed January. For activities like these and more, visit their January calendar of events on their website by following [this link](#).

## NORKAM'S LITERACY INITIATIVE

As part of Norkam Secondary's ongoing commitment to improving literacy, teachers are intentionally incorporating Tier 2 vocabulary into classroom instruction across all subject areas.

Here is an example of the Tier 2 vocabulary words being introduced to strengthen student literacy.

At NorKam we understand that improving students' vocabulary will help to strengthen comprehension, critical thinking, and students' ability to communicate.



## ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

**The Junior Boys' Basketball team won the Fulton Cup for the second year in a row!**

Congratulations to the team and coaches!



**Congratulations** as well to all of our Junior and Senior teams for their outstanding performances throughout the tournament.

Basketball, curling, and wrestling seasons are now in full swing. Families can visit the [athletic web page](#) for schedules, updates, and additional information.



### ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a BCGEU scholarship applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a BCGEU member in good standing, immediate relative of current, retired or deceased BCGEU member and staff. Eligible relatives include spouses, parents, children or grandchildren (including foster, adopted, step children and step grandchildren).
2. Applicants must be a student or prospective student to post-secondary or higher learning. They must be enrolled, registered or planning to attend an eligible educational institution in the year the scholarship is to be awarded. Full-time and part-time students are eligible.
3. Eligible educational institutions must be designated by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).
4. Applicants must complete the application by the established due date, as advertised in promotional materials and on our website. No late applications will be considered.
5. Applicants are limited to one application per year. Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Applicants who are indigenous may apply for our Indigenous scholarship fund which offers awards of \$2,500 for full-time and \$1,500 for part-time students. Proof of indigenous ancestry is required. Please see [bcgeu.ca/scholarships](#) for more details.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process consists of two parts, a personal statement and an essay, video, song or infographic in response to questions selected annually by the Provincial Executive.

We encourage original research and the incorporation of personal experiences. Applicants should consider interviewing labour activists and BCGEU members as part of their research. Applications are expected to be original work created by the applicants.

### AWARD VALUES

The BCGEU constitution (article 10.20) sets out \$125,000 or \$150 per member, whichever is greater for the BCGEU scholarship program. Awards for full-time students are \$2,500 and \$1,500 for part-time students.

### DEADLINE

The scholarship submission period is December 15, 2025 to February 15th, 2026 at midnight.

APPLY NOW ONLINE AT  
[BCGEU.CA/SCHOLARSHIPS](#)



### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

You may also be eligible for one of these five scholarships worth \$2,500 awarded by our national union, NUPGE.

- Brian Fudge Memorial Scholarship
- Scholarship for Indigenous Students
- Scholarship for Students of Colour
- Terry Fox Memorial Scholarship
- Tommy Douglas Memorial Scholarship

For more information on these scholarships, including eligibility criteria and the deadline for submissions visit [nupge.ca](#).



# GRAD UPDATES

# 2026

## Class of

## INFORMATION

- NorKam's 2026 Graduation Commencement Ceremony will take place on **Tuesday, June 16th 2026**, at the Sandman Centre.

## GRAD PHOTO RETAKES

- Grad photo retakes are taking place on **Mon, Feb. 9th and Tues, Feb. 10th**.
- There is a sitting fee of **\$35** that includes 12 previews, a 5x7 grad photo that is included in the certificate holder supplied at commencements.
- [CLICK HERE](#) to book an appointment for Grad Photos
- Please pick up a informational brochure at the main office with everything you need to know about this process



THIS YEAR:

Photography is offering ONLINE ORDERING for grads. Previews and an order form will arrive approximately one week after the photo session.

## BABY PHOTOS

- We are now accepting baby photos at the office. Please select ONE photo between newborn to grade six. Email to [norkam-sec-office@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:norkam-sec-office@sd73.bc.ca) with the subject line: "Baby Photo (Student Name)"

**SAFE GRAD** *A Parent Organized Committee* \*\*\*Events are independent of the school-organized grad events



- **TRUE EARTH** Laundry detergent fundraiser – <https://tru-earth.sjv.io/Norkam2026>
- **GOLF & RESTAURANT** Rotary Cards- 30.00 each

# Stay Connected

**CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR GRAD PAGE ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE**

CONTACT THE PARENT GRAD COMMITTEE AT:



[Norkamsafegrad@gmail.com](mailto:Norkamsafegrad@gmail.com)



[Norkam Safe Grad 2026](#)