



NORKAM SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2025 | WWW.NKSS.SD73.BC.CA | 250-376-1272



PARENT - TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent-teacher interviews are taking place on Thursday, October 23rd between 2pm-4pm and 5pm-7pm.

[Click this link](#) to go online and book a time(s) with your student's teacher(s).

Please be aware that students will be dismissed EARLY on October 23rd at 12:40pm. Buses on this day will run on their normal schedule.

Parent/Teacher Interview Bell Schedule

Warning: 8:26
Block 1 8:31 - 9:25
Block 2 9:30 - 10:25

LONG BREAK 10:25 - 10:45 (10:40 Warning)
Block 3 10:45 - 11:40
Block 4 11:45 - 12:40

****Interview times:**
2:00-4:00pm
5:00-7:00pm

IMPORTANT DATES

Thanksgiving (No School)	Oct 13
Mosaic #2 Begins	Oct 17
Photo Retakes	Oct 22
Parent Teacher Interviews	Oct 23
Pro-D Day (No School)	Oct 24
Double Block Day (AA/BB)	Nov 03
Double Block Day (CC/DD)	Nov 04
Remembrance Day	Nov 11

ADMINISTRATION

PRINCIPAL: MRS. R. SDOUTZ
VICE PRINCIPAL: MRS. N. STEWART
VICE PRINCIPAL: MR. D. POELZER

COUNSELLORS

Ms. Kelsey Taylor (A-F)
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 4:00PM

SCHOOL FEES

Semester 1 school fees are now posted and payable through [school cash online](#), or via cash or cheque through the office. Please see page 2 for important information about school processing fees.

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



September 29, 2025



PHOTO RE-TAKES

Photo re-takes are happening **Wednesday, October 22nd** for any student who missed them on Monday, September 8th. Extra photo packages are available at the main office.

If you forgot to hand in your package selection and payment on picture day, you can hand them in on October 22. Let the photographer know if you want your original picture or a retake.



REPORTING ABSENCES

Parents are asked to please report student absences before **8:30 am** on the day of the absence (you can also report absences in advance, if they are known).

To report an absence you may choose to:

Call the toll free # 1-844-350-2647

Visit: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>

Please choose the reason for your child's absence from school: sick, appointment, family vacation, etc. Don't forget to wait for a confirmation number.

Students leaving school during class or arriving late in the morning must sign in/out in the office. Parents will receive a phone notification through the computerized system for unexcused daily absences. Students who are going to be away for an extended period of time are asked to fill out a **Planned Absence Form**. Forms are available in the office.

SCHOOL PROCESSING FEES

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.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- If you are interested in learning about the Loran Award and how to apply, please [CLICK HERE](#).
- The Post-Secondary BC Event is coming to NorKam on the afternoon of **Friday Oct. 3rd**. Students will be called down from classes and be able to meet with representatives from various BC Universities in the cafeteria. Grads, mark the date in your calendar!

See this link for more details: <https://www.postsecondarybc.ca/>

POPCORN DAY IS BACK!!!

Students can buy a bag of popcorn during **LONG BREAK** every **WEDNESDAY** in **ROOM 106**. It costs \$2/bag, and all proceeds support our District Resource Room students.



PAC - BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

The PAC is accepting **bottle donations** at the North Shore General Grants Bottle Depot, 611 Fortune Drive.

Refundables can be dropped off with the bottle depot staff during business hours. They will add the donations to the NorKam Secondary School PAC account for the 2025-2026 school year.

The PAC anticipates many funding requests, and these donations will enable us to help as much as possible!

**TOGETHER
WE
CAN!**



ATTENTION:

There is a new **Norkam Secondary School PAC Facebook group**. Parents and caregivers are welcome to join for updates and information.



NorKam Secondary
PAC



Collecting bottle donations to support our school
Drop off at General Grant's
611 Fortune Drive

ATHLETICS

Volleyball, cross-country running, and boys' soccer are all in full swing! Stay up to date with the [athletics calendar](#).



Check out the [Athletic website](#) to watch for game times and come cheer on our dedicated teams!

GO SAINTS!!



LA BELLA SAINTS HAIR SALON

La Bella Saints will be opening to the public on **October 7th**. Our hours run from **9am until 3pm**. We will be available for foils, balayage, colours, haircuts, and even perms. Our young stylists, currently level 1 apprentices, are supervised by a Red Seal Stylist and capable of all salon services. We have the most competitive prices in town for both hair services and retail products. Stop in to make an appointment or talk with one of our stylists to book online. Call us at **250-376-3133**.



NORKAM LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS

Drop Everything And Read (DEAR): Tues, Oct. 28th (Block C)

October is International School Library month and, to recognize the importance of school libraries in our society and to our students, NorKam Secondary is participating in the Annual Drop Everything and Read promotion. Since October 27th (National School Library Day) is a Monday after a long weekend, Drop Everything And Read will be held on **Tuesday, October 28th**. All students and staff at NorKam will drop what they are doing for 30 minutes from 10:55am to 11:26am and read a novel, magazine, comic book/graphic novel, informational book, or any other article or short story that interests them. NorKam has participated in this activity for the past sixteen years and our participation has been great over that time. We hope that all students and staff at NorKam will participate this year! **BE READY TO READ!**



2025-26 Battle of the Books - REBOOT (BoB)

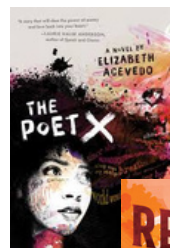
Calling all readers! Last year was NorKam's third year participating in Battle of the Books... and we lost our trophy to an upstart group from Westsyde! We are hungry to get it back... do you want to join us? The books are amazing this year!

Here is what BoB is:

Students read books from a selection of 12 titles and compete against students in gr.8-12 from other schools at an event in May 2026. There are 1-3 fun events throughout the year as well! Readers have 8 months to read as many books from our selection as they are comfortable with. We've already got the books, so come down to the Library and see what you would be reading and join the team! Sign up with Mr. Hafeli. Our first regular meeting will be Thursday, October 16th in the Library Project room. ALL are welcome!

2025-26 BoB Titles:

Animal Farm - George Orwell
Dreamer (graphic novel) - Akim Aliu
Dumplin' - Julie Murphy
Homes - Abu Makr al Rabeeah
The House in the Cerulean Sea - TJ Klune
Hunger Games - Suzanne Collins



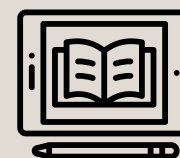
I am Number Four - Pittacus Lore
The Poet X - Elizabeth Acevedo
Rez Ball - Byron Graves
Speak (graphic novel) - Laurie Halse Anderson
Truly Devious - Maureen Johnson
Unwind - Neil Shusterman



BOARD GAMES!

Many fun board games and chess boards are available all the time if you'd like to play during breaks or before school. Come in and bring your friends to play Settlers of Catan, Battleship, Connect 4, Crib, or even have a few games of speed chess using our digital chess clocks.

Don't forget, our giant chess board is available first come, first served.



KINDLE eREADERS

Our Kindles have over 100 novels ready to read, including popular new books that are requested. Most titles are current and popular, both series books and individual novels. *We also have the majority of curricular novels used by teachers at NorKam stored on our Kindles. Come to the Library and ask us about the Kindles!



AUDIOBOOKS

NorKam has access to dozens of audiobooks that can be signed-out by students and used on personal devices. If you are interested in listening to audiobooks with your own headphones on your own device (cell phone, laptop, etc.), please speak to Mr. Hafeli.

HAVE A SPOOKY, SAFE AND HAPPY HALLOWEEN! ENJOY A GREAT OCTOBER!

MR. HAFELI AND MR. REGNIER



SD73 and KIS
invite you to a



ESSENTIAL SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR ELL & NEWCOMER FAMILIES

VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION

Please join us as we share information with parents about schools in Kamloops. Presenters will include SD73 staff and SWIS workers.

Topics of discussion will be:

- ✓ School expectations
- ✓ Learning Updates
- ✓ Communication with your school
- ✓ Answering your questions

**Please register in advance.
A zoom link will be provided
upon registration.**

For more information email :

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Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

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et Citoyenneté Canada



OCTOBER
8

6-7:00PM



**Registration QR
Code:**

