



Rayleigh Elementary School

306 Puett Ranch Road

Kamloops, BC V2H 1M9

Phone: (250) 578-7229 Fax: (250) 377-2246

rayleigh.sd73.bc.

September 2025 Newsletter

Principal's Message

Welcome back! I hope that you have found ways to spend time with family and enjoy the summer.

In recent weeks, staff have been working hard to prepare our building and classrooms for the arrival of students. In particular, I would like to thank our custodial team (Connie Wenzel & Paul Cahill) for all of their efforts behind the scenes. The school looks amazing!

We have many exciting plans in place as we move into the new school year and I look forward to our students having a memorable year filled with engaging and meaningful learning experiences.

Dave Conroy
Principal

New Bell Schedule for This Year

8:20 am (Winter)	Warning bell
8:25 am (Fall & Spring)	Warning bell
8:30 am	School begins
10:30–10:45 am	Recess
12:05–12:30 pm	Students play outside
12:30–12:55 pm	Students eat lunch
12:55 pm	Warning bell
1:00 pm	Classes begin
2:34 pm	Dismissal
2:34 - 2:50 pm	Bus loads

Newsletters

Monthly School Newsletters will be emailed to families and made available on our [school website](#). Paper copies are available upon request from teachers and at the office.

Volleyball Coaches

Volleyball season is just around the corner and if you are interested in coaching a team or refereeing, please contact Mr. Conroy (dconroy@sd73.bc.ca).



Upcoming Events & Dates

- Sept 2 First Day of School 10:30 am -12:34 pm
- Sept 10 PAC Mug & Muffin - 8:00 am near the new accessible playground
- Sept 10 PAC Meeting at 6:30 pm in Library
- Sept 16 Assembly Performance (Steve Harmer)
- Sept 18 School Photos
- Sept 22 Pro-D - no school for students
- Sept 26 Terry Fox Run
- Sept 29 Orange Shirt Day
- Sept 30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation - no school
- Oct 1 Gr 1 Families Come Read With Me at 8:30 am
- Oct 13 Thanksgiving Day - no school
- Oct 14 Assembly Performance (Green Thumb Theatre)
- Oct 22 School Photos Retakes
- Oct 23 Assembly Performance (Earth Rangers)
- Oct 24 Pro-D - no school for students
- Nov 10 Remembrance Day Assembly
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day - no school
- Dec 1 Pro-D - no school for students
- Dec 19 Last Day before Winter Break
- [SD #73 School Calendar for 2025/2026](#)
- [SD #73 School Calendar for 2026/2027](#)

School Staff for 2025-2026

Mrs. Stewart & Ms. Dearin - Kindergarten
 Ms. Nielsen - K/1
 Ms. Foster - Primary
 Ms. Jones (for Rempel) - Primary
 Mrs. Roszmann - Primary/Intermediate
 Mrs. MacBurney - Intermediate
 Mrs. Tweed - Intermediate
 Ms. Hendry - Intermediate
 Ms. Gauley - Intermediate
 Ms. Hassall - Intermediate
 Mrs. Coxon - Prep
 Ms. Dearin - Prep
 Ms. Cavlek - LART
 Ms. Sauer - Teacher Librarian
 TBD - Indigenous Education Worker (IEW)
 Ms. Baylak - Certified Education Assistant (CEA)
 Ms. Fedosov - Certified Education Assistant (CEA)
 Ms. McLaren - Certified Education Assistant (CEA)
 Ms. Wenzel - Daytime Custodian
 Mr. Cahill - Evening Custodian
 Mrs. Maskell - Secretary
 Mr. Conroy - Principal

Learning Updates Overview

- **1st Point of Contact: Various formats - Oct 27th - Nov 7th - exact date to be determined**
- **2nd Point of Contact: Written Learning Updates Published - Dec 12th**
- **3rd Point of Contact: Written Learning Updates - March 11th**
- **4th Point of Contact: Various formats - April 27th - May 8th - exact date to be determined**
- **5th Point of Contact: Summative Written Learning Updates Published - June 25th**

Medical Alerts & Admin. of Medication

Please remember that it is a family's responsibility to let the school know if your child has a serious health condition or requires medication while at school.

School district personnel are not permitted to administer medication to students unless specifically authorized to do so by a Doctor.

Please ensure you obtain the forms from the office that authorizes the school to administer a prescription or identify the steps to take in a medical emergency. These forms need to be renewed each school year.



Rayleigh School Learning Plan

The goals outlined in the Rayleigh School Learning Plan for 2025/2026 are:

1. Literacy: Each learner will demonstrate a year's worth of growth in Literacy.
2. Well Being: Students at Rayleigh Elementary will feel a strong sense of belonging.

Staff will participate in a variety of Professional Development initiatives and make these areas a priority this year.

Open Parachute Wellbeing Program

We are excited to support student's mental health and wellbeing using the new school-wide program, Open Parachute. This program aims to build a strong foundation of resilience within students as they learn practical mental health skills. For overarching program information, please follow [this link](#) and check out this Parent/Caregiver home support lesson on [Building Resilience](#).

openparachute®

School Supply Fees

Rayleigh Elementary offers and strongly encourages a user fee program for school supplies with payment through School Cash Online. For a nominal fee, we supply all pens, pencils, exercise books, crayons etc. School fees include a \$15 Performance fee so that we can bring in live performances to the school for students to enjoy.

Money

Please do not send money to the school with your child unless there has been a written request from the teacher. Our school offers [SchoolCash Online](#), which provides you with the convenience of paying online for school items such as field trips, school supply fees, etc. This is the preferred way for families to pay for school-related items.

Forms & Permissions

During the first full week of school, we will send home forms that require Parent/Caregiver signatures. Please ensure these forms are checked over for accuracy and returned to the school as soon as possible.

Emergency Preparedness Drills

All schools participate in Emergency Preparedness Drills each year. We will have six fire drills, two lockdown practices and an Earthquake drill. If your child talks to you about these drills, please reassure them that the practices are to ensure their safety in an emergency.

Dress Code

While at school, students are expected to dress in a way that aligns with the learning environment that they are in. Rayleigh Elementary follows the SD73 Dress Code and this includes choosing clothing that avoids the following things:

- promoting the use of tobacco, illegal drugs or alcohol
- advocating for illegal activity
- promoting hatred of a person or persons, including, but not limited to, clothing that denigrates or promotes hate based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, or age
- containing profanity, pornography or obscene images

For a more comprehensive review of the [SD73 Dress Code](#), please follow the link.



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Personal Digital Devices

Rayleigh Elementary School's personal digital devices guidelines & expectations are guided by the Provincial Government and SD73 and have been developed with staff and parents/caregivers to promote online safety and focused learning environments for all students.

During Instructional Time (class time & field trips), student use of personal digital devices is only permitted based on staff discretion. Students are encouraged to not bring personal electronic devices to school. Any use of personal digital devices must comply with [Administrative Procedure 145: Use of Personal Electronic Devices](#). For a comprehensive overview of the Rayleigh Personal Digital Devices Guidelines & Expectations, [click here](#).

Scent Considerate Environment

For most of us, perfumes, essential oils and colognes add an element of enjoyment to our lives. However, scent allergies are on the rise and we have staff members who are allergic to scents. For them, being around scents results in difficulties breathing, headaches, sneezing and feeling unwell. Please help us to keep the school environment free of scents by not using scents before visiting and ensuring that your child(ren) are not wearing scented products.

SCENT CONSIDERATE FACILITY

Many students and adults are allergic perfume, cologne, laundry detergent, shampoo, and other scented products.

Please do not wear or use these types of scented products in this building.

We share the air, go scent free.



Criminal Record Checks for Volunteers

All volunteers that wish to be involved in field trips and other school based activities are required to submit a criminal record check. Once completed, criminal record checks are valid for three years. On July 1, 2024, we were informed that all Criminal Record Checks must be completed through the online [Criminal Record Check](#) Review program as the RCMP no longer offer an in-person option. We

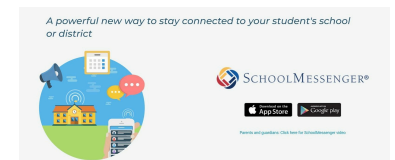
usually receive these online reviews within 3-4 days of submission. We encourage anyone interested in volunteering to proactively complete this process as soon as possible.

Lunch Hour Supervisors

We have a list of parents/caregivers who are on our Lunch Hour Supervision Team and we have room for a few more people to join the team. Lunch Hour Supervisors must have a completed Criminal Record Check on file and have read through our Rayleigh Elementary Lunch Hour Supervisors' Handbook. This is considered a volunteer position and comes with a \$12 per day honorarium. Lunch Hour Supervisors can sign up on a flexible schedule ranging from one day a week to five days a week. If you are interested, please connect with Mrs. Sandra Maskell by contacting the office or by email (smaskell@sd73.bc.ca).

Student Absences

Parents/Caregivers are encouraged to no longer leave a message on the school's answering machine. Our system handles the majority of parent/caregiver contact (including phone calls) for current and upcoming student absences. If your child arrives late or needs to leave part way through the day, they **must** be signed in or out at the office.



To enter an Absence please use the School Messenger app which is excellent for one day or multiple absence entries, website (go.schoolmessenger.ca) or phone number 1-844-350-2647.

Fair Notice Letter to Families

SD73 has updated our Fair Notice to Parents with regards to student safety. Please take a moment to read our policies and procedures [HERE](#).

School Spirit Wear

Our annual offering for families to purchase School Spirit Wear opened today. The [Online Store](#) will remain open for the month of September. Hansport begins working on the orders once the store closes on September 30th and it usually takes about 3-4 weeks for the items to be received at the school after that point. We continue to encourage students and staff members to wear Spirit Wear or School Colours (Purple & Black) on Fridays to promote school spirit and it will be fantastic to see all of the new and retro Spirit Wear items being worn soon.

PAC News

The first PAC meeting of the year will be on Wednesday, Sept. 10th at 6:30 pm in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Rayleigh PAC Executive can be reached at rayleighpac@gmail.com

There are a number of PAC Bottle Drives planned for this year that raise funds to support our school. All families are encouraged to participate. The first PAC Bottle Drive is on Sunday, September 14th from 9:00 to ~11:00 am. Simply meet at the school at 9:00 am and you will be guided on how to participate. As an added bonus, Grade 7 students who come out to help will earn \$50 towards their Grade 7 Year End Activities.

