



Kamloops School of the Arts

Kamloops School of the Arts
1390 9 Ave,
Kamloops, BC V2C 3X5
(250) 374-3200
<https://www.sd73.bc.ca/ksa>

September 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to another exciting school year! The staff has been working hard to get our school ready! The following newsletter provides information about the upcoming school year- Please do not hesitate, however, to give the office a call if you have further queries or check out our school website/PAC Facebook page.

The staff and I look forward to greeting grade 1-12 students on Tuesday, September 8th.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lloyd, Principal, Kamloops School of the Arts

First Week of School

ELEMENTARY (Grade 1-7): The first day of school is TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th. Supervision and doors will open at 10:20 and school will begin at 10:30. Classes will end at 12:39 pm that day for elementary students. All students that attended KSA last year and are going into grades 1-7 for the 26/27 school year are asked to meet their former elementary teacher at their **regular entrances**. Once attendance has been taken, students will be assigned their new class for the 2026/2027 school year. Please pre arrange a pick up spot for your child. **Please send a snack with your child on Tuesday.**

New Students: Students that are new to KSA will be meeting at the front of the school. There will be a welcome station set up and staff there to greet students.

Attendance on Tuesday Sept. 8th and Wednesday Sept. 9th is very important for us.

NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS: Please note that 2026/2027 kindergarten students have a separate schedule and will start full time Wednesday, September 16th. Please contact the office if you are unsure of your meeting time with the Kindergarten teachers.

SECONDARY: All secondary students will be reporting to their assigned teacher on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th AT 10:30 AM to pick up their Semester 1 schedules. Signs will be posted on each secondary entrance indicating grade, teacher and room to report to. Students new to KSA will be able to check in at the 'Welcome Back' table at the front of the school where staff will be able to help with directions. Grade 8-12 students will be receiving their timetables during their homeroom class. Students will be reporting to 4 shortened blocks on Tuesday and this will allow them to meet all of their Semester 1 teachers. Secondary classes will be in session until 2:54pm.

School Fees/Supplies

Elementary - There is no need to buy your own school supplies as the school provides these items at a reduced cost. School supply fees will be applied to student accounts during the second week of school. Please have fees paid by **October 23, 2026**. Fees cover the expense of school supplies as well as a concert series for our students.

Secondary - Students are responsible for their day to day school supplies. Certain secondary courses require a fee to be paid, fees will be uploaded to student accounts in October. Teachers will be handing out course outlines to give students and families information about any special school supplies needed (i.e. calculator, compass etc). Students should plan to bring a binder, paper and writing utensils on the first day.



Kamloops School of the Arts

Online Code

Email

☒ Email me notifications about my gallery

[View Your Photos](#)

Photo Day

PHOTO DAY – **September 28th**. Prior to photo day, a brochure will be sent home with students advertising the photo date and other important details. After photo day each student photographed will receive a proof to place their order. **Retakes will take place on October 26th.**

Two days after photo day, go to www.rightphotography.com and go to the Online Ordering tab. Find your school by the original photo day or Retake Day. When asked for an online code, type in your child's student ID number and provide the email address you used when registering your child at the school. You'll be able to view their photo

and place an order. If you are unsure of your child's student ID number, call the school at 250-374-3200.

Attendance

At KSA the provincial curriculum is taught through an integrated arts program. Consistent attendance K-12 is a vital component of the program and absolutely necessary in order for a child to succeed. Staff has noticed an upswing of attendance issues during the past couple years.

Persistent or Severe Absenteeism

Persistent Absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or more of school days (approx. 18+ days annually). Severe Absenteeism is defined as missing 50% or more of school days.

Significant student absences and lateness (10 percent or more) will impact your child's ability to do well and achieve success in the educational program we offer at KSA. KSA has developed a new attendance manual, click [HERE](#) for more information.

On occasion it is necessary for your child to be away due to illness or other factors. If you know your

child will be absent from school **please call 1-844-350-2647 to report an absence or download the Safe Arrival app for smartphones. Contact the office if you have trouble accessing the portal.**

Fruit and Vegetable Programs - Fresh For Kids

KSA runs the Fruit and Vegetable program. If you would like more information about the program, please check out <https://www.bcaitc.ca/>. Please note: If you do not want your child receiving fruit and vegetables and/or milk programs, please call the office.

CLASSROOM PLACEMENTS - ELEMENTARY

Due to our very full school and lack of spots in our elementary division- there will be no movement of students after placements. I would ask that you embrace your child's placement and keep a positive mindset around the new school year and peers your child is placed with. Unfortunately, moving students is extremely challenging as multiple variables affect movement. Parents must remember that Class Size and Composition in a classroom determine if a classroom is full. Some children actually account for '2' spots in a classroom due to exceptionalities they may have.

Parents were given the ability to give input last April and May 2026 should they have had concerns. Parents can expect to be able to give their input about placements again starting in April 2027. A PINK PARENT INPUT FORM will be utilized so that parents can give insight into the best fit for their children. Should you wish to talk it over and discuss what can be done for next year please do reach out by phone or email so that we can do my best to listen and we make a plan for supporting your child for the future.

Verification Reports and Permission Forms

The school district requires parents to update Student Verification Records on a yearly basis. Along with this document, a *permission for personal information consent*, an *Outside Media in Schools and a walking permission form* will be sent home. **These forms must be signed and returned to the school before October 2nd.**

Parent Involvement and Parent Advisory Council

There are several ways in which you can be an active parent at Kamloops School of the Arts. Our Parent Advisory Council meets on a regular basis, and the meeting dates are published in the school newsletters and on the PAC KSA Facebook page. Once a date for the first PAC meeting for the year is set, parents will be notified.

Parking and Traffic

We believe strongly in the safety of our children, therefore, please make sure you are aware of parking and traffic routines at our school. Students are reminded to follow road safety at all times. Students are required to use the crosswalk and look both ways before crossing the street.

******Please note that the back parking lot behind the school is for staff only. Parents are asked to drop off/pick up their child on Fraser Street. Thank you for maintaining safe distancing during drop off/pick up.******

******Please ensure to communicate this important safety rule to anyone dropping off or picking up your child.******

BELL SCHEDULE 2026/2027

Elementary Everyday

First bell	8:20
Start of Day	8:30-8:35
PERIOD 1	8:35- 9:15
PERIOD 2	9:15 - 9:55
Recess	9:55 - 10:10
PERIOD 3	10:10 - 10:50
PERIOD 4	10:50 - 11:30
Lunch	11:30 - 12:30
Outside	11:30- 12:10
Inside	12:10-12:30
PERIOD 5	12:30 - 1:10
PERIOD 6	1:10 - 1:50
PERIOD 7	1:50 - 2:30
Ready for End of the Day and Dismissal	2:39

Secondary School

<u>Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday High School</u>		<u>Wednesday High School</u>	
8:20	Warning Bell	8:20	Warning Bell
8:30-9:48	Period 1	8:30-9:45	Period 1
9:48-10:03	Long Break	9:45-10:00	Long Break
10:03-11:21	Period 2	10:00-11:15	Period 2
11:21-12:09	Lunch	11:15-12:03	Lunch
12:09-1:27	Period 3	12:03-12:57	Careers
1:27-1:37	Break	12:57-1:53	Period 3
1:37-2:54	Period 4	1:53-1:58	Break
		1:58-2:54	Period 4

Professional Development Days and Early Closure

- September 21, 2026
- October 23, 2026
- November 30, 2026
- February 5, 2027
- April 26, 2027
- May 21, 2027

Parent-Teacher Interview Dates / Early Closures (2 Days – 1.5 Hour early closure)

	Date	Time
1.	October 8 th (Secondary Only)	12:30 pm
2.	March 4 th (Secondary Only)	12:30 pm

Medical Policy

Please contact the school if your child has any health issues or potentially life-threatening conditions that we need to be made aware of. No medications (prescription or non-prescription) are to be administered by school district employees without prior written consent of the parent/guardian and doctors must sign a ***Request for Administration of Medication at School*** form which includes written medical advice from a physician. This form must be renewed/resigned each school year.

Gym Strip for P.E. Class

On days when Intermediate and secondary students have P.E., they are required to wear a T-shirt, shorts (or other flexible clothing like yoga pants), and non-marking running shoes. Primary class clothing requirements will vary with individual teachers. Parents should check with their child's teacher for details.

Indoor Shoes-Elementary

Students NEED "indoor" shoes at school. For gym classes, athletic shoes are required (Please, no flip flop or open toe shoes). These can also serve as indoor shoes for your child. In the wet weather, the floors get slippery and dangerous, especially on the stairs! Please ensure that your child has shoes here at school for inside wear. If you need support in acquiring a second pair of shoes for your child- please call the office- all calls will be confidential. Thank you!

Guidelines for Personal Electronic Devices at KSA

As of July 1, 2024, the Kamloops-Thompson School District is revising the District's student code of conduct ([Administrative Procedure 350](#)) to include the following language as required by [Ministerial Order M89](#):

Comply with restrictions on personal digital device use at school to promote online safety and focused learning environments by demonstrating:

- *use of personal digital devices for instructional purposes and digital literacy development;*
- *use of personal digital devices that is appropriate to a student's age and developmental stage;*

- *use personal digital devices for accessibility and accommodation needs, including medical and health needs;*
- *use personal digital devices to support equitable access to learning outcomes.*

KSA School is fully committed to aligning its personal digital device expectations/policy with the new language mandated by Ministerial Order M89. This commitment is a result of collaborative efforts involving staff, parents, and students. The aim is to promote online safety and create focused learning environments for all students. As part of this commitment, KSA is in the process of developing new policies that adhere to the updated language set out in AP 350. These policies will further reinforce the school's dedication to the safety and learning of its students.

Guidelines for Personal Electronic Devices - ELEMENTARY

The KSA Elementary Phone/Technology policy addresses the appropriate use of personal digital devices during our regular school day. Personal Digital Devices means any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the internet, such as a cell phone, tablet or other smart devices. As per AP 350.1, the safekeeping of these devices are solely the responsibility of the owners.

- Students who bring personal electronic devices will be instructed to keep them in their backpacks or lockers for the duration of the school day.
- We ask that students use the office phone when calling parents during the day due to illness or urgent matters.
- No recording/photographic devices may be used at any time.
- Cell phones or other devices are prohibited during recess and/or lunchtime.

Essential Supports - students who are exceptions to these expectations will be identified by our LART/Counsellor.

Failure to comply with this policy will result in the confiscation of the electronic device which will be retained by the teacher and/or turned in to the office for follow-up with administration.

KSA Phone/Technology Policy - SECONDARY

The KSA Secondary Phone/Technology policy addresses the appropriate use of personal digital devices during our regular school day. Personal Digital Devices means any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the internet, such as a cell phone, tablet or other smart devices.

Bell-to-Bell Expectations

- During class time (from bell-to-bell), personal digital devices will remain in lockers, backpacks/purses, or holders provided by classroom teachers. Phones will be off or in silent mode.
- During class time, all school areas, including bathrooms, hallways, and common areas will be designated CELL PHONE FREE.
- During class time, airpods, headphones or listening devices connected to personal digital devices will not be permitted.
- Cell phones and other technology may be used at secondary long break and lunchtime.
- Creating or recording photos, videos, sound, or other digital artifacts without consent is prohibited at KSA at any time during the school day unless under the direct supervision of

a teacher for educational reasons only. At no time will the use of any personal electronic device invade or infringe upon the personal privacy or safety of any member of the school district community.

Essential Supports - students who are exceptions to these expectations will be identified by our LART/Counsellor.

In case of emergencies, communication can be handled through the office.

All adults at KSA are tasked with maintaining our learning environment and keeping students safe. It is expected that students will adhere to these guidelines and any reasonable requests regarding cell phones, or other digital devices (ie. Please put your phone in the phone holder). Failure to comply with adult requests will be dealt with in a tiered system of progressive discipline.

- Progressive interventions by classroom teachers may include individual conversations with students, and communication with parents/guardians via email or phone.
- Continued disruptions to the learning environment may result in phones, or other digital devices, being held in the office.
- Chronic offenders, and students who demonstrate defiance may be referred to administration for follow-up. This may involve a parent/admin conversation to establish individual student plans for success. Chronic cell phone misuse may result in the ban of the student's cell phone from the school.

Students and staff can also refer to the following Administrative Policies for further information: School District #73 AP – 350.1 – Technology: Student Acceptable Use School District #73 AP – 350 – Student Code of Conduct.

Fair Notice for Parents

The safety of our children is a top priority for us all. As a school system, we have been involved in intensive safety training with our community partners – the police, Child & Youth Mental Health and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Together we have developed a district plan for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others. School District No. 73 has a policy in place that requires principals to activate a multidisciplinary “threat assessment” protocol in all cases of students making significant high level threats to harm themselves or others. Administrative Procedure 167 is available on the school district website at www.sd73.bc.ca Please see the letter from the superintendent at the end of this newsletter for more information.

Communication

If you have any questions that come up during the year, there are a number of ways to get in touch:

- Call the school
- Send an email. Most of the staff and administration can be reached using the first letter of the staff member's first name's initial, followed by the last name @sd73.bc.ca. (Example: John Smith: jsmith@sd73.bc.ca) There are a few exceptions but staff email addresses are also listed on our website.
- Check out our school facebook page
- Check out our website! It is located at <https://www.sd73.bc.ca/ksa>

PAC Update - August 2026

IMPORTANT DATES CONFIRMED:

- Tue Sep 8 - PAC's Sip Into September, after drop off, 10-12
- Wed Sep 16 - PAC MEETING, 6pm, Commons
- Sat Nov 14 - KSA PAC's Annual Craft Fair

SIP INTO SEPTEMBER: join us on the front lawn by the Gym Entrance on the first day of school, 10-12! After dropping-off your students, come around and enjoy good coffee and teas, and a few treats. This is for the grown-ups only, but those with littles not yet in school are welcome, including new Kindergarten families! As we get back to the ride & grind, we'll deserve some coffee after chaos! Please sign up for a small task to help us run this event: <https://volunteersignup.org/JEX3P>

WELCOME TO NEW FAMILIES! KSA PAC represents the parents and guardians of students at our school. We're pleased to welcome all the new students, including our Kindergarten K-Stars, Grade 8s, and students joining the new District Resource Room! Please reach out any time at board@ksapac.ca or through the Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/ksapac We share updates through the school newsletter, occasional emails, Facebook, and our monthly meetings.

Facebook is currently our main way of connecting, and you can turn on group notifications and/or receive updates from Facebook to your email without needing to regularly use the app.

Most of our fundraising and events happen during the first four months of school, which means there will be plenty of requests for volunteers. Please help out when you can! Grandparents, aunts & uncles, etc, can help, too!

A FEW OF PAC'S COMMITTEES: We will need many folks to donate a little bit of their time to make these things happen: Sip Into September Hot Lunches Popcorn Crew* Breakfast Club Halloween Dance* Craft Fair Santa Parade* Kids Market Winter Choral Concert Decor* End of Year BBQ* Legacy of KSA Secondary Recruitment Executive Committee Communications Welcoming Committee for New Families Grant Writing including gaming licenses Other Fundraising Initiatives As they Arise*

We will have to cancel any event that doesn't have a Lead Volunteer Please consider leading Popcorn Crew, or the Halloween Dance; these are our MAJOR fundraisers and bring THE most joy to the students.

POPCORN THURSDAYS \$1 & SLUSHIE DAYS \$2!

We will only have dates and times to announce if we find volunteers to make up a new Popcorn Crew - please email board@ksapac.ca if you can help, or reach out to even just once in a while.

MUNCH-A-LUNCH! Is the way we are able to use an online platform for fundraising for PAC. When events are organized, the details for ordering, etc, will be available for all students K-12. There is always a Pay-it-forward option, or Donate to PAC option, and we are gratefully accepting e-transfers to payments@ksapac.ca especially anytime you feel you can make a monetary donation instead of your time.

NEXT PAC MEETING: Sept 16 2026 We really need a few more volunteers for the Executive (aka Board) this year. We all work, we all have many outside commitments, and we all cooperate together to make PAC as easy and smooth as possible for parents/guardians to be involved just a little bit so that no one is left with all the work. Join us in the Commons (by the Elementary Dance Studio) - park in the staff lot and enter through the parking lot doors, or the Elem Dance Studio field doors. PAC Meetings will be held most months, on a Wednesday at 6pm

2026-27 Executive Members: Chair - Stefan Schweizer DPAC Rep 1 - Amanda Hamoline

Vice Chair - required DPAC Rep 2: - available

Secretary - Samantha Gidora Director at Large 1 - Emmy Aerius

Treasurer - Stephanie Drake Director at Large 2 - Sarah Krausart

Past Chair - Theo Williams Director at Large 3 - available

The members holding these positions might change at the September meeting as life happens, and we find a few more people wanting to have a say in KSA PAC's operations.

Thank you so much for supporting KSA and each others' students through the PAC!



	ADMINISTRATORS	POSITION
1	Blair Lloyd	Principal
2	Jeanine Traudt	Vice Principal
	TEACHING STAFF	POSITION
ELEMENTARY		
1	Jennica Alpaugh	Intermediate/music
2	Nicole Baldwin	LART - Elem
3	Joy Anne Bouwmeester	Primary/Dance
4	Jennifer Coates	Primary/ Dance
5	Claire Covington	Intermediate/ Drama
6	Sondra Dickinson	Kindergarten / Art, Music
7	Caitlin MacLaughlin in	Kindergarten/Drama, Dance
8	Devon McBride	PE
9	Jayden Murray	Elem Prep
10	Rebecca Nadolny	Primary/Dance
11	Charmaine Norman	Primary/Drama
12	Melissa Pavluk	Primary/Art
13	Sara Piroddi	Intermediate/Music
14	Michelle Richmond	Primary/Art
15	Karim Sadik	Intermediate/ Art
16	Terri Anne Wilson	Intermediate/Drama
17	Carmelina Woods	Primary/Music
18	Brittany Zettergreen	Intermediate/Dance
SECONDARY		
1	Brenda Duggan	DRR
2	Matthew Fichter	Sec - Music, PE
3	Paulette Gendron	Sec – French & Eng
4	Maddison Hillman	DRR
5	Genevieve Jackson	Sec-PE & Media
6	Lia Kubin	LART - Sec

7	Megan McCaffrey	Sec - Math, French
8	Jonathan McCaughterty	Sec - Math, Science, LDP
9	Katrina Melan	Sec - Drama
10	Jennifer Pendergast	Sec - Art
11	Naomi Shook	District Resource Room
12	Todd Smigielski	Sec- English & PE
13	Dennis Staginnus	Library/Intermediate
14	Simone Stella	Sec – Science & Math
15	Jennifer Suter-Beardsley	Sec - Socials, English
16	Lindsay Williams	Sec - Dance, English
17	Suanne Wallin	Counsellor
CUPE		POSITION
1	Jane Viventi	Secretary-in-Charge
2	Isabel Gray	Steno1/Counselling steno
3	Dino Bruno	Head Custodian
4	Jason Billy	Custodian
5	Kevin Casselman	Custodian
6	Cindy Flores	Custodian
7	Colby Boffa	IEW
8	Trish Chaplin	CEA
9	Elizabeth Charleyboy	CEA
10	Elizabeth Deacon	CEA
11	Ella Hanzon	CEA
12	Amy Jackson	CEA
13	Laura Mayo	CEA
14	Tracey Mirtle	CEA
15	Teresa Redden	CEA
16	Annette Reinhard	CEA
17	Susan Vetter	CEA
18	Clayton Webber	CEA

After School Plans

Please make every effort to plan after school arrangements before the start of the school day. If you have made after school arrangements and the plans have changed please notify the school directly. The staff cannot let elementary students leave for home, if they are not feeling well - unless they are accompanied by a supervising adult. This adult must be a relative or an approved representative of the family. Our staff must speak directly to the child's parent or legal guardian before they will be permitted to leave.

School Clothing

KSA Dress Code In accordance with SD73 School District Policies and AP 350.2: Kamloops School of the Arts is committed to providing students with learning environments that are safe, equitable and inclusive. Students and staff must show mutual respect for everyone, and this does not change based on how someone is dressed. KSA believes that judgements on the appropriateness of student attire are best made by students and their families, because clothing choices reflect individual identity, cultural norms and socio-economic factors that are intensely personal. Students may attend school and school related functions in clothing of their choice that respects our school community, provided that it meets the following conditions:

1. Conforms with the Health & safety requirements for the intended activity.
2. Does not promote drugs or alcohol.
3. Does not display profanity or violence.
4. Does not display discriminatory language or images.

Hat Policy: Individual teachers will discuss the wearing of headwear (Hats with brims/Toques/Hoodies etc.) in their classes and use this opportunity to discuss specific times when headwear may not be appropriate (exams/tests/student presentations etc....)

Tips for a Great School Year

GENERAL POINTS

Keep a Family Calendar

Be sure to read the school year calendar and post it in a visible spot. Note parent-teacher conference dates, report card distribution dates, and other school events. Record them into your personal calendar too. Children love predictability!

Focus on Friendship

When a child feels a sense of belonging and connectedness to his environment, he will learn and develop with greater ease and comfort.

Look for Extracurricular Activities

However, parents beware: Do not over-schedule your child (and yourself) to the point of stress and exhaustion.

Spend Some Time at School

Most teachers, principals and vice-principals are delighted to have parents lend a hand in the classroom and around the school campus. It provides an additional sense of connectedness to strengthen their village of care and support. Make sure you check with your child's teacher on when it is appropriate to visit and help. Sometimes

parents in the class can be a distraction.

Create Two-Way Communication

After checking to see whether your child has accurately completed her homework, take a moment to initial the agenda or school planner to let her teacher know you have reviewed the work. Write a comment or ask a question.

Read the School Newsletter, Check the Website, Join the School Facebook Page

This shows your interest in the school community and your willingness to be a part of that connection.

Develop Healthy Habits

Good physical health, proper nutrition, and enough sleep are the most important elements for school success.

One More Thing

Enjoy yourself and your child's elementary year, they go by fast!

Things To Tell the Teacher

What can you tell a teacher that will help him or her do their job better? Students do best when parents and teachers work together as partners. Not sure where to start?

Health conditions

If your child is diabetic, uses an inhaler, has allergies, or has a serious health condition, the classroom teacher should know. It's also helpful to let the teacher know whether your child has been diagnosed with conditions like ADHD, which may affect behaviour and concentration.

Family issues

Fill in the teacher if your family is going through a major change that could affect your child, such as a divorce, a death in the family, or a move.

Personality traits or behaviour issues

Maybe your son is painfully shy and is worried about making friends at a new school.

Strengths and weaknesses

If you tell teachers these things up front, they will have more time to help your children improve in the areas they need it most.

Learning style

If your child learns better through hands-on activities than through listening to explanations, mention that to his teacher. Also share any teaching strategies that you've found work well with your child.

Study habits

Tell teachers about your children's study habits and any issues they face in completing the work. Teachers often can offer suggestions to make homework time go more smoothly.

Special interests

Let the teacher know that your young son loves a particular comic book superhero or that your middle school daughter is a gifted painter.

Overcoming Anxiety

Let your children know you care

If your child is anxious about school, send personal notes in the lunch box or book bag.

Reinforce the ability to cope

Children absorb their parent's anxiety, so model optimism and confidence for your child. Let your child know that it is natural to be a little nervous anytime you start something new but that your child will be just fine once he or she becomes familiar with classmates, the teacher, and school routine.

Do not overreact

If the first few days are a little rough, try not to overreact. Young children in particular may experience separation anxiety or shyness initially but teachers are trained to help them adjust. If you drop them off, try not to linger. Reassure them that you love them, will think of them during the day, and will be back.

Remain calm and positive

Acknowledge anxiety over a bad experience the previous year. Children who had a difficult time academically or socially or were teased or bullied may be more fearful or reluctant to return to school. If you have not yet done so, share your child's concern with the school and confirm that the problem has been addressed.

Reinforce your child's ability to cope

Give your child a few strategies to manage a difficult situation on his or her own. But encourage your child to tell you or the teacher if the problem persists. Maintain open lines of communication with the school.

Arrange playdates

Try to arrange get-togethers with some of your child's classmates before school starts and during the first weeks of school to help your child re-establish positive social relationships with peers.

Plan to volunteer in the classroom

If possible, plan to volunteer in the classroom at least periodically throughout the year. Doing so helps your child understand that school and family life are linked and that you care about the learning experience.

Here are a few final tips for a fantastic school year

Get enough sleep.

Eat a healthy breakfast.

Try your best.

Use good work habits.

Take your time with school work.

Ask the teacher for help.

Keep a sense of humour.

Calendar Date for the year (subject to change)

2026	Date	Event
September	8	First Day Back! 10:30-12:39 pm (2:54pm for Sec)
	9	First Full Day of Classes (Gr. 1-12)
	TBA	Terry Fox Run
	21	Professional Development Day
	23	PAC Hot Lunch - Senor Froggy
	28	Photo Day
	29	KSA Orange Shirt Day
	30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
October	8	Parent Teacher Interviews- Secondary
	12	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
	16	Grad Photos
	21	Schoolwide Salmon Run
	23	Professional Development Day
	26	Photo Re-Takes
November	10	Remembrance Day school ceremony
	11	Remembrance Day
	14	Christmas Craft Fair
	16	Secondary - Start of Q2
	30	Professional Development Day

December	10	Christmas Concert- To be confirmed
	18	Elementary- Report cards sent home
	18	Last Day before Winter Break
2027		
January	4	School Returns from Winter Break
February	1	Secondary- Last day of S1/Q2
	5	Professional Development Day
	15	BC Family Day Holiday
March	4	Parent/Teacher Interviews-Secondary
	12	Elementary reports out to students
	12	Last Day before Spring Break
	31	School Returns from Spring Break
April	23	End of Quarter 3
	26	Professional Development Day
May	21	Professional Development Day
	24	Victoria Day
June	11	KSA GRAD
	25	SECONDARY- Final day of School
	28/29	Project Completion Days- Secondary
	29	ELEMENTARY- Final day of School-Early Closure 12:30
	30	Administration Day- no school



September 2, 2026

Notice to Parents and Students: Student Safety

Dear Parents and Students,

Student safety is a top priority in the Kamloops-Thompson School District. To keep students and staff safe, we have engaged in intensive safety training with our community partners—the RCMP, Secwépemc Child & Family Service, Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services, and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. As a result of our collective efforts, we have developed a district plan for responding to all situations where we believe students may be posing a threat to themselves or others.

District policy requires principals to activate a multidisciplinary “threat assessment” protocol whenever we have information that indicates students have made significant, high-level threats to harm themselves or others. Please review [Behavioural and Digital Threat Assessment](#) procedure on the school district website at sd73.bc.ca (under Administrative Procedures).

What is a threat?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet, or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated, and responded to.

Duty to report:

To keep school communities safe and caring, each of us—staff, parents, guardians, caregivers, students, and community members—must report all threat-related behaviours to the school principal.

What is a Site-Specific Threat Assessment Team?

The school has a site-specific threat assessment team that includes school administrators, counsellors, teachers, and a police officer.

The threat assessment process is designed to promote:

- the emotional and physical safety of students, staff, parents, the student making the threat, and others
- a full understanding of the context of the threat
- a greater understanding of the factors underlying the behaviours of the threat maker
- proactive development of an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker
- increased emotional and physical safety of all

A student threat assessment will be initiated for behaviours including, but not limited to:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill | • verbal/written threats to harm/kill self or others (clear, direct, plausible) |
| • online threats to harm/kill others | • bomb threats (making and/or detonating explosive devises) |
| • possession of weapons (including replicas) | • fire starting |
| • gang-related intimidation and violence | • sexual intimidation and violence |



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson)

1383 - 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC V2C 3X7 | Tel: 250-374-0679 | Fax: 250-372-1183 | www.sd73.bc.ca

What parents and students need to know:

- any threat must be reported to the school principal
- investigations may involve a school or district counsellor, the police, and/or other community agencies
- investigations may involve locker or personal property searches
- interviews will be held with the threat maker and other students or adults who may have information about the threat
- parents of students who are directly involved with a threat will be notified and, depending on the circumstances, may attend the interview to provide support
- threatening behaviour may result in disciplinary action and/or change in school placement
- an intervention plan may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any individuals targeted by threats

Collection Notice

The District is subject to personal information privacy laws and will undertake the collection of this information in compliance with the requirements of such laws, including limiting collection of information that is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat and by ensuring that information is collected from online open-source sites. The School District will not collect information as part of a threat assessment unless there is reason to believe that a risk exists. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.

Sincerely,

Mike St. John
Superintendent of Schools