



September 10, 2024

Bastion • École Élémentaire • Elementary School
School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)

Principal/Vice-Principal's Message

Bonjour & Hello! Welcome back to the 2024-2025 school year! We have had a terrific start to the school year. It is always great to get back to the routines that the new school year provides. It has been wonderful greeting our returning and new students alike.

This year, we again think about the importance of kindness at Bastion. Our initial assembly this week highlighted this defining characteristic of École Élémentaire Bastion Elementary School as we connect as a whole school. As a school district, our mission, vision and values are:

MISSION

Empowering students to become confident, curious, and caring individuals who thrive in their learning, relationships, and community.

VISION

Preparing students to become educated citizens who contribute to a dynamic, sustainable, and diverse world.

VALUES

Belonging, Respect, Reconciliation, Empathy, Equity, Perseverance

Over the next weeks we will be working together as a staff to define this year's specific learning goals for the year ahead. We will continue to work hard in the areas of Numeracy and Literacy as well as social emotional goals all with an overarching lens of equity, diversion and inclusion embedded.

There will likely be four newsletters this year (this one, one in Dec, one in March and a last one in June), but stay tuned weekly or bi-weekly for updates on Friday afternoons. We will try to keep you abreast of important information pieces that way. As always, check out our website at <https://bas.sd83.bc.ca/> for up-to-date information.

Please know that we are just a phone call, email or a visit away. Our door is always open to answer any questions you may have or concerns as well.

Have a great September!

Warmly,

Heather Gobbett

Principal

Megan Weir

Vice-Principal

Bastion PAC New

Hello Bastion Bobcats!

We hope you've had a restful summer and an excellent start to the new school year. Bastion PAC is excited for the 2024/2025 school year and for the opportunity to continue to support our kids, their teachers and classrooms and our fantastic school community! If you are interested in the PAC's work and would like to help coordinate or volunteer for our events and fundraisers, you can join us at one of our monthly meetings or email us to learn more about PAC bastionpacSD83@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bastionschoolPAC

Your Support Matters

The easiest way to support our school, have a say or "be in the know" is to attend PAC meetings.

We generally hold our meetings in the school music room (or occasionally online via Microsoft Teams) every 3rd Monday of the month. Meetings start at 6:30 pm and usually only last an hour or so.

September's meeting will be on Monday September 23rd at 6:30 pm. FREE CHILDCARE WILL BE AVAILABLE.

At these meetings, we hear from Principal Heather Gobbett, Vice Principal Megan Weir, and occasionally our School Board Trustee, Marianne VanBuskirk. They will give us updates on what is happening around our school and our school district. After that, we discuss what monies we have spent, funds to distribute, what upcoming fundraisers we have, Fun Food day update, school initiatives etc.; there is an opportunity for a parents to discuss, give feedback and ask questions.

I cannot stress how informal these meetings are. Everyone has an opportunity to speak as much or as little as they like and have a say in what matters to them. Each parent and guardian at our school is automatically a PAC member, and your thoughts and opinions matter to your children and us.

If you're pressed for time but have any ideas on potential fundraising ideas, want to find out how to volunteer for PAC events, or want to share thoughts on supports and items we can fund please email us at bastionpacSD83@gmail.com

Bastion Staff Members 2023-2024

Mrs. Leahann Mohle	Secretary-in-Charge
Mrs. Gillian Rasmusson	Secretary (M/W)
Ms. Cheri Matuga/Ms. Sara Mitchell	Grade 4/5 English
Mme. Rose Trudeau	Grade 4/5 French
Mme. Candy Martel/Mme. Megan Weir	Grade 4/5 French
Mrs. Kim Chambers (M-TH)	Grade 4/5 English
Mr. Jason Chambers (F)	Grade 4/5 English
M. Joshua Ajohn	Grade 4 French
Mrs. Jae MacDermott	Grade 3/4 English
Mme. Kathy Tollenaar	Grade 3 French
Mrs. Christine Williams	Grade 2/3 English
Mme. Charlotte Bird	Grade 2/3 French
Mme Ingrid van Varseveld/ Mme Megan Weir	Grade 2 French
Mme Amber van der Wagt/ Mme. Melissa LaRiviere	Grade 1/2 French
Mrs. Megan Ollinger/ Mrs. Denise White	Grade 1/2 English
Mme Heather Harker/ Mme. Katherine Bartsch	Grade 1 French
Ms. Sheri Webster	Kindergarten English
M. Austin Mueller	Kindergarten French
Mme. Jesse Henry	Kindergarten French
Ms. Honey Williams	Teacher-Librarian
Mme. Shannon MacLachlan	Music Teacher
Mrs. Julie Wormald	Music Teacher
Mrs. Amber Prince-Hensold	Learning Resource Teacher
Mrs. Natasha Boyce	Learning Resource Teacher
Ms. Holly Shaw	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Vicky Coubrough-Blanchette	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Kim Bojey	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Azlyn Gadbois	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Jess Gareau-Hemsworth	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Melissa Wood	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Sylvia Lindgren	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Rachel Richardson	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Jenny Thomas	Certified Education Assistant
Ms. Theresa Witten	Lunch Hour Supervisor
Mr. Joe Wourms	Evening Custodian
Mr. Cam Duford	Evening Custodian
Mrs. Trudy Rosman	Counsellor
Ms. Megan Brooke	Speech Language Pathologist
Ms. Erin Warden	Early Childhood Educator
Ms. Jaden-Lee Herrington	Indigenous Education Worker
Ms. Melanie Vickerson	Driver- Morning Dinosaur Bus
Ms. Leanne Blurton	Driver – Afternoon Giraffe Bus
Mme Megan Weir	Vice-Principal
Mrs. Heather Gobbett	Principal

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS (parent homework 😊)

Attached to this newsletter are important verification documents. Please fill out and return asap. Additionally, we request that parents log on to the ParentConnect Portal: <https://parentconnect.sd83.bc.ca>. Instructions for accessing the portal can be found here: <https://bas.sd83.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/parent-connect-1.pdf>

These are important permissions that we request each year. Thank you for your quick attention to these matters.

(NOTE: the newsletter with the live links will be sent out electronically and posted on our website so that you can just click on the link!)

SCHOOL FEES:

Thank you to the parents that have inquired about our school fee payment. You will be receiving (with this newsletter) the requisition for the fees. For parents of Grade 3 students, you will notice that you have an additional fee for the price of a recorder. It is assumed that Grade 4 students have a recorder from last year. If your family is in possession of a recorder and as such would like to use that instead of paying for a new one, please feel free to contact Mme. Shannon.

Absences/ Early Pickups/ Late arrivals:

Please notify the office as soon as possible. While we do our best, any time after 1:30 is tricky to get messages to students about after school/pick up instructions. Thank you.

WELCOME BACK OPEN HOUSE



We are excited to welcome parents into our school on WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18. This is an informal opportunity to come and see your child's classroom, see their desk, where they hang their backpack and have a chance to chat with school personnel. The schedule is as follows:
5:30pm – 6:15pm: School is open for a visit. Then at 6:15pm all families are asked to come out to the courtyard. We will introduce the staff and bid you farewell by about 6:30

**Please note: it is important to know that this is NOT a parent teacher interview. This is about making a connection for the first time with your child's teacher. We will look forward to our Student/Parent/Teacher interviews to chat about your child's learning.



Communicating Student Learning

As a parent at Bastion School, you can expect to receive 2 informal learning updates, and 3 formal learning updates. The dates are as follows.

Thursday Oct. 17: Student/Parent Teacher conferences (first informal learning update – you will be sent out information to sign up for a slot)

Wednesday Dec. 11 Written Learning Update #1

Wednesday March 12 Written Learning Update #2

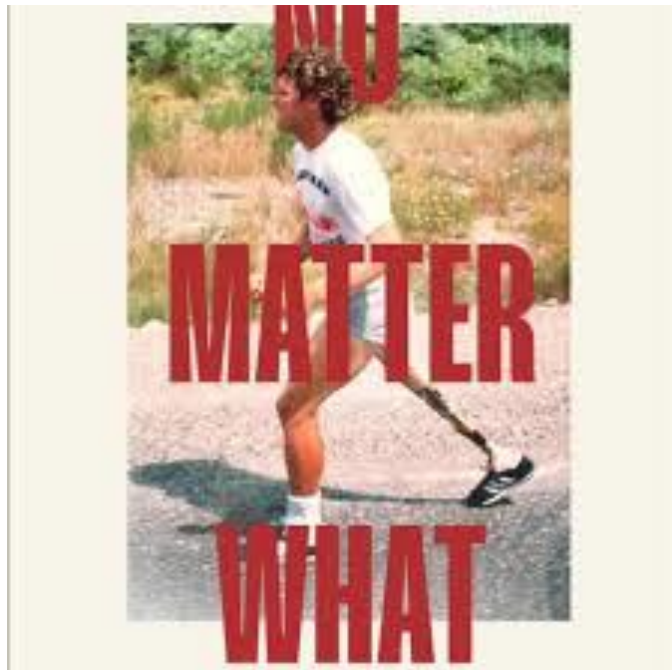
April 29-May 10 Student-Led conferences (second informal learning update – date TBD)

Thursday June 26 Written Summary of Learning

Terry Fox Run 2024

Our annual Terry Fox run will be held on Friday Sept. 20 beginning at 1:00pm and will be held on our field.

Students are encouraged to bring coins for a silver collection should they wish to contribute. Coins will be collected starting Tuesday Sept. 17 in the mornings. Parents are welcome to join us for the walk to walk with their children 😊



School Photo Day

Our school photo day is set for Thursday October 10, 2024. Retakes will happen on Tuesday Nov. 5, 2024



School Breakfast program

We are always so grateful for support with our school breakfast program and are once again in need of a 'crack' team of parents to help us put on breakfast each day. This program is open to any student who feels hungry, and we provide all the groceries. If you would consider being on a regular rotation for this pivotal role, please contact Mme. Megan Weir at mweir@sd83.bc.ca We are eager to get this program running asap.

Fun Food hot lunch program

This much-loved program will once again run this year, so stay tuned for information after our first PAC meeting on Sept. 23. In the meantime, feel free to look at the instructions on our website for how to renew your password. <https://bas.sd83.bc.ca/fun-food-days/>

Volunteers Volunteers Volunteers!!!

Our wonderful school would be bereft without you! École Bastion Élémentaire / Bastion Elementary is simply a great place to spend some time. Please contact your classroom teacher if you would like to help out in the classroom or on a field trip. Additionally, we may need to utilize more parent drivers this year. Here's what all volunteers need to ensure that you have:

- A criminal record check completed at

Online Link: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck>

Access Code: 6TQTFUJGQP

- A volunteer registration form (available at school office or can be sent home) has been completed
- If you are driving, that you have the correct form filled out along with proof of insurance (\$1000000 liability)
- NOTE: You can also do a Criminal Records Check via your BC Services card app!

On the Horizon

Monday Sept. 16	First Full-Day Kindergarten
Wed. Sept. 18	Welcome back/Open House 5:30pm-6:30pm (see above)
Monday Sept. 23	First PAC meeting 6:30pm (sometimes first meeting is a little longer than typical)
Friday Sept. 20	Terry Fox Run 1:00pm
Friday Sept. 27	Pro-D Day (Non-instructional day for students)
Monday Sept. 30	Stat Holiday for National Truth & Reconciliation Day
Thursday Oct. 3	Performing Arts group: Ventastic
Thursday Oct. 10	School Photo day
Monday Oct. 14	Thanksgiving Monday
Thursday Oct. 17	Student/Family/Teacher Conferences (no-school day for students)
Friday Oct. 25	Pro-D Day (Non-Instructional Day for students)
Thursday Oct. 31	Halloween (please plan fun costumes- no masks/violent costumes- more to come)