



YouLearn.ca

May Newsletter

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PO Box 940
Oliver, BC V0H 1T0
(250) 498-4597

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:30 - 3:30pm

Administrator: Brad Burns
www.youlearn.ca
(250) 498-4597
youlearn@sd53.bc.ca

Administrator's Message

The month of May is here, which means we are into warmer temperatures, participating in outdoor activities, and that the end of the school year is fast approaching. Staff are working closely with students to ensure that they are staying engaged with their studies and receiving supports. Learning updates for secondary students have been sent to families and student work and progress being uploaded to Spaces.

Registration is now open for the 2025-26 school year. Please use this [How to Register](#) link to get started. We are asking that all of our school of record students re-register, whether they are continuing or starting new courses. Also note that any address changes must be verified by submitting new proof of residency documents for audit compliance. If you have any questions, contact the office.

The 2025 YouLearn graduation celebration will take place on June 18th at 2:00 PM in the Oliver YouLearn courtyard. Thanks to Heather Lessard for volunteering to be the photographer. There will be a reception in the NOL building after the celebration where refreshments will be provided. Some of our YouLearn students will be participating in the Indigenous graduation ceremony. This will take place on May 21st starting at 5:00 PM at the Ashnola Powwow grounds. Good luck and all the best to our Grads.

The school is still looking for some parents to volunteer for the Parent Advisory Council (PAC). By having a PAC, YouLearn is able to apply for grants that support the enhancement of extracurricular opportunities for students. The commitment is small as we meet quarterly, either in person or remotely, and meetings are finished in a timely manner. If interested please contact the office.

Finally, we wish Sarah Wilkie all the best as she will return to her previous position at SOSS.

Brad Burns

Important Dates

May 19th

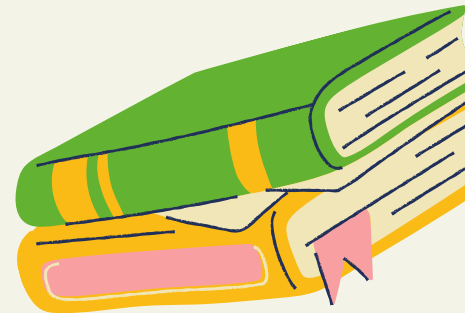
Victoria Day
School's Closed

May 21st

District Indigenous Grad
Ceremony
5pm at The Ashnola Pow-wow
Grounds (Snaḥsnulaḥtn
Campground)

May 28th

Inquiry Day
Early Dismissal @ Noon

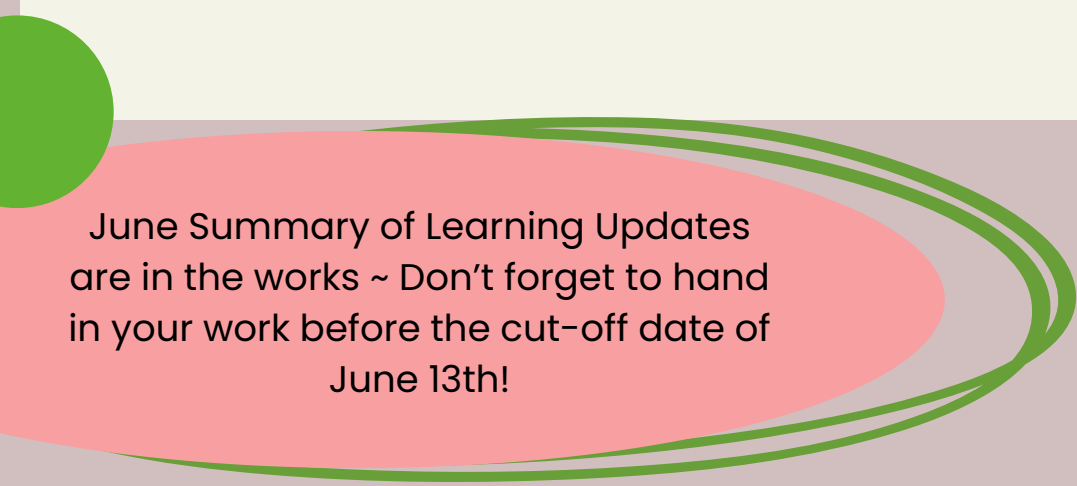


Early Years Program (Grades K-6)

Thank you so much for continuing to hand in your child's work to Spaces! Keep up the excellent work during the final stretch of the year.

Middle Years Program (Grades 7-9)

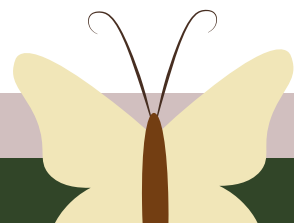
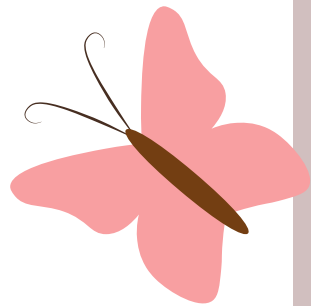
May Learning Updates have been posted to Spaces. Please reach out to teachers if you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress.



June Summary of Learning Updates are in the works ~ Don't forget to hand in your work before the cut-off date of June 13th!

Secondary Program (Grades 10-12)

Looking to access your courses over the Summer Break? Need some extra assistance planning a schedule to complete your courses? Don't forget that your teacher is just an email or phone call away! We are here to help.



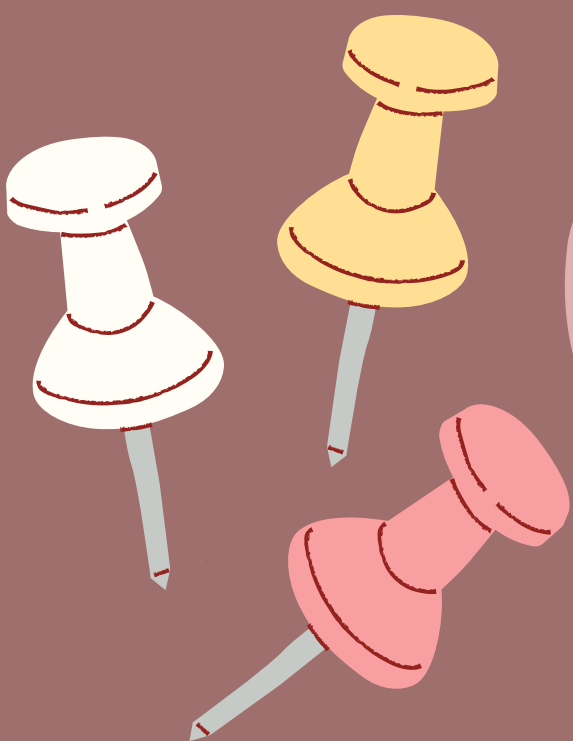


Registration for the 2025–26 school year is now open!

Please fill out [THIS FORM](#) to register.

If you have any questions, please call our office at (250) 498-4597
or email ylregistrations@sd53.bc.ca

Note: Only students within our district's catchment area can register with YouLearn.ca. Out of district students must register with one of their local schools or a [Provincial Online Learning School](#).



"Anyone who has never made a mistake
has never tried anything new."

Albert Einstein

***There is only one more month after May until the
end of this school year - you can do this!***

YouLearn.ca's Career Programs Summary

Period	Program	Details
September	Health Care Sampler	2 days per week online and 2 days per month on campus in Penticton.
September	Information Technology (Computers) Sampler	(Offered every other year) 1 day online and 1 day on campus each week in Penticton.
September	Early Childhood Educator	2 days online each week and 2 days each month on campus in Penticton.
February	Chef Program Camosun College	Online self-paced lessons with a lab one afternoon in Oliver.
February	Trades Sampler	4 days each week in Penticton for 16 weeks.
July	Emergency Medical Responder	5 weeks during the Summer Break.
May	Royal Canadian Mounted Police Jean Minguy Youth Academy	10 days in Vernon in the spring. <u>Deadline to apply is in early January.</u> Recommended participants are grade 12 students.
May	Inclusive Trades Sampler	1 day in each secondary school. Recommended participants are grade 10 students.
All Year Intake	Nail Technician	Kelowna - Marvel College
All Year Intake	Dual Credit College Programs	Penticton and Kelowna Campuses Some common programs include automotive services technician, welding, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc.

Please contact YouLearn.ca's Career Education Teacher, Steve Pozzobon, if you are interested in taking any of the above programs!

PAC

Needs your help!

Are you a parent of a YouLearn student who'd like to be more involved in their education?

Join the YouLearn Parent Advisory Council today!

We're in need of two or three more parents in order to keep our parent advisory council running.

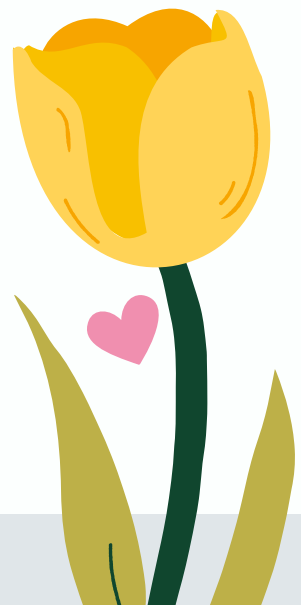
PAC meetings happen once a month and only take less than an hour of your time.

And did you know that you can attend PAC meetings remotely?

That's right! Join us from the comfort of your own home.



We value our communication with families!
Reach out to us at (250) 498-4597 or
youlearn@sd53.bc.ca
if you are interested in joining.





Indigenous Education Program School District No. 53 Okanagan Similkameen

Mission Statement:

sysyuselx i? scm̓amaya?. maʔtspuʔusəlx aʔi? i? sqilxʷ cawtət kʷu_p̓xam. ixi? ʔspiwt.

'Enhancing students' pride and success through traditional Okanagan and Similkameen people's ways of learning.'



Please join us in celebrating the Indigenous Graduates of 2024/25

**Location: Snaʕsnulax̓tn Campground
(Ashnola Pow-wow Grounds)**

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Celebration at 5:00 PM

Dinner for grads and guests following ceremony

Please RSVP: hgallagh@sd53.bc.ca OR: netty@sd53.bc.ca

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Okanagan
Similkameen
SD53

2025/2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

September 1	Labour Day
September 2	Schools Open
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconcil.
October 13	Thanksgiving Day
November 11	Remembrance Day
December 22	Christmas Break Begins
January 5	Schools Re-Open
January 23-27	Secondary Exam Days
January 28	Second Semester Begins
February 16	Family Day
March 16	Spring Break Begins
March 30	School Re-Open
April 3	Good Friday
April 6	Easter Monday
May 18	Victoria Day
June 22 to 24	Secondary Exam Days
June 25	Last Day of Classes
June 26	Administrative Day (School Closed for Students)

Number of Days in Session 192

Number of Days of Instruction 184

DISTRICT NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS

October 24 – Professional Development Day
February 13 – Professional Development Day
March 23 to 27 - Connected to Spring Break

EARLY DISMISSAL DATES

Schools will notify parents of early dismissal times

Also available on our website: <http://www.sd53.bc.ca/>

Cawston/Keremeos: October 22 & 23 / April 9 & 10

Osoyoos: October 22 & 23 / April 9 & 10

Oliver/OK Falls: October 22 & 23 / April 9 & 10

District wide early dismissal days for Inquiry Time are indicated on calendar with this symbol { }

Family Conferences

October 22: CPS, OKF, OES, OSE, OSS, SESS, SOSS, TEN

April 9: CPS, OKF, OES, OSS, SESS, SOSS, TEN

April 9 and/or 10: OSE

○ Stat/School Holidays □ Non-Instructional Days

♥ Secondary Exam Days ● Year End Administration

We are an innovative learning community where all members are supported in their academic, social, and mental well-being equipped with the skills and experiences necessary to thrive in a diverse and changing world.

SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

Cawston Primary School
Principal: Amanda Palmer

Phone: 250-485-4434
Fax: 250-499-5288
Hours: 8:38am-2:30pm

Okanagan Falls Elem. School
Principal: Katie Poole

Phone: 250-497-5414
Fax: 250-497-8279
Hours: 8:30am-2:27pm

Oliver Elementary School
Principal: Scott Tremblay

Phone: 250-498-3468
Fax: 250-498-0339
Hours: 8:30am-2:23pm

Osoyoos Elementary School
Principal: Jason McAllister

Phone: 250-485-4444
Fax: 250-495-2855
Hours: 8:30am-2:30pm

Osoyoos Secondary School
Principal: Dave Foster

Phone: 250-485-4433
Fax: 250-495-2669
Hours: 8:35am-2:45pm

Similkameen Elem. Sec. School
Principal: Stacey Smith

Phone: 250-499-2727
Fax: 250-499-2411
Elem Hours: 8:30am-2:35pm
Sec Hours: 8:30am-2:40pm

Southern Okanagan Sec. School
Principal: TBA

Phone: 250-498-4931
Fax: 250-498-6957
Hours: 8:30am-2:45p

Tuc-el-Nuit Elementary School
Principal: Shannon Miller

Phone: 250-498-3415
Fax: 250-498-0388
Hours: 8:30am-2:27pm

YouLearn.ca – Online Learning & Continuing Education

Vice Principal: Brad Burns

Oliver Centre Phone: 250-498-4597 ext 0

Osoyoos Centre Phone: 250-498-4597 ext 1

Keremeos Centre Phone: 250-499-0040

DISTRICT CONTACTS – 250-498-3481

Marcus Toneatto	Superintendent of Schools
Subra Paliappa	Secretary Treasurer
Naryn Searcy	Director of Learning & Inquiry
Debby Sansome	Director of Facilities
Susan Trower	Manager of Human Resources
Heather Rose	Director of Student Services
Melia Dirk	District Vice Principal, Early Learning & Childcare

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Rob Zandee
Debbie Marten
Casey Brouwer
Sholeh Pickell
Christine Watson
Karen Clayton
Brenda Dorosz

PARENT AND STUDENT APPEALS:

Where a decision of an employee of the Board significantly affects the education, health or safety of a student, the parent/guardian of the student, or the student may, within a reasonable time from the date that the parent/guardian or student was informed of the decision, appeal that decision to the Board. Further information regarding the appeal process can be obtained [HERE](#).

ELEMENTARY PROGRESS REPORTS ISSUED:

Mid-Year Reports: Date to be determined
by each school

Final Report: Thursday, June 25, 2026



UBC Geering Up
Kelowna, Okanagan



ECO-ENGINEERING SUMMER CAMP FOR TEENS

HEY, GRADE 8/9 STUDENTS!

Make your summer unforgettable with our **Eco-Engineering Summer Camp**! Get hands-on with real-world sustainability challenges, blending engineering with cultural knowledge.

WHY JOIN?

- **Create & Innovate:** Tackle real-world challenges in renewable energy, eco-friendly design, and sustainability.
- **Connect with Tradition:** Explore how cultural knowledge shapes engineering, from sustainable building to resourceful problem-solving.
- **Learn from University Mentors:** Work alongside university students who will inspire and guide you.
- **Boost Your Skills:** Develop teamwork, critical thinking, and creativity.
- **Celebrate Community:** Collaborate with peers, share stories, and see how engineering impacts everyday life.
- **Have Fun:** Dream big, solve exciting challenges, and bring your ideas to life!

DETAILS

Date: Monday July 7 - Friday July 11 2025

Time: 9am - 3pm

Cost: Free

Meals: A light breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack will be provided free of charge.

Location: Sen Pok Chin School, Oliver BC
Whether you love protecting the land, designing for the future, or problem-solving, this camp lets you explore, create, and make a difference—all while having fun!

Spots are limited, so don't miss out! For the exclusive registration link [please email Shannon at edu@oib.ca](mailto:Shannon@edu@oib.ca)



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
School of Engineering
Okanagan Campus

A network
member of

actüa

BREAKING NEWS



LEARN NSYILXCN
AND GET CREDITS
TOWARDS HIGH
SCHOOL
GRADUATION!



"The idea that there's only knowledge in English or French is absolutely not true. Language is identity. Indigenous knowledge systems and an Indigenous paradigm—how we view the world and how we interact—is deeply rooted in language." - Dr. J. Armstrong

SUMMER LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Nsyilxcn 1 - Grade 11 course (can be 12-18 years old to take, do not need to be in grade 11). Earn 4 credits toward graduation. Nsyilxcn 1 starts July 2nd - held every Wednesday all summer.

Captikwl 1 - Grade 12 course (can be 12-18 years old but must have taken nsyilxcn previously). Captikwl 1 starts July 3rd held every Thursday all summer.

Both programs run 9am - 4pm with a lunch break.

If you are apart of the OIB summer work program you will be paid to take the language.

This is an amazing and unique opportunity to learn the language, get paid and earn school credit. To sign up reach out to Sonya or Shan.

