



YouLearn.ca

March Newsletter

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

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Principal's Message

And just like that ... it's Spring Break! With the warmer weather on the horizon, we hope that you're taking advantage this and getting outside to be on the land!

Thanks to everyone with all the work you're doing in submitting assignments and staying on top of your course work. Well done! Please reach out to your course teacher if you're encountering any road blocks. We are just a Teams message away.

The next reporting period falls on March 14, 2025. For elementary students, your child's Spaces Reporting Space is now open. When you sign on to Spaces, you will need to click on the Reporting Space to view the snapshot. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher. Secondary students will receive Informal Reports from teachers that are linked to their marksheet. If you cannot access the previously shared marksheet from the course start, reach out to the teacher for assistance.

Just a quick notice for students who have not submitted their first assignment. You have until April 7th to do so otherwise you will no longer have access to the course and will need to re-register in September. Reach out if you have any concerns.

For any graduating students who are looking to for funding opportunities, the District Authority Scholarship is once again available to apply for. Details can be found within the newsletter.

We hope you all have a great break and will connect again on March 31st when courses resume.

Brad Burns

Important Dates

March 11

Okanagan Symphony Trip to
Penticton @ 10:30 am

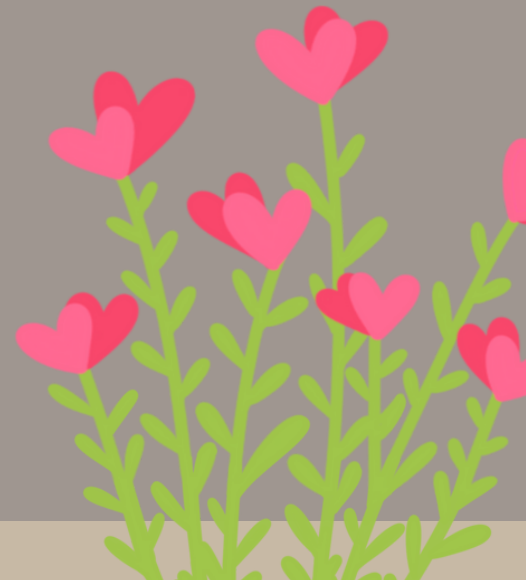
March 15 - March 30

Spring Break - Schools
Closed

March 31

Back to School

HELLO SPRING



Early Years Program (Grades K-6)



Okanagan
Similkameen
SD53

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 (OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN) NOTICE OF KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

January 13 - March 14, 2025

1. Children who will be five years old by December 31, 2025, may begin their first year of Primary (Full Day Kindergarten) in September 2025. These will be children who were born in 2020.

Parents or guardians may register these new students from
Monday, January 13 to Friday, March 14, 2025 at the following schools:

Cawston Primary	250-485-4434	8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Okanagan Falls Elementary	250-497-5414	8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Oliver Elementary	250-498-3468	8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Tuc-el-Nuit Elementary	250-498-3415	8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Osoyoos Elementary	250-485-4444	8:30 am - 2:30 pm
YouLearn	250-498-4597	8:30 am - 3:30 pm

2. **Please bring your child's birth certificate and medical card with you, as well as proof of residency.** Should you require further details, please contact your local school.
3. Parents may defer the entry of their child into Kindergarten for one year but registration must occur in the following school year.
4. Early registration assists the district with plans for September 2025. Also, Kindergarten spaces in a school may be limited and placement is done on a first come, first serve basis.

Middle Years Program (Grades 7-9)

Wishing you an enjoyable break with lots of sunshine!

If you have books at home to read, or have time to visit the library, we recommend taking some time to kick back and read.

We will look forward to seeing you in April!

Secondary Program (Grades 10-12)

A friendly reminder that the cut-off date for submissions to be marked within the 2024-25 school year is June 13th, 2025.

April 7th, 2025, is the deadline to activate courses for the current school year at YouLearn. If students have not activated their first assignment for a course by this date, they will need to wait until September 2025 to gain access to their courses. Please contact the office if you have any questions. Thank you!



We will be closed
from
March 15th to March 30th
for
Spring Break



PAC

Interested parents are asked to reach out to Melanie Olson (1970molson@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Additional Resources

Don't let your child miss out on a **\$1,200 grant!**

The B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant (BCTESG) is available to eligible children for a **three-year window only**.

Is my child eligible?

- ☐ Parent or guardian, plus the child are B.C. residents and have Social Insurance Numbers (SINs)
- ☐ The child is between their 6th birthday and the day before they turn 9

You must APPLY for the grant.

Ask about it at your local financial institution.

Learn More: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/BCTESG>
or contact: BCTESG@gov.bc.ca.



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care



2024-25 District Authority Scholarship Applications

Now Open!

Keep reading to find out more!



[[Click Here](#)] to view the
South Okanagan Immigrant
Society's March 2025
Newsletter, or visit their
website any time at soics.ca

District Authority Scholarship

Criteria & Presentation Info

CRITERIA

- Candidates must meet eligibility requirements. (See the 2024-2025 District/Authority Scholarship: Application Package for all requirements)
- Candidates must submit a complete application package to the school scholarship committee by Wednesday, April 23, 2025. Applicants should demonstrate outstanding achievement in one of the following areas: Applied Designs, Skills and Technology, Community Service, Fine Arts, Indigenous Language and Culture, Languages, Physical Activity (and Health), Technical and Trades Training.
- The committee will review all submitted applications and advise applicants if they will be invited to move forward to the presentation and interview round on May 5, 2025. This notice will be provided to applicants no later than April 28, 2025.
- Students may consider having a sponsor teacher who will assist the student with the project, and evaluating the student's ability, attitude, work habits, etc.
- All project presentations will be judged on Monday, May 5, 2025, by a committee set up by the school scholarship committee. This committee will consist of 4-5 members which may include school staff, district staff and/or community members.

PRESENTATION

- The presentation should be between 10 - 15 minutes.
- During the presentation the student is required to explain the project and display a superior understanding and knowledge of the subject presented. The student will be required to answer questions presented by the judging panel.
- The committee will meet within 2 days of the presentations to determine successful candidates. Students will learn if they have been successful and will receive notification of their award at the Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, June 24, 2025.
- Questions or clarification should be directed to the principal.

2024/25 - DISTRICT/AUTHORITY SCHOLARSHIP: Application Package

ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP:

The District/Authority scholarship is awarded to 5,500 high school graduates who have demonstrated excellence in their chosen area. The Ministry of Education and Child Care sets core eligibility requirements and general guidelines; local scholarship committees determine awarding criteria and select their conditional recipients.

Confirmed recipients receive a \$1,250 scholarship voucher. They can use this voucher to be reimbursed by the Ministry of Education and Child Care for tuition paid at a post-secondary institution that is designated by the Province of BC (i.e. approved for Canada Student Loans) or a program provided that is approved by the Industry Training Authority. Students have five years to redeem their District/Authority scholarship vouchers; an expiry date is printed on each voucher and extensions are not possible.

Key Dates

- Spring: conditional recipients notified by their district/authority
- September: conditional recipients checked against eligibility requirements
- November: paper scholarship vouchers mailed to confirmed recipients

Eligibility Requirements

Students selected as conditional recipients of the District/Authority scholarship must satisfy the following requirements by **August 31 of their graduating year** to be confirmed as a recipient and receive their scholarship voucher.

- Meet core eligibility requirements:
 - Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (landed immigrant) and have that on record with the school at which you registered for Grade 12
 - Be a BC resident
 - Be (or have been in the school year for which the scholarship is awarded) enrolled in a BC public school (including online learning schools), or enrolled in a Continuing Education centre
 - Complete all graduation requirements, and be on record as having graduated, by August 31 of the scholarship awards year (September 1 to August 31)
- Fulfill the graduation requirements of either the BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) or the BC Adult Graduation Diploma (Adult Dogwood); and
- Meet criteria determined by the student's local scholarship committee, including demonstration of outstanding achievement in one of the areas listed below:
 - **Applied Design, Skills and Technologies** (Business, Home Economics, Media Arts, Technology, Tourism)
 - **Community Service (Volunteer Activity)** (includes awareness of local, global and cultural issues)
 - **Fine Arts** (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts)
 - **Indigenous Languages and Culture** (demonstrated at school or in the community)
 - **Languages** (External Assessment or Languages Curriculum, including AP and IB courses)
 - **Physical Activity (and Health)** (Athletics, Dance, Gymnastics)
 - **Technical and Trades Training** (Coding, Culinary Arts, Mechanics, Robotics, Woodwork)
- Have not previously received a District/Authority Scholarship

A completed application for the District/Authority Scholarship must include the following:

- ☒ References letters or recommendation forms from teachers or community sponsors;
- ☒ Resume;
- ☒ Unofficial transcript;
- ☒ Written statement of application or essay, outlining motivation for pursuing area of interest, impact of this involvement, highlights of achievement, personal/educational goals in this area and plan for attaining these goals; and
- ☒ Evidence of other attributes such as: creativity, innovation, initiative, motivation, leadership, cooperation, good citizenship in school/community, attendance, punctuality, work habits.

2024/25 - DISTRICT/AUTHORITY SCHOLARSHIP: Application Package

APPLICATION FORM

1) Personal Information

Legal Name _____
(Surname) (Given Names) (Preferred Name – if applicable)

Date of Birth (M/D/Y) _____ PEN Number _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ Personal Email _____

High School that you will graduate from _____

I am a Canadian Citizen ☐

I am a permanent resident (landed immigrant) ☐

**Related note: Under the Income Tax Act, the Ministry of Education and Child Care must issue scholarship recipients a T4A for the taxation year in which the scholarship cheque is issued. When redeeming a scholarship, recipients will need to provide a Social Insurance Number (SIN) for this purpose. Temporary SINs, beginning with '9', cannot be accepted.*

2) Post-Secondary Plans

Which post-secondary program(s) do you plan to apply for?

What are your long term career plans?

3) Area of Achievement/Interest

Please check the one area of interest or strength for which you are making this application

- ☐ **Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies** (Business, Technology, Media Arts, Tourism, Home Economics)
- ☐ **Community Service (Volunteer Activity)** includes awareness of local and global issues and cultural issues
- ☐ **Fine Arts** (Visual Arts, Dance, Drama, Music)
- ☐ **Indigenous Languages and Culture** (demonstrated at school or in the community)
- ☐ **Languages** (External Assessments or Languages Curriculum, including AP and IB courses)
- ☐ **Physical Activity (and Health)** Athletics, Dance, Gymnastics
- ☐ **Technical and Trades Training** (Coding, Culinary Arts, Robotics, Woodwork, Mechanics)

2024/25 - DISTRICT/AUTHORITY SCHOLARSHIP: Application Package

4) Course work and extracurricular activities related to your area of interest

Grade 11 and 12 Courses

Teacher/Sponsor

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Extracurricular Activities

Teacher/Sponsor

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5) Evidence of Achievement

Students must provide evidence of outstanding achievement in your chosen area. Please attach a one page statement that describes your achievements. Depending on your chosen area of interest, you will also be required to provide further information or participate further activities, such as a portfolio, project, research paper, performance, presentation, demonstration, or interview. Your school counsellor or local scholarship committee will provide you with more details.

6) References

Please list two teachers and/or community members who can attest to your achievements in your chosen area of interest and who will provide a written reference on your behalf, using the reference form attached.

Name _____ Position _____

Name _____ Position _____

Applicant Signature

Date

2024/25 - DISTRICT/AUTHORITY SCHOLARSHIP: Application Package

CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE FORM

Thank you for providing a reference for the student named below, who is applying for a District/ Authority Scholarship in the indicated area of interest. Please complete the form and return it (and any additional relevant information you choose to include) to the student inside a sealed envelope with you signature across the envelope flap.

Student Name: _____

Area of Interest: _____

- 1) How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?

- 2) How would you comment on the applicants general attributes, such as attitude, communication, creativity, critical thinking, interpersonal skills, initiative and leadership?

- 3) Please provide examples of and comment on the applicant's strengths in their chosen area.

- 4) What other comments do you wish to make in support of this applicant?

Your Name _____ Position _____

Relationship to applicant _____

Signature _____ Date _____