

A Welcome to Boundary Central Secondary School FOR New Grade 8 Students and their Parents

Boundary Central
Secondary School
www.sd51.bc.ca/bcss

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Principal: Mr. Bo Macfarlane
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WELCOME TO BOUNDARY CENTRAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

This booklet is designed to familiarize parents and students with BCSS and to assist in making the transition from elementary school to secondary school as smooth as possible.

The offerings at BCSS provide a strong base for further post-secondary training.
The administration, teachers and support staffs work very hard to

provide all students with the opportunity for a quality educational experience. It is vital that parent's stay involved with their son or daughters progress in school and that a strong partnership is maintained between teachers, administration and parents for the benefit of students.

We encourage students to take pride in their school and to dedicate their positive attitudes to making a superior experience both academically and socially for themselves.

The BCSS Website and email are the main venues for sending out information to parents.

Newsletters

Any parent wanting to receive our newsletter via e-mail can subscribe as per the following: Send an e-mail to bcss-announce-request@tech.sd51.bc.ca and put the word SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. New subscribers will receive a confirmation e-mail. You will need to respond to the confirmation. If you have any questions please call BCSS at 250-449-2224.

Note: Only rare occasions do we send out paper newsletters. Please Like us on Facebook – Boundary Central Secondary and or subscribe to our newsletter

School fees

Fees at BCSS are modest and much less than most schools. All students mu pay \$10.00 for an activity fee. This fee covers Student ID cards and

special events such as school wide fun days and BBQ's.

Sports fees are \$50 per player per school sport. These fees help off set the high cost of travel and tournament fees. Sports offered at BCSS this past year were boys and girls soccer, girl's volleyball, boy's and girl's basketball and co-ed golf.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

BCSS has a small but dedicated Parent Support Group/School Planning Council which meets at the school approximately twice a semester

This group of involved parents is very active and supportive in many school affairs. We encourage all parents to attend meetings and get involved in your son or daughter's secondary school experience.

Especially welcome are the parents of our new Grade 8 students!!

Meeting times are announced in the school newsletter, which is emailed to those parents who supply an email address to the school. It is sent out every other week.

LIFESKILLS ROTATION

Life-skills 8 is a rotational elective class that is combined with grade 9 students.

It is offered in two full blocks, one in semester one and one in Semester Two. Students are organized into three groups and are rotated through the following experiences provided by the Life-skills 8/9 teachers: Cooking, Sewing, Computers, Drama, Art, and Shops .

This experience will provide them with an opportunity to experience some of the courses that they may choose as their elective or selected studies courses after leaving Grade 9. The final mark in this class is an average of all the segments included in the Life-skills block. Each rotation is approximately 7 weeks in length. Individual teachers will be contacting parents with the materials, if any, needed for each rotation.

JUNE OR SEPTEMBER GRADE 8 PARENT MEETING

Each year, the school hosts a Grade 8 Parent Meeting in either June or Sept depending on people's availability. We bring parents together to discuss the transition into secondary school and to answer any questions parents might have. The date of the Grade 8 parent meeting will be sent home when we have a date.

COURSE OUTLINES

On the first day of school in each semester, subject teachers issue a course outline to students. Included in the outline is a timeline of curricular areas, methods of evaluation and class rules and procedures.

Parents are encouraged to review these outlines with their sons or daughters and if you have any questions, please contact the specific subject teacher.

I REPORTS

In any class, students who are not achieving a passing grade will be issued an “I” or “incomplete” report. This report outlines and provides a timeline and due date for work a student must complete and submit in order to pass a course. Included are specifics of what the student must complete, how the parents can assist and what the teacher will do to assist.

“I” reports must be signed and returned to the school.

No student will receive a failing grade without first having had the opportunity to complete an “I” report. However if the “I” work is not completed a failing grade may be issued and the student may be required to repeat the course.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

In this brochure, please find a copy of the school calendar for next year.

This will be valuable when you are doing yearly planning.

At the end of the calendar, is the daily block/class rotation that we will be using next year.

ASSESSMENT PERIODS

At the end of each semester, there is a two-day assessment period. It is mandatory that students attend on these days as these are the assessment periods (example, FINAL EXAMS) for each semester.

During this time, teachers will be utilizing a variety of assessment practices that will count for 20% of the final mark for the course. The idea behind this format is so that teachers can provide other types of assessment experiences rather than just a large test at the end of a course. Students may be working on individual or group projects, doing Power Point presentations, posters or possibly doing a quiz or test segment. We feel, at Boundary Central that this indicates in a more complete and more individualized manner the mastery a student has in a course.

LOCKERS

On the first day of school, each student is issued a locker. It is VITAL that students bring a combination lock to ensure the safety of the contents of their locker.

TIMETABLE

A copy of your son or daughter’s timetable is included in this package. It shows the courses they will be taking in Semester one and two next year.

LATE ACTIVITY BUS

At BCSS, with much appreciated District 51 support, we run a late activity bus on Monday and Wednesday afternoons.

The bus exists to accommodate students from the further areas of the district to stay at school and be involved in extra-curricular sports, attend teacher led help sessions and attend club functions.

The bus is ONLY for school based activities and students are not allowed to use it as a taxi service. Only those students who are being supervised by a teacher coach or who are attending specific teacher supervised sessions are allowed to stay.

The late activity bus leaves at 5:30 pm and runs most of the school year, As a money saving strategy, we do not run the bus during quieter times of the year, for instance if there are no teams playing.

GRADE GROUP MEETINGS

During the first week of school, all students are called down by Grade Group for a discussion with the Principal on school expectations for behavior and academic performance. Students are also welcome to ask questions at these sessions. Every attempt will be made to have our new Grade 8 students make a smooth and comfortable transition to our school.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On the first day, students will be called to the gymnasium where they will again receive their course outline slips. Some announcements regarding sports teams, and other opportunities about Student Council and School Spirit Club will happen. Grade 8 students will then be buddied up with a Grade 9 student who will guide them through the first few days. Students then choose lockers and go to shortened classes, leaving at 11:30 for home. Second day is a full day.

****Students should have all supplies with them on Day One!!**