



FRANCES KELSEY SECONDARY SCHOOL WELCOME TO THE 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR



WHAT TO EXPECT...

Tuesday, September 8th Grade 8 ONLY

- Grade 8s meet in the gym at 9:00am.
2-hour early dismissal at 1:20PM
- Please note that busses will be running at 1:20. **It is very important that you share with your student their afternoon bus number please.**

Wednesday, September 9th – First regular day of classes for ALL students.

- All students will go to their pick up block for schedules (pick up lists will be posted in the dome/foyer).
- There will be grade assemblies led by our administration.
- There will be a school BBQ for all students and staff at lunch.

NEW TO THE SCHOOL?

If you are new to our school and haven't had a tour yet please join our principal, Mr. van der Linden and peer counsellors on Wednesday, September 2nd at 10:00 am. Please note that this is the only tour offered before school starts.

GENERAL INFORMATION...

School hours: Please note that our school hours have changed slightly. Our new start time is 8:55 and the end time is 3:20.

Counsellors: A-K: [Nic Schofield](#)
L-Z: [Caitlyn McNamara](#)

Course Changes:

It's an exciting time of year. Schedules have been completed with care to accommodate as many requests as possible, but not all requests can be accommodated.

- Schedules will go out on the **first day of school**. Grade 8s – September 8th, Grade 9 – 12 – September 9th.
- **Emails regarding course changes will not be answered.**
- **Course changes for Grades 11 and 12** will be handled **by paper form** on **September 9th and 10th**.
- **Course changes for Grade 10** will be handled **by paper form** on **September 11th**.
- A **Course Change Form** must be filled out, clearly stating the academic reason for the change (e.g., "Needed for the Bachelor of Science program").

Staff Contact Information: Staff emails are on our website

www.fkss.sd79.bc.ca

Portal: <https://fkss.sd79.bc.ca/myed-bc-parent-portal/> for schedules, learning updates, attendance. The portal will not be activated until the middle of September.

Yearbooks: Yearbooks can be purchased early in September for a reduced price. Yearbooks can be purchased online.

<https://sd79.schoolcashonline.com/>

Photographs: Lifetouch Photography will be here Tuesday, September 10th, for both the yearbooks and personal photos. This photo is also used for the student ID card.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES...



Students should have the following basic supplies; they will be advised of any additional requirements by subject teachers.
10 – 12 pencils and blue or black pens, fine tip black felt pen, pencil crayons, 1 pair of scissors, an eraser, ruler, 3 ring binder(s) to hold 4 subjects, lined paper, PE strip, a reusable water bottle.

ATTENDANCE...

Consistent attendance to classes is important for student success. If your child will be away for a class or a day, arriving late or signing out early you can report this in advance through the School Messenger app. <https://home.schoolmessenger.ca/>. If students are leaving early, they must sign out at the main office with a parent email, note or phone call.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE...

If you haven't already done so, please follow these instructions to create your School Cash Online account any time after August 31st. It is a parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school fees, Kelsey Kafé cards, yearbook, Kelsey gear and field trips. You can pay with credit card or cheque. Please note that this is the preferred method of payment.

- Create your profile: <https://sd79.schoolcashonline.com/> and click "Get Started Today".
- Confirm your email: Check your inbox for the email confirmation and click on the link inside. Sign in with your new login details. Stay connected by selecting "Yes" to email notifications about upcoming fees.
- Add a student: Click "Add Student" and fill in the required fields with your student's details.

LUNCHES...

The Kelsey Kafé has many affordable options for students made by our culinary program. Students can purchase a lunch card through School Cash Online <https://sd79.schoolcashonline.com/>, or at the main office. The Kafé also has a Square so students can pay with debit/credit card at the time of their lunch purchase.

SCHOOL FEES...

Student Activity Fees: Students are charged a yearly \$25 fee that helps defray the costs of: guest presentations, school events, special assemblies, intramurals and agenda books.

Textbook Fee: A one-time \$25 fee is charged to all Gr. 8 students and any new students. If students leave Kelsey before graduation and no books are lost or damaged, this fee will be refunded. If students graduate from Kelsey this \$25 fee will offset the cost of graduation expenses.

All fees can be paid online. <https://sd79.schoolcashonline.com/>

SCHOOL BUSES...

If you are new to the Cowichan Valley School District or have not previously registered for bussing, an online fillable registration and printable form can be found at

<https://sd79.bc.ca/services/transportation/>. If you have any questions, please contact the transportation Registration Clerk at busregistration@sd79.bc.ca or call 250-748-1066 ext 276.

Please note that if your student already has a bus pass, they will continue to use it from year to year.