

Barlow Creek Newsletter

Ms. N. Danuser, Principal

September 15th, 2023

Ms. D. Telford, Secretary

816 Barkerville Highway, Quesnel BC V2J 6S6

Phone: (250) 992-5134 FAX: (250) 992-3146

<https://barlowcreek.sd28.bc.ca/>

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Welcome Back to School!

Dahooja Barlow Creek Families!

We are having a fabulous start to our school year and it is wonderful getting to know all the students, families and staff.

We are excited to have a new school website, <https://barlowcreek.sd28.bc.ca/>, be sure to check it regularly for news and updates. We will no longer be posting information on the Barlow Creek Elementary Facebook page.

This will be the only newsletter we print and send home with children this year. We will email every newsletter including this one. If you would like to receive a printed copy each month please let us know via email or telephone.

Intermediate student jobs will be starting next week. Students will be working on responsibility and leadership as they participate in a variety of student jobs.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we learn and grow together. Feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Suchanailya,

Ms. Danuser

School Supply Fees are due Sept. 15th.

Please pay your school supply fee as soon as possible. The fees are \$60 for Intermediate (grade 4 to 7) and \$50 for Primary (K to 3) students.

UPCOMING DATES:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| District lunches begin | Sept 18 |
| PAC meeting - AGM | Sept 21 |
| Library @ 6:00 pm | |
| Terry Fox Run | Sept 22 |
| School Spirit Day - Anything but a backpack | Sept 22 |
| Picture Day - teijakovanen.com | Sept 26 |
| <i>Pink Verification and start-up permission forms due back</i> | Sept 22 |
| National Week for Truth & Reconciliation | Sept 25 to 30 |
| Orange Shirt Day Assembly 8:45 am | Sept 29 |
| National Day for Truth & Reconciliation - no school | Oct 2 |
| Thanksgiving - no school | Oct 9 |
| Provincial Pro-D Day School for teachers only | Oct 20 |
| Early Dismissal for Parent/Teacher Interviews | Oct 25 & 26 |
| Remembrance Day— no school | Nov 10 |

NUT-FREE / SHELL FISH FREE LUNCHES

Food Sharing

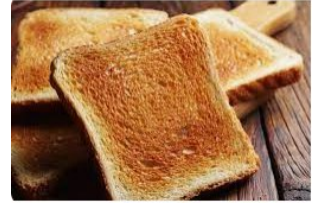
Students should not be sharing their food items with others at school. We are a nut-free (all nuts)

School Access – Visitors and Parents

If you wish to talk to your child's teacher or the Principal, please make an appointment or call the school. Thank-you!

Breakfast/Lunch Programs

Our breakfast program began this week (September 11th). Our coordinator, Mrs. Messom is delivering food to each classroom. Our District lunch program is for families in financial need. If you would like to sign your child up for our District lunch program, please call the office or let myself or your child's classroom teacher know. The District lunch program will begin on September 18th.



Healthy Practices

Throughout cold and flu season we have been experiencing increased student and staff absences. We wanted to remind everyone to stay home when sick as this stops the spread of illness. Students, visitors and staff should stay home if they have symptoms of illness such as: fever or chills, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, runny nose, headache, sore throat, sneezing, body aches, loss of sense of smell or taste, loss of appetite, extreme fatigue or tiredness, vomiting, severe uncontrolled coughing or wheezing. We continue to practice hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

Student Photos

Teija Kovanen and her team from The Photographer Studios will be here on **Tuesday September 26th** to take school photos. Packages will be sent home with your child. Please return your completed photo package to the school if you would like to order. All details are included on the envelope. All students will have their photo taken, however, purchases are your choice.

Terry Fox Run

On Friday, September 22, we will be hosting our school Terry Fox Run. Terry's dream was to collect \$1 from every Canadian for cancer research. Students can bring in \$1 for donation if they would like.

Dakelh Language and Culture

Practice some Dakelh with your children.
Dahooja - what's happening?
Te'onte - see you.



Bear Awareness

It is a good time to have regular conversations with your children about bear and wildlife awareness. Some tips are for kids to walk directly home after-school and to check in with you, to walk in groups, make noise and to not eat snacks while walking or riding. Children should not approach any wildlife. Here's a great site full of information. <https://wildsafebc.com/>

PARKING LOT

Please DO NOT park in staff parking slots while dropping off and picking students up.

You can park in the lane in front of the staff parking and on either end of the school near the dumpster and the forest.

And please **REDUCE** your speed in the parking lot.



Your children have brought home important paperwork for you to read, sign and return to your child's classroom teacher.

This paperwork includes;

A pink student information verification sheet (**very important to review, make necessary changes in a "coloured" ink, sign and return, even if none of your information has changed**).

Please be sure to include a current parent email address

Four stapled sheets with information are attached, (consent for release of student information, permission to receive fruits and veggies for your child, out of school learning experience consent form, & student acceptable internet usage).

K's & missing forms only – G suite permission – on green

Please sign and return by **Friday, September 23rd**.



Student Reporting Changes

Student reporting is changing this school year. We have attached a one page brochure with information about the new reporting order. You can also visit <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/reporting/resources-for-parents-and-caregivers> for more information. We will be sharing more information at our October Parent Teacher interviews on October 25 and 26.

BELL SCHEDULE

7:45 am - Outside Supervision begins

8:05 am - First bell

8:10 am - Class begins

10:00 - 10:15 am - Recess

11:47 am - 12:46 pm - Lunch

(Kids go out to play first)

2:18 pm - Class dismissed

2:38 - Late bus #46 (departs 2:43 pm)

3:15 pm - Late bus #16 (departs 3:30 pm)

Bus Students: Please remember to use your bus cards.

Safe Arrival

Please call the school if your child is going to be late or absent. If you prefer to use our handy online form, please go to <https://barlowcreek.sd28.bc.ca/> and click on the "Report an absence or Late" button and complete the online form. Ms. Telford or Ms. Danuser will call home to confirm an absence if your child is away without prior notification.

Ms. Telford's hours:

Mon-Wed: 8:00-12:30, Thu: 8:00-12:00, Fri: 8:00-11:45.

Call Ms. Danuser's cell (250)255-0473 after these hours.

Please advise the classroom teacher if your child will be leaving school early, walking to a different location at the end of the day, or will be picked up by a different person.

Behaviour Expectations

At Barlow Creek Elementary School we have high expectations for behaviour. This year we will be using restorative practices to support expected behaviour. Please review the attached Barlow Creek Elementary Code of Conduct and the SD#28 Policy 305 — Fair Notice letter in regards to violent threats.

Communication Protocol

Please refer to the attached communication protocol for steps to solving conflicts should the need arise.

PAC Meetings

Participating in your school PAC is a great way to support our students.

Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month.

PAC - AGM Thursday, September 21st @ 6:00pm - Library ALL Parents Welcome !



Library Books

Please check your homes for any library books from Barlow Creek Elementary. Library book exchange started this week and children are able to sign out two books to enjoy for a week.

Student Supervision

Please note the following pick-up/drop-off times. The 1st bell is at 8:05 a.m. for students to line up and come in, and class is dismissed at 2:18 p.m.

Morning supervision begins at 7:45 am

Students dropped off at the school prior to 7:45 am will not be supervised.

If you are picking up your child early, please use the front door and report to the office.

Classes will not be interrupted by visitors.

INDOOR SHOES

Barlow Creek has an indoor/outdoor shoe policy. Students are expected to take off their outdoor shoes and change into indoor shoes when entering the building. This will help keep our school clean and maintain a healthy learning environment for all the students. Please label all shoes with your child's name.



Barlow Creek Staff 2023-24

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Nancy Danuser: | Principal |
| Dacia Kimmie: | Kindergarten/Grade 1 |
| Lisa Kronebusch: | Grade 1/2 |
| Suzanne Gauthier: | Grade 2/3 |
| Terri Browne: | Grade 4/5 |
| Olivia Bruce: | Grade 6/7 |
| Brandi Swaan: | Learning Assistance |
| Angelina Gauthier: | Resource Teacher |
| Laura Milette: | Music Teacher |
| Heidi Sumner: | Librarian |
| Rebecca Pretty: | School Counsellor |
| TBA: | Education Assistant |
| TBA: | Youth Care Worker |
| Sarah Plant: | StrongStart Coordinator |
| Jodi Bowden: | Student Supervisor |
| Crystal Messom: | Student Supervisor & Breakfast Club Coordinator |
| Raine Ravnborg: | Indigenous Education Worker |
| Connie Hinrichs: | Custodian |
| Donna Telford: | Secretary |

Barlow Creek Fire Department Open House

Saturday, September 16, 2023
11:00am - 4:00pm

Everyone Welcome!



Safe & Caring School Environment

At Barlow Creek, we prohibit acts of discrimination against any person(s) as stated in the *British Columbia Human Rights Code* regarding:

Race, colour, ancestry,
Place of origin, religion,
Marital status, family status,
Physical or mental disability,
Gender, Sexual orientation,
Gender identity or expression; age

Unacceptable behaviour that is NOT tolerated in any activity sponsored by, organized by or participated in by the school regardless of the time or place:

Bullying, cyberbullying
(during & after school hours),
Harassment, intimidation,
Threatening or violent behaviours
Theft and vandalism
Intoxicating or illegal substances
Weapons or replica (toy) weapons
Misuse of technology
(cell phones, electronic devices,
computers, internet)
Intruders or trespassers – **visitors must first report to the office**

Notification

As circumstances warrant, school staff have a responsibility to inform:

Parents of students engaged in major and unsafe behaviours

Parents of students on the receiving end

Senior Administration, School Counselor, RCMP

Threat/Risk Assessment Team

Code of Conduct

In the Barlow Creek Learning Community, we are committed to developing competent thinkers who are creative, flexible, self-motivated, health-conscious citizens with a positive self-image.

The school has a strong rural history that has developed over the years because of everyone's commitment to our children. Parents are involved and supportive. Teachers are committed to fostering a sense of belonging to create a warm culture and increase the frequency of pro-social interactions among students, staff, and families. Continuous school improvement is achieved by communication, collaboration, and in respecting people, their needs and their feelings.

Purpose

The purpose of Barlow Creek's Code of Conduct is to establish and maintain a safe, caring, and orderly school that will enable purposeful learning and positive social development for all students.

As students grow, they become more able to take responsibility for their behaviours. We believe that children learn from their mistakes and can learn to take responsibility for choosing effective behaviours and create positive solutions. Younger students will be treated appropriately for their age, and as they continue to grow, they will be expected to take on stronger leadership roles.

We expect that students will comply with rules and policies established in the School Code of Conduct and will act with due regard to the authority and responsibility vested in District employees. In instances where intervention and corrective measures may be necessary, the Principal will use discretion in determining the appropriate restitution or consequence.

Inappropriate Behaviour

At Barlow Creek School, consequences for inappropriate behaviour are applied in a fair manner, respecting rights, responsibilities, age, maturity, and other factors relevant to the situation. We aim to use restorative, rather than punitive measures.

Inappropriate Behaviour can consist of, but is not limited to:

Rudeness, swearing
Hands-on, fighting (or play fighting)
Defiant behaviour, insolence
Throwing objects (rocks, sticks, snow, etc.)
Lack of respect for others (teasing/name-calling)
Unauthorized leaving of school grounds
Littering
Other behaviours that disrespect Self, Others, and the Environment

Consequences May Include:

Review of expectations
Restitution and restorative measures (apologies, actions to right wrongs)
Informing and/or meeting with parents
Time-out, removal from activities, loss of privileges
Development of behaviour plans
Out of school or in school suspensions
Working Team Meeting (Consultation with parents, Senior Administration, school staff, RCMP, etc., depending on the severity of the offence).

Barlow Creek Elementary

Phone: 250-992-5134

Fax: 250-992-3146

Web Site: <http://www.barlow.sd28.bc.ca/>

Electronic Device Policy

At Barlow Creek Elementary, we believe that electronic devices are a distraction to student learning. They can also negatively impact peer relationships at school and in the community (text messages, pictures, videos, etc.). Cell phones, iPods, iPads, tablets, or other Smart devices are not permitted for use at school unless specified by the classroom teacher for curricular purposes. This includes in the morning after student drop-off, at lunch or after school while awaiting buses or parent pick-up. Should a student need to contact a parent, they are to request permission from their teacher to use a phone in the school.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off and stored in backpacks while students are at school.

Please note that students bringing devices to school do so at their own risk—the school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged equipment.

If a student is found using their device during school hours, it will be held at the office for a parent or guardian to pick up.



'A Great Place to Learn and Grow'

Barlow Creek Elementary



Code of Conduct

2023-2024

Code of Conduct Expectations

At Barlow Creek Elementary School, we believe that all children have the right to learn in a safe, caring and orderly environment. A calm, safe, compassionate environment supports developing positive personal relationships. Our expectation is that students and adults will maintain an attitude that is co-operative, kind and respectful. We focus on respect for self, the environment and for all people, both in and outside of school in compliance with the *BC Human Rights Code*.

Be Respectful to Yourself – caring about your learning and yourself, including safety. Examples:

Always do your best
Make good choices
Be on time and ready to work
Be prepared; do your homework and use your planner

Be Respectful to Others – considerate of others' personal feelings and properties. Examples:

Be polite and wait your turn
Treat others well
Use good listening skills
Be honest and tell the truth

Be Respectful of the Learning Environment caring about your school and your environment. Examples:

Clean up after yourself
Take good care of materials
Ask before borrowing
Recycle and reuse

APPENDIX A – FAIR NOTICE



Notice to our Students and Parents/Guardians/Caregivers Quesnel School District Threat Assessment Protocol

The Quesnel School District and our community partners are committed to having safe, caring and inclusive schools. In the event that a student makes a threat of violence or harm to other students, staff or the school community, the school will initiate the Quesnel School District threat assessment protocol.

Violence, Threat and Risk Assessment Protocol

In the event of a serious threat to the wellbeing of students or staff, A Violence, Threat and Risk Assessment Protocol will be initiated.

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. They may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the internet or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

What is the purpose of a threat assessment?

- to ensure the safety of all students, staff, parents and others
- to ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- to understand factors contributing to the threat makers' behaviour
- to be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker
- to promote the emotional and physical safety of all

What behaviours initiate a VTRA?

A VTRA will be initiated when behaviours include, but are not limited to, serious violence with intent to harm or kill, verbal/written threats to harm/kill others, Internet website/social media threats to harm/kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats, and fire setting.

Duty to report

Staff, parents, students and community members have a duty to report all threat-related behaviours to keep our school community safe.

VTRA Team

Our school has a multi-disciplinary threat assessment team. The team includes principal, vice-principal, district staff, school counsellors and police.

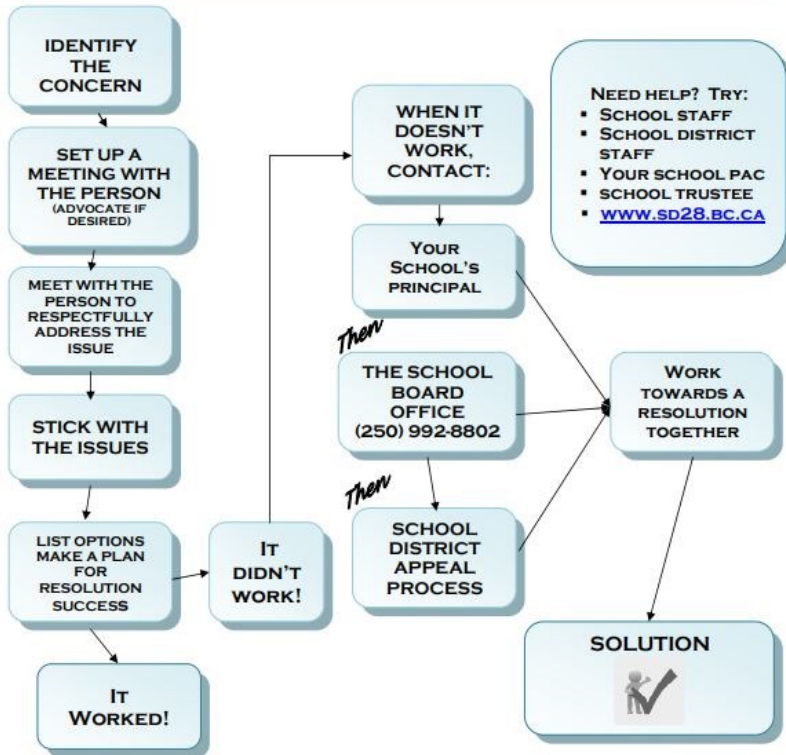
What happens in a student threat assessment?

After a report, the principal will activate the protocol for initial response. The team is activated and interviews may be held with the student(s), the threat maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required.

Can someone refuse to participate in a threat assessment process?

It is important for all parties to participate. If someone is reluctant to participate for some reason, the threat assessment process will continue in order to keep our school safe.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 28 (QUESNEL)
COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL
STEPS TO RESOLVING CONFLICT**



NEED HELP? TRY:

- SCHOOL STAFF
- SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF
- YOUR SCHOOL PAC
- SCHOOL TRUSTEE
- www.sd28.bc.ca

VANDALISM ALERT! If you suspect/observe vandalism occurring on school grounds or in a school, please call the school. After hours – phone the local RCMP detachment @ 250 992-9211 [Quesnel] or 250 994-3314 [Wells].

Amended: May 1, 2006, January 2012, January 2017
Reviewed: April 2021

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 28 (QUESNEL)

COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

Steps to Resolving Conflict:

The following guidelines have been developed to support respectful communication when concerns arise. It is expected that every attempt will be made to resolve concerns at the school level; or level closest to the concern.

If at any time, you need advice you can seek assistance/support in this process from:

- School Staff
- School District Office Staff (992-8802)
- School Parent Advisory Council Chairperson
- Trustees (992-8802)
- Web site - www.sd28.bc.ca

Finding a Resolution:

Identify the Concern

Try to resolve the concern:

- Begin at the school level between the concerned parties.

To help you do this:

- Focus on the student's needs.
- Define the real issue: What is needed and wanted?
- Make an appointment to see the person with whom you have a concern. Set a mutually satisfactory date and time.

- Prepare for the meeting – make notes, plan.
- Bring a support person if you desire, (inform the person with whom you meet).
- Respectfully, address your concern.
- Together, explore possible options and select the best solution.

Make a plan for resolution and success:

- Set up an action plan with times, dates and follow-up.

Seek Assistance

- ⇒ If the issue is not resolved, or an action plan is not successful, seek assistance from the Principal after informing the other party of your intent to do so.
- ⇒ If the issue concerns the Principal and you have not had success through the initial portion of this process, contact a Director of Instruction or the Superintendent of Schools at 992-8802 for assistance or support in resolving the issue.

If the issue remains unresolved after accessing assistance or support from a Director of Instruction or the Superintendent of Schools, contact the School Board using the Appeal Process (Bylaw No. 1). Call the School District Secretary-Treasurer at 992-8802 for information on the appeal process.

General Information

All concerns should be addressed. If you feel that you cannot approach the individual involved, please contact your school principal for assistance.

If you require more information please contact the School District Administration Office at 992-8802. The Quesnel School District believes that this Communications Protocol, developed by the School Board in partnership with the QDPAC, QDTA, QPVPA, CUPE Local 4990, and District Administration, will aid in a respectful and mutually satisfying resolution to problems and concerns.

The Communications Protocol Committee, under the direction of the Board of School Trustees, is committed to improving communications in the District. This is an on-going process and from time to time the established protocol procedures are reviewed. Your comments are welcomed.



Information for Parents and Caregivers



K-12 Student Reporting

When you were in school, were you asked to memorize information and repeat it on a test, only to forget it soon after? We now know learning is not just memorizing – it's being able to use what we know and apply it in real-world settings. Universities, colleges, and employers today care more about how students think than how many facts they can repeat.

BC's Curriculum

The learning students do today is more complex than ever. British Columbia redesigned the provincial curriculum to respond to the needs of today's learners. The curriculum continues to give your child a strong foundation in reading, writing, and math. But it also teaches your child how to think critically, communicate, solve problems, and use their knowledge in ways that both matter in school and will matter in a rapidly changing future.

The new curriculum has been in place in all grades since 2019, but report cards and the way student learning is communicated haven't really changed for decades. Report cards are now changing to align with the curriculum and to help ensure that every student in the province is set up for success in their learning.



Classroom assessment

You may remember getting a letter grade or percentage at the end of a chapter in your textbook or after a test, signaling to you that learning had come to an end. Today we know that learning doesn't stop when students hand in an assignment or complete a test.

We also know that:

- student learning can be communicated in ways other than letter grades
- teacher feedback on student learning can help students continue to learn
- students are more engaged when they have a say in how they show their learning



That's why students will receive marks on a four-point scale from Kindergarten to Grade 9. Students in Grades 10-12 will still receive a letter grade and percentage to support their entry into post-secondary education. And reporting for all students will now include self-reflection and goal setting.

Report Cards

These changes mean that report cards might not look the same as when you were in school. But the information you will now receive will provide a complete picture of what your child can do, where they need to improve, and how you can support their learning. Reporting in this way will ensure that students focus on learning instead of competing for marks.



Email

student.reporting@gov.bc.ca



Website

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

| What is consistent? | What is evolving? |
|---|--|
| 5 reporting events (3 written and 2 informal reports, such as parent/caregiver-teacher conferences) | Inclusion of the graduation status update at grades 10-12 on the end of year report card |
| Letter grades and percentages at grades 10-12 | The consistent use of the Provincial Proficiency Scale by all districts at grades K-9 |
| Written feedback grades K-9 | Written feedback at grades K-12 |
| Student self-assessment of Core Competencies grades K-9 | Student self-assessment of Core Competencies and goal-setting grades K-12 |



The Provincial Proficiency Scale

If your child is in Grades K-9, you won't see letter grades on their report card. Instead, you will see information on where your child is on the Provincial Proficiency Scale. The scale uses the terms "Emerging," "Developing," "Proficient," and "Extending" to describe student learning. The scale maintains high standards for student learning.

| Emerging | Developing | Proficient | Extending |
|--|--|---|---|
| Emerging means your child is beginning to understand something in an area of learning. They are still learning but may need more support to move ahead. Emerging doesn't mean your child is unsuccessful in this area. | Developing means your child understands some things in an area of learning but still has other areas to work on. Like Emerging, it doesn't mean your child is unsuccessful in this area. | Proficient is the goal for your child. It's also the goal for all students. When your child is Proficient, it means they fully understand the required learning. But it doesn't mean their learning stops. | Extending is when students show a deeper understanding. It's when your child is able to apply their learning in new and different ways. Extending is not the goal for all students in every area of learning. |

For more information:



Email
student.reporting@gov.bc.ca



Website
<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>