



KALAMALKA SECONDARY SCHOOL

7900 McCLOUNIE ROAD, COLDSTREAM, B.C. V1B 1P8

www.sd22.bc.ca/kalamaka

TELEPHONE (250) 545-1396

PRINCIPAL: Jeff Huggins

VICE PRINCIPAL: Melaina Ovington

Counsellor: Lori Knight (A-L)

Counsellor: Ray Wolsey (M-Z)

August 2026 Newsletter

Welcome

Welcome to all incoming and returning Kalamalka families and students! This August newsletter will provide you with important updates and startup procedures to help prepare all families for the upcoming year.

Important September and October Dates:

September 8: First Day of School Early Dismissal 12 noon
September 14: 6:30PM Parent Grad Committee in the Library
September 14-18: BC Thanksgiving Food Drive
September 15 First PAC meeting at 6:30pm in the library
September 21: School Photo Day AM
September 17: Fall Sports Parent Meeting at 6:30pm on Zoom
September 18: Clubs Day @ Lunch
September 25: Professional Development Day (no school)
September 29: Orange Shirt Day
September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (no school)
October 5: Parent Super Grad Committee 6:30PM
October 13: PAC meeting at 6:30pm in the library
October 15: OPTIS opens to book Parent/Teacher interviews
October 21: Parent Teacher Conferences

Student Timetables

Students completed their course selections prior to the summer break. We have used these selections to create the 2026/2027 timetables. Your Kal student may have selected a course that was not offered due to low numbers.

These students will be placed in other courses to meet their graduation needs. We do not give spares in the first semester. Second semester spares are given to students in Grade 12 who have the full credits for their grad year. Thank you to our counsellors Mrs. Knight and Mr. Wolsey for your work in getting timetables ready for our students.

Student timetables have been released in MyEd August 28th in the afternoon. The counsellors will be available for change requests August 31st through September 4th, as well as in the first week of school.

<https://sd22.bc.ca/kalamalka/course-selection/>

MyEd Login

Please click on the link below for information and instructions on how to navigate the MyEd portal.

[MyEd BC - School District No. 22](#)

Grade 8 BBQ and Introduction

Our annual grade 8 BBQ is on September 2nd at 11:30am – 1:00pm. Grade 8 students will be welcomed to Kal, given their timetable, lock and locker, and will be able to tour the school to find out where their classes are. This introduction will take about an hour and a half. If your Kal student has special dietary needs, please email Ms. Ovington at movington@sd22.bc.ca to ensure we can offer the appropriate hotdog type. Thank you to Mrs. Irwin and the Kal Leadership students for organizing and facilitating this great event!

New Student Registration

New students in our catchment area can register in the Kal office during the week of August 31 – September 4. Students in our catchment can still register on Tuesday, September 8. Some new students may be asked to wait until after Friday, September 11 as we determine available class spaces. We will work hard to ensure all Kal students can meet their learning and development goals for the 2026/2027 school year, but we cannot guarantee that every student is able to enroll in all their classes of choice.

Cafeteria

The Kal Cafeteria will be opening with a full menu on Wednesday, September 9th. We accept cash, debit & credit card. Families can also pay in advance through the Office to start a tab for their student.

The Kal Foods Program is looking for donations from your garden. If you are overrun with fruits & veggies please bring them by the school, we like to start the year with garden fresh recipes.

Day One:

On **Tuesday**, September 8, we have a shortened day. All students drop their books in their Block A class and then head to the gym for a whole school assembly. Student schedules are available in MyED for all students.
8:30am – Whole School Assembly in Gym
8:55am – 9:35am – Block A
9:40am – 10:20am – Block B
10:20am-10:35am – Break
10:35am-11:15am – Block C
11:20am – 12:00pm – Block D
Busses will run 3 hours early on this day.

On **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**, September 9, 10 & 11, we will be running through the regular period times but the block order will be A, B, C, D on these days.

On September 14th we will begin the regular block rotation.

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Regular Period Schedule:

Block A	8:30am	-	9:52am
AM Break	9:52am	-	10:02am
Block B	10:02am	-	11:24am
Lunch	11:24am	-	12:07pm
Block C	12:07pm	-	1:29pm
PM Break	1:29pm	-	1:39pm
Block D	1:39pm	-	3:00pm

The block rotation for each week is posted in the office each day.

School Supplies

Students should come to class on opening day prepared to work, with pen/pencil, binder and notepaper.

Teachers will advise students of any special supplies that they will need for their courses. These supplies may include items such as glue sticks, calculators, scissors, felt pens, etc.

Lockers

We require that all students use a school lock. This allows us to help manage our lockers better and to support our students. If a student needs a lock, we will provide them with a lock that will remain the school's property. The locks will be owned by the school and will need to be returned by students before leaving the school or they will be charged \$10. If one of our locks fails, we will replace it. If a student loses their lock, they will have to pay for a replacement.

New Faces @ Kal

In addition to the wonderful returning Kal staff members, the 2026/2027 school year brings a few new faces to our school community. Please join us in welcoming the following new staff members!

Educational Assistant: Shylo Orchard

Teacher: Janine Allen, Career, PE and Science

Teacher: Billie Jo Beaudoin, French

Teacher: Jen Grootendorst, SBRT

Teacher: Ted Hansen, SBRT

Teacher: Amy Messner, Art and Careers

Teacher: Corrie Pomarenski, Math

Teacher: Amy Sidhu, English and Social Studies

Teacher: Makayla Smuin, SBRT

Teacher: Bailey Williamson, English and Foods

Teacher: Ray Wolsey, Counselling

Vice Principal: Melaina Ovington

Kal Staff List:

Office Staff: Jan Mills, Kara Cunningham, Wendy Evans

Custodial Staff: Jami Burke, John Agnew, Randy Ross

Indigenous Student Support Worker: Janine Potts

Certified Educational Assistants: Brandy Hansen, Lisa Klammer, Shylo Orchard, Sandra Shillington, Shannon Siedl, Marianne White

Teaching Staff: Janine Allen, Stephanie Anderson, Billie Jo Beaudoin, Sena Bishop, Jennifer Bitz, Jaymi Booth, Jessie Bourgeois, Paul Britton, Christine Dilworth, Mike Foster, Spencer Freeman-Marsh, Sara Fyke, Ted Hansen, Meg Irwin, Gil Kafka, Rob Kopera, Olaf Korb, Larissa Kouwenhoven, Alan McAndrew, Jill Meredith, Amy Messner, Ali Munro, Nicola Nelson, Tamara Nicolas, Mary Niedballa, Jason Parkinson, Corrie Pomarenski, Dan Reid, Isabela Richard, Jillian Shore, Amy Sidhu, Makayla Smuin, Shon Thomas, Tim Thorpe, Briana Vaskic, Todd Wenger, Jay Wilkins, Bailey Williamson, Kelly Winston

Teaching Librarian: Kelly Challen

Counsellors: Lori Knight and Ray Wolsey

Drug and Alcohol Counsellor: Doug Rogers

Bus Supervisor: Sandra Shillington

Administrators: Jeff Huggins and Melaina Ovington

A full list of all staff and emails can be found here on our website: <https://sd22.bc.ca/kalamalka/staff-directory/>

Personal Devices and Wifi

Please read our letter regarding [Acceptable Use of Personal Devices](#) in classrooms at Kal. A reminder that using any digital devices as well as our Wi-Fi requires both responsibility and respect.

Our Wi-Fi access has been updated to meet our district standards. Students should sign in to **SD22-GUEST** using the following credentials:

Username: SD22 student number (*do not include @sd22.bc.ca*)

Password: Same as their sd22.bc.ca email password

Athletics: <https://www.kalamalkaathletics.com/>

The fall season will have boys and girls volleyball, cross country running, and boys soccer. We will have our Fall Sports Parent Meeting at 6:30pm on September 17. We are looking for Grade 8 Girls B and Jr B Boys and Girls Volleyball coaches. If you are interested in supporting the Kalamalka Athletic program in any way, please contact our Athletic Director, Jessie Bourgeois, jbourgeois@sd22.bc.ca. Are you looking for some **KAL Athletic gear**, check the Athletics webpage in September!

If your Kal student has a particular interest and would like to create a group to pursue an extra-curricular activity, they can inquire with any staff member for support or contact either Mr. Huggins or Ms. Ovington.

School Photos: September 21 - AM

School photos will be taken on Sept 21st in the morning. A message will be sent home the week prior to school photos asking your permission to allow Mountain West Studios to use your email address to send you your proofs and order access number. All photos are ordered online. Please ensure that your information is up to date with the school.

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School Fees

STUDENT FEES – ALL GRADES.....	\$30
GRAD FEE.....	\$140
BAND INSTRUMENT RENTAL.....	\$50
SCIENCE 8/9/10.....	\$20
PE 8/9/10.....	\$30
CHEM 11/12.....	\$30
FDN & Pre-Calc 10 & 11	\$30
Pre-Calc 11 & 12	\$30
Foundations of Math 11.....	\$30
A/P CALC 12.....	\$35
PE LEADERSHIP.....	\$200
ACTIVE LIVING.....	\$150
FITNESS & CONDITIONING.....	\$120
WOMEN'S FITNESS.....	\$200
OUTDOOR ED.....	\$400
YEARBOOK.....	\$50
LOCK Replacement if lost.....	\$10

In the past we have charged for PE 8, 9 and 10 field trips during the course of the semester when the field trips took place. This year we are simplifying the process for parents & PE teachers by adding the PE 8/9/10 fee to each student in MyEd. Please note that we have hardship policy for families that need financial assistance. Families can contact Mr. Huggins to discuss any supports that may be needed.

Payment of Fees:

Fees will be assessed to your student through MyEd BC. This includes student fee, grad fee, workbooks, sport athletic & team fees etc. Fees can be paid online by credit card through your parent MyEd login. Alternately fees can be paid by cash, cheque or credit card at the school office. Any questions please contact the office.

Accident Insurance:

Parents should be aware that the SD22 does carry medical accident insurance for individual students. This is minimal insurance that can be augmented by personal family plans.

Additional information can be found on the School District's web site. [Accident Insurance](#)

Code of Conduct:

Our school and SD22 [Code of Conduct](#) is reviewed with all students. It is expected all students are familiar with and uphold the standards of our Code of Conduct. Our school firmly believes that each and every student deserve to learn and thrive in a safe, caring, and healthy learning environment.

MySchoolDay App

Our student handbook as well as the student calendar is found

digitally in the MySchoolDay app, free and downloadable from the Android and Apple app stores. We encourage all students to download the app so they can stay up to date with our school class schedule, activities, events.

Lates and Absences:

If your student is late or absent from school please notify the office to excuse the absence.

email Wendy: kaloffice@sd22.bc.ca or phone: 250-545-1396

Please let the office know of any change in phone numbers, address, or email so that you can stay up to date with the latest at Kal Secondary.

Grad 2027

We look forward to making this the best year for our 2027 grad students. Mr. Huggins will be taking the lead role in making sure this year's grad events are exceptional. This cannot happen without the help of the fantastic parent volunteers. The first parent meeting is on September 8th at 6:30pm in the Kalamalka Library. This form allows us sign-up for committees and share emails with the Parent Grad Committee.

[Kalamalka Grad 2027 Parent Committee Form](#)

Grad is a wonderful celebration that students look forward to every year. It is full of rich traditions that have grown over the years. There is also a trend of non-sanctioned social events in some Okanagan communities such as Vernon. This includes an all-night bush party. Bush parties involve drinking and drug use, vandalism, fighting, and even confrontations with the police. Pranks have caused thousands of dollars in damage to campsites and public areas. It is also known that these events involve young adults who are not attending school. There are no controls on who participates, or no safeguards to ensure safety. If an accident or incident happens, medical services are not easily available.

Most of our grade 12 students are responsible and mature young adults. However, they are kids and as kids, they are subject to peer pressure. As educators and parents, we need to help them make responsible and safe decisions. The aforementioned activity is unsafe and is not condoned by the school or the school district. There is no tolerance for the association of drugs and alcohol in schools. If students do attend school after a night of drinking, they will face consequences that jeopardize their education.

Coming to school with shirts and skin covered in felt pen does not portray the right message to our younger students, therefore students will be sent home to change if this happens. These events can cast a shadow on all the grade 12 students and most importantly put our students in danger.

Pick-up/Drop-off in Parking Lot

A friendly reminder to keep our bus lane and entry-way clear when picking up and dropping off your child. Follow all signage and lines for entry and exit. We also ask parents to move forward in the pick-up / drop-off lane as far as possible during busy times so that more cars can pull in behind.

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Transportation-Bus Information

If your child uses the school district bus service they must be registered with the Transportation Department. You can find the registration form and bus route information on the following website: <https://www.sd22.bc.ca/bus-transportation>

All buses for School District #22 are identified by a Route Number. Magnetic signs are posted on buses to identify route numbers.

Please advise your children to look for this Route Number and not for the bus number to identify their bus.

[2025-26 Important Bus Information](#)

E-Bikes and E-Scooters

School District 22 is currently working in partnership with local RCMP to raise awareness about the safe and legal use of e-bikes, e-scooters, and other small electric devices. As more students are using these devices to travel to and from school, we want to ensure that safety remains our shared priority. School grounds are active, high-traffic environments, and higher-speed electric devices can present increased risks for students and staff.

We also want to be clear that not all electric devices are treated the same under the law. While some e-bikes may be permitted when they meet specific requirements, many other devices—such as certain e-scooters, e-dirt bikes, and mini-motorcycles—are not legally allowable for use in public spaces. As a result, devices that are not legally permitted for students in public spaces are not allowed on school grounds at any time.

If a student brings an e-device that is not legally permitted, parents and caregivers will be expected to support its safe and timely removal from school property. We encourage families to take time to review the expectations and legal requirements with their children, helping them understand both safe practices and responsible decision-making. More information, can be found on the School District 22 website: E-Bikes and E-Scooters - School District No. 22 (Vernon) This is also an opportunity to encourage students to choose active and healthy ways of getting to school. Riding a pedal

bicycle that meets legal requirements is a great option that supports physical activity, independence, and wellbeing. As always, we remind all students to wear a properly fitted helmet and to ride safely and responsibly. Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our school communities safe, respectful, and caring places for all.

<https://www.sd22.bc.ca/news/e-bikes-and-e-scooters>

 BIKE SMART. STAY LEGAL. 					
ESSENTIAL RULES FOR BIKES & SMALL ELECTRIC VEHICLES					
 Not all small or electric vehicles are treated the same under the Motor Vehicle Act.					
	WHERE CAN I RIDE?	HOW OLD DO I NEED TO BE?	SPEED / POWER LIMITS	LICENSE & INSURANCE	KEY REQUIREMENT
 E-BIKE (LIGHT / STANDARD)	Anywhere bicycles can be ridden	14+ for light e-bikes 16+ for standard e-bikes	Light e-bike: 25 km/h • 250W max Standard e-bike: 32 km/h • 500W max	No driver's license or insurance required	Must have fully operable pedals * Light e-bike cannot have throttle
 E-SCOOTER (PILOT PROJECT)	Only in communities participating in the pilot project (only in Vernon)	16+	25 km/h • 500W max	No driver's license or insurance required	Illegal outside of pilot communities
 MOPED / LSM (LIMITED SPEED MOTORCYCLE)	On public roadways only	16+	70 km/h • Up to 1.5 kW (1500W) max	Driver's license and insurance required	Must meet CMVSS compliance label requirements
 E-DIRT BIKE	Not on roads, sidewalks or bike lanes	Not legal at any age on public roads	Not permitted on public roads (often >500W)	Cannot be registered or insured	Not legal e-bikes or LSMs
 MINI-MOTORCYCLE	Not on roads, sidewalks or bike lanes	Not legal at any age on public roads	Not permitted on public roads (often >500W)	Cannot be registered or insured	Do not meet safety standards

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CAREER PROGRAMS

There are many more program offerings in Kelowna. Apply early (a year ahead of the program start date) to give yourself the best chance of getting in. See Mr. Thorpe for more information and to apply.

SD22 will pay the full tuition for all successful applicants.

Work in Trades

Do you work with a certified tradesperson? You can earn 16 credits towards graduation while earning money and hours towards your trade as a Youth Apprentice. These courses can be completed while in high school or after graduation. Students that complete the program may be eligible for the \$1000 Youth Work in Trades Award.

Work Experience

Do you work or volunteer? Get high school credit through the Work Experience program. 120 hours of work = 4 credits. This course can be completed over the summer as well. Students must be registered and activated in Work Experience to start counting hours towards the 120 required.

Academic Dual Credit

Take a first-year course at Okanagan College in your gr. 12 year. Courses are offered after school/evenings twice a week. SD22 will pay the tuition for successful applicants.

Forestry and Trades Program 11/12

This program provides work ready skills and certificates for students interested in Forestry and/or trades. Students are introduced to welding, electrical, plumbing, carpentry, and heavy duty mechanics/automotive service technician.

Jean Minguy RCMP Youth Academy

This is a police academy simulation for students interested in law enforcement as a possible career. This weeklong camp is held at the DND in Vernon every May with volunteer RCMP officers.

Jr. Fire Crew Program

The BC Wildfire Service is looking for gr. 12s interested in fighting forest fires in the summer. A lunchtime information session will be held before spring break, followed by interviews and training for those shortlisted.

Okanagan College Trades Sampler

This 12-week program is designed to provide gr. 9-12 students with an opportunity to explore several different skilled trades. Students will gain first-hand knowledge and practical skills that will assist them in exploring a rewarding career in the trades.

See our website for a list of other program offerings and more info on what's listed here:

<https://sd22.bc.ca/programs-services/careers/>

For more information on Career Programs and to apply contact:

Tim Thorpe - Career Programs Coordinator

tthorpe@sd22.bc.ca 250-549-6921

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Kalamalka Secondary

August 2025



OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

School Act, RSBC 1996, c 412.

Responsibilities of the School:

The school must Inform parents of the student's attendance, behaviour and progress in school. The school must also consult with the student and/or parent regarding the students educational program.

Responsibilities of the Student and Parent(s)

A student must enrol and participate in an educational program as provided by a board or by the principal of a Provincial school. A student must also comply with the school rules and district codes of conduct.

WHY WE ARE REACHING OUT

School attendance plays a vital role in your child's academic success and overall well-being. Regular attendance helps students grow intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically—preparing them to meet the challenges of adulthood with confidence and capability.

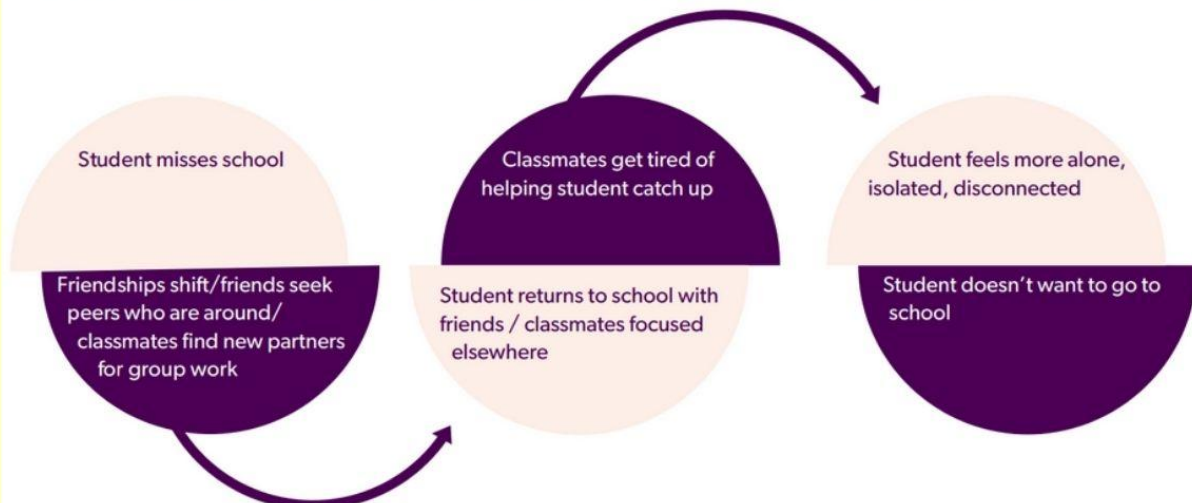
As parents, one of our key responsibilities is to ensure that your child attends school every day, ready to learn. While we understand that occasional absences may be unavoidable, it is important to minimize missed instructional time to support your child's continuous learning and development.

Our school is committed to partnering with you to help your child succeed. Together, we can create a strong foundation for lifelong learning and personal growth.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The impact of absenteeism on student academic success is well understood by families, students and their teachers. For many students the impact on self-esteem, academic confidence, anxiety and peer connection can be even greater. Students who miss school fall behind in classwork, which can make them feel frustrated, embarrassed and disengaged. This causes them to miss even more school, reinforcing the cycle. It is important that we work together to prevent this cycle and intervene quickly if it begins to develop.



FNESC, FNSEA - A Toolkit for Raising Attendance Rates

PARENTS SUPPORTING ATTENDANCE HABITS

You can help your child develop lifelong attendance habits by:

- Establishing consistent bedtimes and morning routines
- Encouraging responsibility for missed school work
- Keeping open, on-going communication with teachers
- Addressing school-related stress before it escalates
- Sharing and/or seeking out best practices from other parents/families/guardians
- Seeking support from school staff or community programs.

Questions you can ask your child:

- How do they feel about school?
- Are certain subjects or environments causing stress?
- Are they facing social challenges, like making friends or feeling left out?
- Are they feeling overwhelmed academically?
- How is their mental and emotional well-being?
- Are there family or home-related factors affecting attendance?
- Do they feel supported by their teachers and school staff?

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Informing parents of absences through our call-out system
- Supportive conversations with students
- Teachers, counsellors, support staff and administration contacting parents
- Supporting students with physical and mental health challenges
- Supporting students whose medical accommodations include extended absences
- Communicating clear expectations around attendance

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

- Students are expected to attend school every day and arrive on time, ready to learn.
- For explained absences - Parent/Legal guardian must contact the office with a phone call or email kaloffice@sd22.bc.ca. Note that explained absences do not excuse the student from meeting the learning outcomes for that day.
- Students are expected to contact their teacher to keep up with the learning:
 - prior to a planned absence or/
 - immediately upon return from an unplanned absence
- Teachers provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their learning throughout the year. A significant proportion of the learning takes place in the classroom, and meeting some of the learning standards requires class participation. Extended absences may result in a student being unable to complete the course.

WHO TO CONTACT

Reporting an absence: 250-545-1396 or kaloffice@sd22.bc.ca

Missed school work: Classroom teacher / resource teacher

Long term absences: Classroom teacher and school administration.

Supports with mental health: School counsellor(s)

Classroom concerns: Classroom teacher. School administration if concern not resolved

