



École Kelowna Secondary School

Whoo's News

May 9, 2025



May is Asian Heritage Month.

See more information [HERE](#).

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

At KSS, in-class attendance is expected. **Notes are not accepted** to excuse absences, sign out or leave early. Parents/Guardians are required to report absences, lates and early departures using **School Messenger - Safe Arrival Absence Reporting system**. *Please do not call the main office.*

LATE

Students that are **more than 30 minutes late for class must check in at the office**.

The office will timestamp the student's arrival. Once the student makes their way to their classroom, their teacher will change the Absence to a Late. If this is an excused late, parents may report this in Safe Arrival. If a parent has an enquiry regarding an absent/late, they are to contact the classroom teacher.

EARLY DEPARTURE

Parents are required to report early departures into School Messenger. Once reported, the teacher will see this in MyEd and release the student at the reported dismissal time. If there is no excused absence in MyEd, students will be sent to the office for follow-up. This may delay student dismissal as the office obtains parental approval. If no parental approval is obtained, the student will be sent back to class.

TEAM ATTENDANCE

Coaches will report their team absences to the office. Students are expected to have a "Student Authorized Absence Form" filled out by their teachers for classes they will miss and show this form to their coach. Students keep this form as their homework is listed here.

Thank you for utilizing School Messenger and helping us keep all students safe and accounted for.

Upcoming dates . .

May 13 & 27	Health Nurse Wellness Clinics in Career Ctr AM
May 15	District Award Scholarship Presentations AM
May 16	PROM
May 19	Victoria Day—NO SCHOOL
May 20	KSS PAC AGM 6:30 p.m. in LLC (<i>all parents welcome</i>)
May 21	Diner en Blanc
May 21-22	Multicultural Festival in MPR
May 26-30	Night Owl Theatre
May 27	Global Awareness Market in MPR
May 28	Early Dismissal at 12:30 p.m. Capstone Presentations PM
May 31	Transportation deadline for 2025-2026
May 31-Jun 6	Go By Bike Week
Jun 2	Music Concert—Klassen, 6:00 p.m. in MPR
Jun 3	Music Concert—French, 6:00 p.m. in Gym



SD23 TRANSPORTATION

DEADLINE

The deadline to apply for school bus transportation for the 2025-2026 school year is **May 31**.

Although applications are accepted throughout the school year, **priority seating is given to applicants who apply before June 1**.

Bus applications are through SD23 Transportation. [HERE](#) is a link to the website.



Mental Health Memo from your counsellors

You are allowed to be both a masterpiece and a work in progress at the same time.



May 2nd - 16th

MOVE4MANA



Get Active, **Save Lives!**

Want to help save children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in countries like Somalia ? Join our **MOVE4MANA** Challenge at KSS. SCAN THE LINK!

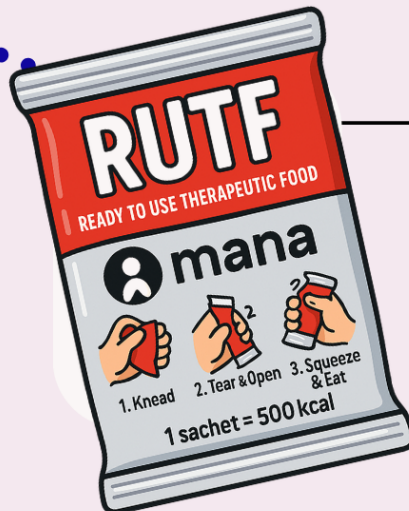
Download **MoveSpring**

Join MOVE4MANA by downloading the MoveSpring app using the QR code above or the link on our Instagram. Your physical activity is converted to Active Points, which convert to RUTF Packets.



WHAT IS RUTF?

Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) is a **peanut butter-based nutritive aid**, high in protein and essential vitamins for children suffering from **Severe Acute Malnutrition**.



RUTF Conversion

Active Points are converted into life-saving RUTF packets for severely malnourished children under the age of 5! MoveSpring tracks your points and RUTF packets earned!

Packet **Distribution**

Our sponsor, Food for Famine Society, donates the RUTF packets, and their partner, World Vision Canada, organizes their distribution to children with severe acute malnutrition in Somalia. Let's get moving!





GRAD 2025



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to participate in Graduation, Grade 12 students must have:

- ◇ Be in a calculable position to graduate.
- ◇ Filled out the "Convocation Information" Form on the Grad Google Classroom.
 - ◇ Returned/renewed any overdue library books or textbooks.
- ◇ Paid any outstanding student fees, including \$75.00 Grad Commencement Fee.

*** If your family is experiencing financial difficulties, please speak with your Alpha VP. ***

PROMENADE & BANQUET

The Grad Walk, followed by Grad Banquet and Dance, is on **Friday, May 16, 2025**. The Grad Walk will begin at 5:30 p.m. sharp. **Grads must arrive at The Dolphins downtown by 5:00 p.m. to line up!** The walk will begin at The Dolphins and conclude at the pool entrance of The Delta Grand Hotel where the banquet and dance will take place.

Prom banquet and dance is for **Grade 12 students only** and must show **photo ID** to enter The Grand.

Prom seat selection is online. Sign in with your @learn account. Select seats [HERE](#).

The KSS Code of Conduct will be in place for the entire evening.



CONVOCATION

Convocation (Commencement Ceremony) is the cap and gown ceremony where students will receive their graduation diploma.

Convocation is on **Saturday, June 7, 2025** in the KSS Gym. There are two ceremonies:

- 1: Last Names beginning with **A — L** at **10:30 a.m.**
- 2: Last Names beginning with **M — Z** at **2:30 p.m.**



Convocation will be livestreamed via link on the KSS Website (Grad tab) for those that are unable to attend.

[HERE](#) is the link to the page for the Convocation Livestream.

Each student may receive **up to SIX tickets** for their ceremony. There is no waitlist for extra tickets. Student will pick up their convocation tickets when they pick up their grad cap, gown and stole at the **end of May**.

The Graduation Commencement Fee of \$75.00 was due on April 1st. Payment may still be made in School Cash Online.

Students should check Grad Google Classroom for all Grad updates.

OUTSTANDING FEES

Parents may check School Cash Online for overdue fees. **Fees are paid via [School Cash Online](#).**

If you do not see a fee in School Cash Online, please check your [History](#) to see if it has already been paid.

Once again, students/families that are experiencing financial difficulties are urged to come and speak with their Alpha VP.



Kelowna Secondary School

École Secondaire Kelowna

1079 Raymer Avenue, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 4Z7
Ph : (250) 870-5105 Fax : (250) 870-5105

On behalf of the graduating class of 2025 and this year's grad council at Kelowna Secondary School, we would like to request donations to help fund and execute this year's upcoming graduation/prom. With such a large graduating class, the PAC, grad council, as well as staff at KSS have taken on the large task of planning this event. Any donations would be put towards helping lower the cost of each student's admission into the event but could also be used towards the expenses of the event itself. Some of the expenses include food, entertainment (music and photography), decorations, and the venue rental.

Donations can be made to cover or lower the cost of specific items or can be given for general use. All funds donated will go entirely towards putting together an unforgettable event for our grad class. Tax receipts can be provided if your donation is made through the Central Okanagan School District's website **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**. You can register/log into this site and select the button **Make A Donation**, select an amount for your donation, choose **KELOWNA SECONDARY** as the Fund Destination, and add **KSS PROM** to the Message to School Board to ensure your donation is added to our event. If you do not require a tax receipt, a cheque can be made to **KELOWNA SECONDARY SCHOOL** attention **KSS PROM**.

<https://centralokanagan.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/56/15/false/true>

Any help would be greatly appreciated, as it would help ensure that every student has the opportunity to attend the event at a minimal cost to all and make it a memorable night for our grads.

Sincerely, KSS Grad Class of 2025



PAC UPDATE

Community Matters

You are a Part of the PAC

If you are a parent or guardian with a student returning or starting at KSS this fall, you are automatically part of the PAC for the 2025-26 school year! As a member you are invited to the upcoming AGM; and are encouraged to consider getting more involved and letting your name stand for a PAC executive role.

The PAC Executive

For those new to the school, the PAC at KSS isn't about fund raising so don't let that thought scare you. The major role is allocating the approximately \$30,000 of BC Gaming Funds to help fund extracurricular activities such as; class field trips, musical instruments, sports uniforms, dance instruction, robotics, and more.

KSS is required to have a PAC executive to continue receiving BC Gaming Grant Funding. We will be voting in the 2025-26 PAC executive at the AGM. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please email KSS.PACPresident@sd23.bc.ca. There can also be nominations from the floor at the AGM.

KSS PAC Executive Committee 2025-26 (roles and nomination status):

- Chair or Co-chair §
- Vice or Co-chair - **Open for nominees**
- Treasurer (1 nominee)
- Secretary §
- Academic Chair §
- Athletic Chair §
- Fine Arts Chair §
- Indigenous Chair §
- Technical Education Chair §
- Student Support Chair §
- Clubs Chair §
- COPAC Rep - **Open for nominees**

§ denotes that the current person in the role is willing to stay in the role for next year

Even if you can't volunteer for a position, the PAC welcomes your input and attendance at all meetings. It's an easy way to keep up with what is happening at KSS. We look forward to seeing you!

AGM

⋮

**May 20th @ 6:30pm
in the school library**



MUSIC DEPARTMENT KUDOS



Congratulations to **Chamber Choir** on your
MUSICFEST CANADA INVITE!

This invitation is a direct result of your performance
at the Windscares Choir Festival.



Congratulations to **Choir, Vocal Jazz, and Jazz Band 10/11/12's** for 5 great performances at the **Whistler Cantando Music Festival**. You made KSS and Mrs. French very proud of you! A special thank you to our chaperones that came with us to Whistler. You were an amazing team, and you are very appreciated! We could not have done this trip without you!

GOBYBIKEWEEK
for
SCHOOLS

MAY 31 TO JUNE 6 **SPRING 2025**

HELP YOUR SCHOOL WIN
Two BC schools will
WIN \$1,000
to support active
transportation!

REGISTER TODAY!

BRITISH COLUMBIA

GoByBikeBC
BIKE IT. YOU'LL LOVE IT.

Caregivers EFFT Workshop
Emotion Focused Family Therapy

Is your youth struggling with mental health challenges like anxiety, depression, substance use, or disordered eating? Do you need support navigating their behaviour, setting limits, or responding to their emotions?

This workshop aims to equip caregivers with practical skills and tools to better support their loved ones facing mental health and wellness challenges.

**Monday May 26 and
Tuesday May 27, 9am - 4pm**
2 DAY WORKSHOP

In-person at Foundry Kelowna 100-1815 Kirschner Rd

To register email kendra.arthurs@cmhskelowna.org AND michelle.ouimet@cmhskelowna.org or call 236.420.2803

Canadian Mental Health Association Kelowna

FOUNDRY
KELOWNA

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

impact
EVENTS + BRAND MGMT

7-8

JUNE 2025

CMHA Ride Don't Hide



ridedon'thide

The 2025 CMHA Ride Don't Hide event on June 8, 2025, brings participants from all over the Okanagan to ride in support of mental health. The post ride festival features live music and fun for the whole family.

Deadline to apply: May 7th

Curious about the roles? Just scan the QR code to explore what's available!

VOLUNTEER



13-14

JUNE 2025

Kelowna Wine Country Runs

**KELOWNA
WINE COUNTRY** | **25**
5KM | 10KM | 21KM

The 2025 Kelowna Wine Country Runs is a scenic running event held on June 14, 2025, offering participants the chance to run a Half Marathon, 10km, or 5km through the stunning Okanagan Valley.

Deadline to apply: May 15th

Curious about the roles? Just scan the QR code to explore what's available!

VOLUNTEER



15

JUNE 2025

CSN Collision Father's Day Car Show



CSN Collision is hosting a family-friendly event at Kelowna City Park on June 15. This free event features a variety of vehicles, including hot rods, custom cars, and motorcycles.

Deadline to apply: May 15th

Curious about the roles? Just scan the QR code to explore what's available!

VOLUNTEER



3-6

JULY 2025

Kelowna Ribfest



The 2025 Kelowna Ribfest is a three-day family festival featuring rib competitions, live music, a kids' zone, family activities, and an artisan marketplace.

Deadline to apply: June 20th

Curious about the roles? Just scan the QR code to explore what's available!

VOLUNTEER






Cycle for Strong Kids
Volunteer June 1 | 10am-2pm

Bring your passion and volunteer at our biggest fundraising event of the year!

- Set-up/ Take down
- Kid's Zone Activities
- Rider and Jr. Rider Hosts
- And many more.....

SEE YOUR SCHOOL CAREER CENTRE TO SIGN UP!

DEADLINE TO APPLY IS FRIDAY, MAY 23RD



KSS WEBSITE & CALENDARS

<https://kss.sd23.bc.ca/>

Please check the KSS Website for important information such as: Course Viewbook, Student Services, Drama, Library and Tech information, Whoo's News, PAC Meeting Minutes, Grad information, Career-Life Programs and student volunteer opportunities and much more!

KELOWNA OWLS ATHLETICS Page and Gym Calendar is under "Students" tab and "Athletics". Link [HERE](#)

KSS SCHOOL CALENDAR is on the KSS Website [HERE](#) is a link.





We Don't Want You to Sell Anything!

But we still need your help

Dear Parents/guardians.

Each year the KSS PAC provides 2 bursaries and 2 scholarships of \$1000 each to KSS graduates who will be attending post-secondary education in the Fall of their graduating year. The bursaries/scholarships are awarded to students based on financial need, academic achievement, and a desire to pursue post-secondary education in Canada.

Previously, these were funded through KSS's annual provincial community gaming grant, however, gaming funds are no longer allowed to be used for bursaries and scholarships. Hence, the PAC must fundraise in order to continue to provide these funds to support KSS students in their future education.

This is where YOU come in!

Please consider donating! Any amount, no matter how large or small, makes a difference!

Our fundraising goal is \$4,000 to cover the awards for 2025 graduates. Any funds beyond our goal will be held in a PAC scholarship account for future years!

How to donate

We have decided to use the school district donation option this year for our scholarship/bursary fund. It allows us to keep all of the money that you donate, rather than having to pay platform fees, and gives you a tax receipt. **WIN-WIN!**

Steps:

1. Go to www.schoolcashionline.com and sign in using your credentials that you pay your school fees with
2. Click *Make a Donation* to open the donation form
3. Choose *Kelowna Secondary*
4. In the message box write *PAC Scholarship Fund*
5. *Add to Cart* to go to the payment page

With your support, we can empower the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and changemakers.