



# Whoo's News



March 15, 2024

## Safety of your Child at Non-Sanctioned Graduation Events

For each of our grade 12 students, the graduation year is one of the most special and celebrated milestones to date. We have several events that we organize and support at KSS for your Grade 12 student. Administrators, teachers, parents and students work very hard to organize these events and ensure all safety concerns are addressed. Grad Winter Formal, Grad Movie Night, Grad Spaghetti Dinner, Prom and the Convocation Ceremony are just a few activities that we plan and prepare for your child's enjoyment.

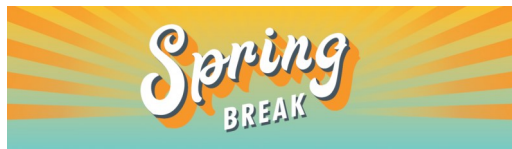
Unfortunately, there are other non-sanctioned grad events that we do not supervise nor support. These activities are often organized and arranged by the graduates themselves and include "grad kidnappings" and subsequent "bush parties" that take place in our community.

We need to emphasize our serious concerns regarding student behavior and safety at all of the above-mentioned non-sanctioned events, as there have been incidents of serious injury in past years.

The staff at KSS want your child's grade 12 year to be positive, memorable and safe, and we strongly caution and counsel parents to investigate these non-sanctioned activities carefully.

Scott Parker

Principal  
Kelowna Secondary School



## Upcoming Dates . .

|           |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mar 18-29 | SPRING BREAK—NO SCHOOL                                                              |  |
| Apr 1     | Easter Monday—NO SCHOOL                                                             |                                                                                     |
| Apr 1     | Grad Fees Due                                                                       |                                                                                     |
| Apr 2     | Schools reopen after Spring Break                                                   |                                                                                     |
| Apr 9     | KSS PAC Meeting via Zoom                                                            |                                                                                     |
| Apr 15-19 | Ministry Assessment Week                                                            |                                                                                     |
| May 2     | Student Written Learning Updates (Report Cards)<br>published in MyEd Student Portal |                                                                                     |
| May 9     | Cultural Performance                                                                |                                                                                     |
| May 17    | Prom                                                                                |                                                                                     |
| May 20    | Victoria Day—NO SCHOOL                                                              |                                                                                     |

## KSS SPIRIT WEAR !



KSS merch  
is up for sale again.

Show your school spirit and order soon!

ORDER [HERE](#)

DEADLINE IS APRIL 14





*congratulations*

## High School Male Athlete of the Year - Sport BC

Sport BC recently celebrated the  
56th Annual Athlete of the Year Awards.

### Congratulations to KSS student

#### Nash Semeniuk

who received the High School Male Athlete of the Year  
(basketball and volleyball).

**MAKE IT  
HAPPEN.**  
FOOTBALL CAMP

# JOIN THE **FORCE**

ELEVATE YOUR GAME AT  
CAMP MAKE IT HAPPEN  
THIS SUMMER IN KELOWNA, BC

## CALLING ALL FOOTBALL PLAYERS!

Bringing together the titans of the sporting world this Summer, our vision is to create a powerhouse of inspiration, uniting top current and former NFL, CFL, D1 and Collegiate players, as well as other professional athletes to create lasting bonds, share collective wisdom, and give back to the community. Together, we will create the next generation of leaders.



Skill & Player  
Development



Drills On & Off  
the Field



BioSteel  
Products



Filmed and  
Analyzed Practices

## FOR THE COMMUNITY: SUPPORTING SINGLE MOTHERS, POWERING THE FUTURE

Camp Make It Happen is a non-profit camp, raising both proceeds and awareness for single mothers in need. These incredible women are the leaders of future generations, and through our support for "Mamas for Mamas," we aim to make a lasting impact.

Last year, our camp raised over \$4000!

**Location:** Kelowna, British Columbia

**Camp Dates:** June 19-22, 2024

**Coaches Clinic:** June 20

**Youth Camp:** June 19 (Ages 6-12)

**Football Camp:** June 21-22 (Ages 13-18)

**Register Today:** [CampMakeItHappen.com](http://CampMakeItHappen.com)



# Grad 2024

**Commencement Ceremonies will be on Saturday, June 8th.**

*There will be two ceremonies:*

1. Last names A-L at 10:30 a.m. 2. Last Names M-Z at 2:30 p.m.

- \* Each student will get 6 tickets to give to friends and family who may want to come watch. More tickets will be available upon request. **Tickets will be distributed with grad gowns in May.**
- \* Commencement Fee is **\$75 and is due by April 1st.** Please pay by School Cash Online. This fee covers cap, gown and stole, rental and decorations.
- \* Please make sure your grad is checking the google classroom. That will be where grad related information is collected from students. Classroom code: b3m7t7j



Reminder that **prom ticket sales will be available in late April / early May.** **Students must be in good academic standing and have fees paid in order to purchase prom tickets.** Ticket price will be set before spring break.



## KSS PAC



The Parent Advisory Council plays an important role in the school. While there is a PAC executive, **every parent/guardian with a child at KSS is automatically a PAC member** and is encouraged and welcome to attend and give input/ask questions at any or all PAC meetings. It's a great way to stay connected to school happenings.

THE NEXT KSS PAC MEETING IS  
**Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom**

If you have already attended a KSS PAC meeting in the 2023-2024 school year, you will receive a zoom link for this meeting closer to the date. **If you would like to attend the PAC Meeting Zoom, please e-mail [KSS.PacPresident@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:KSS.PacPresident@sd23.bc.ca) , along with the name of your student and grade, saying you wish to be added to our PAC meeting notification list.** You will then be emailed the zoom link.

**Tuesday, May 14th is the Annual General Meeting and the election of the 2024-2025 PAC. This meeting will be held in person at KSS LLC (Library) at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend—we hope to see you there!**



# PAC SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARY FUNDRAISER

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## DIRECT DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Each year the KSS PAC aims to provide 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.

Since gaming funds are no longer allowed to be used for bursaries and scholarships, PAC will continue on-going online fundraising. Please consider donating! Any amount, no matter how large or small, makes a difference.

Any excess funds raised beyond the goal will be held in a PAC scholarship account for future years!

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### HOW TO DONATE

We will be using the School District donation option for our Bursary & Scholarship Fund. It allows us to keep all of the money that you donate, rather than having to pay platform fees, as well as gives you a tax receipt! (Subject to a minimum donation of \$20.00)

#### Steps:

1. Head over to [www.schoolcashonline.com](http://www.schoolcashonline.com) and sign in using your log in details that you pay your school fees with.
2. Click **Make a Donation** to open the donation form.
3. Under Gift Information you can choose the amount you wish to donate.
4. In the "Fund Destination" choose **Kelowna Secondary School**
5. In the message box write **KSS PAC Bursary/Scholarship donation (This is Important to ensure donations are received by the PAC)**
6. **Add to cart** to go to the payment page 😊

Give To Central Okanagan School District

Gift Information

I would like to make a donation of: ☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 Other Amount:

Fund Destination:

Tribute Information

This gift is:  Name of honoree:

Message to School Board

Message (Optional):

Tax Receipt

A donation receipt will be emailed to you upon completion of your cart checkout.



# Career-Life Programs

## Get Involved in Career Experiences!

KSS sees the importance of Career Life, Mentorship and a variety of student experiences in all areas of education. Our district and school goals are to provide as many experiences as possible for our students, with particular emphasis on authentic career research. Current graduation requirements demand 30 hours of work/volunteer experience to be completed during grades 10, 11 and 12. Each of these Career Life Mentorship Experiences are considered authentic career research, which meets the district and ministry goals for graduating students.

Career Experiences you can be involved in include:

- Program Shadows - Dual Credit program opportunities for students. Come visit the Career Centre
- Job Shadows - opportunities to view a workplace
- Virtual Job Shadow/Career Spotlights - Career specific guest speakers either in person or virtual
- Indigenous Elder Experiences - See Mr. Sodaro
- Conference - Group of students attending specific events such as UBCO



This amazing event will include an array of hands-on workshops led by female mentors designed to help young women develop a better understanding of the potential of skilled trades careers.

Additional highlights will include an incredible lunch, information booths, facility tours, guest speakers and mentorship.

We hope you can join us.

**Wednesday  
May 15, 2024**

**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

Okanagan College  
Kelowna Campus  
1000 KLO Rd.  
Kelowna BC V1Y 4X8

Registration/Continental Breakfast  
8:30 am to 9:00 a.m.

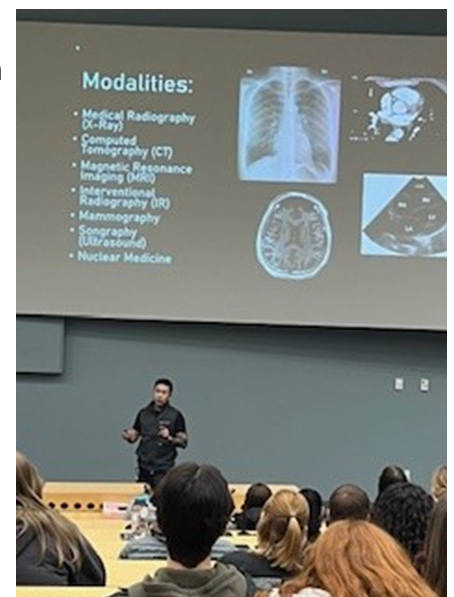
**For more information and an application form, see the KSS Career Centre DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH**

\*We have an inclusive view of the word "female" and we welcome trans, genderqueer, and non-binary participants\*

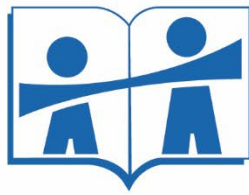
## Health Care Careers Conference – Kelowna General Hospital

Career-Life Programs was pleased to see this opportunity open-up again for Central Okanagan Public School's Grade 11 & 12 students, who had an amazing day of learning exploring various careers at Kelowna General Hospital on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The conference was well attended with 100 students from each of the high schools. Students had the opportunity to investigate careers in the areas of health and technology within a hospital setting. They listened to presentations by staff in many departments that contribute to the successful operation of the hospital including a physician, a medical lab assistant, a health care assistant, a medical device reprocessing technician, a respiratory therapist, a physical therapist, an occupational therapist, a recreation therapist, a medical imaging technician, a nurse, information technology and volunteer services. Students also had the chance to tour multiple hospital departments.

Thank you to Interior Health for arranging the informative speakers as well welcoming our students into the hospital.



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**Central Okanagan  
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

March 5, 2024

**RE: 2025-2026 School Calendar**

Dear Parents/Guardians and School Community:

The Ministry of Education passed Bill 36, the School Amendment Act, which eliminated the Standard School Calendar. As a result, school districts are now required to establish their own school calendars. The Calendar Committee is comprised of representatives of partner groups in the Central Okanagan Public Schools, including the Central Okanagan Teachers' Association (C.O.T.A.), the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3523 (C.U.P.E.), the Central Okanagan Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association (COPVPA), and the Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council (COPAC). This committee met to draft a proposed 2025/2026 school calendar (attached), which meets the requirements of Bill 36.

Section 87.01 (7) of the School Act requires consultation on school calendars. A board must make public a proposed school calendar one month before submitting it to the Ministry. We are inviting the community to review the proposed calendar for the 2025/2026 school year and to provide input to the proposal before it is discussed by our Board of Education at a public meeting.

I invite you to provide your input about this proposal by Friday, April 5, 2024, by completing a very brief survey at the link below:

[https://ca.research.net/r/2025\\_2026SchoolCalendarSurvey](https://ca.research.net/r/2025_2026SchoolCalendarSurvey)

We anticipate that the finalized 2025/2026 school calendar (once approved by the Board of Education) will be provided to parents/guardians later this spring. Copies will be provided directly to you through your child's school.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this proposal.

Yours truly,

Bob McEwen  
Executive Director of Human Resource

## CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Draft 2025-2026 School Calendar

| DESIGNATION                                             | SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23<br>Local Calendar<br>2025/2026 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Days in session                                         | 190<br>(3 summer Pro Days)                            |
| Number of days of instruction                           | 183                                                   |
| Number of non-instructional days                        | 7                                                     |
| Schools open                                            | Tuesday, September 2                                  |
| National Day of Truth and Reconciliation                | Tuesday, September 30                                 |
| Administrative Implementation Day                       | Friday, October 10                                    |
| Thanksgiving Day                                        | Monday, October 13                                    |
| Teacher Professional Day                                | Friday, October 24                                    |
| Remembrance Day                                         | Tuesday, November 11                                  |
| Winter vacation period (schools closed)                 | December 22 – January 2                               |
| Statutory holiday (schools closed)                      | Thursday, January 1                                   |
| Schools reopen after Winter vacation                    | Monday, January 5                                     |
| Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day) | Friday, February 13                                   |
| Family Day                                              | Monday, February 16                                   |
| Spring vacation period (schools closed)                 | March 16 – March 27                                   |
| Schools reopen after Spring vacation                    | Monday, March 30                                      |
| Good Friday (schools closed)                            | Friday, April 3                                       |
| Easter Monday (schools closed)                          | Monday, April 6                                       |
| Victoria Day (schools closed)                           | Monday, May 18                                        |
| Administrative Day (students do not attend)             | Friday, June 26                                       |

The Calendar for 2025-2026 complies with Bill 36 - School Amendment Act (School Calendar Regulation).

The minimum hours of instruction are:

- Kindergarten    853 hours    (based on 288 minutes X 183)
- Grades 1-6       878 hours    (based on 288 minutes X 183)
- Grades 7-12     952 hours    (based on 313 minutes X 183)

Provides the:

- number and dates of the days in session
- the number and dates of each day of instruction
- vacation periods and the Statutory Holidays
- the dates of each Non-Instructional Day
- the number of hours of instruction offered students in each grade group