

Whoo's News

School Opening 2023—2024



We look forward to welcoming students for the 2023-2024 school year! Please review the information below regarding the first day of school. You will also find information on course change requests, start-up, bell schedules and student fee information in this document.

Tuesday, September 5 - 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Mini—Rotation Schedule:

9:00 - 9:30 Homeroom

9:30 - 9:45 Block 1

9:50 - 10:05 Block 2

10:10 - 10:25 Block 3

10:30 - 10:45 Block 4

10:50 - 11:05 Block 5

11:10 - 11:25 Block 6

11:25 - 11:40 BREAK

11:40 - 11:55 Block 7

12:00 - 12:15 Block 8

Bus Pick up 12:25 p.m.

Where is my Homeroom?

You will find your Homeroom number on your schedule. Your Homeroom Number is the classroom you go to! Example: Homeroom 179 is in Room 179.

Sign into the MyEd Student Portal to see your schedule prior to the first day! **Take a picture of it for reference.**



Students must have access to their MyED portal.

Report Cards, future course selections and schedules will always be released to the Portal. You will find Portal Instructions on KSS Website—link [HERE](#).

LINK leaders will be available in the MPR to assist students that need help on the first day.

HOMEROOMS

We will have a Homeroom at 9:00 a.m. each morning for the first week of school. Teachers will support student locker assignment and distribute information to take home. Starting September 11th, students will report to their regular class at 9:00 am. Please watch for any forms coming home in this first week.

ATTENDANCE

Parents/Guardians are required to report absences using the **School Messenger** - Safe Arrival Absence Reporting system. *Please do not call the main office.*

The System can be accessed three ways:

(1) Enter an Absence Using the **School Messenger App** (*most user-friendly process*)



(2) Enter an Absence Using the **Online Parent Portal** - go.schoolmessenger.ca

(3) Enter an Absence by **Calling the School** 250-870-5105, press "1" and follow the prompts

KSS SCHOOL CALENDAR & WEBSITE

Please check the KSS Website for important information and upcoming events. The School Calendar may be found on the KSS Website as well - [HERE](#) is a link.

STUDENT VERIFICATION FORMS

Student Verification Forms were published to Students' MyEd Portal on August 15th. We thank parents for reviewing this information to ensure the school has the most up-to-date information for your child(ren). *If there are any changes*, please edit the document, sign at the bottom and have your child(ren) return to their homeroom teacher the first week back to school. *Note that legal documentation is required in order for office staff to make changes to custody or for other legal matters.* It is not necessary to return this form if there are no changes.

MEDICAL ALERTS

If your child has a life threatening Medical Alert please contact the school office for the appropriate forms. Epi-Pens and medication may be kept in the school Medical Room if we have these forms on file.

SCHOOL FEES

The Cultural/Activity Student Fee for 2023-2024 is **\$30.00** per student. All school fees (cultural/activity, field studies, year-book, etc.) are paid online via SchoolCash Online—link is [HERE](#).

Central Okanagan School District's Financial Hardship Clause

Within Board Regulation 425R – Student Fees (see www.sd23.bc.ca), the Board of Education has indicated "that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship". Clause 8.5 in the Regulations states "Principals are directed to establish a procedure in each school which will allow for the private and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual students and families. Such procedures will preserve the dignity of families who may be unable to pay". Please contact your Alpha VP if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.

YEARBOOK

An optional Yearbook fee has also been added to student School Cash Online accounts. We suggest taking advantage of the early bird pricing! Extra yearbooks will not be ordered so if you would like to purchase one please do so online.

PARKING PASS



An **optional** \$10.00 Parking Pass Fee has been added to all **Grade 12 students**, and is only for those who wish to purchase a parking pass. Parking passes are available to Grade 12 students only **and do not guarantee a parking spot, only the permission to park if a spot is available.** Further details will be available the first week of school.

Parking is enforced and vehicles will be towed if it does not have a parking pass displayed !



Accident Insurance

Central Okanagan Public Schools does not insure expenses for **student injuries** that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance. The Kids Plus Accident Insurance Program that was previously offered to our students was discontinued in 2019. The IA Financial Group now offers the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) which is a voluntary plan that provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses, and critical illness.

To apply for the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan or to find out more, click [HERE](#).

COURSE CHANGES

Student Schedule changes will only be made for the following reasons:

- 1) Grade 12 student needs a course change for post-secondary or graduation.
 - 2) A Grade 12 student would like to drop a course.
 - 3) Balancing a schedule (i.e. someone who has all academics in one semester).
 - 4) A student in Grade 10 or 11 who does not have a full schedule, needs a different math/science etc.
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- ◆ KSS Counsellors will be available between 9:00-12:00 this week (Aug 28-Sept 1) in the MPR to meet with students that require a course change. Counsellors will also be available the first week back to school.
 - ◆ **Priority will be given to new registrations without timetables, those missing a course, and/or students missing a graduation requirement.**
 - ◆ There will be no course changes after Friday, September 8th unless there are exceptional circumstances.
 - ◆ As counsellors will be meeting students in person, they will not be able to respond to email requests during this time.

September 8 is the last day for course changes.

**STUDENTS MUST ATTEND THEIR SCHEDULED CLASSES
THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL**



SCHOOL PHOTOS
September 12



KSS ATHLETICS



Activities at Kelowna Secondary get underway very quickly! Please check the KSS Athletics page often for try-out times. You will find KSS Athletics on the KSS Website under "Students" top tab. [HERE](#) is a link.

Students are encouraged to listen for the daily announcements made over the PA system and to also check the message boards around the school.

KSS BELL SCHEDULES 2023-2024

REGULAR BELL SCHEDULE	
8:55 a.m.	Warning Bell
9:00—10:18	Period 1
10:28—11:45	Period 2
11:45—12:30	Lunch
12:30—1:48	Period 3
1:58—3:16	Period 4

EARLY DISMISSAL	
<i>Parent-Teacher Conferences (Oct 11 & Mar 1)</i>	
8:55 a.m.	Warning Bell
9:00 – 10:05	Period 1
10:10 – 11:15	Period 2
11:15 – 11:25	Break
11:25 – 12:25	Period 3
12:30 – 1:30	Period 4

EARLY DISMISSAL	
<i>Capstone (Jan 17 & May 29)</i>	
8:55 a.m.	Warning Bell
9:00—9:45	Period 1
9:50—10:35	Period 2
10:35—10:55	Break
10:55—11:40	Period 3
11:45—12:30	Period 4

TERM DATES 2023-2024

Name	Start Date	End Date
Quarter 1	September 5, 2023	November 8, 2023
Quarter 2	November 9, 2023	January 26, 2024
Quarter 3	January 27, 2024	April 17, 2024
Quarter 4	April 18, 2024	June 21, 2024
Semester 1	September 5, 2023	January 26, 2024
Semester 2	January 27, 2024	June 21, 2024

STUDY ABROAD

The Youth Exchange Scholarship
provided by your local Rotary Club



Valued at over \$24,000: Room, board, tuition,
and monthly stipend for a high school year abroad.

HAVE YOU EVER DREAMED OF...

- ▶ TRAVELING THE WORLD?
- ▶ LIVING IN ANOTHER COUNTRY?
- ▶ BEING FLUENT IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE?

The Youth Exchange Scholarship for one academic year covers room, board, tuition, and a monthly stipend. The student/family pays for airfare, medical insurance, personal and optional expenses.

The Youth Exchange Scholarships are made possible by the generosity of our Rotary partners overseas and local Rotary clubs. Students must be in grade 9, 10 or 11 to apply.

