



# Summerland Secondary School

September 2018

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**Summerland Secondary School Mission Statement**  
 To educate students in a supportive, diverse, and challenging learning environment where every student develops the knowledge and skills to be self-advocating and reflective lifelong learners, and a healthy, productive member of society.  
**EMPOWERMENT ENGAGEMENT & ENLIGHTENMENT**



## Principal's Message

This summer I had a shortlist of home and yard improvements that I wanted to complete before returning to work. One of the bigger tasks was to build a chain link fence. Last summer I dug six two foot deep holes and planted fence posts. This proved to be a daunting task because the otherwise benign looking healthy sod betrayed a defiant, crusty, gravelly filling that was resistant to my digging efforts. To my dismay each of the holes revealed excessively heavy boulders that stubbornly defended their space and challenged my implements. Each hole should have taken no longer than fifteen minutes to dig. Instead they took in excess of an hour to complete and required innovative and creative engineering techniques to remove. I used an expanding foam product in place of concrete to anchor the posts, but unbeknownst to me I had used the wrong sized diameter terminal posts. Frustrated, I left the project until this summer knowing full well that the rocks and foam that I had reinterred with the posts

would once again taunt me this summer. Three of the six posts needed to be removed. Haughtily and with perceived indifference, these small boulders enjoyed a whole year in which to reestablish their sovereignty and celebrate their victory. Luckily, this summer I had a secret weapon, my twenty-one year old fitness frenzied son, Jaxon, was up for the challenge. He suggested tying a rope around a particularly heavy rock. I was dismissive, choosing to resort to brute strength and wisdom garnered through experience. However, after several more failed attempts, I acquiesced and a mere thirty seconds later the boulder was out. Suffice it to say, with Jaxon's smug problem-solving insights, the fence was finished two days later, ahead of schedule. A sizable portion of that time was dedicated to digging. Thanks to YouTube and some contracting advice from the local hardware store employees, the fence was sturdier and stronger than ever. What does this have to do with learning and education, you may be asking yourself?

Everything!

As we begin a brand new school year, consider the following reminders as you plan your goals for the future. Discuss and articulate them with people who care about you. Write them down. Confidently assess your objectives even though the “fence posts” may change in the process. Give yourself time to review and evaluate the obstacles you may face and strategies you will need to circumvent them. Be prepared to make mistakes. This is where the goodness lies ... the real learning.

Confident and reflective learning is built by internalizing a set of routine problem solving strategies that become intuitive and automatic. Use a set of guidelines (like the ones below) that can be applied to any problem or challenge. Part of this focus on goal setting involves returning to tried and true strategies.

- **Access** prior knowledge and experiences
- **Review** your objective often by asking yourself questions about your plan
- Make **Connections** throughout the process (Before, During, and After)
- Make **Predictions** or educated guesses about what will happen next
- **Visualize** or picture what the outcome will look like
- **Personalize** the plans and make them yours
- **Evaluate** your intentions constantly
- Use **Fix-up Strategies** to repair throughout the process
- **Treat errors as opportunities**
- **Organize information** to aid memory

Like all confident learners, I apply this set of strategies to every problem I encounter. Case in point: my chain link fence project. Most adults employ these strategies naturally. Most adults have learned these strategies through a process of trial and error. Teaching students to employ these strategies with intentionality is critical and can be done by both teachers and parents, formally and informally. It is imperative to model all the strategies that problem solvers use until the student begins to use them intuitively every time they encounter a challenge on their own.

Building the fence was satisfying, but even YouTube videos have learning gaps that require the viewer to predict and speculate. Every time I look at my fence I feel proud of my accomplishment.

I should mention that I affectionately named all the boulders that I removed: Sylvester, Dwayne, Hudson, Milk, and Ripple. Despite their defiance, I temporarily subdued their insolence and I publicly shamed them by leaving them above ground, on display, in the garden as monuments to my perseverance after the fence was erected.

However, I think they get the last laugh since they will reside in their space long after I am gone.

(Note: All the rock names are linked thematically. See if you can guess who or what inspired me.)

### Timetable and Regular Bell Schedule

Summerland Secondary operates on a four day timetable rotation in which students rotate through four different classes each day. Our rotation schedule is as follows:

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
8:35 - 9:55	1	2	3	4
10:00 - 11:20	2	1	4	3
11:20 - 11:35	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:35 - 12:55	3	4	1	2
12:55 - 1:40	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:40 - 2:59	4	3	2	1

### Bus Information

Transportation service guidelines and Summerland bus schedules can be located on the School District 67 website at [www.sd67.bc.ca](http://www.sd67.bc.ca) under the “Parent” tab; Busing. If you require further clarification, please contact Mr. Phil Kline at 250-494-9587.

### School Communication

Summerland Secondary School utilizes a number of methods of communication to ensure our parents and students get the most up-to-date information possible. We will continue to send out information via Facebook,

Synervoice (automated calls) and email. We will continue to post information on our school website at <http://www.sd67.bc.ca/summerlandsecondary>

Our school Facebook page (Summerland Secondary School) will include upcoming events and celebrations of our students and school. "Like" the page in order to get these updates.

## School Fees

SSS is pleased to offer **School Cash Online** to parents as its **PREFERRED** method of payment for school fees. School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay school fees. Online payment options are Credit Card, eCheck or myWallet. The portal also allows you to stay informed and keep track of which school fees require your attention. Please refer to the instructions at the end of this newsletter to register and pay fees online. Alternatively, we will continue to accept cash or cheque payments at the main office for required fees and optional course-based fees.

We recognize that September can be a difficult time with an abundance of fees for student activities and would be happy to arrange a payment plan option should the need arise. Please contact school administration directly to discuss this. All students must be in good standing in order to attend school events.

## School Activity Fee

The annual school activity fee of **\$50.00** is payable for each student. This fee covers school wide activities & cultural presentations as well as locker rentals.

Students will be assigned a locker and will be provided with a lock. This is the locker that he/she must occupy for the entire school year. Any locker changes must be authorized. Lockers and locks are the property of the school. Locks must be returned or a replacement fee may be charged. Students are not permitted to use personal locks.

## Textbook/Resource Deposit

Every year lost and damaged textbooks cost SSS a considerable amount of money and we have had a very difficult time recouping these losses. In an attempt to decrease the costs to the school there is a one-time refundable textbook/resource deposit of **\$50** to be paid

by all students at SSS. Students enrolling at SSS for the **first time** (grade 9 students and new enrollments in grades 10 to 12) are required to pay the textbook/resource deposit. This fee will be reimbursed when the student leaves school if they have no outstanding fees from lost or damaged textbooks/resources. If you do have any outstanding textbooks from previous years, please return them to the school.

## Grad Fees

The **\$140.00** grad fee is payable by grade 12 students. Grad fees will cover the cost of the ceremony including the rental of grad gown (grads get to keep the cap and tassel), grad photo, certificates, scrolls, facility costs and other expenses associated with the ceremony. Grad fees may be paid with student fees in September or in three installments. The first payment will be due on or before **November 13, 2018**, the second payment will be due on or before **January 29, 2019** and the final payment on or before **April 16, 2019**.

## Yearbooks

The Summerland Secondary yearbook will be available for purchase for **\$60**. The yearbook is a great keepsake to remember the school years highlights. Any students wishing to purchase a yearbook can pay for it at the same time as they pay their school fees online or at the main office. Yearbook is not a mandatory school fee.

## Course-Based Fees

Some courses have optional fees associated with them. **Students will pay their classroom teacher directly for any course-based fee and will receive a receipt from that teacher.** These fees will not be available online.

These might include technology education courses such as woodwork where students would pay for wood for an upgraded project or physical education where students pay for additional activities beyond the scope of the course. Additionally, some courses might offer workbooks or notes packages intended to make it easier for students to record their notes or work. It is important to note that these fees are optional and parents can elect not to pay them. In that case, for note/workbook fees, students would be expected to treat the workbook like a textbook and not write in it

and it would be returned in good condition at the end of the course. Physical Education 9/10 fees are \$30. Multisport 9-12 and Physical Education 11/12 fees are \$60.

## Parental Consent Forms

All students are required to complete the **SD 67 Parental Consent & Consent for Student Access to District Technology** form which is included with this package. Please review this form with your son or daughter. The form must be signed by both student and parent on both sides. As computer use is an integral part of a wide variety of courses, please return the consent form as soon as possible, but no later than **September 10<sup>th</sup>** so that your child can begin to use the school computer. Once the signed and completed in full forms have been received and fees paid, a computer password will be provided shortly thereafter.

## Medical Conditions

It is the primary responsibility of the parent/guardian to inform the school of their child's medical alert condition. Please contact us to complete a Medical Alert Planning form. If you have previously completed this form, please note that you are required to review the Medical Alert Planning Form each September and at any time there is a change in your child's condition. It is imperative that Medical Alert Planning forms for 2018-19 are returned to the office as soon as possible.

## Legal Alerts

If there is a legal situation that the school needs to be aware of, please contact the principal or a school counsellor.

## Keep Us Up-to-Date

We ask that all families keep us up-to-date with your current mailing address, email address, phone numbers, emergency contacts and/or changes to legal or medical situations as they arise. A Student Verification form will be mailed home later this month for your review. Please notify us of any changes via email at [sss@summer.com](mailto:sss@summer.com). Main office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Student Accident Insurance

### Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance

For your convenience, we've made arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. (iA Financial Group).

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the unexpected costs of injury from accidents, and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

For complete plan details, please visit [kidsplus.ca](http://kidsplus.ca) or parents can speak directly with a representative at 1-800-556-7411.

## Messages for Students

We would appreciate if appointment reminders are made prior to coming to school as this will minimize class disruptions. We receive many requests to relay messages to students and in urgent situations will endeavor to do so.

## Personal Items of Value

Students are asked to leave personal items of value at home. Items such as cell phones, wallets and purses must be secured during PE class. Bicycles should be locked up. Please note that the school does not provide locks for bikes.

## Smoking and Vaping on School District #67 Property

Neither smoking nor vaping is permitted on School District #67 property. Anyone found smoking, vaping or using Tobacco products, will be dealt with in accordance with SD 67 Progressive Discipline Policy. Summerland Secondary School in conjunction with the SD #67 school board of trustees supports a proactive and comprehensive approach to substance abuse and smoking cessation which emphasizes preventative curriculum, early intervention, counseling and disciplinary actions.

## **PAC Meetings**

The date of our first PAC meeting of the year will be communicated to parents soon. Subsequent PAC meetings will be held at 7pm at the school on a monthly basis. Our Parent Advisory Council has a significant impact on the direction that we follow as a school. We are always looking for active members and hope to see you there.

## **Grade 9 Parent Meeting**

Parents of our grade 9 students are invited to come out to an informational evening on Thursday, September 13 at 7pm in Centre Stage Theatre. The intent of the meeting is to provide parents with information about their child's grade 9 year at Summerland Secondary School.

## **Grade 12 Meeting**

You are invited to come out to a grad informational evening on Thursday, September 20 at 7:00 pm in Centre Stage Theatre. This will also be an organizational meeting for Dry Grad parents. Parents and grads are both welcome to attend!

## **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Summerland Secondary School will be hosting a Parent - Teacher Conference at our school on Thursday, October 25. This is an interim progress conference. Formal report cards will be produced after the term ends on November 12, 2018. Full details will be communicated in October.

## **School Photos**

School photos will be taken by Mountain West Studios on September 11 with retakes to take place on the morning of October 16. Tips for great photos: Long sleeves are recommended and small patterns or solid bright colours photograph best. Avoid wearing stripes or very pale colours. Hats are not permitted as they create a dark shadow over the eyes in most cases. School photos are official documents used for health and safety incidents, ministry documentation and school recognition events; therefore students are asked to maintain their usual appearance for school photos.

## **Grad Photos**

Grad photos will take place November 14 through November 16, 2018. The retake photo date has not been determined but will be scheduled for January. Sessions begin at 3:15 pm in our school and will be based on scheduled appointment times. Grads will be notified when the appointment sheets become available. We ask that all grads have a photo taken as these photos are used in both the graduation composite photo and in the yearbook. You are not obligated to purchase photos.

## **School Activities**

Summerland Secondary is pleased to be able to offer a wide variety of activities throughout the school year. Watch our website for dates about upcoming band concerts, theatre performances and athletic events. Students are asked to listen for announcements regarding team meetings and practice times. Our leadership students will be hosting a variety of activities again this year including Spirit Days, Rocket Rallies and Battle of the Houses events. Dates for these activities are communicated via announcements and posters placed throughout the school. We encourage all students to get involved and participate in school events. Stay tuned!

## **Grad Activities**

In an attempt to make the grade 12 year as memorable as possible, we will have a number of school sanctioned graduation events over the course of this year. We strongly encourage all of our students to make the most of their grad year through their participation in these school events. We also want to make sure parents are aware that we do not support or encourage participation in non-sanctioned "grad" events. Over the years, we have seen far too many students and graduating classes negatively impacted by poor choices at these events. It is our strongest desire to see all students make it safely to the graduation ceremony at the end of the school year and look we forward to a great year with our Grad 2019 class!

## **Preliminary Standardized Achievement Test (PSAT)**      Wednesday, October 10th, 2018

If you are a grade 9, 10 or 11 student and you plan to attend university in the US, either for academic or athletic reasons; you should consider writing the PSAT. The PSAT is a shortened version of the SAT - a standardized test that US colleges use to determine admissions and scholarships. The test is composed of three sections: Math, Critical Reading, and Writing and is approximately two hours in length. The PSAT is often used to provide students with feedback regarding their achievement and to assist them in identifying areas they should focus on in order to prepare for the SAT. Often, students with exceptional PSAT results will be contacted by interested colleges and universities.

The PSAT is only available in October and only for students in grades 9-11. The SAT is offered four times throughout the school year and students can choose to write the SAT whenever they feel they are ready. Students do not need to write the PSAT prior to writing the SAT, rather the PSAT is typically used as a practice test for the SAT.

Students requiring more information or wishing to write the PSAT need to see Ms. Wells in the library. Deadline for registering for the PSAT is Friday, September 14th. The fee for the PSAT is \$22.00.

### **Homestay Families Needed** **School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha)** **REQUIRES HOMESTAY FAMILIES FOR** **SEPTEMBER 2017** **FAMILIES COMPENSATED \$800 / MONTH**

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) is looking for prospective homestay families in Penticton and Summerland to host international students for one year, one semester, three months, and/or on a short term (respite) basis. Placements are needed for both male and female students from Germany, Mexico, Spain, Japan, China and Korea who will be attending one of our local secondary or middle schools. Host families must be English-speaking and have a desire to welcome the student into their home as part of the family. Close proximity to a secondary or middle school is an asset.

#### Host families are expected to provide:

- o a fully furnished private bedroom for each student;
- o a clean, safe, caring environment conducive to student studies;
- o meals;

- o the opportunity to participate in Canadian family life; and
- o a completed criminal record search for all adult members residing in the home.

#### School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) will provide:

- o support and guidance by a homestay coordinator who will monitor the student/homestay experience;
- o monthly compensation of up to \$800; and
- o temporary placement/respite homes for host families, if required, for holidays and emergencies.

If you are interested in this great opportunity to exchange cultural experiences with an international student, please pick up an application form at the School Board Office, 425 Jermyn Avenue in Penticton, download the form from the District website at [www.sd67.bc.ca](http://www.sd67.bc.ca), or contact either of our Homestay Coordinators Ms. Brenda Kotzian, [bkotzian@summer.com](mailto:bkotzian@summer.com) or Ms. Gina Rogers, [grogers@summer.com](mailto:grogers@summer.com).



### **Dates to Remember: September 2018**

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday, Sept. 11th              | - Student Photo Day  |
| Thursday, Sept. 13 <sup>th</sup> | - Grade 9 Parent Mtg. 7 pm                                     |
| Thursday, Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup> | - Grad Assembly, Block 2                                       |
| Thursday, Sept 20 <sup>th</sup>  | - Grade 12 Parent Mtg. 7 pm                                    |
| Monday, Sept 24 <sup>th</sup>    | - Professional Development Day<br>students not in session      |
| Wednesday, Sept 26 <sup>th</sup> | - Post Secondary School Visits<br>for Grade 11 and 12 students |
| Date to be determined            | - September PAC Mtg.   |





BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)  
 425 Jermyn Avenue  
 Penticton, BC V2A 1Z4  
 Telephone: 250-770-7700  
 Fax: 250-770-7700  
 www.sd67.bc.ca

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)  
 2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR  
 FOR ALL SCHOOLS

School Improvement Day – schools closed	Tuesday, September 4, 2018
Schools Open	Wednesday, September 5, 2018
Professional Development Day – schools closed	Monday, September 24, 2018
Thanksgiving Day – schools closed	Monday, October 8, 2018
Professional Development Day – schools closed	Friday, October 19, 2018
Curriculum Implementation Day – schools closed	Friday, November 9, 2018
Remembrance Day observance – schools closed	Monday, November 12, 2018
Schools close for Winter Vacation	Friday, December 21, 2018 (last day of school)
Schools Reopen	Monday, January 7, 2019
Professional Development Day – schools closed	Friday, February 15, 2019
Family Day – schools closed	Monday, February 18, 2019
*Schools close for Spring Break	Friday, March 15, 2019 (last day of school)
Schools Reopen	Monday, April 1, 2019
Professional Development Day – schools closed	Monday, April 15, 2019
Good Friday – schools closed	Friday, April 19, 2019
Easter Monday- schools closed	Monday, April 22, 2019
Professional Development Day – schools closed	Friday, May 3, 2019
Victoria Day – schools closed	Monday, May 20, 2019
Administrative Day (students not in attendance)	Friday, June 28, 2019

- Number of Days of Instruction: 180
- Number of Non-Instructional Days in calendar: 7
- Number of Administrative Days: 1

**Notes:** The above calendar meets the hours of instruction required by the Ministry of Education.  
 \*School District No. 67 schools are closed for spring vacation, March 18 through March 29, 2019

**2018-2019 Secondary Provincial Examinations Schedule:**  
 Monday, January 21 through Friday, January 25, 2019  
 Friday, June 21 through Thursday, June 27, 2019

**2019 Middle School “I” Days:**  
 Middle School (Grades 6 – 8) pupils excused from attending school except for “I Day” assigned time(s) (June 25 ,26).  
 Students attend school on Thursday, June 27.

# Are you a School Cash Online Member?

## Become a member today!

Follow these instructions to create your School Cash Online account today.

Create Your Profile:

1 Go to <https://district.schoolcashonline.com/> and click on "Get Started Today".

2 Confirm Your Email:  
Check your inbox for the email confirmation and click on the link inside. Sign in with your new login details.

3 Add a Student  
Click "Add Student" and fill in the required fields with your child's details.

Stay connected by selecting "Yes" to email notifications about upcoming fees.

I want to receive email notifications for new fees assigned to my student and updates on school-related activities.

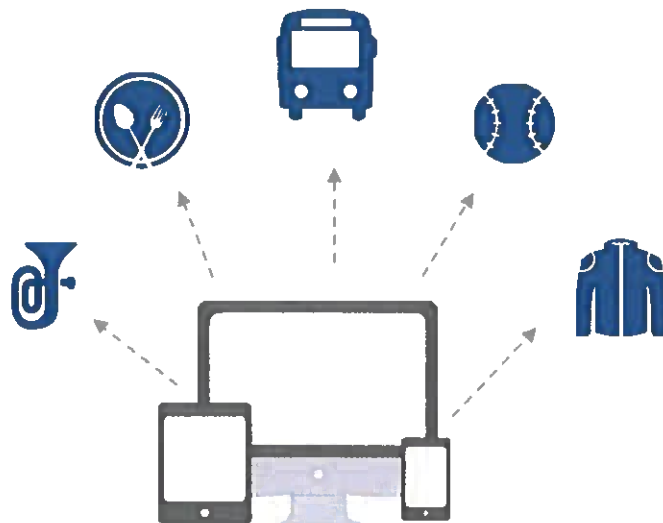
## Why join the thousands of School Cash Online members?

School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school activity fees. Why join?

- ✓ Membership is free!
- ✓ Pay for your child's school fees online. Anytime, anywhere.
- ✓ Stop sending money to school with your child.
- ✓ Get automatic email notifications about upcoming school fees and activities.
- ✓ Help your school reduce the amount of cash coming through school doors.

## Purchase these items and more online.

Use your computer, tablet or smartphone to register and pay online.



## Which payment methods are accepted?



### Credit Card

Pay with Visa or MasterCard on School Cash Online by entering your credit card number, CVV number (the three digits on the back of your card), card expiry date, and billing information.



### eCheck

An electronic version of a paper check used to make payments online. Anyone with a checking or savings account can pay by eCheck on School Cash Online.



### myWallet

An online wallet that can be loaded to hold funds and then used to pay for your child's fees on School Cash Online. myWallet allows you to allocate funds to pay for school fees at a later date.