

We wish to acknowledge as a school community that we continue to work, learn and play together on the homelands of the Ktunaxa People.



Principal's Message

Hello FSS Families,

I'm excited to start another school year and my first at Fernie Secondary. I have greatly appreciated meeting kids, parents, staff members, and other community members over the past month while adjusting to my new role as principal at FSS. One of the main priorities for the beginning of the year was creating a student handbook that would meet the needs of our staff and students. You can find our cell phone policy below and the entire school handbook on our school website under the students section at <http://sd5.bc.ca/fss>

Cell Phone Use

When entering class, students must have their cell phones and electronic devices on silent and put in the "cell phone hotel" in the classroom. Cell phones and other electronic devices may only be used during class time:

- In accordance with the teacher's permission and direction, and
- For **instructional purposes**, as defined by the teacher
- As part of a student's IEP (Individual Education Plan)
- To assist with recognized and approved medical needs

Instructional purposes are purposes that clarify what students should learn or be able to do by the end of a lesson.

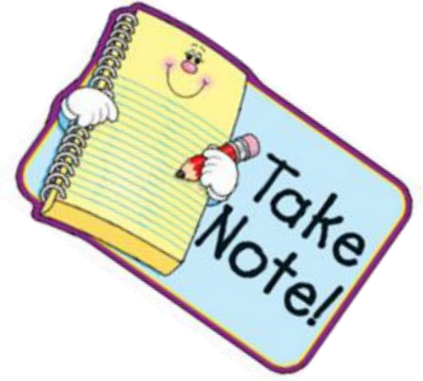
These items shall not be accessed during class time for personal use. Please use cell phones and other electronic devices in a respectful and responsible manner. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a progressive model of consequences being:

1. Cell phone turned into the office for the remainder of the day and parents/guardians notified.
2. Cell phone turned into the office for the remainder of the day and the next school day and parents/guardians notified.
3. Cell phone turned into the office each day for one month and parents/guardians notified.

Regards,
Jason Sommerfeld

Upcoming Dates to Note:

- Sept 12th – Tuesday Day 1 Rotation
- Sept. 15th -17th – School Pictures in the Library
- Sept. 18th – Terry Fox Fun @ 2:00pm
- Sept 19th – NO SCHOOL – Pro D – Day
- Sept 23rd – Rock Solid for grade 7's
- Sept 24th – PAC Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Sept 26th – Wednesday Day 2 Schedule
- Sept 26th – Wild Minds w/RCMP for Grades 10, 11 & 12
- Sept 30th – STAT Holiday – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Oct 9th – UofC – Indigenous Student Recruiter to visit in Gathering Space



School Counsellor

Karen Walker – karen.walker@sd5.bc.ca Lindsay
Knight – Lindsay.knight@sd5.bc.ca

Indigenous Education Support Worker

Willow Burk (IESW) willow.burk@sd5.bc.ca
Deb Springle (Elder in Residence) deb.springle@sd5.bc.ca

Youth Care Worker Support


Lisa Bax (YCW) lisa.bax@sd5.bc.ca
Sherry Bylsma (YCW) sherry.bylsma@sd5.bc.ca

School Cash Online - <https://sd5.schoolcashionline.com/>

Paying for school items just got easier!
Sign up to get started today.

What is SchoolCash Online?
SchoolCash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees.
[Learn more](#)

[Register](#) [Sign In](#)



School Messenger - <https://www.sd5.bc.ca/page/9683/school-messenger>

School Messenger

School Messenger SafeArrival and Communicate

Welcome to [School Messenger!](#)

SafeArrival handles the majority of parent contact (including phone calls) when a student absence is unexpected.

All parents are asked to please report student absences before **8:15 am** on the day of the absence (you can also report absences in advance, if they are known).

To report an absence you may choose to:

- call the toll free # **1-(833) 566-1225** or
- access the following website: <https://go.schoolmessenger.ca> or
- download App from [Apple](#) or [Google Play](#).

Please choose the reason for your child's absence from school: sick, appointment, family vacation, etc. **Don't forget to wait for confirmation # to ensure your child's absence has been recorded.**

If you do not connect with the SafeArrival system by 8:30 am on the day of your child's absence from school, and when the teacher has completed attendance for his/her class, then a report will be dispatched for all.

Please get in touch with your child's school if your contact information (email or phone number) has recently changed so SchoolMessenger has the most current information on file.

School Messenger [SMS](#)

Our district utilizes the School Messenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more. You can join by sending a text message of "Yes" or "Y" to **978338**.

Please make sure you are utilizing the cellular number that the school has on record. The cellular phone number for SMS must match the contact information on file.

standard message and data rates may apply



MyEducation BC Family Portal

<https://www.sd5.bc.ca/page/6620/myeducation-bc-family-portal>

Parent,

Welcome to the Southeast Kootenay MyEducation BC FAMILY PORTAL which will allow access to course information.

To Access the MyEducation BC System

1. Visit www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen
2. Make sure popups are enabled for your browser.
3. Your username will be: *(sd5-firstinitiallastname)*
4. Your temporary password will be: *(system-generated code)*

**First Time
Logging in?**



We recommend to use a
Laptop or **Desktop Computer**
to **initialize** your account

*Once your Login account is activated, you
will be able to use a smartphone/tablet to
access all info in the system.



Pop Ups should be **enabled**
for some features of the site to
work properly.



Passwords are good for 90 days to
protect student's data and you will be
prompted to change your password.



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Sign-on
BONUS

FOR NEW HOST FAMILIES

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OF HOSTING!

Cannot be combined
with Referral Reward

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