



Principal's Message

Important Dates

Mark your calendar!

- Sept 30: Truth and Reconciliation day No School
- Oct 5: World Teacher Day
- Oct 10: Thanksgiving No School
- Oct 12: PAC Meeting @ 6pm
- Oct 20: Grad Meeting
- Oct 22: Pro D Day No School
- Oct 27: Next Newsletter
- Nov 2: School photo retakes

At this time of the year the school is full of life and excitement, and the promise of new opportunities awaits.

First, as the new Principal of Elkford Secondary, I thought it only right to quickly introduce myself.

My name is Thomas Skelton, and I am beginning my 6th year in Elkford. Previously, I was the Vice Principal next door, at Rocky Mountain Elementary. I am beyond excited for this new role; and contributing to the already amazing work I have seen by the staff here at ESS.

Away from school, I enjoy coaching and following my three children, Kinley, Gregory, and Amelia around their activities with my wife, Lisa. I am excited to get to know everyone in our school community and encourage you to connect with any questions.

We pride ourselves at Elkford Secondary on providing a great academic program. This year, there are many amazing opportunities for our students. It is heartening to see the great work already being done! Already, we have extra-curricular opportunities for our students. It is great to see so many students involved with things like soccer, volleyball, chess club, and student council just to name a few.

We also are continuing with our RISE Character Awards and the Take 15 Independent Reading program. We provide a unique and rewarding learning experience at ESS! ESS is back as a hub of the community!

On behalf of all of us here at Elkford Secondary, welcome to the 2022-2023 school year.

Go Celtics!



No student should be absent from the school unless the parent has notified the school of this absence. This includes leaving at lunch. If a student is not going to return after lunch, parents should notify the school of this absence.

You can call the school at **250-865-4674**, use the **SchoolMessenger** app, or email the school at ess.mailing@sd5.bc.ca to report any absence.



Aboriginal Education

Welcome back to another exciting year at Elkford Secondary School. The Aboriginal program at ESS is for all students who identify themselves as being of Aboriginal Ancestry. All students with Aboriginal Ancestors are eligible for Support Services through the Aboriginal Program. Examples of support: advocacy, communicating between home and school, classroom presentations, educational trips and student support. Every year students with Aboriginal Ancestry have not identified themselves as Aboriginal because they mistakenly believe they need Status or Metis card. This is not the case. If you know that you or your children have Aboriginal Ancestry (First Nations, Metis, Inuit) your word is all that is required. Please share this information with others to help ensure all Aboriginal students receive support.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any question regarding the program or my role as an Aboriginal Education Support Worker.

I can be reached at 250-425-9153 or by email at brenda.newlove@sd5.bc.ca.

Elkford Secondary School
2500 B Balmer Dr.,
PO Box 910, Elkford, BC V0B 1H0
Phone: 250-865-4674 Fax: 250-865-2915
Website: <http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ess>
Thomas Skelton, Principal
Ryan McAllister, Vice Principal



*Vaping or Smoking is Prohibited on **all school property**. If any student requires support with quitting, please see the **School Counselor** for assistance.*

Student Services

Need a quiet place to read for Socials? A hand figuring out fractions? Tricks to manage test anxiety? Drop by Student Services and talk to Graham Preston!

Student services exists to support all students with tools and resources for academic, social and career development. Our room is always open so come by for a quiet space or chat about what you might need to succeed this year.

Youth Care Worker – Amanda Culver

Elkford Secondary School offers Youth Care support to all students and families. Our Youth Care worker Amanda Culver provides students with social, emotional, and behavioral support.

This can look like one-to-one meetings with students, support/emotional growth groups, liaison with parents/caregivers and school staff and referrals to outside agencies.

School Meals Program and Donations

In addition, our youth care worker also operates the School Meals Program, providing every student with access to nutritious breakfast and lunch items. The Breakfast Program operates out of the school Foods room every morning from 7:45-8:30am. Everyone is welcome. Registration is not required.

This year the entire Meals Program menu is being donated by Atco at the Elk Valley Lodge here in Elkford. The amazing donation of food includes fresh sandwiches, fruit, vegetables and baking, milk, cereal, bread/bagels and more! The generosity and kindness of the staff and management at the Lodge has been amazing. Thank you so much Atco!

For more information about Youth Care support or the School Meals program please contact Amanda Culver at amanda.culver@sd5.bc.ca or 250-865-4674

ESS Athletics and Clubs Update

We are now a month into the school year and school activities and are in full active mode. Volleyball season is off to a great start with teams already playing league games and tournaments throughout the Elk Valley. Spectators are welcome once again so please come on out and show your support. Coming up on October 15th, Elkford is hosting a bantam boy's tournament.

Cross-country running, soccer, and flag-football are also running with practices throughout the week.

If anyone is interested in coaching an ESS team like basketball, badminton etc., please contact the school.

There are also numerous clubs happening at ESS: Magic the Gathering, Robotics, Leadership, Drama, and Chess club are all up and running.

Lastly, ESS is always looking for donations of gym equipment for its workout space. Preferably newer equipment such as cardio equipment; rowers and stationary bikes, exercise mats, exercise bands, mirrors, leg machines, or cable machines.

Thank you
Ryan McAllister

Rock Solid





Volleyball Practice

- Bantam & Junior Girls – Tuesdays and Thursdays – 5:00-6:30
- Bantam Boys – Mondays and Wednesdays – 3:30-5:00
- Senior Girls – Tuesdays and Thursdays – 6:30-8:00
- Senior Boys – Monday and Wednesdays – 5:30-7:00



Magic: The Gathering Club Mondays @ lunch in rm. 116

Chess Club

Thursdays at lunch in the Woods Shop



RISE TO THE SUMMIT

'Celtic Character Award' celebrates the culture of ESS, while supporting students in developing the character it takes to be successful and happy individuals at school and in the world.

RESPECT - ha+i+kaxuma+ti+

INTEGRITY - €makki

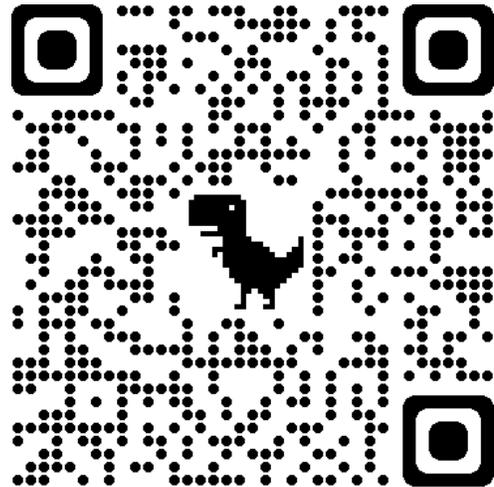
STRENGTH - €makqa

EMPATHY - haki+wi€ki+in



Made with PosterMyWall.com

To learn more about this program please check out the QR Code below:



Check out our new Facebook page.



MyEd Family Portal

Report cards are coming soon. Now is a good time to familiarize yourself with the MyEd Family Portal. Since last year our school has done report cards electronically. Thus, cutting our paper waste and reducing the number of students that lose them on the way home. If you need any assistance, please feel free to contact us at the office 250-865-4674.

Click here for [Family Portal Information](#). Also check out the quick notes below.

Initial Log In



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

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

Login to MYEDBC: <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspden/logon.do>

Family Portal Login ID: **sd5-firstinitiallastname** (all lower case)

1. Enter your **Login ID**
2. Enter your **Password** (Case Sensitive)
3. Click **Log On**

1. Current Password – enter the temporary password

2. New Password – enter the new user created password

3. Confirm New Password – enter the new user created password a second time

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

Passwords must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Minimum length is 8
- ✓ At least one **number**
- ✓ At least one **capital letter**
- ✓ At least one **lowercase letter**
- ✓ At least one **symbol** that isn't a letter or number
- ✓ Cannot contain login name, first name, middle name, last name, date of birth, personal id, or only sequential letters or numbers.

Security Preferences Update

To enable self serve password recovery, please provide the following information

1. Enter your **Primary Email address**. This email address will be used to receive a new password if you forget your password.
2. Choose a **Security Question**
3. Enter your **Security Answer** then confirm your security answer. (Case Sensitive)
4. Click **Submit**

This will allow you to use the '**I forgot my password**' function on the logon page, should you need to reset your password.

Payments

Making payments to the school has never been easier with SchoolCashOnline. Of course, you can still pay the old fashion way at the office with Check or Cash. Please see the directions below, to pay any outstanding school fees.



The banner features a blue and white geometric pattern background. At the top, it says "Welcome to SchoolCashOnline" in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, it says "Fast. Safe. Convenient." in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. On the left side, there is a graphic of a smartphone displaying a blue screen with a white shield icon containing a blue checkmark. Below the shield, the text reads: "School Cash Online is designed with financial security at its core. Parents can rest assured knowing that their payments are securely processed." On the right side, there are three sections: "What is School Cash Online?" with a paragraph and a bulleted list of four benefits; "How to Register" with a paragraph and a three-step numbered list; and "Accepted Payment Methods" with logos for VISA, MasterCard, and eCheck.

Welcome to SchoolCashOnline

Fast. Safe. Convenient.

What is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online allows parents to easily make online payments for the school fees available to their children.

- ✓ Pay all your student's school fees with the click of a button. Wherever. Whenever.
- ✓ Stay connected and informed of all school activities
- ✓ Never miss out on field trips, school events, yearbooks and more
- ✓ Say hello to smart online forms, and goodbye to cumbersome paper based forms for data submissions

How to Register

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

- 1 Create Your Profile:**
Go to <https://sd5.schoolcashionline.com> and click on "Register".
- 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.

Accepted Payment Methods

VISA MasterCard eCheck

SchoolMessenger / SafeArrival

How to Report an Absence

SchoolMessenger SafeArrival

To report an absence to the school you may choose any of the following methods:

- call 1-833 566-1225
- Access the website
<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca>
- 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.**

How to sign up for SMS

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.

For more information and detailed instructions visit our support page on the School District Website

<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/studentparent/SchoolMessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

