

OSOYOOS SECONDARY

MARCH 2026



5800 115TH ST.
OSOYOOS BC V0H1V4

PRINCIPAL: MR. D. FOSTER: DFOSTER@SD53.BC.CA
VICE PRINCIPAL: MRS. S. BROWNING: SBROWNIN@SD53.BC.CA

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Message from the Principal

Rattler Families and Friends,

As we move into March, our mild winter weather continues to be a welcome backdrop to the many activities happening at OSS.

Course selection for the 2026–27 school year will take place this week for students in Grades 8 through 11. The course selection booklet contains detailed information about all offerings, and we will also hold a Course Selection Assembly on Monday, March 2, to guide students through the process and answer questions.

Semester 2 Interim Reports will be distributed during the week of March 2. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please don't hesitate to reach out directly to their teacher.

Our school community has been active leading into Spring Break. The Leadership class organized several spirit days and coordinated a successful Kindness Campaign, which included a school-wide assembly and a pizza lunch on Pink Shirt Day. Our Basketball season has now wrapped up, Congratulations to all our teams and thank you to our coaches.

Academic achievements are also worth celebrating this month. Our Mathletes competed in a regional competition on February 19 in Kelowna, where both the Grade 9 and Grade 10 teams earned second place, and Mykyta Boiko won the Buzzer Round. Additionally, several OSS students performed exceptionally well at the annual Skills Canada competition on February 20 at Okanagan College in Kelowna, earning both Gold and Silver medals. Their names and accomplishments are highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter.

Looking ahead, spring athletics are beginning to take shape. Girls' soccer practices will be underway soon, and Ultimate Frisbee and Track and Field will start after Spring Break. We are excited to see our students engaging in these opportunities and representing OSS with enthusiasm and teamwork.

Sincerely,
Dave Foster

Dates to Remember :

Tuesday March 3rd	Course Selections Gr. 8-11
Tuesday March 10th	Grad Photo Retakes
Friday March 13th	Last Day of Classes before Spring Break



Spring Break Dates:

March 16th-27th
Day School Re-Opens is:
Monday, March 30th

Friday April 3rd	Good Friday No School
Monday April 6th	Easter No School

Skills Canada List of Winners!

Silver Medal - Spaghetti Bridge
John Bourne, Joel Parker
Grayden Klein Hofmeijer,
& Cohen Hesketh

Gold Medal - Sr. Carpentry
Alex Satterfield

Gold Medal - Sr. Electronics
Emmett Madsen

Gold Medal - Jr. Gravity Vehicle
Selina Backstrom-Resch,
Shanica Szarka,
Avery Lockerby & Charlie Redenbach

Silver Medal - Jr. Gravity Vehicle
Maye McDonald, Liliana Bento,
Elena Bento, Mila Keller

Silver Medal - Jr. Sumo Robots
Addison Dortman, Grace Kelly

Math Challengers Competition



Mrs. Chora's Mathletes competed at Okanagn College in Kelowna on Thursday, February 19th.

Grades 9 and 10 placed second and Mykita Boiko in grade 10 won the buzzer beater competition.

Congratulations to all that competed!

OSS will be having a Math Competition. Preliminary round for the BCSS Math Contest during the week of March 2nd-6th



ORDERS MUST BE IN BY MARCH 17TH 2026

OSS PAC PURDY'S FUNDRAISER

Please use the link to support the PAC:
OSS PAC PURDY'S

Skills Canada & Spaghetti Bridge

40 OSS students travelled to the Kelowna Okanagan College Campus on Friday, February 20th to participate in the Skills Canada Competition as well as Spaghetti Bridge Competition. Our students had a very successful day; some will be moving on to Provincials on April 15th in Abbotsford. Please see the front page of the newsletter for placements.



Grad 2026 Photo Retakes Info:

Grad cap and gown photo retake session will take place:
Tuesday, March 10th at the school.

In order for you to appear in the yearbook, it is important that you have your photo taken by Mountain West Studios. Sign up for grad photo appointments will be using the online link:

OSS Grad 2026 Photo Retakes

Reminder

Reminder that the school does not open till 8am. Students arriving prior to that will not be supervised

OSSS SPORTS

Congratulations to all of our teams for completing their basketball seasons!

Here are some of the highlights.

Grade 8 boys and girls both qualified for playoffs at the end of their league play. Both teams had an amazing development year.

Junior boys finished 5th in the league and played Summerland in their playoff game.

The junior girls finished 2nd in their league and were challenged by Summerland for the final spot to Valley's. The girls won and qualified to the Junior Girls Valley's hosted by Sa Hali. They faced some tough competition, but the girls clutched a win on their last game and placed 7th in the Okanagan Thompson region.

Senior girls had a successful season and placed 2nd in league play. The team attended multiple tournaments and made some amazing memories.

Finally, the senior boys finished 2nd in the league. Flex Academy challenged us for the final spot to Valley's that were hosted by SESS. It was the most intense game of the year, with our team climbing out of an 18-point deficit and winning the game in overtime. Our team fought hard at Valley's and finished in 8th place.

Thank you to all of our coaches this year. And most importantly, thank you to the players who worked hard this season. Please check with coaches regarding spring training.

Spring sports have started! We are offering track and field, ultimate frisbee, girls soccer, and golf this year. If anyone is interested, please see Mrs. Wiebe for information.

Reminder that teams will be made before spring break



MARCH SPORTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 -STORM Vball 12-2	2 -Girls Soccer 3-4:30 -SOVC U14 4:30-6:30 -Gurshan Basketball 6:30-8:30	3 -Ultimate Practice 3-4:30 -Sr Boys Bball Provs -Harper Basketball 5-6:30 -SOVC U16 6:30-8:30	4 -Sr Boys Bball Provs -Gurshan Basketball 6:30-8:30	5 -Sr Boys Bball Provs -Girls Soccer 3-4:30 -Harper Basketball 5-6:30	6 -Sr Boys Bball Provs	7 -Sr Boys Bball Provs
8 -STORM Vball 12-2	9 -Girls Soccer 3-4:30 -SOVC U14 4:30-6:30 -Gurshan Basketball 6:30-8:30	10 -Ultimate Practice 3-4:30 -Harper Basketball 5-6:30 -SOVC U16 6:30-8:30	11 -Gurshan Basketball 6:30-8:30	12 -Girls Soccer 3-4:30 -Harper Basketball 5-6:30	13 LAST DAY OF CLASSES	14
15 -STORM Vball 12-2	16 -SOVC U14 4:30-6:30	17	18	19	20	21
22 -STORM Vball 12-2	23 -SOVC U14 4:30-6:30	24	25	26	27	28
29 -STORM Vball 12-2	30 -SOVC U14 5:00-7:00 -Gurshan Basketball 7:00-8:30	31 -Rookie Camp 3-4:30 -Harper Basketball 5-6:30 -SOVC U16 6:30-8:30				



BC SOCCER SMALL SIDED REFEREE COURSE

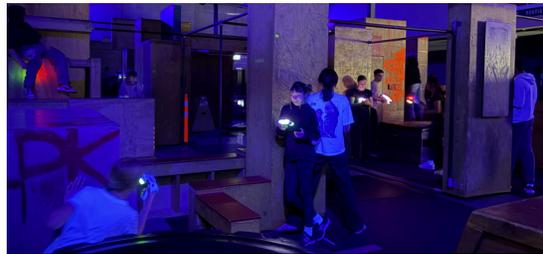
WHEN: MARCH 14TH 2026
WHERE: KINGS PARK SPORTSPLEX

SMALL SIDED COURSE
 (FOR REFEREES OF GAMES UP TO U13 (5V5-9V9 FORMATS))
 MINIMUM AGE TO REGISTER 12 YEARS
 9AM - 4PM

- ✓ REGISTRATION IS THROUGH REFCENTRE
- ✓ Self study with an exam, followed by the in person class and field session
- ✓ Open to everyone, no soccer playing experience necessary
- ✓ Be involved in your soccer community

For more details - check your email or contact ops@pinnaclesfc.ca

Winter Activity Day



On Thursday, February 26th OSS students and staff participated in our 3rd annual Winter Activity Day. Students had the choices to golf at Sonora Dunes, watch a movie at the Penticton Theatre, swim at the Penticton Pool, ski or snowboard at Mt. Baldy, bowl at Kobau Lanes, cook with Ms. Bureau, play laser tag at Laser Strike in Oliver and parkour in Penticton.

Such a great day for all!!



GRAD 2026



GRADE 12 GRADUATION CEREMONY AND REQUIREMENTS

THIS YEAR'S GRAD CEREMONY IS ON THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH AT 5:00 PM.
FOR STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GRAD CEREMONY AND THE DRY GRAD TRIP THEY MUST:

- BE ON TRACK TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED GRADUATION PROGRAM COURSES.
- BE ON TRACK TO HAVE EARNED THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF CREDITS (MINIMUM OF 80).
- BY MID-MAY, HAVE A STRONG ENOUGH ACADEMIC STANDING IN SEMESTER 2 CLASSES, TO REASONABLY EXPECT THAT THE STUDENT WILL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THEIR REQUIRED COURSES AND CREDITS.

WE WILL CONTACT PARENTS OF STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT ONLINE TO GRADUATE TO REVIEW OPTIONS FOR SEMESTER 2 AND GRADUATION. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MR. FOSTER AT 250-485-4433.

IN LATE APRIL, WE WILL REVIEW GRAD STUDENTS' PROGRESS WITH THE INTENT OF HELPING STUDENTS REMAIN SUCCESSFUL AND ONLINE TO GRADUATE.

2026 SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

WE ARE ANTICIPATING A GREAT SELECTION OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES TO BE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS FOR OUR 2026 GRADUATION CEREMONY ON THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH 2026, AT 5:00 PM.

TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR THE SELECTION PROCESS, COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH. STUDENTS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR AWARDS **ONLY IF THE REQUIRED APPLICATION FORMS AND/OR LETTERS ARE SUBMITTED ON TIME.**

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.

DETAILS REGARDING EACH SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARIES ARE IN THE PACKAGE AS WELL DATES TO HAVE YOUR ONLINE APPLICATIONS IN BY. SOME APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE.

GRADS ARE REMINDED THAT YOUR SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY CHECKLIST IS DUE APRIL 10TH.

IMPORTANT CEREMONY & GRAD TRIP INFO:

- GRADS ARE ASKED TO PLEASE SEND THEIR GRAD PROFILE TO [SBROWNIN@SD53.BC.CA](mailto:sbrownin@sd53.bc.ca) BY JUNE 10TH. THESE ITEMS ARE A CRUCIAL TO OUR GRAD CEREMONY.
- BABY PICTURES (AGES 0-2) CAN BE SENT TO MRS. RUCK FOR THE GRAD CEREMONY AT NRUCK@SD53.BC.CA
- MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE GRAD TRIP WILL FOLLOW ONCE TRIP PLANS ARE FINALIZED.

Concession Calendar

March 2026



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Tim Hortons Veggie Cilantro Bowl & Muffin	3 Subway Ham & White Cheddar Sub	4 Mami's Pizza	5 Smitty's Burgers and Chunky Potatoes	6 Tim Hortons Chili, Bun & Muffin
9 Tim Hortons Chicken Cilantro Bowl & Muffin	10 Subway Turkey & White Cheddar 6' Sub	11 Mami's Pizza	12 Smitty's Burgers and Chunky Potatoes	13 Tim Hortons Grilled Cheese & Chicken Noodle Soup with Muffin
16	17	18	19	20
Spring Break				
23	24	25	26	27
Spring Break				
30 Tim Hortons Veggie Cilantro Bowl & Muffin	31 Subway Cold Cut & White Cheddar Sub	01 Mami's Pizza	02 Smitty's Burgers and Chunky Potatoes	03 Good Friday No School



“Celebration Of Traditions”

Pow Wow

April 17th & 18th, 2026

Southern Okanagan Secondary School

6140 Gala St, Oliver, BC, V0H 1T0

School District#53 Indigenous Education Committee Hosting

Host Drum – Smokey Valley

Second Host Drum - High Water

Emcee – Levi Bent

Arena Director – Lawrence Trottier

Admission is Free - Open to the Public

Dinner: Friday and Saturday 5:30pm

Breakfast: Saturday 9:00 - 11:00am

Friday Schedule: 10:00am-2:30pm SD#53 students

Friday Evening: Open to the Public 7:00 - 11:00pm

Saturday Schedule: Open to the public 1:00 - 5:00pm & 7:00 - 11:00pm

Saturday Afternoon

Tiny Tot Special

By

Heaven N Earth

Native Art

All drum groups will receive an Honorarium
(minimum 4 singers and all drums must be registered)

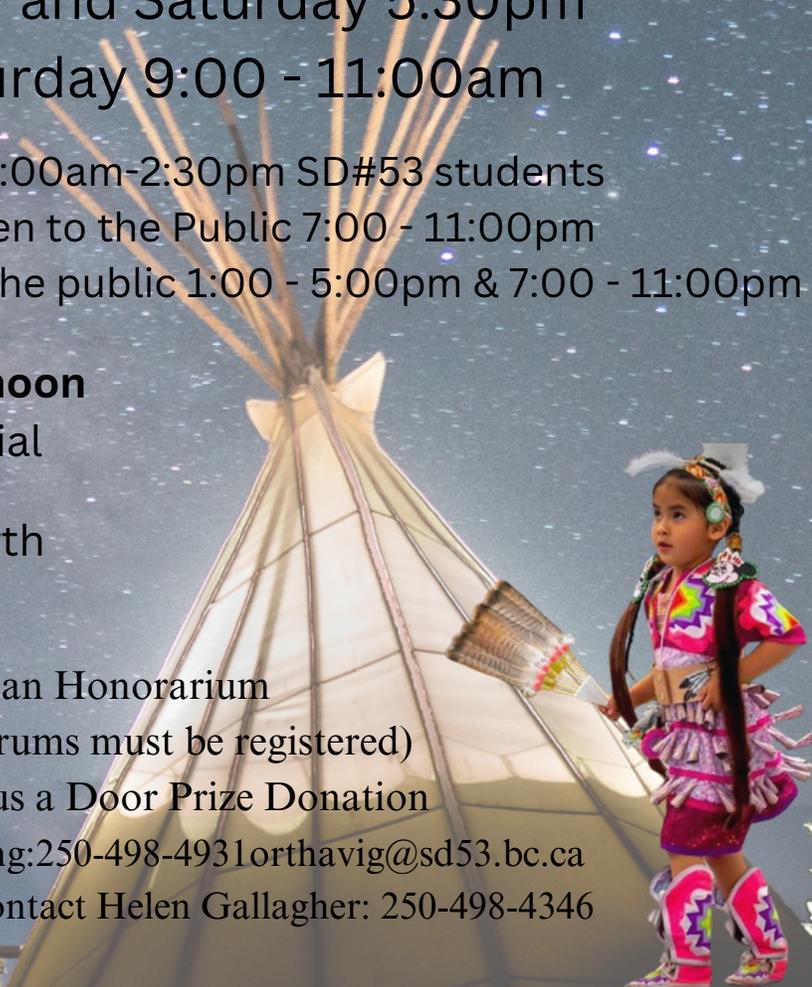
Vendors Welcome: \$75.00 plus a Door Prize Donation

Contact Tara Havig for Booking: 250-498-4931 or orthavig@sd53.bc.ca

For all other inquires, please contact Helen Gallagher: 250-498-4346

THIS IS A SMOKE AND VAPE FREE ZONE

Pow Wow Committee members & School District No.53 are not responsible for any injuries, theft, or items lost



Career Ed. Newsletter- March 2026

Career Ed. Report

Second semester is underway SD53 currently has 64 students accessing dual credit post-secondary and trades training programs from 7 different institutions.

Our Careers teachers recently attended the Career Education Society of BC Conference in Vernon. The conference provided valuable insight into opportunities available to students and an appreciation of the collaboration required across all levels of government to successfully create and sustain dual credit programming.

Skilled Trades BC publicly acknowledged School District 53's contribution and the work that we do supporting our youth in trades. Skilled Trades BC did a promotional video with Siobhan Detkavich who acknowledged her start as a professional cook in PC 1 course hosted in our district together with Camosun College.

On February 20, we took 90 students to Skills Canada Regional competition at Okanagan college in Kelowna. All our students did an awesome job the competitions, and we're excited to send our winners to the Provincials on April 15th.

Congratulations to Blake Kriesel (SOSS) and Taylor St. Cyr (SESS) for being selected to attend the Youth RCMP Academy in Vernon April 25-29

Up Coming Events :

Minerva Womens Leadership Forum	March 4th
Interior Health Career Exploration	March 10th
Skills Canada Provincials- Tradex	April 15th
OC Jill of Trades Female Trade Event	April 28th
Youth RCMP Academy	April 25-29
Experience Okanagan College Penticton	May 4th
SD53 Wilderness Career Fair- Camp Boyle	May 7th

Please use the link to view information on the Health Care Sampler:

[Health Care Sampler](#)

Skills Canada Winners:

Silver in Spaghetti Bridge:

OSS- John Bourne, Cohen Hesketh
Grayden Klein Hofmeijer, Joel Parker

Jr. Spaghetti Bridge Bronze:

SESS - Zack Nelson, Partap Brar,
Sukhman Rai

Sr. Carpentry Gold:

OSS - Alex Satterfield

Sr. Electronics Gold:

OSS - Emmett Madsen

Jr. Gravity Vehicle Gold:

OSS - Selina Backstrom-Resch,
Avery Lockerby, Shanica Szarka,
Charlie Redenbach,

Jr. Gravity Vehicle Silver:

OSS - Maye McDonald, Liliana Bento,
Elena Bento, Mila Keller

Jr. Gravity Vehicle Bronze:

SESS - Luka Manazza, Carson Whelpton

Sumo Robots Gold:

SESS - Kai Rivest, Matteo Manazza

Jr. Sumo Robots Silver:

OSS - Addison Dortman, Grace Kelly

Current Offerings

SEATS ARE AVAILABLE FOR 26/27

Early Childhood Educator,
Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
Mechanic,
Welding,
Automotive Service Technician,
Heavy Duty Mechanics,
Health Care Aid,
Business Administration,
Technology Sampler,
Carpentry
Plumbing
Aircraft Maintenance Engineering
Structures,
Electrician,
Professional Cook,
Trades Sampler,
Health Sampler,
Engineering Sampler,
Academic Dual Credit,
Office Administration,
Nail Technician,
Hairdressing,
Leadership in Action,



Okanagan
Similkameen
SD53

Health Care Sampler at OC

February - June



A 16 week introductory program giving students the opportunity to explore a variety of **high demand** health care careers. Try out **job-related tasks**, discover where your **interests fit**, and learn what it takes to **enter the field**.

Two nights a week online and biweekly Saturday classes at OC and will introduce students to:

- 

Health Office Administration
- 

Dental Health
- 

Pharmacy
- 

Nursing
- 

Social Work/ Counselling
- 

Allied Health

Ready to explore a career in health care?

Scan the QR Code and a staff member from the SD53 Careers Department will get in touch with you



Have a question? Email Mr. Turnbull at:
bturnbul@sd53.bc.ca