



**Kamloops School of the Arts**

**Kamloops School of the Arts**  
1390 9 Ave,  
Kamloops, BC V2C 3X5  
(250) 374-3200  
<https://ksa.sd73.bc.ca>

September 2022

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to another exciting school year! The staff has been working hard to get our new school ready! The following newsletter provides information about the upcoming school year- Please do not hesitate, however, to give the office a call if you have further queries or check out our school website/PAC Facebook page.

**The staff and I look forward to greeting grade 1-12 students on Tuesday, September 6th.**

Sincerely,

Mr. Lloyd  
Principal, Kamloops School of the Arts

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### **First Week of School**

**ELEMENTARY (Grade 1-7):** The first day of school is TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH. Doors will open at 10:20 and school will begin at 10:30. Classes will end at 12:00 pm that day for elementary students. All students that attended KSA last year and are going into grades 1-7 for the 22/23 school year are asked to meet their former elementary teacher at their **regular entrances**. Once attendance has been taken, students will be assigned their new class for the 2022/2023 school year. Please pre arrange a pick up spot for your child

**New Students:** Students that are new to KSA will be meeting at the front of the school. There will be a welcome station set up and staff there to greet students.

Attendance on Tuesday Sept. 6th and Wednesday Sept. 7th is very important for us.

**NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS:** Please note that 2022/2023 kindergarten students have a separate schedule and will start full time Wednesday, September 14th. Please contact the office if you are unsure of your meeting time with the Kindergarten teachers.

**SECONDARY:** All secondary students will be reporting to their homeroom teacher on TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH AT 10:30 AM. Signs will be posted on each secondary entrance indicating grade, teacher and room to report to. Students new to KSA will be able to check in at the 'Welcome Back' table at the front of the school where staff will be able to help with directions. Grade 8-12 students will be receiving their timetables during their homeroom class. Students will be reporting to 4 shortened blocks on Tuesday and this will allow them to meet all of their Semester 1 teachers. Secondary

classes will be in session until 3pm.

The KSA PAC has arranged 'Mug and Muffin' starting at 10 am in front of the school for parents and children. Muffins and coffee available along with a 'First Day of School' balloon display, perfect for photo ops!

### **School Fees/Supplies**

Elementary - There is no need to buy your own school supplies as the school provides these items at a reduced cost. A notice to collect school supply fees will be distributed during the first week of school. Please have fees & forms submitted by **October 3rd**. Fees cover the expense of school supplies as well as a concert series for our students.

Secondary - Students are responsible for their day to day school supplies. Certain secondary courses require a fee to be paid, fee invoices will be sent home at the end of September. Teachers will be handing out course outlines to give students and families information about any special school supplies needed (i.e. calculator, compass etc). Students should plan to bring a binder, paper and writing utensils on the first day.

### **Fruit and Vegetable Programs**

KSA runs the Fruit and Vegetable program. If you would like more information about the program, please check out <https://www.bcaitc.ca/>. Please note: If you do not want your child receiving fruit and vegetables and/or milk programs please call the office.

### **Verification Reports and Permission Forms**

The school district requires parents to update Student Verification Records on a yearly basis. Along with this document, a *permission for personal information consent*, an *Outside Media in Schools and a walking permission form* will be sent home. **These forms must be signed and returned to the school before October 3rd.**

### **Parent Involvement and Parent Advisory Council**

There are several ways in which you can be an active parent at Kamloops School of the Arts. Our Parent Advisory Council meets on a regular basis, and the meeting dates are published in the school newsletters and on the PAC KSA Facebook page. **Our first meeting is scheduled for 6:30pm on September 14th here at the school.**

### **Attendance**

At KSA the provincial curriculum is taught through an integrated arts program. Consistent attendance is a vital component of the program and absolutely necessary in order for a child to succeed. Significant student absences and lateness will impact your child's ability to do well and achieve success in the educational program we offer at KSA. However, on occasion it is necessary for your child to be away due to illness or other factors. If you know your child will be absent from school **please call 1-844-350-2647 to report an absence or download the Safe Arrival app for smartphones. Contact the office if you have trouble accessing the portal.**

### **Parking and Traffic**

We believe strongly in the safety of our children, therefore, please make sure you are aware of parking and traffic routines at our school. Students are reminded to follow road safety at all times. Students are required to use the crosswalk and look both ways before crossing the street.

**\*\*\*\*Please note that the back parking lot behind the school is for staff only. Parents are asked to drop off/pick up their child on Fraser Street. Thank you for maintaining safe distancing during drop off/pick up.\*\*\*\***

**BELL SCHEDULE 2022-2023**

<b>Elementary Bell Schedule</b>		<b>Bells scheduled to ring outside only</b>
8:20	Warning Bell	8:20 (warning to come in)
8:30 – 8:40 am	Start Up Routines (10 minutes)	
8:40 - 9:35 am	Period 1 (55 minutes)	
9:35 - 10:30 am	Period 2 (55 minutes)	
10:30 –10:45 am	Recess (15 minutes)	10:30 (warning to come in)
10:45– 11:40 am	Period 3 (55 minutes)	
11:40 - 12:40 pm	Lunch (60 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11:40-12:10</li> <li>• 12:10-12:40 EAT</li> </ul>	
12:40 - 1:35	Period 4 (55 minutes)	
1:35 - 2:30	Period 5 (55 minutes)	
2:30 – 2:41	Reflection on Learning	Prepare for home dismissal

<b>Secondary Bell Schedule</b>		<b>Bells scheduled to ring outside only</b>
8:20	Warning Bell	8:20
8:30 - 10:00am	Period 1 (90 minutes)	
Long Break	10:00-10:20 am (20 min)	
10:20-11:25am	Period 2 (65 minutes)	
11:25-12:13 pm	Lunch Break (48 minutes)	
12:13-1:33pm	Period 3 (80 min)	
1:33 - 2:57 pm	Period 4 (84 min)	

**Senior Students (10-12)****Junior Students (8 & 9)****“Major” Days are –Monday, Wednesday, Thursday**

<b>Secondary Wednesdays</b>		<b>Bells scheduled to ring outside only</b>
8:20 am	Warning Bell	8:20
8:30 - 9:34 am	Period 1 (64 minutes)	
9:34 - 10:38 am	Period 2 (64 minutes)	
10:38 - 10:58 am	Long Break (20 minutes)	
10:58-12:02 pm	Period 3 (64 minutes)	
12:02 - 12:50 pm	Lunch (48 minutes)	
12:50 - 1:54 pm	Period 4 (64 minutes)	
1:54 – 2:57 pm	Career Ed (63 minutes)	
2:57 pm	Dismissal	

### **Photo Day**

PHOTO DAY – **September 29th.** Prior to photo day, a brochure will be sent home with students advertising the photo date and other important details. After photo day each student photographed will receive a proof to place their order. **Retakes will take place on October 28th.**

### **Medical Policy**

Please contact the school if your child has any health issues or potentially life-threatening conditions that we need to be made aware of. No medications (prescription or non-prescription) are to be administered by school district employees without prior written consent of the parent/guardian and doctors must sign a ***Request for Administration of Medication at School*** form which includes written medical advice from a physician. This form must be renewed/resigned each school year.

### **Gym Strip for P.E. Class**

On days when Intermediate students have P.E., they are required to wear a T-shirt, shorts (or other flexible clothing like yoga pants), and non-marking running shoes. Primary class clothing requirements will vary with individual teachers. Parents should check with their child's teacher for details.

### **Indoor Shoes**

Students NEED "indoor" shoes at school. For gym classes, athletic shoes are required (Please, no flip flop or open toe shoes). These can also serve as indoor shoes for your child. In the wet weather, the floors get slippery and dangerous, especially on the stairs! Please ensure that your child has shoes here at school for inside wear. Thank you!

### **Guidelines for Personal Electronic Devices at KSA**

Students who bring devices such as cell phones, ipods, MP3 players, Nintendo DS's or similar will be instructed to keep these items in their backpacks or lockers for the duration of the school day until dismissal. As per the Administrative Procedure 350.1, the safe keeping of these devices are solely the responsibility of the owners.

Students needing or wanting to use cell phones to contact parents while at school must use the same procedure currently in place for using the school phone – ask a staff member for permission first - and return their device to their backpack or locker when finished. Students may use e-type readers for quiet reading times upon permission of the teacher (safekeeping is the responsibility of the student). School equipment such as digital cameras and movie cameras may be used for school activities with

the permission of the teacher.

### **Fair Notice for Parents**

The safety of our children is a top priority for us all. As a school system, we have been involved in intensive safety training with our community partners – the police, Child & Youth Mental Health and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Together we have developed a district plan for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others. School District No. 73 has a policy in place that requires principals to activate a multidisciplinary “threat assessment” protocol in all cases of students making significant high level threats to harm themselves or others. Administrative Procedure 167 is available on the school district website at [www.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.sd73.bc.ca) Please see the letter from the superintendent at the end of this newsletter for more information.

### **Communication**

If you have any questions that come up during the year, there are a number of ways to get in touch:

- Call the school
- Send an email. Most of the staff and administration can be reached using the first letter of the staff member’s first name’s initial, followed by the last name @sd73.bc.ca. (Example: John Smith: jsmith@sd73.bc.ca) There are a few exceptions but staff email addresses are also listed on our website.
- Check out our school facebook page
- Check out our website! It is located at <https://ksa.sd73.bc.ca/en/index.aspx>

	ADMINISTRATORS	POSITION
1	Blair Lloyd	Principal
2	Jayne Latta	Vice Principal
	TEACHING STAFF	POSITION
ELEMENTARY		
1	Jennica Alpaugh	Intermediate/music
2	Nicole Baldwin	LART - Elem
3	Joy Anne Bouwmeester	Primary/Dance
4	Pamela Clark	Intermediate/ Drama
5	Jennifer Coates	Primary/ Dance
6	Claire Covington	Intermediate/ Drama
7	Sondra Dickenson	K / Art, Music
8	Michelle Richmond	Primary/Art
9	Karim Sadik	Intermediate/ Art
10	Caitlin Maclaughlin	Kindergarten/Drama, Dance
11	Lauren Nordstrom	Primary/Dance
12	Carmelina Woods	Primary/Music
13	Brittany Zettergreen	Intermediate/Dance

14	Devon McBride	PE
15	Charmaine Norman	Primary/Drama
16	Melissa Pavluk	Primary/Art
17	Sara Piroddi	Intermediate/ Music
SECONDARY		
1	Paulette Gendron	Sec – French & Eng
2	Melanie Gilmar	Sec – Math & Science/LDP
3	Lia Kubin	LART - Sec
4	Kirk McFarlane	Sec – PE & Media
5	Naomi Shook	District Resource Room
6	Todd Smigielski	Sec- Foods & Drama
7	Emily Oliver	Sec- PE & English
8	Megan McCaffrey	Sec- Math & French
9	Dennis Staginnus	Library/Intermediate
10	Simone Stella	Sec – Science & Math
11	Suzanna (Kate) Zahir	Strings
12	Lindsay Williams	Sec - Dance
13	Jennifer Pendergast	Sec – Art & Eng
14	Stephen Weisgerber	Sec – Music & PE/LDP
15	Suanne Wallin	Counsellor
CUPE		POSITION
1	Denise Repar	Secretary-in-Charge
2	Jane Viventi	Steno1/Counselling steno
3	Dino Bruno	Head Custodian
4	Kevin Casselamn	Custodian
5	Cindy Flores	Custodian
6	Manjit Padda	Custodian
7	Karen Bargery	CEA
8	June Webb	CEA
9	Lori Bregoliss	CEA
10	Jill Coulter	CEA

11	Michelle Blackmore	CEA
12	Elizabeth Deacon	CEA
13	Amy Jackson	CEA
14	Wendy Leonard	AEW
15	Melanie Burkholder	Lib Assistant
16	Mandy Chapman	CEA
17	Andrea Hounslow	CEA
18	Teresa Redden	CEA
19	Karen Baker	CEA

### **After School Plans**

Please make every effort to plan after school arrangements before the start of the school day. If you have made after school arrangements and the plans have changed please notify the school directly. The staff cannot let elementary students leave for home, if they are not feeling well - unless they are accompanied by a supervising adult. This adult must be a relative or an approved representative of the family. Our staff must speak directly to the child's parent or legal guardian before they will be permitted to leave.

### **School Clothing**

KSA Dress Code In accordance with SD73 School District Policies and AP 350.2: Kamloops School of the Arts is committed to providing students with learning environments that are safe, equitable and inclusive. Students and staff must show mutual respect for everyone, and this does not change based on how someone is dressed. KSA believes that judgements on the appropriateness of student attire are best made by students and their families, because clothing choices reflect individual identity, cultural norms and socio-economic factors that are intensely personal. Students may attend school and school related functions in clothing of their choice that respects our school community, provided that it meets the following conditions:

1. Conforms with the Health & safety requirements for the intended activity.
2. Does not promote drugs or alcohol.
3. Does not display profanity or violence.
4. Does not display discriminatory language or images. Hat Policy: Individual teachers will discuss the wearing of headwear (Hats with brims/Toques/Hoodies etc.) in their classes and use this opportunity to discuss specific times when headwear may not be appropriate (exams/tests/student presentations etc....)

Please Note: In any of these violations, school administration will work with the student and family to review the dress code AP.

## **Tips for a Great School Year**

### **GENERAL POINTS**

#### **Keep a Family Calendar**

Be sure to read the school year calendar and post it in a visible spot. Note parent-teacher

conference dates, report card distribution dates, and other school events. Record them into your personal calendar too. Children love predictability!

### **Focus on Friendship**

When a child feels a sense of belonging and connectedness to his environment, he will learn and develop with greater ease and comfort.

### **Look for Extracurricular Activities**

However, parents beware: Do not over-schedule your child (and yourself) to the point of stress and exhaustion.

### **Spend Some Time at School**

Most teachers, principals and vice-principals are delighted to have parents lend a hand in the classroom and around the school campus. It provides an additional sense of connectedness to strengthen their village of care and support. Make sure you check with your child's teacher on when it is appropriate to visit and help. Sometimes parents in the class can be a distraction.

### **Create Two-Way Communication**

After checking to see whether your child has accurately completed her homework, take a moment to initial the agenda or school planner to let her teacher know you have reviewed the work. Write a comment or ask a question.

### **Read the School Newsletter, Check the Website, Join the School Facebook Page**

This shows your interest in the school community and your willingness to be a part of that connection.

### **Develop Healthy Habits**

Good physical health, proper nutrition, and enough sleep are the most important elements for school success.

### **One More Thing**

Enjoy yourself and your child's elementary year, they go by fast!

## **Things To Tell the Teacher**

What can you tell a teacher that will help him or her do their job better? Students do best when parents and teachers work together as partners. Not sure where to start?

### **Health conditions**

If your child is diabetic, uses an inhaler, has allergies, or has a serious health condition, the classroom teacher should know. It's also helpful to let the teacher know whether your child has been diagnosed with conditions like ADHD, which may affect behaviour and concentration.

### **Family issues**

Fill in the teacher if your family is going through a major change that could affect your child, such as a divorce, a death in the family, or a move.

### **Personality traits or behaviour issues**

Maybe your son is painfully shy and is worried about making friends at a new school.

### **Strengths and weaknesses**

If you tell teachers these things up front, they will have more time to help your children improve in the areas they need it most.

### **Learning style**

If your child learns better through hands-on activities than through listening to explanations, mention that to his teacher. Also share any teaching strategies that you've found work well with your child.

### **Study habits**

Tell teachers about your children's study habits and any issues they face in completing the work. Teachers often can offer suggestions to make homework time go more smoothly.

### **Special interests**

Let the teacher know that your young son loves a particular comic book superhero or that your middle school daughter is a gifted painter.



## **Overcoming Anxiety**

### **Let your children know you care**

If your child is anxious about school, send personal notes in the lunch box or book bag.

### **Reinforce the ability to cope**

Children absorb their parent's anxiety, so model optimism and confidence for your child. Let your child know that it is natural to be a little nervous anytime you start something new but that your child will be just fine once he or she becomes familiar with classmates, the teacher, and school routine.

### **Do not overreact**

If the first few days are a little rough, try not to overreact. Young children in particular may experience separation anxiety or shyness initially but teachers are trained to help them adjust. If you drop them off, try not to linger. Reassure them that you love them, will think of them during the day, and will be back.

### **Remain calm and positive**

Acknowledge anxiety over a bad experience the previous year. Children who had a difficult time academically or socially or were teased or bullied may be more fearful or reluctant to return to school. If you have not yet done so, share your child's concern with the school and confirm that the problem has been addressed.

### **Reinforce your child's ability to cope**

Give your child a few strategies to manage a difficult situation on his or her own. But encourage your child to tell you or the teacher if the problem persists. Maintain open lines of communication with the school.

### **Arrange playdates**

Try to arrange get-togethers with some of your child's classmates before school starts and during the first weeks of school to help your child re-establish positive social relationships with peers.

### **Plan to volunteer in the classroom**

If possible, plan to volunteer in the classroom at least periodically throughout the year. Doing so helps your child understand that school and family life are linked and that you care about the learning experience.

### **Here are a few final tips for a fantastic school year**

**Get enough sleep.**

**Eat a healthy breakfast.**

**Try your best.**

**Use good work habits.**

**Take your time with school work.**

**Ask the teacher for help.**

**Keep a sense of humour.**

## Calendar Date for the year (subject to change)

2022	Date	Event
September	6	First Day Back! 10:30-12:00 pm (3pm for Sec)
	7	First Full Day of Classes (Gr. 1-12)
	TBA	Terry Fox Run
	19	Professional Development Day
	24	KSA Orange Shirt Day
	29	PHOTO DAY
	30	<b>NEW- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation</b>
	TBA	Raise a Reader
October	10	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
	6	Parent Teacher Interviews - Early Closure 12:30
	21	Professional Development Day
November	10	Remembrance Day school ceremony
	11	Remembrance Day
	15	Secondary- End of Q1
December	5	Professional Development Day
	9	Elementary- Interim reports out to students
	TBA	Christmas Concert- To be confirmed
	TBA	Christmas Concert- To be confirmed
	16	Last Day before Winter Break
<b>2023</b>		
January	3	School Returns from Winter Break
	25	Grad Photos
	31	Secondary- Last day of S1/Q2
February	3	Professional Development Day
	15	Grad Photo retakes
	20	BC Family Day Holiday
March	2	Secondary Teacher/Parent interviews
	10	Elementary reports out to students
	17	Last Day before Spring Break- (NEW! 2 weeks)
April	3	School Returns from Spring Break
	6	Day of Recognition
	7	Good Friday Holiday
	10	Easter Monday Holiday
	24	Professional Development Day
	24	End of Quarter 3
May	19	Professional Development Day
	22	Victoria Day
June	9	KSA GRAD
	23	SECONDARY- Final day of School
	29	ELEMENTARY- Final day of School-Early Closure 12:30
	30	Administration Day



## SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson)

1383 - 9th Avenue, Kamloops, BC V2C 3X7 | Tel: 250-374-0679 | Fax: 250-372-1183 | [www.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.sd73.bc.ca)

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### Fair Notice for Parents 2022-2023

Dear Parents:

The safety of our children is a top priority for us all. As a school system, we have been involved in intensive safety training with our community partners – the police, Child & Youth Mental Health and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Together we have developed a district plan for responding to all situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others. School District No. 73 has a policy in place that requires principals to activate a multidisciplinary "threat assessment" protocol in all cases of students making significant high level threats to harm themselves or others. The procedure is available on the school district website at [www.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.sd73.bc.ca)

#### What is a threat?

- an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something
- may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture

#### Duty to report

In order to keep school communities safe and caring staff, parents/guardians/caregivers, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours to the school principal.

#### The purposes of a student threat assessment are:

- to ensure and promote the emotional and physical safety of students, staff, parents, the student making the threat, and others
- to ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat
- to understand the factors underlying the behaviours of the threat maker
- to be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker
- to promote the emotional and physical safety of all

#### A student threat assessment will be initiated for behaviours including, but are not limited to:

- serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill
- online threat to harm/kill others
- possession of weapons (including replicas)
- gang related intimidation and violence
- verbal/written threats to harm/kill others (clear, direct, plausible)
- bomb threats (making and/or detonating explosive devices)
- fire starting
- sexual intimidation and violence

#### What Parents and Students need to know

- any threat must be reported to the school principal
- investigations may involve the student services counsellor, the police or other community agencies
- investigations may involve locker or personal property searches
- interviews will be held with the threat maker and other students or adults who may have information about the threat
- parents of students who are directly involved with a threat will be notified
- threatening behaviour may result in disciplinary action and/or change in school placement
- an intervention plan may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any individuals targeted by threats

#### Collection Notice

The School District is subject to personal information privacy laws, and will undertake the collection of this information in compliance with the requirements of such laws; including by limiting collection to information that is relevant and necessary to address a risk or threat and by ensuring that information is collected from online open source sites. The School District will not collect information as part of a threat assessment unless there is reason to believe that a risk exists. Information collected as part of a threat assessment may be provided to law enforcement authorities in appropriate circumstances.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Nixon, Ph.D  
Superintendent of Schools