

KERSLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HANDBOOK

Parent/Guardian and Student Information

2020 - 2021



WELCOME!

Welcome to Kersley Elementary! We are pleased that your child is coming to Kersley School. Kersley's environment and excellent staff will provide great opportunities for your child to develop into a well-rounded individual. Kersley is a remarkable community school where great things happen!

The purpose of this handbook is to provide your family with some basic school information. This is also your invitation to get involved in your child's education at many levels. We have an open door policy and welcome any opportunity to have parents play an active role in their child's education. There are opportunities to help out in the classroom with academic work, to help with extra-curricular activities, to get involved with the PAC and school planning. As a small school, we rely on everyone to take a role to make Kersley the best place for kids. We are very proud of our school and are looking forward to your input in continuing to make it the best place.

Mission Statement

Kersley is a community-minded school that strives to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and character students will need for the future.

School Improvement Plan

Kersley is working to improve student achievement in literacy and numeracy. The School Improvement Plan targets emotional awareness, self-regulation behaviour, and academic growth in the areas mentioned above. Parents are welcome to review the plan at the school or on Kersley School's web site.

Guiding Principles

At Kersley Elementary, we focus on the "KODIAKS" described below:

Kersley Community

Outdoor Learning and Connections

Deep Learning

I Can

Appreciate Ourselves and Others

Keep Up the Challenge

Strength of Mind, Body, and Heart

General Information

Kersley School 250-747-2624 FAX: 250-747-3072
School District Office 250-992-8802
Bus Garage 250-992-8361
Public Health Nurse 250-991-7571
School District Webpage: www.sd28.bc.ca
School Webpage address: www.kersleyelementary.weebly.com
School email: nancydanuser@sd28.bc.ca
FaceBook: www.facebook.com/groups/kersleyelementary

School Start and End Times

8:15 - 10:00	Morning Session
9:45-10:00 Cohort 1	Recess
10:00-10:15 Cohort 2	Recess
10:15 - 11:30	Mid-morning Session
11:30-12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 2:23	Afternoon Session

Staff

N. Danuser	Principal, Librarian, Grade 4/5/6/7 Teacher
R. Malner	Grade K/1/2 Teacher
C. Campbell	Grade 2/3/4 Teacher
J. Mackey	Grade 4/5/6/7 Teacher
M. Giles	Grade 4/5/6/7 Support Teacher
S. Ouellette	Secretary
J. Mackey	Learning Assistance
T. Reed	Resource Teacher
J. Legere	Education Assistant
J. Brautigam	Education Assistant
EJ Garrison	Music Teacher
L. Currie	Early Literacy Teacher
S. Headey	Indigenous Education Support
S. Neighbour	School Counsellor
S. Thayer	Custodian
B. Preston	Student Supervisor
V. Tureczek	Student Supervisor

Secretarial Hours

We have limited secretarial hours at Kersley School. Please try again if your call ever goes unanswered.

Secretary Hours (subject to change):

Tuesday-Friday 8:00 - 11:00am

Student Supervision Times

Bus students: Morning supervision begins when the first bus arrives. After-school supervision ends when the last bus departs.

All other students: Students should arrive as close to the 8:15 morning bell and depart immediately after the 2:23 dismissal bell (unless otherwise arranged with the school Principal).

Communicating Student Learning

Teachers will communicate student learning five times a year. Parents/guardians will receive three formal written communications and one informal communication, as well as participate in a parent-teacher interview.

More detailed information will be available through classroom teachers.

Bicycles and Scooters

Students may ride their bikes and scooters to school, provided that they wear a helmet. There is a bike rack provided for students to park their bikes. For safety reasons, students must walk their bikes and scooters upon entering and before leaving the school grounds.

Clothing

All students at Kersley are required to have two pairs of footwear: one for indoor use and one for outdoor use. Students change into their inside shoes upon entering the school. During cold weather, please ensure that your child is dressed warmly with hat, mitts, boots, etc. It is helpful if you label all clothing.

Cold Weather Policy

When the 6:00 a.m. temperature at the Quesnel Airport is -32°C or colder, CKCQ 100.3 FM and CFFM 97.5 FM radio stations will be requested to advise parents that all bus runs will be cancelled. Bus cancellations are posted on the school district website at www.sd28.bc.ca Teachers will be in attendance at schools, and when there is sufficient enrolment, regular instruction will take place. However, if all students cannot attend, the regular programs will not be offered and students attending will receive instructional support, be offered study sessions and/or review. If the outside temperature is -15°C or if it is extremely wet outside, it is an *inside day* at the school. Otherwise, it is an *outside day* and students are required to go outdoors.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

The *School Act* specifically designates a school's Parent Advisory Council as the parents' "official voice" to the school staff and the school board. All parents/guardians belong to this council. We encourage you to become involved with your PAC and to attend the monthly meetings. We will announce all PAC meeting dates in our school newsletters as well as post their meeting minutes on the PAC bulletin board. During the 2020-2021 school year, PAC meetings will be held in the gymnasium to allow for social distancing. PAC will also be streaming the meetings live so you can join from home to reduce the number of people in the school.

Classroom Planners

Classroom planners are required for all students at Kersley Elementary. These planners help your child learn and to keep you informed of your child's school activities. It is important to note that this serves as an integral part of the provincially mandated personal planning curriculum. Your child is required to keep this planner with them throughout the school year. Your child's teacher may require you to sign or initial the planner daily, weekly, or on some other schedule.

Our expectation is that your child will enter information into the planner during the day and then bring the planner home at night where you will look at it every evening, checking on the status of required assignments as well as reading any comments from the teacher. This also gives you a chance to send comments and questions back to your child's teacher.

Lost and Found

Our lost and found is located in the school hallway. Students will have the chance to look for any lost items throughout the year. Unclaimed items will be donated prior to Winter Break, Spring Break, and at the end of the school year.

Assemblies

We have once a month KODIAKS assemblies and several other special occasion assemblies throughout the school year. Families are always welcome at any of our assemblies or other gatherings of students. During the 2020-2021 school year, our Health and Safety plans require that assemblies be held virtually.

Newsletters

We email newsletters once a month. The newsletter outlines the next month's activities and events. We also send home notices and special information from time to time. If you do not receive your newsletter via email, contact your classroom teacher. This newsletter is also available on our school website and Facebook. www.kersleyelementary.weebly.com.

Attendance

Please call the school if your child is going to be late or absent. Ms. Danuser or Ms. Ouellette will call home to confirm an absence if your child is away without prior notification from a guardian.

In addition, please advise the classroom teacher or write a note in your child's planner if your child will be leaving school early, walking to a different location at the end of the day, or will be picked up by a different person.

Bussing - Bus Students

If your child is a bus student, they are expected to follow the rules. If your child is not a regular bus student and needs to take the bus (ie. to babysitters/friends), please write a note for your child to give the driver. Sometimes space may not be available and you may also want to check with the bus garage (992-8361).

School Calendar

	2020 - 2021
NI Day	September 7
First day of school- $\frac{1}{2}$ day	September 10
Thanksgiving	October 12
Provincial PRO-D Day	October 23
Early Closures $\frac{1}{2}$ Days	October 27 & 28
Remembrance Day holiday	November 11
NI Day	November 27
Schools close for Christmas break	Monday, December 21
Christmas vacation period	December 21 to January 1
Schools reopen after Christmas break	Monday, January 4
NI Day	January 29
BC Family Day	February 15
Spring break period	March 15-26
Schools reopen after spring vacation	Monday March 29
Good Friday	April 2
Easter Monday	April 5
Regional Pro-D Day	April 23
NI Day	May 21
Victoria Day	May 24
Last Day of School	Tuesday, June 29
Administrative Day & Schools close	Friday, June 30

www.sd28.bc.ca