

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY SCHOOL



JUNE 2025

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we welcome June, there's a special kind of energy in the air at SOSS—a mix of anticipation, celebration, and a little bit of nostalgia. The last day of classes for students is Friday, June 20.

In these final days before exams, our schedule shifts slightly to help students prepare. On Thursday, June 19, we'll run Block A in the morning and Block B in the afternoon. The next day, Friday, June 20, we'll switch to Block C in the morning and Block D in the afternoon. After that, we move into Final Assessment Days, June 23–25. During this time, students only need to attend school if they're writing exams, finishing assessments, or completing any "I" work. The full assessment schedule will be posted online and throughout the school. Families will receive an email once the report cards are ready.

For students who may not have met course expectations, teachers will do their best to reach out before June 26, and counsellors will support course changes for next year. Schedules will be available online soon, and students will have a chance to make changes—with parent's approval—before summer break.

While there are a million things to do in June, it is also time to pause and celebrate. On Monday, June 9, we'll gather for the Athletic Awards Banquet, recognizing the dedication and spirit of our student athletes. Friday, June 13 brings our Year-End Awards Ceremony and Spirit Day—a highlight of the year. Another special event is our Enhancing Student Learning Community Partnership Meeting on Tuesday, June 17 at 4:00 p.m. at the Annex. This is a time to share our school goals and show how we're making a difference. Then, on Tuesday, June 24 at 7:00 p.m., we'll host our Scholarship and Bursary Night in the theatre, followed by the Graduation Ceremony on Wednesday, June 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. Grads, please continue to check TEAMS regularly for the latest updates.

Of course, as the year ends, we also prepare to say goodbye. This year, we are saying goodbye to teachers Darren Cordeiro, who's heading to Kamloops, Gurkirt Janda, who is still finalizing next year's plans, as well as Dave Searcy, who generously came out of retirement to teach some of our senior classes. We are also saying goodbye to Kris Keith (EA moving to OES), Ara Thommasen (EA moving to TEN), Jacob Gideon (EA) and Mason DeLuna (EA). Nick Azak is off to explore other passions, and Megan Edwards has accepted a new position at YL. In her place, Jamie Johnson will be stepping in as our new ICY worker.

Amid the farewells, we also welcome fresh faces: Mercedes Ducharme will join us in Culinary and English, Jared Breneman as a counsellor, and Chelsea Wilson as our new Indigenous Advocate.

This year, a number of long-time staff members are retiring. Earlier in January, we celebrated the retirements of Philomena Lang and Shani Laver. Now we have added a few more names to that list. We're wishing a fond farewell to Sandy Fritz, our longtime Child and Youth Support Worker; Mike Willms, our dedicated counsellor; and Catherine Scott, who taught both English and French. And yes—this time, it includes me, too. Bev Young will take on the role of interim principal as the district works toward a permanent replacement, and they'll keep you updated. We still have a couple of roles to fill, but we're confident in the strong team forming for next year.

And now, if I may take a personal moment: After 27 incredible years at this school—14 of them in administration—it's time for me to begin a new chapter. This place has shaped me more than words can say. I've laughed, learned, and grown alongside students and colleagues who've made this school my home. It might as well be my home since I spend so much time here! I will miss it deeply. But I leave knowing that SOSS is in good hands, and that the team will continue to support each other and all the students, and continue to make great memories.

June always moves quickly—but between the exams, the ceremonies, and the goodbyes, there's so much to celebrate. I am grateful and so proud to have spent my career in such a remarkable place.

With gratitude,
T.Harrington

Southern Okanagan Secondary School
6140 Gala Street
PO Box 990
Oliver, BC V0H 1T0

Phone: 250-498-4931
Fax: 250-498-6957
Website: soss.sd53.bc.ca
Email: soss@sd53.bc.ca

IMPORTANT DATES

JUNE 7	GRAD CAR WASH, 10 AM @ OLIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT
JUNE 9	ATHLETIC AWARDS BANQUET
JUNE 11	SCHOOL-WIDE BRAKFAST
JUNE 13	AWARDS ASSEMBLY
JUNE 13	SPIRIT DAY
JUNE 14	GRAD TRIP TO CULTUS LAKE
JUNE 18	SCHOOL-WIDE LUNCH
JUNE 19-20	IN-CLASS FINAL ASSESSMENTS (LONG BLOCKS)
JUNE 20	LAST DAY OF CLASSES
JUNE 23-25	FINAL ASSESSMENTS
JUNE 24	GRAD SCHOLARSHIP & BURSARY NIGHT, 7PM
JUNE 25	GRAD CEREMONY, 7 PM



ULTIMATE FRISBEE



It was a very successful and spirited season for both the Senior and Junior Ultimate teams at Southern Okanagan Secondary.

The Junior team had a standout year, capturing 1st place at the Valley Championships with strong wins over Seaton Secondary and South Kamloops Secondary. At the Tier 1 BC Provincial Championships, they continued to impress, finishing 7th in the province in a highly competitive field.

The Senior team also had a strong showing, finishing 3rd at Valleys and earning a spot at the BC Provincial Invitational. Competing against some of the top programs in the province, the team showed tremendous heart and finished 15th out of 26 teams.

Both teams represented SOSS with skill, determination, and outstanding spirit throughout the season.



WOMEN IN TRADES



2025-26 Schedules

Schedules for next year will be published next week. Please check student MyEd Portals for the schedules to make sure that you have all blocks full and all of the classes that you need. A Course Change Request Form will be posted on the school website. You will be contacted with the change or questions through Teams.

BUS REGISTRATION FOR NEXT YEAR IS ONLY REQUIRED FOR NEW STUDENTS, OR IF THERE ARE ANY ADDRESS CHANGES. SEE REGISTRATION FORM [HERE](#)



NBI
BASKETBALL

CAMP DAYS JULY 7-10, 2025

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY
SCHOOL

9AM-NOON (ROOKIE CAMP)
1PM - 4PM (PRO CAMP)

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR REGISTRATION FORM

SPIRIT WEEK

JUNE 9: TACKY TOURIST

JUNE 10: TWIN DAY

JUNE 11: COUNTRY/COUNTRY CLUB

JUNE 12: THROWBACK DAY

JUNE 13: TEAM/SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY



**SOSS TRIP TO
FRANCE & ITALY**
For students in grades 9, 10 and 11 this year!

ALL INCLUDED
\$6157
PER PERSON

Paris - Cote d'Azur - Monaco - Eze - Nice
Florence - Rome - Pompeii

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 11 Days and 9 Nights Tour
- Full European Breakfast Daily
- Dinner Daily
- Local Transportation
- Professional Tour Guide & Tips
- Airfare from Kelowna



DEPARTURE: 15 MARCH 2026

TRIP ITINERARY: WWW.EXPLORICA/STOPA-6189

Contact us: Mrs. Goncalves
Mrs. Stopa

rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca
hstopa@sd53.bc.ca

250-488-7195
250-498-7691

SKATEBOARD CLUB

THE SEASON HAS COME TO AN END, SO HERE'S A RE-CAP: WE'VE SEEN TONS OF PROGRESS THIS YEAR. ERIC MISSON, ZACH MARIN AND XAVIER RAPOSO HAVE BEEN LAUNCHING HARD ON THE SCOOTERS. TONS OF BIG SPINS, WHIPS AND SCOOTERY FLIPS WHEREVER WE WENT. DARCY MUNRO SHOWED US WHAT CLEAN KICKFLIPS LOOK LIKE, ODIN FREDLUND HAS SOME OF THE LONGEST MANUALS IN SKATE CLUB HISTORY, AND EDEN MARTINEZ SHOWED NO FEAR AS HE HURLED HIMSELF DOWN GARGANTUAN DROPS AND GAPS. SOPHIE BROADWAY KEPT THE LINES CLEAN AND FLOWY AS SHE CARVED AROUND THE PARK. SILAS FERGUSON, KAIUS ALTROWS, MADDOX LAROSE, AND FELIX LEBREUX PUSHED EACH OTHER TO LEARN NEW TRICKS ON THE FLATGROUND. TEOH RANSINANGUE-NOVAK ABSOLUTELY SLAUGHTERED EVERYTHING, WITH HUGE FRONTSIDE AND BACKSIDE BOARDSLIDES ON THE DOWN RAILS, MASSIVE 50-50 GRINDS DOWN THE PENTICTON LEDGE, FLOWY BOWL LINES, AND A COUPLE OF BIG STAIR GAP OLLIES.

CAN SOMEONE PLEASE FLOW SPONSOR THIS KID ALREADY?

OUR FINAL TRIP WAS JUNE 3RD. WE TRAVELLED TO WEST KELOWNA AND STOPPED AT SKATEPARKS ALONG THE WAY, GETTING RAD AND MAKING MEMORIES. CHECK OUT OUR INSTAGRAM FOR MORE FOOTAGE AND PHOTOS: @SOSSSKATEBOARDCLUB.

IT'S BEEN A BLAST THIS YEAR, DESPITE THE RAIN DELAYS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL AT GO SKATE DAY ON JUNE 21ST AT 12PM AT THE SMALL WHEELS PARK. SPECIAL THANKS TO RESPECT RECORD AND SKATE AND OLIVER PARKS AND RECREATION FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT OF THE SKATEBOARD COMMUNITY, AND TO THE SOSS ADMINISTRATION TEAM AND SD53 FOR BELIEVING IN THE VALUE OF SKATEBOARDING. SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!

Gardom Lake

Thank you to Mr. Baptiste, Mrs. Splane, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Wall, Mr. Willms, and Mr. Adam for chaperoning the Gardom Lake trip. The grade 9 students had a great time kayaking, climbing, completing the high ropes course, zip lining, playing laser tag and playing Mission Impossible in the dark. It was a wonderful three days of bonding and team building. Thank you to everyone who participated and everyone who supported students to make this trip possible.



GRAD INFORMATION

Grad fees are now overdue, please pay Mrs. Wilkie in the accounting office or one line asap.

GRAD TRIP CULTUS LAKE ADVENTURE PARK

Saturday, June 14

Arrive at SOSS @ 5:30am

Back to SOSS by @ 8:30pm

Permission forms ready to be signed. Paper forms in the office

SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY NIGHT

Tuesday, June 24 @ 7:00pm, Venables Theatre

CAP & GOWN CEREMONY

Wednesday, June 25 @ 7:00pm

Grad Tickets are available for pick-up in the Library

Class Of
2025

Soss Grad Car Wash Fundraiser

Get Your Car Sparkling Clean & Support Our Grads!

When & Where!
Saturday, June 7th
10am-2pm

Location: Hosted by Oliver Fire Hall, by donation
All proceeds go toward Grad 2025 celebrations!



INDIGENOUS GARDEN

THIS PAST WEEK, THE INDIGENOUS GARDEN GROUP, ALONG WITH MR. WURFLINGER'S ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 11/12 CLASS MADE THE LONG DRIVE UP TO THE KALAMALKA CAMPUS OF OKANAGAN COLLEGE IN VERNON. SOSS STAFF AND STUDENTS WERE TREATED TO A WONDERFUL TOUR OF THE K'NMAŁKA? SƏNQĀLTƏN GARDEN; ATTENDEES WERE ABLE TO SEE WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR THE PLANTS THAT THEY HAVE TAKEN PART IN BRINGING TO OUR SOSS INDIGENOUS GARDEN, LOCATED IN THE U. THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN A LABOUR OF LOVE FOR ALL INVOLVED AT THE SCHOOL, PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK IT OUT IF YOU CAN!





2025

SOSS ENRICHMENT FUND TOURNAMENT

**SATURDAY AUGUST 9TH 2:00PM
SHOTGUN START**

- Teams of 6 players, 3 female and 3 male per team
- Scramble Format
- Ball Draw, 50/50 Draw, Parimutuel Betting, Live Auction

Entry:

FMGC Members: \$150

Guests: \$200

To register a team and for more information visit

www.sossenrichmentfundsociety.com or email

sossenrichmentfundsociety@gmail.com. or call Susan at 250-498-9407