

# BARRIERE SECONDARY COUGAR NEWS



## What's Happening This Week

MONDAY, September 22

- Pro-D Day (No school for students)

TUESDAY, September 23

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WEDNESDAY, September 24

- Course Change Deadline

THURSDAY, September 25

- Terry Fox Run

FRIDAY, September 26

Monday, September 29 Wear your orange shirts

## Upcoming Dates

- September 22 Pro-D Day (No school for students)
- September 25 Terry Fox Run
- September 29 Orange Shirt Day
- September 29 District Day of Truth and Reconciliation
- September 30 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (School Closed)
- October 3 Photo Day
- October 6 BSS PAC in the BSS library at 5:30 pm
- October 13 Thanksgiving Day (School Closed)

*September 22 – September 26*

New Moon, September 21

Tenth Moon

Pesqelqlélten  
many salmon month

**Secwepemcúl'ecw yi7élye ell,  
re tmicws re Simpcw n7élye.**

**Acknowledge that we are on  
the territory of the  
Secwepemc Nation,  
specifically the territory of the  
Simpcw People.**

## Cafeteria Menu

Monday

- Pro-D Day (No School for Students)

Tuesday

- Crepes

Wednesday

- Chicken Ceaser Wrap or Butter Chicken and rice w/ Pita

Thursday

- Bacon Potato Soup w/ Bun or Quesadilla w/ Spanish Rice

Friday

- Grilled Ham& Cheese w/ Veg or Spaghetti w/ Garlic Toast

## Staff Profile: Meet Mr. Owen Powers

My name is Owen Powers and I'm excited to be teaching Science, French, and our Environmental Science Mosaic this year. I grew up in Williams Lake and am looking forward to now teaching in a familiar rural setting, especially in a community as wonderful as Barriere Secondary.



I'm passionate about helping students find their inspirations and build meaningful connections to their futures—whether that's in school or in the real world. My focus is on making learning applicable and hands-on whenever possible, because I believe students learn best when they're having fun, building fundamental skills, and exploring subjects in creative and interactive ways. You'll often find my classes filled with inquiry, activities, and project-based learning.

Outside of school, I enjoy playing sports— especially disc golf and hockey —as well as songwriting, playing music, and board games. I'm looking forward to bringing some of those passions into school life through extracurricular opportunities and also to a fantastic year ahead!

## BSS Personal Device Policy

Please speak with your child prior to them coming on Tuesday about the [BSS Digital Device Usage Policy](#). While the official language is below, what it means is that personal devices, such as cell phones are not to be used during class time. Phones must be stored in their lockers during class time.

At Barriere Secondary School we believe that the foundations of a safe, caring, and welcoming school environment are fostered and maintained through a focus on inclusivity and equity-focused education implemented and supported through a progressive continuum of supports.

## Cafeteria

The cafeteria will be open on Thursday, September 4. Cash is accepted or you may purchase your child(ren) lunch cards through the [SchoolCash](#) Online system.

## Breakfast Program

The **Free** Breakfast Program has started. For those new to BSS, every weekday from 8:00 am – 8:25 am all students can enjoy a free breakfast.

## **Course Change Requests**

If a course change is needed for Graduation or Post-Secondary requirements, or due to incorrect course assignment, please request an appointment. Continue attending your original classes until you have completed the processes the change.

## **Lost and Found Items**

If students have misplaced clothing or personal items they will be placed on the table at the entrance to the school where students and families can collect the items. If you happen to be in the school, please have a look. Unfortunately, we do not have space to store these items for long periods of time. We will periodically be packaging unclaimed items and donating them to charity.

## **Loran Scholars**

Please see Ms. Domingo if you are interested in applying. Deadline is Oct. 16th. You can find all the information you need to apply at [loranscholar.ca](http://loranscholar.ca).

### [Homepage - Loran Scholars](http://loranscholar.ca)

Loran builds meaningful, positive change across Canada and beyond by empowering young people with curiosity, integrity, and the dedication to uplift their communities. We believe that identifying such promising young people means looking beyond grades to find students with character—those who show courage by pushing boundaries and challenging the status quo; display a commitment to service ...loranscholar.ca

## **FEES and SchoolCash**

Grade 7 / 8 School fees will be available online today; all other student's fees will be posted soon.

Starting September 2025 individual student fees (enhancement fees for field trips and athletics for example) will include a processing fee for all payment transactions using online payment options. This processing fee, which was approved by the Board after the budget consultation process last spring, represents actual costs the Board incurs for using online fee payment services. Cash and cheque payments will not incur this processing fee. We recognize that fee increases can be challenging for families. School District 73 is committed to ensuring that no student is excluded from an educational program or activity or extracurricular activity because of financial need as outlined in the District's Administrative Procedure 506: Student Financial Assistance.

**\*Barriere Secondary School - Schedule of School Fees 2025-2026\***

**School Fee invoices are distributed to students  
September 2025 for Semester 1 and February 2026 for Semester 2**

Please note that paying online has a processing fee (on average 5%) incorporated in the cost to be paid online, which was approved by the Board after the budget consultation process last spring. These represent true transaction fees charged by the District's processing platform.

**Payments made to the school by cash or cheque should be submitted at the lower amount specified below.**  
**Kindly ensure payments are made in the exact amount, as no change can be provided.**

**STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE - \$10.75 online / \$10.00 cash or cheque**

Charged to ALL students for supplies to support general school activities over the school year.

**LOCK RENTAL - \$6.50 online / \$6.00 cash or cheque**

Charged to ALL students. Students will be assigned a lock by the school at the beginning of the year and will be expected to return the lock at the end of each year until they leave the school. Students are required to use the lock provided by the school.

**GRAD FEES - \$89.00 online / \$85.00 cash or cheque**

Charged to Grade 12 graduating students includes: Lifetouch grad photo sitting fee, grad gown rental, souvenir hat & tassel, souvenir grad photo composite in folder and other grad incidentals.

**YEARBOOK-OPTIONAL FEE - \$42.00 online / \$40.00 cash or cheque**

Optional fee to pre-order the school yearbook and keep those GREAT school memories!

**FEE SCHEDULE FOR COURSE ENHANCEMENTS**

The following Fee Schedule represents maximum amounts that would be charged in each of the classes. The items listed are descriptions of consumables for courses, with more specific details to be given within the course outline from the classroom teacher.

<b>Mosaic</b>	online	Cash Cheque	<b>Technology Education</b>	online	Cash Cheque
<b>Mosaic 7 and 8</b> Supplies for ADST (Applied Design, Skills and Technology) activities including wood, art supplies and groceries	\$31.50	\$30	<b>Art Metal 10-12</b> Metal, casting, supplies, gas, solvents, fasteners, welding/brazing consumables, abrasives and jewelry supplies	\$47.25	\$45
<b>Visual Arts</b>			<b>Metalwork 9-12</b> Metal stock, sheet metal, gasses, solvents, fasteners, welding/brazing consumables, abrasives, and hearing protection	\$47.25	\$45
<b>Art Studio 9</b>	\$26.25	\$25	<b>Woodwork 9-12</b> Wood, adhesives, fasteners, abrasives, blades, finishing products, and other consumables	\$42	\$40
<b>Art Studio 10-12</b>	\$26.25	\$25	<b>Skills Exploration 10-12</b> Building materials: lumber, plywood, fasteners, electrical supplies, and plumbing supplies	\$52.50	\$50
<b>Photography 11</b>	\$36.75	\$35	<b>Information Technology 9-12</b>	10.75	\$10
<b>Media Design</b>	\$21.25	\$20	<b>Entrepreneurship and Marketing</b>	\$5.50	\$5
<b>Media Arts</b>	\$10.75	\$10	<b>Fitness and Conditioning 11-12</b>	\$47.25	\$45
<b>Home Economics</b>			<b>Human Performance 9-12</b>	\$31.25	\$30
<b>Food Studies 9-12</b> Groceries and supplies for labs	\$52.50	\$50.00			
<b>Textiles 8/9</b> For materials and associated costs	\$31.50	\$30.00			
<b>Textiles 10-12</b>	\$31.50	\$30.00			

**Leaving Early or Reporting Absences**

Under "Safe Arrival": Did you know there is a safe arrival app? This makes reporting absences that much easier! You can find more information [HERE](#).

A reminder to parents that ALL absences/ lates /early dismissals should be recorded on our Safe Arrival system prior to 8:30 am on the day of the absence/ late / dismissal (you can also report absences in advance, if they are known). Please review [THIS](#) link for more information and instructions.

**BSS Bell Schedule for the 2025/2026 School Year**

The [bell schedule](#) for the 2025/2026 school year will be changed slightly from this year. The start end times for the day will remain the same but there will now be two blocks before lunch and two after lunch. This change will allow for lunch to take place earlier in the day, hopefully helping to ensure students have better access to food throughout the day.

TIME	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
8:25 A.M.	Warning Bell		
8:30 - 9:48	A	C	D
9:48 - 10:04	16 Min LONG BREAK		
10:04 - 11:22	B	B	B
11:22 - 12:19 (warning 12:14)	LUNCH		
12:19 - 1:37	C	D	A
1:37 - 1:43	BREAK		
1:43 - 3:01	D	A	C
3:01	DISMISSAL		



# Barriere Secondary School Learning Goals 2025-2026



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Engagement Foster student connection and care by engaging all educational community members.

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Mental Health Create a school environment that supports positive mental health.

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Culture Foster a safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive school culture.

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For more information please check out the Barriere Secondary School Learning Plan at the following [LINK](#).

# VIRTUAL *Information Night*

FOR  
INDIGENOUS  
STUDENTS

Encourage your students to join us for our Virtual Information Night for Indigenous Students!

 **Date: Wednesday, October 1**

 **Time: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

 **Location: Online via Zoom (registration required to receive the link)**

This event is designed for prospective Indigenous students, offering valuable insights into both the University of Regina and First Nations University of Canada.

Here's what's happening:

- 6:00 P.M. – Welcome
- 6:15 P.M. – U of R & First Nations University of Canada Presentations
- 7:00 P.M. – Student Supports & Services Presentation
- 7:15 P.M. – Live Q&A Session

 **Special Offer: Apply for FREE!**

Indigenous students who apply to the University of Regina or First Nations University of Canada during the month of October will have their application fee waived (applicants will need to self-declare on the application form).

Please share with your students!

[Registration Info](#)

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**September 23, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

**Talking with Teens About Substance Use**

*Presented by Angela Lawrence, District Substance Misuse Counsellor.*

Research shows that quick, non-judgemental, and direct conversations with youth about substance use can have a dramatic effect on their health. This workshop will offer parents of pre-teens and teens strategies to help increase connection and trust and thus the likelihood that their teen will listen to important health information. In addition to key communication skills, parents will learn about the developmental changes taking place in adolescence and why moving from “parenting” to “coaching” may be the most effective way to talk with their teen about drugs.

This workshop will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. If you are interested in attending, please register in advance [here](#). Following your registration, you will receive the link to the meeting.

**TRY HOCKEY DAY**



**BARBECUE PARTY**

**• FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 •**

**Are you a youth interested in trying out hockey? We have gear to use - come join us for an afternoon of fun!**

**NORTH THOMPSON SPORTSPLEX  
CLEARWATER, BC**

**3:15pm FREE beginners ice time  
3:30pm onwards ball hockey & games  
5:00pm BBQ & raffle prizes**

**FOOD • GAMES • RAFFLE**

## **Admin Message**

Dear Barriere Secondary School Community,

We had our first BSS PAC meeting this week. It was a well attended gathering. If you are interested in joining, we would be happy to share information or check out the school's website for a link to the BSS PAC page or join the BSS PAC Facebook group. The next PAC meeting will take place on October 6, at 5:30 pm. Planning for BSS grad 2026 has started. Thank you to all of the families for their dedication to making the event a success.

Have a wonderful weekend. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

Andres Ruberg  
Vice-Principal

Derek Markides  
Principal