



École Intermédiaire Shuswap Middle School

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October 6, 2026

Hello Shuswap Middle School Students and Families!

We've had a great start to the year. We are right where we thought we would be in terms of numbers: 460 students. We welcomed Mr. Poirier to our school in the second week, as we got another division for students. This year is the final year of SMS and we are making the most of it. Classes have been busy learning, participating in field trips, and getting the year off to a good start. The process for transitioning into a K-7 French Immersion school is starting as we have lots of planning to do before next year! You might notice that I (Ms. Edgell) am away a number of days between now and the end of November. On those days I will be working hard on reconfiguration and ensuring that the transition is as smooth as possible. When I'm away, Mrs. Denise Moore will be here supporting SMS. Ms. Moore is a retired, extremely skilled principal, who was principal of Len Wood Middle School in Armstrong prior to her retirement.

Yours truly,

Ms. Edgell, Principal
Mrs. Leroux, Vice Principal

What did we do on the last pro D day?

On the September 21, 2026 pro D day all teachers were hard at work. The majority of us were at SMS for the day, while a few ventured out to workshops around the district and province. Those of us at SMS worked on either literacy or numeracy and then brushed up on teaching volleyball skills. The group that worked on literacy dove deeply into our school goal for this year, which is to have writers develop a stronger sense of "voice" in their writing. Voice refers to making writing unique and reflect the personality or perspective of the writer through choice of words, sentence structure, tone and rhythm of writing. The group that focused on numeracy spent the morning using "Clothesline" math to deepen understanding of percentage and also solving equations. Clothesline math uses open numberlines to build strong understandings- and is also a lot of fun!

Student/Teacher/Parent Conference day October 26, 2026

As we have done for the past few years, we will have Parent/Teacher/Student conference day on October 26. On this day, students do not attend school except for the time that you book for conferences with the teacher. The conferences are meant to provide an early in the year look at how things are going for your child and give a chance for the home/school team to set some goals for helping your child move forward in their learning. While Monday October 26, 2026 is a non-instructional day to accommodate these conferences, teachers have also opened up some times on other days that week. **Please watch for an email coming later this week with the link to book your appointment times.** We look forward to seeing everyone!

Sports News

Volleyball is underway with many students participating. We have approximately 30 Grade 8 volleyball players and about 50 grade 7 players. The grade 8 season is well underway with games and tournaments already happening. The grade 7 season is just getting started. None of this would be possible without the support of the coaches: Mme. Welch, Mme. Wocknitz. Mme Mackay, Ms. Muller, Mrs. Deschamps and parent Sean Scott.

We also have our Grade 8 swim team up and running with coach Mrs. Bushell. Thanks to the coaches and parents for supporting such great opportunities for kids.

Celebrations

This month I would like to recognize the grade 8 students. As a group, they are doing a really great job of setting a nice tone through their behaviour, effort in class, and respectful interactions. This leadership is seen and appreciated. Way to go grade 8's!

Things to note

This is just a reminder that student drop-off is only in the lower dirt parking lot or across the street in the Field of Dreams parking lot. Please do not drive up and through the loop in the top parking lot.

This is a narrow and busy location as it is, and we also have two buses that need access to the top lot to drop off students. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping everyone safe.



Parent Advisory Council

The first meeting of the year was held on Sept 21, 2026 and unfortunately, we were not able to elect a full executive as there weren't enough people willing to take a role. We will try again on October 28 at 6:30 pm, but as it stands right now, we don't have an official PAC which means we will not be able to access the gaming grant. This would be a loss of over \$12 000 of support for students! Please consider coming out and taking part in PAC. It doesn't have to be a huge time commitment, especially if enough people step up, but it sure makes a huge difference for kids.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks can be purchased online at <https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09706728>

The price is \$45 and will be the final yearbook in the history of SMS!



October 12	Thanksgiving: No school
October 15	Earthquake drill: Great Canadian Shakeout
October 20	Photo Retake day
October 23	Provincial Pro D Day: no school for students
October 26	Parent/Student/Teacher conference day: no school for students other than appointments for conferences
October 27	Fire drill #3
October 28	PAC 6:30 pm
October 30	Halloween: Reminder- costumes must be appropriate for school with no weapons or replica weapons 😊