

WELCOME TO JOHN BARSBY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Home of the Bulldogs



Grade 8 Information

2018 - 2019

<http://jb.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>



SO.....

You're coming to Secondary School

A little about John Barsby Community...

John Barsby Community School is looking forward to working with you and your family during your high school years. The John Barsby grade 8 program offers a variety of programs that provide students an opportunity to explore different electives and skills before their senior grades. John Barsby also offers a number of extra-curricular activities such as athletics, fine arts, clubs and groups and enables students to network and connect with the community and beyond. As you move through your high school years, you will experience different skills, talents and passions that will carry you onto your future goals in your post-secondary lives.

The staff and the administration of John Barsby believe in providing students with experiences that are relevant, challenging, inspiring and personalized. Our vision is to help students become confident, flexible individuals able to meet the challenges of the future. We offer students a wide range of learning opportunities in an attractive, supportive and secure environment. The school is committed to learner-focused instruction and strives to give students the support they need to achieve academically and to explore their own personal development.



ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. D. Marshall, Principal
Mrs. Girard, Vice-Principal
Mr. Hasenauer, Vice-Principal

COUNSELLORS

Mrs. Natalie Sorensen
Ms. H. Kuntz

Where do I go on the first day of school?

On the first day of school, all grade 8 students report to the gym area where you will be grouped into your homeroom classes. From there, you will go with your homeroom teacher to the classroom. You will be given your schedule of classes, your locker number and information about lockers, locks, school fees, etc.... You will also have an opportunity to go to each of your classes and meet your teachers.

When is the school open?

John Barsby office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The school is often open evenings for community and sport activities.

Where do I keep my things?

In September, you will need two (2) combination locks. One lock will be for your personal/textbook locker (assigned in home room) and the other should be used as a day lock to secure your clothing and items in the physical education change room during your physical education class. **ALWAYS** lock up your things and **NEVER** leave valuables in your locker. The school cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items. Keep your combination a secret and your valuables at home.

What does the Grade 8 course schedule look like?

Grade 8 students will attend four classes, or blocks, per day. Classes are scheduled on a rotational basis, meaning each day of the week begins with a different class. (see schedule on page 4.)

What courses will I take next year?

All students are required to take 8 courses each year.



- English 8
- Social Studies 8
- Mathematics 8
- Science 8
- Physical Education 8
- French 8 or Hul'qumi'num 8
- Electives 8 may include Health and Career Education 8, Foods 8, Textiles 8, Computer Skills 8, Cultural Studies 8, Survival Skills 8, Woodwork 8, Drama 8 and Art 8.
- Band 8 – if you select Band, it will replace one rotation of the electives in one semester

What kind of school supplies do I need?

You will need the basic supplies like pens, pencils and lined note paper. Most students use 3 ring binders that have a zipper closure for notes and assignments. Your subject teachers will let you know if you need any additional supplies.

How is secondary school different from elementary?

1. Barsby operates on a semester system.
2. Each class is approximately 80 minutes long.
3. You will likely have a different teacher for every course.
4. You will have to move to different classrooms for each subject.

What is a semester system?

The school year is divided into two halves. Students take half (4) of their courses from September to January and the other half from February to June. For example, if you are assigned to Science 8 in September, you will have Science every day until the end of January when you will write your final exam. Then, there will be no more Science until you are in Grade 9. A typical grade 8 schedule looks something like this:

Semester 1 (September to January)

<u>Block</u>	<u>Course</u>
A	Science 8
B	P.E. 8
C	Electives 8a
D	Social Studies 8

Semester 2 (February to June)

<u>Block</u>	<u>Course</u>
A	Mathematics 8
B	French 8
C	Electives 8b
D	English 8

You may not know what your schedule looks like until you arrive at school in September.

Bell Schedule: What time does school start?

The warning bell rings at 8:25 a.m. You must move to your classroom and be prepared to work at this time. A final bell rings at 8:30 to indicate the start of class. You will have a 6 minute break between your 2 morning classes and between your 2 afternoon classes.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 1, 2, 3 or 4
8:25	Warning Bell				
8:30	A.M. School Starts				
	69 min. A 8:30 – 9:39	84 min. C 8:30 – 9:34	84 min. B 8:30 – 9:34	84 min. D 8:30 – 9:34	69 min. 1st Block 8:30 – 9:39
	70 min. B 9:45 – 10:55	85 min. D 10:00 – 11:25	85 min. A 10:00 – 11:25	85 min. C 10:00 – 11:25	70 min. 2nd Block 9:45 – 10:55
LUNCH	10:55 – 11:35	11:25 – 12:05			10:55 – 11:35
Warning	11:30 Warning Bell	12:00 Warning Bell			11:30 Warning Bell
	PM School Starts 11:35	12:05 PM School Starts			PM. School Starts 11:35
	70 min. C 11:35 – 12:45	85 min. A 12:05 – 1:30	85 min. D 12:05 – 1:30	85 min. B 12:05 – 1:30	70 min. 3rd Block 11:35 – 12:45
	69 min. D 12:51 – 2:00	84 min. B 1:36 – 3:00	84 min. C 1:36 – 3:00	84 min. A 1:36 – 3:00	69 min. 4th Block 12:51 – 2:00
	45 min. PLC 2:15 – 3:00				

What if I am late or absent?

If you are absent from school, you must bring a note from your parent or guardian and show it to each of your teachers on the following day when you return. Upon returning from your absence, it is your responsibility to check with each teacher to find out what has been missed and then complete the work.

Lates

- If you are late for school, report to the office before going to class.
- If you are late between classes, you may be required by your subject teacher to make up the missed time at lunch or after school.
- If you miss a class without permission, you will be required to make up the time and missed work with your subject teacher or administration.

Attendance

- Teachers take attendance in every class every day.
- Attendance is recorded and displayed on your report cards.
- The computerized attendance tracking system will phone your home if you have an unexcused absence. Remind parents to phone in when you are ill or absent for an appointment.
- We need to contact a parent/guardian before you sign out and leave the building.
- Please “sign in” with the office secretary, upon your return to school from an appointment during the day, or if you are late getting to school.

How can I get some extra help if I need it?

Extra help is available from your teachers, as well as “study hall” that is offered after school for academics.

Where do I find out what is going on?

Over the announcements daily information is shared at the beginning of the second period. There are always many posters advertising upcoming events. The monthly calendar, as well as other school information, may be found on the school district website. <http://jb.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>

Are there a lot of school rules to follow?

Our school does not have a lot of rules, but respect for one another within our school community is the foundation of our expectations.

- Attend all classes – be prepared to work and be on time.
- Work diligently and put forth your best effort.
- Obey the provisions for safety for yourself and others both in classrooms and other areas inside and outside of the school.
- Respect others and the property of others.
- Use courteous and appropriate language at all times.
- Follow the rules of the dress code.
- Be orderly on busses and in the bus loading area.
- Possession, consumption or being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol while at school or at any school function will not be tolerated.
- No smoking.

**Try Your Best
Do the Right Thing
Get Better Each Day**

Use of Personal Electronic Devices

1. During instructional time, students are not to use any personal electronic device unless deemed for educational purposes by the instructor of the class.
2. Inappropriate use of technology within the building includes, but is not limited to:
 - o Loud music
 - o Texting and phone calls during class time
 - o Recording of images, sound or video without explicit permission (classroom, hallways).
 - o Sharing or transferring of others' personal information through social networking.
3. John Barsby reserves the right to extend the school code of conduct policy on personal technology for the purposes of maintaining safety of students and staff.

The Student Code of Conduct is in the front of the John Barsby agenda planner that all grade 8 students will receive the first week of school.

Technology at John Barsby

Using Computers

Once you are a student at John Barsby and once your parent/guardian signs the Computer/Internet Permission form (receive in September), you will get a username and password (DO NOT share this information with your peers). After, you can use school computers to do school work.

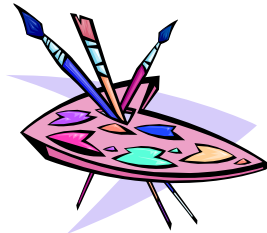
GAFE

GAFE stands for *Goggle Apps For Education*. Many teachers will be using GAFE in their classrooms for online activities to support the curriculum. See the form you got TODAY 😊

So, what else is offered at John Barsby?

Lots and lots of student activities: Get involved, have fun, and make new friends. Here is just a sample:

Student council
Band
Social Justice
Theatre
Bike Club
Homework Support
Lunch Activities
Intramurals
QSA
Environmental Club
Art Club



Volleyball
Football
Wrestling
Basketball
Golf
Scorekeepers
Soccer
Weight Room Club
Rugby



Listen to the announcements and get involved.

Food Services

Students may eat their lunches in the Cafeteria/Multipurpose Room where there are tables set up for students to sit and eat their lunch. The Cafeteria program will begin serving food the second week of school. The Cafeteria program offers a selection of healthy lunch entrees every day. The Barsby cafe is open a half hour before school starts every morning – offering a great start to your day. It also offers lunch for those who might have forgotten their lunch. Please be sure to use the garbage cans and recycle bins to help keep the school clean.

Learning Commons (Library)

The Learning Commons is open for student use a half hour before and after school each day. Students can use the Learning Commons for research, reading or quiet study. There are computer terminals available for use for school activities.

What happens after Grade 8?

Before advancing to grade 9 courses, you must pass your grade 8 courses.

In grades 9 and 10 all students must take the following foundation subjects: English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Physical and Health Education and Career Education. Electives make up the rest of your program, and there is a great variety to choose from: Drama, Technology, Foods, Textiles, Computers, Music, and Art to name just a few. Counsellors usually meet with students in early spring to discuss course choices.

In order to graduate, you must earn a minimum of 80 credits of course work in grades 10, 11 and 12. Although you need to continue to take courses like English, Social Studies, Science and Math, you will be given a lot of free choice in determining your senior courses. It is never too early to be thinking about what you want to do when you finish school as this will help you decide what courses to take as you move toward graduation. You and your parents will learn more about graduation requirements over the next few years.

Who can help me at John Barsby?

Counselling

Counselling Services at John Barsby Community are designed as a support service for students and also as an advisory service and resource for teachers and parents. School counsellors provide the following services:

- assistance with program planning and course selection;
- information on post-secondary training and scholarships;
- information on student exchanges;
- assistance with study skills, time management, and tutoring;
- assistance with career planning;
- personal counseling to deal with social and emotional problems;
- liaison with special programs in the school;
- small group counseling based on common identified needs;

Students, parents, and teachers may contact a counsellor directly, or by appointment through the school office.

Youth, Child and Family Support Workers

These staff members are a valuable resource to our school and are responsible for:

- providing support, guidance and counseling services to our students;
- providing liaison between students, parents, teachers/staff and the community.

Classroom Teachers – these are the people who will see you the most and may know you the best, but they may also teach 100 or more students each semester. They cannot necessarily know when you need help, when something is going on in your life or when you are having difficulties for any reason. **It is very important to communicate with your teachers and to ask for help when you need it.** Most teachers are happy to arrange before or after school hours for extra help if you need it.

Principal – The Principal is responsible for the overall operation of the school, including the supervision of all staff members working at John Barsby, student learning and instruction in the classrooms and student safety and behaviour.

Vice Principals – John Barsby has two Vice Principals. The primary job of the Vice Principals is the management of student programs and student behaviour. The Vice Principals ensure that students behave in a manner that is suitable to the high school community, and work closely with teachers and parents to have students successfully complete the high school experience in a positive way.

Secretaries – can help you with signing in late or signing out early, making appointments with administrators or other problems.

Educational Assistants – The Educational Assistants perform duties that are instructional in nature, They also provide assistance to support teachers, meet the needs of specific students and/or school programs.

Peer Tutors – are grade 10, 11 and 12 students who might be in your class helping your teacher and the students within the class.

GRADE 8 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



English 8

English 8 introduces the student to the Secondary English Curriculum. Students will be expected to demonstrate communication skills through writing, speaking and listening. The focus of the writing component will be the paragraph. Each student will be asked to read several novels, short stories and poems.

Social Studies 8

The four major content areas incorporate geographic skills, current events discussion, and a history-humanities style integration. The underlying humanities theme is that distinctive cultures develop in response to a variety of influences. Topics covered include the following: The Middle Ages, Asian Cultures, The Renaissance and Reformation, Exploration and Conquest. Methods of instruction are drawn from geography, history and the humanities. Specifically: mapping, graphing, writing structures, summarizing, library/media centre research and critical thinking.

Mathematics 8

The Math 8 course consists of five major strands: number operations, probability and data analysis, algebra, geometry and measurement. Students are expected to use a calculator to assist them with their calculations for most topics in this course.

Science 8

This course is an introduction to the skills and knowledge of the Scientific Method. Students will learn the tools, procedures, and basic skills of scientific investigation. Students work in pairs in laboratory situations, and learn to write a formal lab report. As well, projects and reports of different formats are assigned, and students have the opportunity to do some simple basic research.

Areas of study include: Cells and Systems, Optics, Fluids and Dynamics, and Water Systems on Earth.

Physical and Health Education 8

PE 8 reviews and refines all the basic movement skills developed during elementary grades. The course seeks to present all students with a wide variety of activities in individual, dual and team sports, as time and facilities allow. Underlying themes of physical fitness, health, and sportsmanship are developed in the various sports. Activities for Grade 8 PHE students may include: Basketball, Volleyball, Track and Field, Active Health, Gymnastics, Rugby, Soccer, Badminton, Dance, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Fitness Training, Orienteering, Minor Games and Rhythmics.

Materials: *PE strip*

French 8

This is an introductory course which develops communication skills and cultural awareness. Learn basic communication skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Experience the fascinating language and culture of French speaking countries and regions through a variety of real-life themes, cultural activities and projects. Did you know that French is one of the official languages in 33 countries in the world?

Hul'qumi'num 8

The aim of this First Nation language course is to develop some basic comprehension of the Hul'qumi'num Salish language and culture. It is expected that students will acquire basic communication skills in the Hul'qumi'num language, develop cultural sensitivity, and acquire additional concepts about language and culture. All students are encouraged to enroll in this West Coast language course.

Band 8

Students will learn to read music and play an instrument as part of a band. Band 8 involves the development of producing good sounds, learning proper technique on their chosen instrument and continuing to progress in their music reading skills. It also involves basic music theory. Students will be involved in several performances throughout the year. Students will play a variety of music including movie and television themes, video game music, traditional and jazz. You will have band for one semester only.

Electives 8

This rotational course is a series of mini courses which offer students a glimpse of some of our elective offerings. **If you choose Band, you will have one semester with band for the entire semester. If you don't selection band, you will have two semesters of mini courses.** Each year, the rotation may include some or all of the following options:

Health and Career

The main objective of the Health and Career Education mini rotation is to explore possible career options and look at healthy living. Students will identify personal attributes and how to turn them into potential career options. The healthy living section explores healthy relationships, healthy sexual decision making, addictions and substance misuse prevention.

Foods

This portion of the course introduces students to basic food preparation. Topics covered include nutrition, safety and sanitation.

Woodwork

During the woodworking portion of the rotation, students will be introduced to drafting and woodworking.

Computer Skills

This section of Life skills 8 is designed to prepare students with the skills needed to use John

Barsby's computer network. Students will practice touch typing technique (25 min. per day) and develop internet research skills. Students will have an opportunity to develop desktop publishing skills (using MS Publisher, Word, and Powerpoint in particular). They will also receive training in file management, including how to transfer files.

Textiles

In this introductory course students will enjoy learning how to sew and the safe use of tools and equipment needed to produce textile items such as a draw string bag, stuffed frog, and a duct tape wallet.

Drama

The Drama 8 segment of the Fine Arts rotation is an energetic introduction to the magic of theatre. We will learn the basics of working together as we learn to produce tableaux for performance and introduce the excitement of improv. Participation in this course can lead into regular Drama 9, or serve as an introduction to Bulldog Theatre.

Art

This fast-paced art course focuses on skill building in drawing, painting and a ceramic project.

Student Safety Awareness Education

We take safety seriously at John Barsby and as part of our safety program we offer safety awareness training for our grade 8 students as part of our life skills rotation. This class helps students to understand about personal safety both at school and at home. Topics include what to do in the event of a fire, an earthquake or a medical emergency as well as how to prepare for events such as severe storms or power outages. Students will gain an understanding about how to recognize hazards, plan for emergencies and how to stay safe during unusual events.

INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT SUPPORT

Most students entering secondary school enrol in the regular academic program. However, there is an ability to adjust course work, depending on the needs of the students. Grade 7 teachers may refer students to specific programs more suited to their academic needs. Some adjustment possibilities:

Learning Centre

Learning Support is available to assist students who are experiencing difficulty in specific subjects or who require remediation in specific skill areas. Reading, composition, mathematics and study/organizational skills are the areas in which students most frequently need support. Students blocked into the Learning centre for assistance will have to give up one course in their grade 8 schedule (usually French 8). Students receiving a block of assistance are usually referred by their grade 7 teachers, counsellor, learning assistance teacher.

Linear English/Social Studies

This integrated English/SS course will provide reading, comprehension and writing strategies to improve student learning. The focus is on teaching the students strategies to access text, to zero in on main ideas, to put ideas into their own words and to write organized, detailed paragraphs that use information from the text as evidence to support ideas. Students who require adaptations, time and support to meet grade level outcomes will be recommended/referred by grade 7 teacher.

Linear Math/Science

This integrated Math/Science course is designed for those students who require more time and repetition to be successful in Math. The course covers Math 8 essential learning outcomes while incorporating a review of grade 7 Math. The course also focuses on core Science learning outcomes. The two courses are combined in order to give context and meaning to the curriculum. Students will have one teacher everyday all year. Students who require adaptations, time and support to meet grade level outcomes will be recommended/referred by grade 7 teacher.

LEAP – Learning Essentials Academic Program

LEAP is for students on a modified curriculum who will be on a School Completion certificate (Evergreen). It is an individualized program that builds upon the strengths of the student with the academics adjusted to the individual student's cognitive level. The academic focus is on functional Mathematics and English skills to prepare the student to be as independent as possible as an adult. LEAP also enriches the academics with activities such as cooking, shopping, outdoor games and social skills training.

Skills for Life Program

The Skills for Life Program accommodates students with profound learning challenges and/or those who may be physically challenged. Individual Education Plans are developed for each student. The major emphasis of this program is on life skills such as personal care, home living, reading/writing of essential words, and basic skill in money management. Inclusion in regular classes is an important feature of the student's program. Graduates from this program receive a School Completion Certificate (Evergreen). Referral to the Skills for Life Program is made through the Elementary School Based Team. The Special Program Referral and Placement form is sent to the Coordinator of Low Incidence Programs.

English Language Learners

ELL is to support students whose first language is not English. The purpose is to provide opportunities to learn oral and written English so they can participate in the regular school program. There are multiple opportunities for students to adapt to and function more successfully in the culture of the school and community. The program is based on collaborative efforts between assessment results and teachers, which will help design and plan an appropriate placement within the school program.

Aboriginal Education

At John Barsby, enhancement opportunities for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students are offered through the following services:

Academic Support by:

- Aboriginal Education Teacher
- Aboriginal Education Assistant
- Aboriginal Education Tutor

Cultural Appreciation through:

- Classroom Activities
- School Activities
- Community Activities
- Leadership Opportunities

Individual Development supported by:

- School Counsellor
- School Based Team
- Aboriginal Personnel

John Barsby
THE PASSPORT TO YOUR FUTURE

