

SCHOOL: John Barsby Secondary

YEAR: 2024-2025

PRINCIPAL: Stephen Epp



OUR SCHOOL

John Barsby Community Secondary is situated on the traditional and unceded territory of the Snuneymuxw Nation. We are part of a neighborhood with long time residents and have strong ties and good commitment from community partners to support our students. As part of our space and place, the school is centrally located in the Harewood community and is in close proximity to the Chase River, Colliery Dam and Vancouver Island University.

The socio-economic diversity of our families is becoming as wide as the diversity of the students in our classrooms. Many of our students access our Food Mob through Loaves and Fishes, and our breakfast and lunch food equity program.

Of our 820 students; nearly 250 of our students identify as First Nations, Inuit or Metis. Approximately 45 International students visit us from a variety of countries around the world, some staying for a year and others staying to graduate. We also include a growing population of immigrants and refugees from Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine and other countries, in our student body.

OUR SCHOOL GOALS

Student Success

Increase literacy success rates for all students

Create a fulsome numeracy and literacy profile of incoming Grade 8's to better support students and

Student and Employee Wellness

Increase the number of Students who feel welcome, safe and have a sense of belonging in their school

To build a caring community focussing on supportive relationships; a community that provides direct

Truth and Reconciliation

Increase awareness of and access to resources available to support hul'q'umi'num language learning

Increase Indigenous understanding of ways of being and knowing at John Barsby Community School



OUR CELEBRATION STORY

As a school community we are focusing on supporting students with the expectations they have for themselves and the expectations we have for them as well. To support this staff are working to build a stronger sense of belonging by being in the hallways and welcoming students as they walk through the doors of their classrooms.

Our Harewood community is very supportive of the school. We have received fantastic and ongoing financial donations from Steve Marshall Ford and Deni's Dynamite deals, and parents are supportive in ways that they can be. Our Parent Advisory Committee is a strong and vibrant group of parents who are involved, quick to volunteer with school events and fundraising opportunities and who want to make Barsby the best Barsby it can be.

Our students and staff are proud of their school; especially regarding the success of our athletic teams, and we are working on shifting this into other areas of school life. Our school is a generational school in that many of our current staff taught and worked with the parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles of today's students. They hold many of the stories of our families as they walk through the door.

This past September we had the opportunity to welcome back former Barsby student and Olympic Gold Medalist Ethan Katzberg to speak to our school community about his experience and accomplishments. It was a proud and uplifting moment for our school community to see one of our former students speak with such pride about his experiences at Barsby and how they were formative in his life on his pathway to the olympics. It was also a pivotal moment for many students to see how hardwork and perseverance within their own school experience can lead them towards a path of greatness.

Outside of athletics, there are a variety of ways students can engage in the school culture at John Barsby. Our staff offer a variety of extracurricular activities and clubs throughout the year and students are encouraged to join. Some of the activities are: Photography Club, Study Hall and Book Club, Hurlquminum, Textiles Club, Drama & Art Club, Computers Club, D & D Club, School of Rock, Intramurals, and Weightlifting.