

We wish to acknowledge as a school community that we continue to work, learn and play together on the homelands of the Ktunaxa People.



Principal's Message

January is a time of transition and fresh opportunities as we move into the second half of the school year. I hope everyone has settled back into their routines and is ready for the exciting months ahead! With Semester One wrapping up, I'd like to remind families that **Semester Two** begins on **January 27th**. This is a great time for students to set new goals and build on their successes from the first half of the year.

Learning Updates will be posted to MyEd on **February 3rd**. These updates will include final reports for Semester One courses (Grades 10–12) and linear electives (Grades 7–9). For students in Grades 7–9 enrolled in linear core courses, the second Learning Update will be available on **April 29th**. These updates provide valuable insights into your child's progress, and I encourage families to review them together and celebrate achievements while identifying areas for growth.

Basketball season is in full swing, with our teams hosting home tournaments and games, as well as traveling to compete. It's wonderful to see the energy and school spirit surrounding our athletes, and we wish our teams continued success.

This month, student and parent grade committees were formed, and planning is underway for the June 2025 Graduation Celebration. This year's **Commencement Ceremony** is scheduled for **June 27th at 10:00 am** in the Fernie Memorial Arena. It's exciting to begin preparations for this milestone event, and we're looking forward to celebrating the achievements of our graduating class.

Looking ahead, it's also time to start planning for the 2025–26 school year. On **Wednesday February 19, 2025**, we will be holding a parent information night on course selections. Following this, students will be doing course selections. This is a key step in building our timetable and determining staffing needs. Please watch for upcoming dates and information about the course selection process to help guide your child's decisions.

As always, we are here to support your child's learning journey. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to teachers or the administration.

Warm regards,
Nicole Neufeld

Upcoming Dates to Note:

- January 23rd Last day of Semester 1 & Quarter 2
- January 24th YELLOW DAY – No School
- January 27th Grade 8/9 Ski Day – Semester 2 Starts
- January 31-Feb 1st Sr Boys & Girls Basketball Home Tournament
- February 3rd Learning Updates published to MyEd
- February 6th RCMP Building Connections Day Grades 7 & 8
- February 7th FI Students at EIDES for Presentation
- February 14th YELLOW DAY – No School
- February 17th STAT Holiday – Family Day
- February 19th District Student Advisory Council Meeting
- February 19th Parent Meeting for Student Course Selections (2025-26) 6:30 pm
- February 24th-28th Grad Photos – Location Library
- February 26th Anti Bully Day- Pink Shirt Day



School Counsellor

Karen Walker – karen.walker@sd5.bc.ca Lindsay
Knight – Lindsay.knight@sd5.bc.ca

Indigenous Education Support Worker

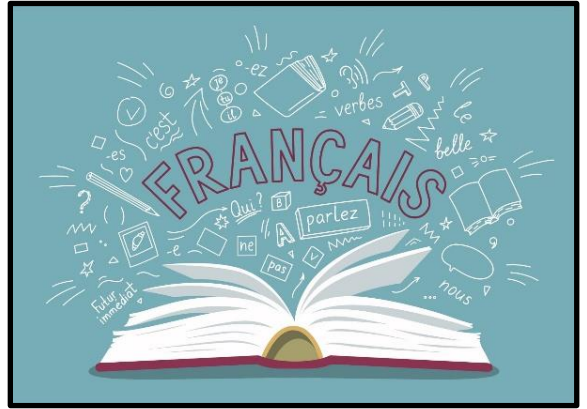
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Youth Care Worker Support

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Bonjour French Immersion Parents in Cranbrook and Fernie,

Have you heard of Canadian Parents for French (CPF)? CPF offers free **online tutoring, resources, exchange and scholarship opportunities and much more.** They also provide funds to help bring French **cultural performances** to our communities. The more members we sign up the more funding our area receives! Please consider joining by clicking on this [link](#). It is free to join and provides many benefits to students and families involved in French.



When you have time, check out the [website](#) to see how you and your child or children can benefit from this organization. Please contact me, Erin Stevenson, if you want to volunteer or have any questions (erinmarystev@yahoo.ca). We would love to have someone help with the CPF-Cranbrook/Fernie Chapter Facebook page. If you have an interest and/or skills in this area please consider becoming a volunteer.

Parents, Teachers and Staff involved in French Immersion. Join [Canadian Parents for French \(CPF\)](https://cpf.ca/en/join-cpf/) for free at <https://cpf.ca/en/join-cpf/>. CPF brings in French cultural events, performers and activities for our students and offers a bursary for a Grade 12 graduate in Cranbrook and Fernie. Funding is based on membership so please Sign up Today!

Leanne and Danielle: If you send this out to your parents, can you let them know that to be eligible for the CPF bursary in Grade 12, one of their parents must be a CPF member.

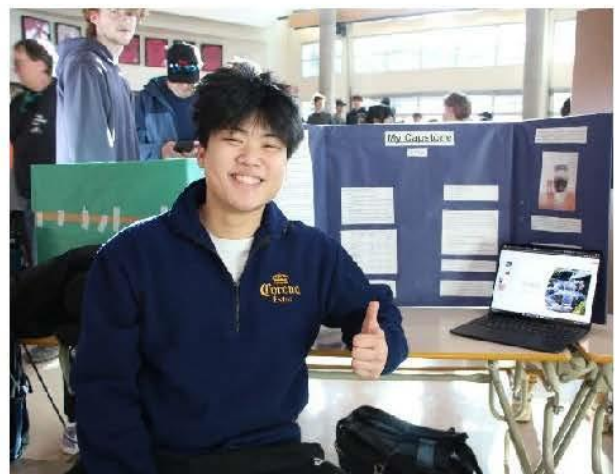
We only have 28 members in all of Cranbrook and Fernie. I am shooting for 100 by the end of this year! Teachers and Admin can sign up too.

Erin

Erin Stevenson (she/her)
CPF President

Capstone Fair

Yesterday, grade 12 students showcased their passions, inquiries and hard work at the annual FSS Capstone Fair. Capstone projects are a requirement for graduation in BC. They are a celebration of learning, experience, and goals for post-graduation. Students are challenged to think critically, solve problems and develop and reflect on their skill sets and core competencies. The variety and quality of projects presented by our FSS graduating class was something to be proud of!

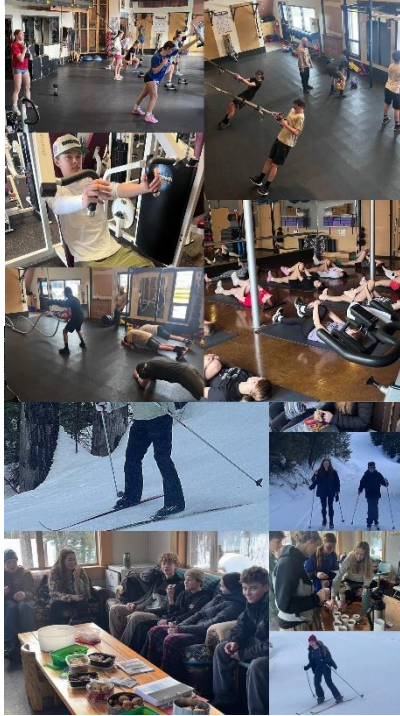




PE 10 Adventures: Building Skills and Community Connections!

What an exciting first half of the year in PE 10 at Fernie Secondary School! Students have fully embraced the engaging localized programming aimed at building essential life skills and promoting healthy living in the Elk Valley.

In December, the adventure kicked off with strength training sessions focused on gym etiquette and safety. Under Mr. Gulyas's guidance,



students explored the weight room and then headed to Evolution Health and Fitness, where the owner, Scotty, generously provided free admission. Martin Theroux, owner of Switchback Fitness, led high-intensity group fitness sessions, while volunteers like Ashley Springle and Selene Michaud offered fun yoga and spin classes. Their support created a fantastic learning environment!

The class then transitioned to the Fernie Nordic Society Trails for cross-country skiing on the last day of classes before the holidays. Students showcased their skills at the Nordic Centre, which generously provided free admission. These activities aim to be inclusive, ensuring all students can participate at no cost.

A huge thank you goes to the Sparwood United Steel Workers and Elk Valley Thrift Shop Society for their invaluable financial support for transportation. With help from our amazing community and volunteers—from chaperones to trainers—students are truly engaged in these enriching activities.



These experiences are helping students build confidence, make connections, and develop a lasting passion for a healthy lifestyle.

Great hustle everyone, Mr. Gulyas.





Wednesday
February 19th

Parent Course Selection Information Night

The target audience for this meeting is parents of students in grade 9 this year. In grade 10 students switch to a credit system and must meet a required number of credits to graduate. At this meeting we will outline the credit system and graduation requirements.

Although the information is most important for parents of grade 9 students, all parents are welcome to attend.

Time: 6:30pm
Location: School Library or
Join us on Teams