



Amy Woodland Elementary School Update

November 8, 2024

Timelines

As we are waiting on the BC Government to be formed, we are still awaiting direction from the Ministry regarding Amy Woodland Elementary (AWES). This will take time as it involves both School Protection Program (insurance) and the capital branch at the Ministry of Education and Child Care. The likelihood of having a new space by September is low; therefore, we are planning for next year (2025-2026) now. It is difficult for the District to provide timelines beyond this year when we do not have direction from the Ministry. All communication from the Ministry relating to capital projects goes through the Secretary Treasurer (nick.taylor@sd5.bc.ca).

As we enter the winter months, School Protection Plan (insurance) is engaging a mechanical engineer to review the snow load capacity of the school roof to determine the next steps. The fire originated on the gymnasium roof; therefore, this section of the building is significantly compromised. We will continue to update on this as we hear more.

School Year 2025-2026

Students will remain in their current school for the 2025/26 school year as we want to minimize disrupting them again. Parents can apply for transfers if the current arrangement does not work, for next year, and AWES students will get priority placement (if room is available).

Transportation

Transportation will continue from the AWES site to get students to their schools and for after school care. Current grade five students will remain at their new elementary schools. The grade six students at Laurie Middle School (LMS) will be in grade seven there. There will not be another group of grade six students at LMS, as this was a temporary measure. Transportation that has been provided to students attending Laurie Middle School will not be provided after this year.

Catchment

The District will have boundary and catchment discussions for students entering kindergarten in Cranbrook to balance enrolment for students coming into our system. The first boundary and catchment consultation meeting will be held on **November 28, 2024**. Last year, middle school catchments were amended so that Laurie Middle School contained all of AWES catchment. Middle school catchments are not currently expected to be amended again.

Supports and Programs

Currently, Cranbrook has two extra learning services teachers that are supporting the transition of AWES students. This is in addition to the supports that are already in place at their schools. Curriculum is being provided as per Ministry requirements (required minutes of instruction and core competencies). Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) supports are focused at the elementary level, however the grade six students at LMS are still able to access SLP support through learning services.

Counselling Supports for Students and Families

All students have access to a school counsellor. If students or families require more intensive supports, there is a list of available options in Cranbrook following this update. If finances are a barrier for a family to access counselling, please reach out to your school's administration to access Family Affordability Funds.



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

Integration

As the year continues to unfold, if you have questions about how your student is feeling integrated into their new school, please contact the school's administration. All students have the opportunity to be part of clubs, sports, special events, playing with peers, etc. at their school. School websites are an excellent way to keep on top of fun activities happening, we also encourage parents to join their school's Parent Advisory Council (PAC).

Who can I contact if I have questions?

SD5mailing@sd5.bc.ca



Free Counselling/Mental Health Services in Cranbrook:

Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH)

Counselling for children and youth in Cranbrook

- Contact: 250-426-1514 ext. 1
- Call between 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday to schedule an intake appointment.

The Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Child and Family Services (KKCFSS)

Family support and child protection services. Provides trauma counselling in the Cranbrook, Creston, Invermere and Kimberley area.

- Contact: 250-489-4563

Foundry East Kootenay

Hosted by Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society, Foundry East Kootenay brings together multiple partner organizations that will address the health and wellness needs of young people aged 12 to 24 and their families who live in Cranbrook, Fernie, Creston, Invermere, Golden and surrounding areas.

Services provided at Foundry East Kootenay will include primary care, mental health support, substance use support, social services and peer support.

- Email: foundry@ktunaxa.org

Canadian Mental Health Association PEACE Program

Support for children and youth aged 3-18 years who have experienced or who are experiencing violence in the home and/or a difficult parental separation.

- Contact: 250-426-5222

SAIP Sexual Abuse Intervention Program

Counselling and psychoeducation for youth and caregivers around disclosed sexual abuse and sexual behavior problems.

- Contact: 250-489-4074

East Kootenay Addictions Services

Provides free counselling services to youth, adults, couples and families dealing with their own or someone else's substance use problem.

- Contact: 250-489-4344 or www.ekass.com

Axis Family Resources

Counselling services and other supports available for individuals and families

- Contact: 250-489-4074

Community Based Victim Services

Offers specialized support to individuals who have experienced intimate partner violence, sexualized assault/abuse, criminal harassment/stalking, or witnessed sexualized or family violence.

- Contact: 250-489-3114



SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

TELUS Health App

See a doctor, counsellor or dietitian from your phone, at your convenience.

- More information: <https://www.telus.com/en/personal-health/my-care>
- Online support

Private Counsellors – fee-based

Please note that the District cannot endorse private practitioners or recommend one over another.

The District is unable to provide information on updated credentials and availability. It is worthwhile to recognize that you and your family have the right to decide who you want to connect with and decide if they are a good fit for you, your presenting concerns, and needs.

Private counselling options can be found at

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/therapists?search=Cranbrook>

FINDING SUPPORT

It can be hard to know what to do if you are concerned about your child's mental health, or where to go if you are looking for mental health treatment or support options for you child. It may not always be clear where to start or what to expect along the way. BC Children's Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre is here to help you as you go through this journey.



5 MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS TO SUPPORT KIDS THROUGH TRAUMA

01 [Kelty Mental Health](#)

02 [BC Children's Hospital](#)

03 [Kelty Mental Health Podcast](#)

04 [Parents supporting children through grief](#)

05 [Cranbrook Child & Youth Mental Health Clinic](#)