



The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)
AGENDA - REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

April 13, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
Meeting via Zoom

Pages

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1. Call to Order

I want to acknowledge that we have gathered here in the Homelands of the Ktunaxa people.

1.2. Consideration and Approval of Agenda

M/S that the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of April 13, 2021 be approved as [circulated/amended].

1.3. Approval of the Minutes

4

M/S that the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of March 9, 2021 be approved as (circulated/amended).

1.4. Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings

11

M/S to accept the closed records of the in-camera meeting of the Board of Education of March 9, 2021.

1.5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

1.5.1. District Learning (DL) Echo Report Update

Director Tichauer reporting

1.6. Receiving of Delegations/Presentations

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

2.1. Advocacy/Education Committee

No meeting in March.

2.2. Policy Committee

No meeting in March.

2.3. Student Services Committee

No meeting in March.

2.4. Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee

No meeting in March.

2.5. BCSTA /Provincial Council

M/S to accept the report of the BCSTA/Provincial Council.

2.6. Communications/Media Committee

M/S to accept the report of the Communications/Media Committee.

2.7. Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee

M/S to accept the report of the Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee.

2.8. Key City Theatre

M/S to accept the report of the Key City Theatre.

2.9. Legacy of Learning

M/S to accept the Legacy of Learning report.

2.10. French Advisory Committee

M/S to accept the French Advisory Committee report.

2.11. Trustee Reports

12

3. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Reporting on (finances/budget, capital projects, facilities, operations/maintenance/transportation)

3.1. Stage 2 Restart Protocol Update - Secretary Treasurer

M/S that the April 13, 2021 Secretary Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

13

The Pathway's report can be found on the School District's website at www.sd5.bc.ca.

M/S that the April 13, 2021 Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education be accepted as presented.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Business Arising from Delegations

6.2. Mount Baker Secondary School PAC Letter 29

6.3. SD5 Bus Transportation for Elk River Alliance Summer Camps 30

7. TRUSTEE BOUQUETS

8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

BCSTA AGM 2021 April 15-17, 2021

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. LATE ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT

M/S that the April 13, 2021 regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at [time].



**The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)**

MINUTES - REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

**March 9, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
Meeting via Zoom**

Present: Chairperson Lento
Trustee Ayling
Trustee Bellina
Trustee Damstrom
Trustee Johns
Trustee Kitt
Trustee McPhee
Trustee Turner
Trustee Whalen

Staff Present Superintendent, S. Yardley
Secretary Treasurer, A. Rice
Director of Instruction/Human Resources, B. Reimer
Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal Education, J. Tichauer
Director of Instruction/Student Learning and Innovation, D. Casault
District Principal/Student Services, D. Verbeurgt
District Principal/Transformative Learning, J. Roberts
Executive Assistant (recorder), S. Gronlund

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

Chairperson Lento called the March 9, 2021 regular public meeting of the Board of Education to order at 3:02 p.m. and acknowledged that we have gathered here in the Homelands of the Ktunaxa people. He also acknowledged all ancestors who have changed the face of Big Village through their hard work and sacrifice.

Chair Lento acknowledged the passing of former teachers:

- Noreen Aikman teacher in Cranbrook and a former member of the legendary Girls' Bugle band.
- Don Rivers for his shining service over the decades at Central, Parkland and Mount Baker School.

1.2 Consideration and Approval of Agenda

MOTION R-21-43

M/S that the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of March 9, 2021 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

1.3 Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the Public meeting of the Board of Education of February 17, 2021.

MOTION R-21-44

M/S that the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of February 17, 2021 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

1.4 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings

MOTION R-21-45

M/S to accept the closed records of the in-camera meeting of the Board of Education of February 17, 2021.

CARRIED

1.5 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

1.5.1 Kootenay Christian Academy Announcement

Director Tichauer shared a report with the Board outlining information regarding enrolment and funding for Independent schools in our district area. He included a sample of two district learning schools (DL) and included information on which (DL) school some of our former students enrolled with.

Report information included:

- The Kootenay Christian Academy and ʔaᑭamniᑭ Elementary School.
- Schools have both announced that they plan to offer education up to grade 12.
- A Baragar report showing the number of students in our public schools.
- Over-all, approximately 85% of kindergarten students attend a public school.
- Director Tichauer discussed the funding for Independent schools.

Chair Lento asked about SD93 students in our district. Director Tichauer indicated 51 students in Fernie, as well as 283 students at the Fernie Academy.

MOTION R-21-46

M/S that the Board refer the Kootenay Christian Academy Announcement item to the April Advocacy Committee meeting for further discussion.

CARRIED

1.6 Receiving of Delegations/Presentations

1.6.1 Tanya Malcolm

Tanya introduced herself as a mother of three children in the SD5 school system and a Parent Advisory Council (PAC) member at Fernie Secondary/Isabella Dicken Elementary and a member on the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC). She is an active coach volunteer and a manager of the Youth Steam Program.

Tanya presented in two areas she would like the Board to consider in the 2021-22 budget process.

1. UX Design & Interactive Learning Portal (UX=User Experience)

Tanya shared her ideas on where the SD5 student portal could use updating, become more user friendly and contain standard documentation across the district on how to use the portal.

2. Classroom Live Stream Capability

Tanya shared ideas on how to establish a successful, budget-conscious live streaming setup for SD5 classrooms. Online education is important. We can accelerate education with technology and utilize the full ability of the technology we currently have.

Chair Lento thanked Tanya for her insightful ideas and passion of her presentation and that she would receive a response regarding her proposal in due course. Trustee Bellina also thanked Tanya for a great presentation.

1.6.2 CFTA 2021-22 Budget Input

Shelley Balfour and Chris Kielpinski, co-chairs of the Cranbrook and Fernie Teachers' Association (CFTA), submitted and reviewed the 16 recommendations they would like the Board to consider in the 2021-22 budget process.

The Board thanked Shelley and Chris for their presentation and their due diligence.

Questions/Comments:

- Trustee Johns mentioned that there has been progress made on the CFTA recommendations with the district leadership.
- The Board asked if the CFTA has received a response from their 20-21 Budget recommendations?
- Shelley replied that she and Chris met with the district management team and had an in-depth discussion on each recommendation. Both parties found this very helpful.
- Shelley and Chris are happy with the communication that is occurring.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

2.1 Advocacy/Education Committee

Co-chair Trustee Bellina reviewed the minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting of the Advocacy/Education Committee.

MOTION R-21-47

M/S that Trustee Kitt serve as the Board representative on the 2020/2021 Scholarship Committee and that Trustee Whalen serve as the alternate representative.

CARRIED

MOTION R-21-48

M/S that the Board rename the Cranbrook SD5 Top Student award to the "Dr. Arnold Lowden Top Student Award".

CARRIED

Trustee Johns will speak with Mount Baker Secondary School Admin and Counsellors to find out if this is possible for the 20-21 scholarships.

MOTION R-21-49

M/S that the Board write a letter to BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) requesting BCSTA write a letter to the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) asking the Provincial Government to exempt School Districts from the Public Sector Executive Compensation Freeze Policy. This is in recognition of Executive Staff performance, efforts and resiliency in maintaining quality public education during the Pandemic.

CARRIED

MOTION R-21-50

M/S that the Board accept the report of the Advocacy/Education Committee.

CARRIED

2.2 Policy Committee

Co-chair Trustee Turner reviewed the minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting of the Policy Committee.

MOTION R-21-51

M/S to accept the BCSTA Child Care Policy Template be used as the draft policy by the Board of Education of School District 5.

CARRIED

MOTION R-21-52

M/S that the Board accept the report of the Policy Committee.

CARRIED

2.3 Student Services Committee

Co-chair Trustee McPhee reviewed the minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting of the Student Services Committee.

MOTION R-21-53

M/S that the Board accept the report of the Student Services Committee.

CARRIED

2.4 Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee

Co-chair Trustee Kitt reviewed the minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting of the Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee.

MOTION R-21-54

M/S that the Board accept the report of the Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee.

CARRIED

2.5 BCSTA /Provincial Council

Trustee Bellina reported that she has forwarded a written report to the Board after the Provincial Council AGM she attended in February. Trustee Bellina shared information on deadlines for late motions to be submitted for the BCSTA AGM April 15-17, 2021.

MOTION R-21-55

M/S to accept the report of the BCSTA/Provincial Council.

CARRIED

2.6 Communications/Media Committee

Trustee Ayling reported on two letters.

- February 21, 2021 letter to Minister Whiteside re: COVID Vaccine for SD5 Staff
- Letter pending to Minister Whiteside re: provision of apprenticeship programs in our communities

MOTION R-21-56

M/S to accept the report of the Communications/Media Committee.

CARRIED

2.7 Mount Baker Secondary School (MBSS) Replacement Committee

Trustee Johns announced that (MBSS) will be 70 years old on April 6, 2021. MBSS students will be making a digital gallery and will posted on the (MBSS) website.

The (MBSS) Facility Survey had a great response from the students, staff and community. Trustee Johns will be meeting with Secretary Rice, Superintendent Yardley and Berry Architects to discuss the planning process.

MOTION R-21-57

M/S to accept the report of the Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee.

CARRIED

2.8 Key City Theatre

Trustee McPhee attended a Key City Theatre Society Annual meeting on February 18th and was happy to welcome Will Ayling to the Board. Stay tuned for a raffle coming in April. Motions are going forward with securing funding grants. The Society has begun work on the Mission and Vision of the Theatre and will be meeting March 23rd.

Trustee Turner reported that the Columbia Basin Trust grant was spent on a tilt zoom camera. They are designing the back stage renovation and are currently fundraising for new curtains for the stage.

MOTION R-21-58

M/S to accept the report of the Key City Theatre.

CARRIED

2.9 Legacy of Learning

Trustee Johns reported the Legacy of Learning is currently working with SD6. They are meeting and we are expecting a positive outcome. The Legacy's annual general meeting is on March 14th. The Legacy is wanting to partner with the Cranbrook History Centre and strengthening partnerships with other historical centres including the one in Fernie.

MOTION R-21-59

M/S to accept the Legacy of Learning report.

CARRIED

2.10 French Advisory Committee

Trustee Whalen had nothing to report except to draw attention to the French Learning in the CFTA Budget recommendations presented today.

MOTION R-21-60

M/S to accept the French Advisory Committee report.

CARRIED

2.11 Trustee Reports

Trustees reported on their activities for the month.

3. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Secretary Treasure Rice has a budget working session scheduled with the Board on March 12th to review where we are at with the schools and student services. They will also review the budget submissions received. The Ministry of Education will be making their budget announcement on Friday, March 12th.

3.1 Stage 2 Restart Protocol Update - Secretary Treasurer

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported that there were minor COVID safety updates and they have been provided to all schools. The site checklist has been completed and sent into the Ministry of Education as per their requirement.

An update will be shared with the Board on the Federal funding received for COVID expenses at the April committee meeting. These funds must be spent by June 30, 2021. We are hopeful that with the vaccine rollout we will be in a better place come September.

Secretary Treasurer Rice expressed how proud he is to be a part of SD5 and all the work that has been accomplished. He thanked all staff including the Board for their continued efforts and support.

MOTION R-21-61

M/S that the March 9, 2021 Secretary Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

The Pathway's report can be found on the School District's website at www.sd5.bc.ca.

Superintendent Yardley thanked Shelley and Chris from the CFTA for their presentation today. She also thanked Gail Rousseau for the work she does in putting the Pathway's report together each month and is happy to see all the good things that are happening in our district. She is proud and impressed with all that the schools are doing for their students.

Each Director and District Principal reported on their departments.

MOTION R-21-62

M/S that the March 9, 2021 Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Lento shared some thoughts.

- The Cranbrook Colts 50th Anniversary is in December.
- The Board will be meeting on April 14th with Dr. Sloan re: the SD5 policies.
- Completing a MoE Rapid Renovation Fund application.

- Pursue child care/early learning centers for other communities as New Spaces funding becomes available.
- There is a need for an emotional curriculum to offer staff and students during this pandemic.
- Our thoughts are with Trustee Kitt who will be welcoming a new gift to her family.
- Thoughts and prayers to all our employees experiencing difficult times and fighting tough battles. Particularly to Shelley and her husband as they seek another victory in the medical game.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Business Arising from Delegations

Nil

7. TRUSTEE BOUQUETS

- Trustee Bellina to all staff for providing the in-depth reports to share with the Board. Jennifer Roberts for the climate change resource.
- Trustee Johns to Shelley and John Balfour and wish them the best. To all our family on spring break and trust they come back healthy.
- Trustee Whalen to Shelley and John Balfour an also to Shelley and Chris for their budget recommendations.
- Trustee Turner wishing all staff for rest and relaxation over the spring break and to Shelley and Chris for their recommendations.

8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

High Ground Conference - March 24,26 and 27, 2021
BCSTA AGM 2021 April 15-17, 2021

9. QUESTION PERIOD

Shelley Balfour thanked everyone for their well wishes and for the journey she is on. Shelley announced she is running for BC Teacher Regional Council.

Carol Johns retired after the BCTF 2020 honorary life membership teaching award. She will be acknowledged on Monday, March 22, 2021 during the BCTF AGM. Shelley will send the link for the ceremony to the Board.

10. LATE ITEMS

Nil.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION R-21-63

M/S that the March 9, 2021 regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 5:05 p.m.

CARRIED

Frank Lento, Chairperson

Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer



1.4. RECEIPT OF RECORDS OF CLOSED MEETINGS

In-camera Meetings for

March 9, 2021

- Exempt Compensation
 - BCPSEA Representative Report
 - TTOC Bi-monthly pay
 - PVP Certification Update
 - Personnel
-
- Superintendent's Report
 - Staffing Update

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Rice'.

Alan Rice
Secretary Treasurer

TRUSTEE REPORT of ACTIVITIES

Trustee Bellina Report for February and March 2021

February 22nd - Committee Meetings
February 24th - DSAC Lunch Meeting
February 26th - Working Board Meeting - Exempt sick leave/school site costs

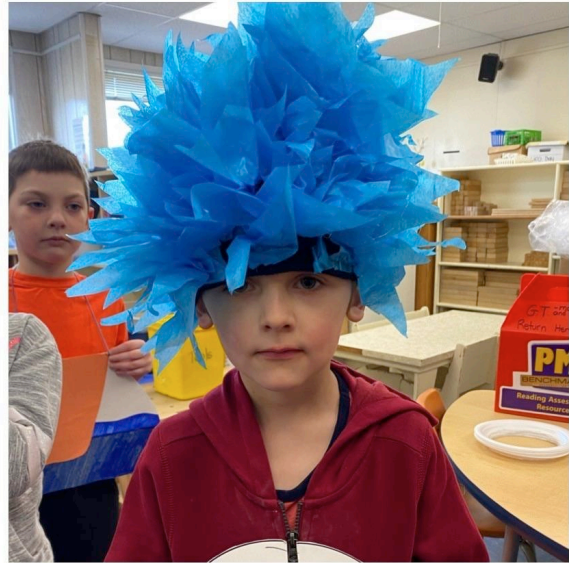
March 8th - FJMES PAC Meeting
March 9th - Sparwood Library Board Meeting
March 12th - Working group - Budget Meeting
March 25th - Board Chair's Meeting as designate for Frank

Trustee Turner Report for February and March 2021

Feb. 1st- K.O. PAC
Feb. 3rd- CDTA Exec.
Feb. 10th- G.T. PAC
Feb. 17th- SD5 Board Meeting and DPAC
Feb. 18th- Budget and KCT
Feb. 22nd- SD5 Committee Meetings
Feb. 26th- Budget

March 3rd- CDTA Exec.
March 9th- SD5 Board Meeting
March 10th- DPAC
March 12th- Budget
March 18th- MBSS Replacement

SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY PATHWAYS TO LEARNING



PIC·COLLAGE

April, 2021





School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay)

PATHWAYS TO LEARNING

Vision	Mission	Values
Students love to learn here, staff love to work here, families love to gather here	Our students will graduate with dignity, purpose and options	Respect, Vision, Fairness, Collaboration, Integrity, Inclusion

Engaging All Learners

Goal: To inspire all learning partners to create and contribute to an engaging, personalized educational experience for our learners.

- Provide a safe, supportive environment that fosters continued growth in a rapidly changing environment
- Honour all pathways to graduation
- Acknowledge deeper learning opportunities based on individual strengths and abilities

Advocacy

Goal: Advocate for specific needs in our District and for public education in general.

- Encourage governments to fully fund public education
- Advance the replacement of aging schools through Ministry and community partnerships
- Provide a forum for the development and celebration of innovative practices



Effective Communication

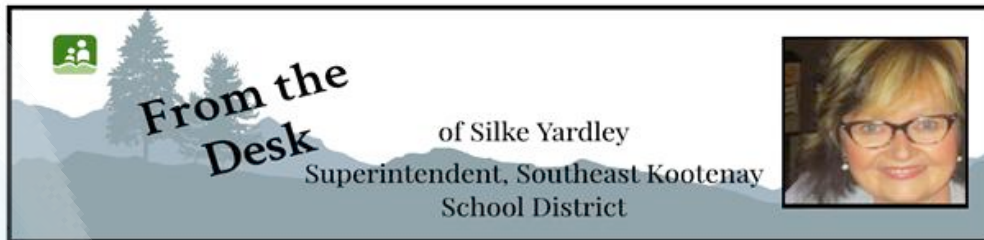
Goal: Continue to foster two-way, ethical communication between the District and all learners, students, staff, parents and community in a timely, concise and inclusive manner.

- Ensure information is current
- Provide user-friendly platforms
- Create opportunities for meaningful dialogue

Inclusive Partnerships

Goal: Cultivate opportunities for shared community awareness, engagement and resources to enhance student learning.

- Engage community participation in providing meaningful student learning opportunities
- Promote educational partnerships that enhance student learning and are beneficial to the community
- Advance active community engagement in real-world learning opportunities for students



April 1, 2021

Dear students, staff, parents and caregivers:

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful two weeks with your family enjoying our beautiful communities. Spring Break is always such a great time to rest and recharge as the school year starts to wind down. While we still have plenty of learning to do, this is the time where we start to reflect on the year and the schools and the district start to look at next year.

Kindergarten registration for the 2021/2022 school year is open and most students have registered already. If you know of any kindergarten parents who have not registered their children, or are new to the neighbourhood, please remind them to call the school in their catchment area for our new "COVID" safe registration procedures.

As you may have heard, due to recent changes in cases of COVID-19 in BC, the Provincial Health Officer has recommended changes to the mask requirements for K-12 schools. **All staff, adult volunteers and visitors, and all Grade 4 to 12 students are required to wear a non-medical masks or face coverings at all times while indoors at school and on school buses, subject to some exceptions (detailed on Page 30 of the updated [SD5 Protocols](#)).** Students in Grades K to 3 are encouraged to wear masks, but are not required to do so.

We are in the process of sourcing reusable masks for students although we request that parents/caregivers send their children with masks when returning to school on April 6.

Additional information will be coming directly from your school with respect to the availability of masks and updated school protocols. Please watch for information from your school principal. We will continue to send updates as we get new information.

Take care, and enjoy the excitement of the first week back to school!

Silke Yardley

[BCCDC Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools](#)

[Provincial COVID 19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#)



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Students love to learn here, staff love to work here, families love to gather here.	Our students will graduate with dignity, purpose and options.	Respect, Vision, Fairness, Collaboration, Integrity, Inclusion

Engaging All Learners

Summary of February 26, 2021 Professional Development Day

February 26 was a professional development day for our staff. Topics of learning were decided on at a school level. Below is a brief summary of what our teachers were learning during this time:

- Technology – Green Screen filming and editing, resources at the DRC, Media Smarts, Zoom, Virtual Open House planning, iPad training
- Wild Schools presentation
- MasterClass on negotiation and communication with Middle School kids
- UBC Gearing Up STEM seminar
- Learning through Play; Play is the Way program, Adventure Smart BC Training, Outdoor Games with Janelle Park
- Dr. Jody Carrington: ReLit Review
- Dr. Jody Carrington: Stay Lit webinar online
- Dr. Jody Carrington: Kids' These Days modules
- Trauma Informed Practice; how trauma affects the brain, what does a stressed brain look like, soothing the stressed brain, school and home based interventions, resources
- Mind Up presentation
- Math groups
- Literacy; Reading with Powerful Understanding – Adrienne Gear, books with themes of connecting, transforming, questioning, visualizing, inferring and books for Aboriginal Education
- FSL/FI exploration
- Student supports for a diverse classroom
- Science, space based learning and resource curriculum
- Health & Wellness: Burnout Prevention & Recovery, Mental Resilience – Thriving through Rapid Change & Connecting and Wellness through humour, brainstorming frustrations
- Collaborative planning: Primary & Middle School Team planning
- Self-Directed

Get Outside & Play WEBINAR SERIES

Get Outside and Play is offering 6 webinars to deepen your professional practice and knowledge around outdoor play and learning. This is an exciting series with experienced educators covering the following topics:

- March 17 Supporting Young Children with Diverse Abilities
- March 24 Loose parts - Inspiration for Indoor and Outdoor Play
- April 7 Pedagogical Documentation in Outdoor Environments
- April 12 Assessing Outdoor Play Spaces, What to Look for and Why
- April 21 Physical Activity in the Early Years
- April 28 Talking with Parents and Colleagues about Outdoor Play

Learn more at:
getoutsideandplay.ca/events

Bugs, Rodents and Robots

Amy Woodland Elementary School students from Mrs. Kessler's Grade 2 class started their coding journey with the Code-A-Pillars and Coding Mice available from the District Resource Center. They learned about computer languages such as binary and symbols and then programmed their mice and Code-A-Pillars to complete different exploratory challenges. The great thing about the Coding Mice and Code-A-Pillars is how they introduce coding with robotics without any devices and at a level that all students can participate.



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Engaging All Learners



Enhancing Communication with Parents and Students

School District 5 has opened the [MyEducation BC student portal](#) at Mount Baker Secondary, Elkford Secondary and Parkland Middle Schools. The student portal was also temporarily set up for students at Fernie Secondary, Sparwood Secondary and Laurie Middle Schools (grade nine students only) to help facilitate the 2021/2022 student course selection process. The student portal provides students with online access to demographic and academic information. Schools and teachers can use the portal to communicate with their students in a variety of ways, including distribution of published reports (i.e., report cards), access to gradebook assignments, and sharing of content.



SchoolMessenger Communicate and SafeArrival

- A Powerful Way to Stay Connected

SchoolMessenger Communicate and SchoolMessenger SafeArrival are being utilized by most schools within School District 5. The SchoolMessenger Communicate system has also been very successfully embraced by our transportation department.



We are Still Smarter Than the Bots

Students from T.M. Roberts Elementary School Grade 6 French Immersion class were challenged to create an invention using the Lego Spike kits at the design lab. They learned how to code and planned their ideas in a few short classroom sessions before coming to the lab to build their designs. There were toy pets, armoured vehicles and encrypted safes. All the students were excited by the group who followed a complex set of directions to create a Rubik's Cube solver. Most of the projects went through multiple iterations, mistakes and rigour to realize their vision. One of the students who is a self-professed Rubik's Cube aficionado raced the robot and was able to beat it by over a minute!

Check out the video of the Rubik's Cube Solver [below](#).

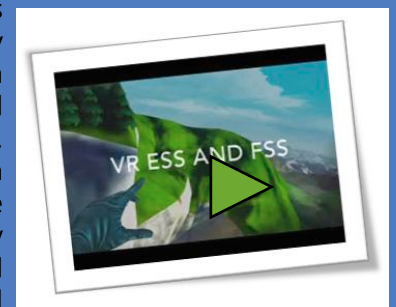


Mental Wellness and the Design Lab

Mr. Cullins brought his physical and health education class from Fernie Secondary School to the design lab to explore how using technology appropriately and working as a team to achieve a goal can have a positive effect on a person's well-being. Students worked together to complete various Lego Spike robotics challenges and others used the time to explore virtual reality. Recent studies show that virtual reality can have positive impacts on a [person's mental health](#).

VR Explorations

Students in Mr. Roszell's class at Elkford Secondary School will be conducting a research project on virtual reality and the brain. Students have been given the opportunity to explore some different virtual reality applications to understand what it feels like to wear and experience a virtual reality headset. Check out the [video!](#)

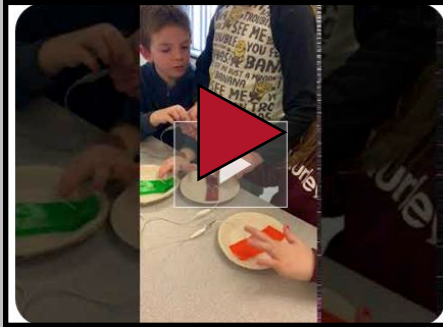


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Engaging All Learners

Making Music with Jell-O!

Students in Ms. Kennedy's class at Rocky Mountain Elementary School learned about electrical conductivity, computer science and music when they made Jell-O pianos. Students coded 3 notes for their pianos and played music for each other. We invited Principal Ehman to take part in the fun!



Jell-O



Going Above and Beyond with Lego Wedo

Some students from Ms. McMullan's grade 5 class from Rocky Mountain Elementary School were challenged to find a Lego Wedo design that was not from the Lego Wedo app. One group wanted to build and code a shark, while another group built a forklift. Mrs. Froehler built a robo-monkey! Kids can do hard things!



Strawberry DNA Extraction Lab at Sparwood Secondary School

Students in Mr. Powell's Grade 9 Science class at Sparwood Secondary School extracted the DNA from strawberries earlier this month. Students crushed up a mixture of frozen strawberries, salt and dish soap and then added the mixture to a graduated cylinder. Students added alcohol that was chilled to approximately -15 degrees celsius which helped form a layer of DNA material. Students were then able to extract the DNA from the mixture and observe it.



Students were encouraged to think about the composition of DNA and its importance in coding genetic information for all living organisms. They were also able to better understand the fact that DNA is made of the same basic components regardless of the species. Finally, students reflected on the fact that the genes coded in DNA molecules are passed on through sexual and asexual reproduction, and that variation in genes is the driving force for diversity in species and evolution of species. The Grade 9 students were very engaged and asked a lot of great questions!

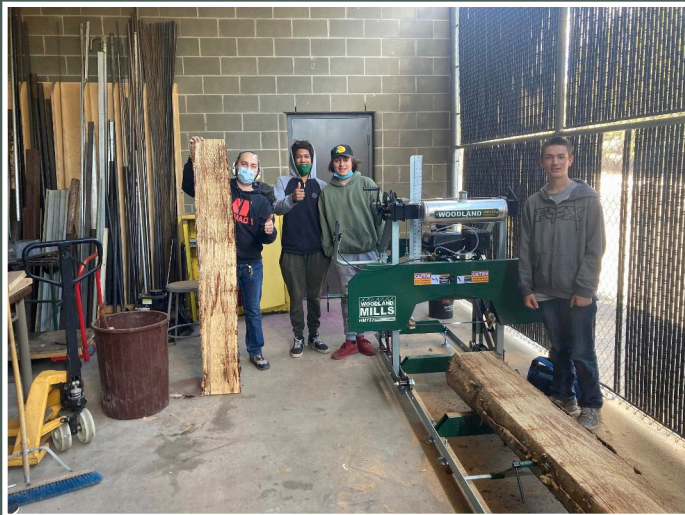


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Engaging All Learners

Industrial Arts department mills boards

The Industrial Arts department at Sparwood Secondary School milled these boards with their new sawmill on March 16. They have been working hard to raise money to purchase this new piece of equipment. The staff and students are excited about the new learning opportunities that this equipment will bring. This valuable project would not have been possible without the collaboration and generous donation from the Elk Valley Thrift Shop Society.



Hunter, a Youth Train in Trades student in the welding program at the College of the Rockies.



Cheyenne, a Youth Train in Trades student in the electrical program at the College of the Rockies.

Reconciliation: A Slow Journey

by Shelley Balfour, Cranbrook District Teachers' Association President and Teacher Magazine Advisory Board member

Click on the picture to read her story



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Inclusive Partnerships

Internet Smarts

White Hatter presentations are being arranged at many of our schools. Teachers will be showing the Internet Safety and Digital Literacy for Pre-teens Ages 12-13 (grade 6-7) and Cyberbullying, Sexting, Nudes, Intimate Images, and The Law ages 15+ (Grade 8-12) in class. The Leveraging the Internet & Social Media to Create Opportunities ages 16-18 (grade 10-12) presentation will be presented in the evening as it is a great opportunity for parents to understand some of what their children are doing online and how it may help their future.



Upcoming Online Workshops for Educators

1. April 20 - [Imaginative Ecological Education](#)
2. April 27 - [The Sky Above and the Mud Below](#)
3. May 4 - [Water Education Resources](#)



New and Exciting things to report at the District Resource Centre next month! Stay tuned!



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Inclusive Partnerships



FSI ZOOM FAMILY HANGOUT

JOIN US FOR AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FAMILY SUPPORT INSTITUTE OF BC
MONDAY APRIL 19TH. 6:30 PM

Ben Postmus – Regional Network Coordinator for the Kootenays will introduce Families to Family Support Institute and peer to peer support model.
The Only Grass Roots Family to Family Support Network in Canada.

“We support any family, any disability, anywhere in the province”
bpostmus@fsibc.com / 250-231-7712 for more info.

[Click To Register](#)
You can find links to the Zoom calls and other great tools and resources here:
<https://familysupportbc.com/covid/>

FSI SUPPORTS AND SERVICES ARE FREE TO ANY FAMILY.

FAMILY SUPPORT INSTITUTE OF BC
family supporting families

Toll Free: 1 800 441 5403
Email: fsi@fsibc.com
www.familysupportbc.com

Family Support Institute of BC (FSI) is a provincial not-for-profit society committed to supporting families who have a family member with a disability.
FSI is unique in Canada and the only grass roots family to family organization that has a broad volunteer base.
FSI SUPPORTS AND SERVICES ARE FREE TO ANY FAMILY.

Inclusive Education Committee

The Inclusive Education committee met again on February 24, 2021. Discussions were held about how to best serve our vulnerable students, budget priorities and potential budget redistributions. The Inclusive Education committee is focussed on creating short term, long term and a 3 year plan in regards to budgets and student services. We're thankful for the dedication of this team and their commitment to our vulnerable students.



Student Services – Speech Pathology and Assisted Technology

Communication is a basic need. All people, regardless of their age, status, ability, or communicative capacity have the right to receive and convey messages, to hold opinions, and express themselves. Everyone should uphold others' right to communicate as they interact with people in daily life to enhance equality, justice, and human dignity.

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers. (United Nations, 1948)

Speech Language Pathologists use Core Boards and picture symbol communication with non-verbal and low verbal visual learners. The boards contain “core words” which are some of the words we use most frequently.

Students, Jun Mi and Declan, work with their Core Boards at Amy Woodland Elementary School. These students practice and use their vocabulary and expression every day. Communicating builds relationships and a sense of belonging in a group of peers.

Jun Mi is seen here using a step-by-step communication device. This helps Jun Mi express a pre-recorded message when asked a question.



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This first week back from Spring Break will hold the annual general meeting of the leaders of Indigenous Education in British Columbia. We are hearing that there may be changes to the Indigenous Education Targeted Funding Regulations, so this will be an important timing for gathering; not just for the usual outstanding examples of practice from around the province, but now potentially for some process-driven discussions as well.

We have recently met with the Indigenous Education student data statistician from the Ministry of Education who has shared some valuable insight into our District's Indigenous student data, as well as hearing our concerns around tracking post-secondary transitions out of province. It sounds like they may have some solutions at the provincial level. More information to come!



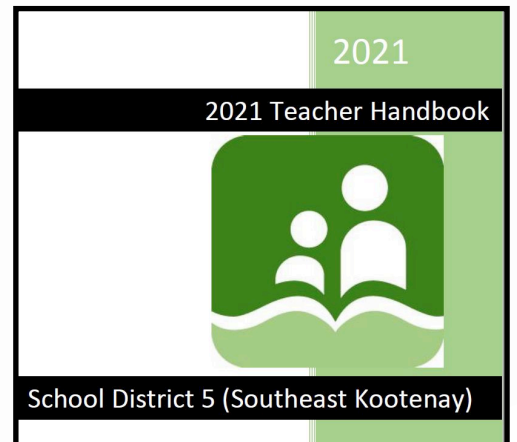
Advocacy

The 2020/2021 school year was a year of tremendous growth for our CUPE support employees and we are on our way to well over 250 postings when we normally average 130-150/year.

Our teacher postings will top up at just over 220 this year.

The teacher initiated transfer process will be reviewed at the end of April at the same time we will also look at any necessary district initiated transfers. Once the transfer processes are complete, teacher post and fill for the next school year will begin.

As we move into late May we will begin our intake for teacher teaching on-call opportunities for the 2021/2022 school year.



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Ministry of Education Update

New Assistance for Young Adults from Government Care: Young adults who are participating in the Agreement with Young Adults (AYA) program, or who are eligible to participate, may apply for the Canada-BC Housing Benefit to get help paying their rent. Young adults interested in this opportunity should contact Provincial Centralized Screening at 1-800-663-9122. More information about eligibility and the application process can be found in the Renting section on the [COVID-19 support for youth and young adult web page](#).



Update on Grade 10 Literacy Assessment (LTE10/LTP10) Exemptions: This year's Grade 12 students are not required to write the Grade 10 Literacy Assessment, including Évaluation de littératie de la 10e année – Français langue première. Please note that schools no longer need to submit spreadsheets for exemptions. The Ministry is applying exemptions to all students in Grade 12 on the BC Graduation Program (2018). The timing of the 'XMT' application may vary depending on the [session release date](#) or whether there have been multiple registrations. If concerns, contact TRAX.Support@gov.bc.ca.



The 2020/21 District/Authority scholarship [allocations and awarding guidelines](#) are now available for administrators. Instructions for reporting conditional recipients will be provided next month, in advance of the June 30 reporting deadline. Additional information about this program is available on the [District/Authority Scholarships web page](#). Contact scholarships@gov.bc.ca with any questions.

New Children and Youth in Care Web Pages: The Ministry has published two new web pages to help support children and youth in care: one for [educators and administrators](#) and the other for [students and caregivers](#). The websites provide a wide variety of resources to support students in care in educational settings. Any questions please contact inclusive.education@gov.bc.ca.



Curriculum and Learning Support Fund: More information is now available on the [Curriculum and Learning Support Fund](#) that will continue to be provided to districts for the 2021/22 school year.

Gangs and Guns Online Resources: The Ministries of Education and Public Safety & Solicitor General and Safer Schools Together are pleased to announce the launch of the [Gangs and Guns Online Resources](#): a suite of videos and guides to increase awareness, knowledge and competencies related to gang and gun violence prevention for educators and school support staff, parents and students.

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Schools

COVID Eliminators

T.M. Roberts Elementary School students Nandini and Isla, share their knowledge of how to eliminate the spread of COVID-19.



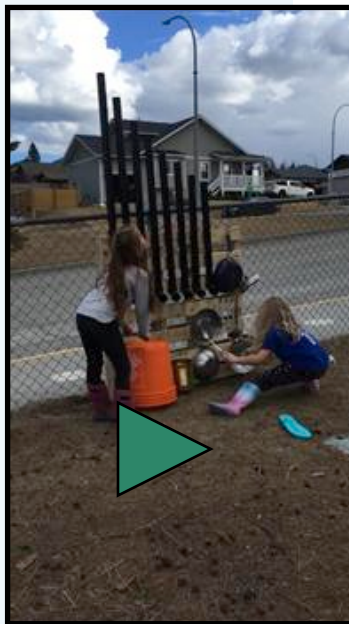
Sparwood Secondary School student, Tyler, proudly displays his woodwork project from Mr. Lund's Wood Shop.



SSS ski day!



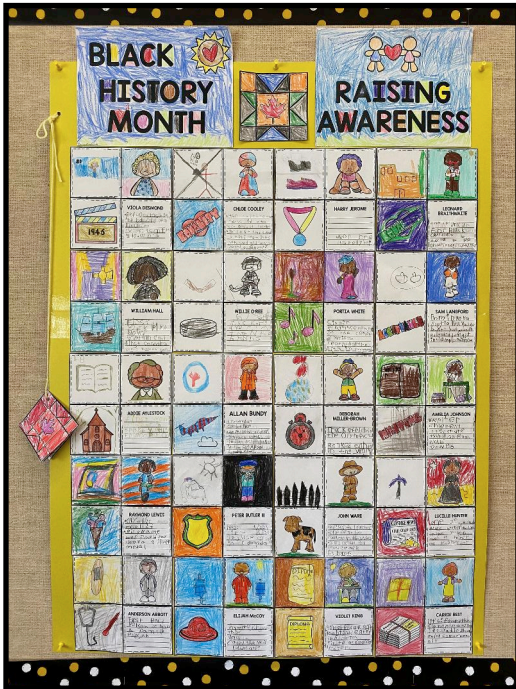
On March 4, the Outdoor Education class at Sparwood Secondary School cross-country skied to the Montane Hut in Fernie. The trip was the culmination of the students' nutritional unit. It involved meal planning, prepping, and determining the nutritional needs of each individual on the excursion. While at the hut, the students took part in team building activities and worked on their leadership skills. The students pushed their boundaries, successfully accomplishing the 8 km loop and had a fantastic time doing so!



Kootenay Orchards Elementary School has created an outdoor classroom. The newest addition to the outdoor classroom is the sound garden for all to enjoy. Have a listen!

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Schools

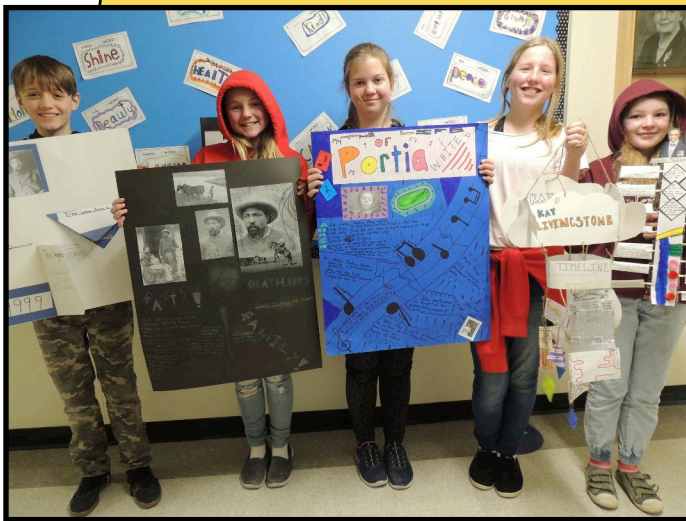


Candace Ivanco's Grade 1/2 class at T.M. Roberts Elementary School took on Black History lessons and created this amazing "patchwork" quilt...brilliant learning experience!



Yaj Lavarius and David Steiner from Mt. Baker Secondary School are the winners of the Skills BC TV/Video Regional competition. The competition had teams from the West Kootenays and 2 teams from the East Kootenays.

Yaj and David will move on to compete in the provincials on April 15th. Congratulations and Good Luck!!



Mrs. Jones' Grade 6 black history presentations at Isabella Dicken Elementary School.



Ktunaxa cultural discussions with Chief Joe Pierre and the Grade 1s at Gordon Terrace Elementary School.

Madame Webster's Grade 2/3 class at T.M. Roberts Elementary School - tableau periodique de l'histoire des Noirs au Canada.



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Schools



Gordon Terrace Elementary School had a Dr. Seuss spirit day.

Dr. Seuss inspired art by the Grade 5/6 class at Gordon Terrace Elementary School.



St. Patrick's Day mayhem at T.M. Roberts Elementary School!



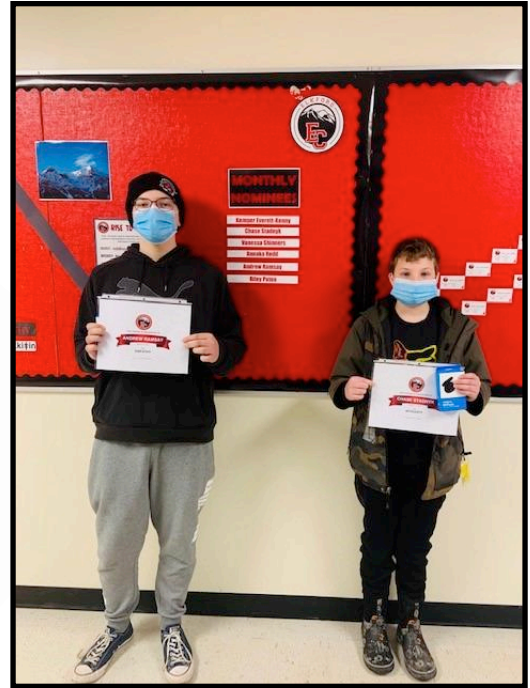
Experiential learning in Elkford's wilderness - all English 7 students at Elkford Secondary School have been experiencing their learning. The current theme for English 7 is survival. Students are reading stories about characters that find themselves struggling to live in the harsh Canadian wilderness. Students also snowshoed into their local forests and wrote from their own perspective about their experiences. These grade 7 students showed grit and creativity.

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Schools



March RISE Awards at Elkford Secondary School! Way to go!



Chase and Andrew!



This was the Kindness Captains' final good deed before the March break. Students from Isabella Dicken Elementary School bought the fire fighters donuts and stopped in for a visit. The fire fighters were so excited they let them take a picture on their fire truck!

Another kindness project during our month of Kindness Connections from our amazing Youth Care Worker and Aboriginal Education Support Worker.

Kindness



Leadership and Community Connection- Fernie Women's Center



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April, 2021

School Name	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Jaffray Elem-Jr Secondary	18	21	19	25	17	19	30	15	17	20	19	0	0	220
Isabella Dicken Elementary	72	90	62	73	53	75	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	486
Frank J Mitchell Elementary	56	63	49	50	55	50	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	375
Rocky Mountain Elementary	33	35	41	36	38	43	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	254
Mount Baker Secondary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	252	204	226	682
Laurie Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	118	131	98	0	0	0	347
Amy Woodland Elementary	33	35	37	36	42	40	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	264
T M Roberts Elementary	47	51	42	46	49	56	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	339
Gordon Terrace Elementary	31	36	35	35	41	44	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	271
Highlands Elementary	29	31	25	31	36	37	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	226
Pinewood Elem - Cranbrook	16	21	11	18	13	29	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	128
Steeples Elementary	31	30	27	18	28	32	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	195
Kootenay Orchards	38	20	28	36	22	31	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	218
Kootenay Learning Campus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	82	88
Parkland Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	153	137	138	0	0	0	428
Elkford Secondary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	31	35	31	24	28	189
Fernie Secondary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	68	59	54	65	63	376
Sparwood Secondary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	45	50	35	34	36	260
Kootenay Educational	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	32	65	122
Kootenay Discovery School	11	7	16	11	13	15	9	13	22	40	20	16	62	255
Total	415	440	392	415	407	471	447	466	451	440	436	381	562	5723

March 8, 2021

Dear Chris Johns,

At our recent MBSS PAC meeting on March 2, a discussion took place regarding traffic safety in the surrounding area of Mount Baker. Specifically, the intersection with 2 crosswalks at Baker St. and 17th Avenue North which runs along the skate park, Western Financial Place and KES. The concerns are as follows:

- Many drivers are not slowing down in the 30km/hr playground zones on that stretch of road.
- Students are at risk of being struck in the crosswalk areas due to some drivers not stopping or slowing down for the kids to cross.
- Some city busses are of a concern on this route as they are not slowing down for the designated speed zones.
- Some stunting, showing off, and speeding is happening by New drivers leaving the school grounds.

The main time of these concerns is from 2:50pm- 3:20pm.

Some ideas that were discussed at the PAC meeting for possible solutions included:

- Have Leadership students standing near the crosswalks in high-vis vests to draw attention to the fact that there are crosswalks there.
- Have an increased police presence- which has occurred on several occasions and is effective only when they are there and visible to drivers.
- Request better signage for the area, even a speed sign to indicate the drivers' speed.
- Send a letter from the school to students and parents with a reminder of the speed zones etc.

We would appreciate any help you could offer in dealing with this ongoing issue. Thank you for your time to review our concerns and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

On behalf of Mount Baker Senior Secondary PAC

Lies Salvador, DPAC Rep for Mount Baker

Liz Chaney, PAC Chair MBSS

From: Chad Hughes <chad@elkriveralliance.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 11:49:06 AM
To: Frank Lento <Frank.Lento@sd5.bc.ca>
Cc: Megan Bell <meganbell@live.ca>
Subject: Bus transport for ERA summer camps

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of School District 5. Please do not share information, click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender email address and know the content is safe.

Hi Frank,

Thank you for taking the time to talk this morning. I really appreciate you're willing to go to bat for us! See below for details on our bus/transport request to the school district.

ERA is requesting buses/minivans to transport children and staff during the Elk River Alliance Summer Camps in July and August. I've attached the flyer for last year's camp (cancelled due to covid, but it gives an idea of what we're planning this year). At this stage, we plan to announce the camps and open registration in early/mid April.

Current 2021 camp planning:

- Four, five-day (Mon-Fri) camps in July and August (actual dates TBD, tentative: July 19-23, July 26-30, Aug 9-13, Aug 16-20).
- Two camps for Ages 7-10, and two camps for ages 10+
- Approximately 14-18 children per camp
- Require transport for approximately 2-4 days per camp (subject to program requirements)
- Camp coordinators have class 4 unrestricted licenses.
- Busses would be used to transport children and staff between Sparwood and Lake Kookanusa, generally focused on the Fernie-Elko area.

We prefer to use buses that our staff could drive to allay costs as our funding is a little tight. However, we may look for a grant to cover driver fees etc., if needed.

If there's any additional information needed, please let me know.

Many thanks,

Chad Hughes, BSc Environmental Science
Interim Executive Director
Elk River Watershed Alliance (ERA)
Cell: 250-423-0344
www.elkriveralliance.ca



CAMPERS AGES 8-10

ELK RIVER WATERSHED DISCOVERY CAMP

A one-week summer camp from 9 AM - 4 PM

**JULY 13 TO 17, 2020 OR
AUGUST 17 TO 21, 2020**

Want to have fun this summer exploring the Elk River
Watershed? Join us for this amazing camp!



ENROLL IN CAMP TODAY!

REGISTER BEFORE JUNE 1ST AND YOU COULD WIN BACK YOUR REGISTRATION FEE!*

Enjoy awesome summer activities like:

- Swimming
- Floating
- Outdoor games
- Paddling
- Fishing
- Hiking
- ... and so many more!

Come explore the watershed and learn about its natural beauty from industry professionals!

Registration fee: \$350. Register at the College of the Rockies Fernie Campus.



*Sponsored participants are not eligible for the draw





CAMPERS AGES 11-14

WATER AND WILDERNESS CAMP

A one-week summer camp from 9 AM - 4 PM

**JULY 20 TO 24, 2020 OR
AUGUST 10 TO 14, 2020**

Come explore the Elk River Watershed this summer while learning exciting outdoor skills!



ENROLL IN CAMP TODAY!

REGISTER BEFORE JUNE 1ST AND YOU COULD WIN BACK YOUR REGISTRATION FEE!*

Enjoy awesome summer activities like:

- Rafting
- Swimming
- Floating
- Paddling
- Fishing
- Hiking
- ... and so many more!

You will also learn wilderness skills such as how to navigate a river, build a fire and many more!

Registration fee: \$375. Register at the College of the Rockies Fernie Campus.

*Sponsored participants are not eligible for the draw

