

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY**

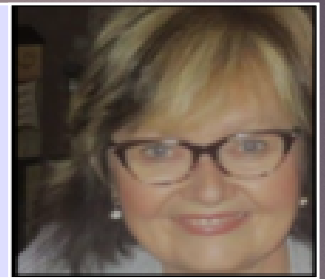
*STUDENTS
LOVE TO LEARN
HERE, STAFF
LOVE TO WORK
HERE,
FAMILIES LOVE
TO GATHER
HERE*

APRIL 2022





FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, SILKE YARDLEY



Dear students, staff and parents:

It is so nice to see the spring weather coming, the grass getting greener and spring flowers starting to bloom. This is a wonderful time to see regrowth and the promise of what is to come.

Spring means that I am close to retiring from a position that I have thoroughly enjoyed and will remember fondly. I want to thank the Board, staff and parents for making me feel so welcome when I moved to the East Kootenays.

School District 5 is a strong, passionate district that is always looking out for what is best for the students and staff. If you have had a chance to look at our School District 5 Facebook page, you will see some of the incredible opportunities for our students each day. That is just one example of the commitment, passion and caring that we all have for our students and each other.

As I am heading into retirement, I will remember my time here very fondly, and remember all the wonderful people I met, and the beauty of the area. I look forward to keeping in touch with the friends I have made, and I am looking forward to seeing where the district goes from here.

I am also very pleased to welcome Viveka Johnson, who will be your new superintendent as of August 1, 2022. It is so nice that she is coming home to her district which she loves and is passionate about. She will be an excellent addition to your district, and I know with her passion, her caring, her experience and her commitment to School District 5, she will lead and support the district professionally and passionately, all the while keeping our students in the forefront.

All the best, and take care of yourselves,

Silke Yardley

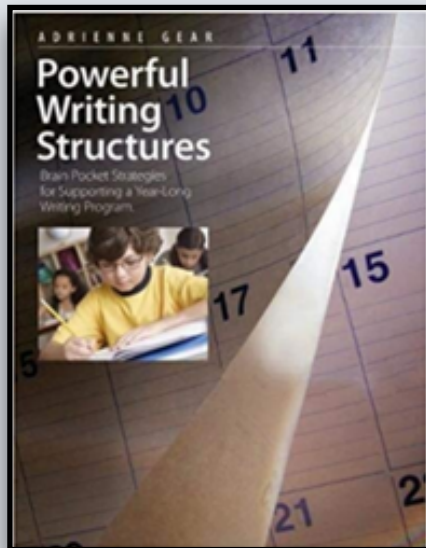
Vision	Mission	Values
Students love to learn here, staff love to work here, families love to gather here.	Our students will graduate with dignity, purpose and options.	Respect, Vision, Fairness, Collaboration, Integrity, Inclusion

COLLABORATIVE INQUIRY

Primary staff from both Frank J Mitchell and Rocky Mountain Elementary schools met with our District Literacy teacher, Erin Jones and TM Roberts teacher, Kerstin Varley on April 7th & 8th at the KLC in Fernie to examine an intervention resource and have an open conversation around early literacy practices. The conversations were open and informative and centered around how to best support our emerging and developing readers; best practice in reading intervention; and some potential next steps. Thank you so much to Kerstin Varley for sharing your knowledge and experience.

RSA DAY

Teachers from most of the elementary schools around the district joined District Literacy teacher Erin Jones, for a full day of learning. They discussed the elements of a powerful writing program, including how to plan, teach, support and assess with intent. They looked at the work of Steve Graham, and the resources of Adrienne Gear to develop a vision for writing that supports all learners. Participants explored how to support emerging and developing writers and intertwine their reading and writing programs to create meaningful, and joy filled experiences for the teacher and the students. Each participant received a copy of Adrienne Gear's Powerful Writing Structures.



KEEP TALKING...

Students in Mlle Brower's senior French class at Elkford Secondary practiced their communication skills to solve a series of puzzles using virtual reality. Students practiced in a fast-paced, high stakes game using their problem-solving skills and a lot of teamwork.



3-2-1 GO!

The Fernie Design Lab has been buzzing with activity with classes coming from across the Elk Valley. Students from Rocky Mountain, FJ Mitchell and Isabella Dicken discovered the fun of robotics and coding using the Lego WeDo building sets. They tested their models using different tire sizes and pulley placements while tweaking their computer code to make their cars go faster. Students tested their race cars on the running track at Fernie Secondary.



Objective: to improve students' ability to be literate at each grade level with an initial focus on the primary years.

Possessing proficient literacy skills gives students the ability to communicate clearly and effectively. Lacking these skills places students at a tremendous disadvantage. Literacy creates opportunities for people to develop skills that will help them provide for themselves and their family as well as becoming positive contributors to society. Literacy is essential to developing a strong sense of well-being and citizenship. Children who have developed strong reading skills perform better in school and have a healthier self-image. They become lifelong learners and sought-after employees.

CLASSROOM ARCADE



Under the tutelage of teacher librarian, Marie Hansen, Mrs. Vander Schee's Grade 5 students at Rocky Mountain Elementary are becoming experts at coding using the Scratch coding program. Mrs. Froehler joined the classroom spending two afternoons introducing them to another coding platform. Students created simple computer games using a platform called Makecode Arcade. Students then transferred their game to a handheld device called the Kitronik ARCADE. They then tested them using the gamepad. The device was able to display the game in color and students were able to use the buttons on the gamepad to play their game.



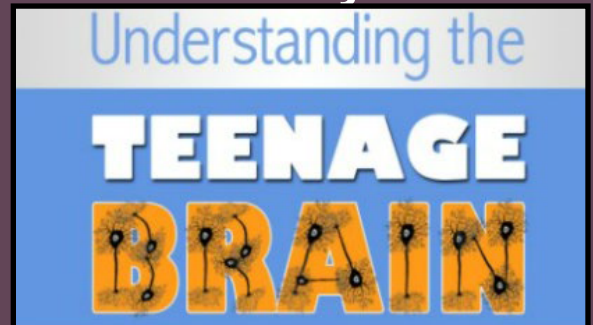
NEW FRENCH IMMERSION DIGITAL RESOURCES

Coming this July 2022, all French Immersion **FOCUSED** K-7 schools will be EDUCATION RESOURCES provided access to these quality Canadian digital resources as part of their Focused ED membership.

IDÉLLO includes over 15,000 French educational resources: videos, games, websites, applications, and teaching tools. These are curated, relevant, and categorized by subject and grade level.

Live It Earth* is a B.C. bilingual (EN/FR) resource with a focus on place-based hybrid learning experiences. It includes hours of cross-curricular programming, informed by Indigenous perspectives, and extensive instructional resources. (*Live it Earth will be available to all K-7 English stream schools as well.)

**Back by Popular
Demand, DPAC
Presents Gary Anaka**



May 24 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
R.S.V.P. to sd5dpac@gmail.com

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MAGNITUDE TEN EFFORT

Students from Mrs. Eadie's grade 4/5 class at TM Roberts and Mrs. Porter's grade 5 class at Amy Woodland

attempted to build structures to withstand a magnitude 10 Lego earthquake. It was a perfect challenge to



practice the design process. Most groups started the day with their buildings failing at magnitude 2 and 3 however, through improvements and innovations throughout the day, many students survived magnitude levels 7, 8 and 9. A couple of groups structures even withstood magnitude 10!

COMPASS PROGRAM

On April 13th, as part of the Compass Program at Laurie Middle School, students spent the morning with the Columbia Outdoor School perfecting their natural shelter building and learning about tarp shelters.



They also played some fun games while learning about different animals. Even though it was chilly, they had a great day getting outdoors without the snow!



CARDBOARD PLAYGROUNDS

Grade 4/5 students at Highlands created cardboard playgrounds using simple machines and make-dos.

The students designed, created, then tested their playgrounds



out using stuffed animals. This was a great cross-curricular project where students explored connections to the core competencies.

IT MELTED

Mr. Flegel's grade 2/3 class at Kootenay Orchards had to abandon their goal of creating a luge track in the back of the field because it did not snow enough. A lot of planning went into the project, including brainstorming, analyzing Olympic luge tracks, and measuring the slope of the hill behind the school. They are keen to try again next year after they got a taste of what it could be by taking a field trip to Kimberley for one last bit of winter fun. They tobogganed down a homemade luge track, went snowshoeing, and made cardboard boats to race down the creek.



Objective: to improve students' skill and confidence in numeracy.

Numeracy is necessary for everyday living. From daily activities like telling the time, baking and playing cards, to more difficult tasks such as understanding budgeting, planning a trip, reading a map and understanding timetables. Numeracy is important for individuals to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies in their everyday activities as well as different career opportunities. We need numeracy to solve problems and make sense of numbers, time, patterns, and shapes for activities like cooking, reading receipts, reading instructions, and even playing sports.



Backpack Buddies

Backpack Buddies is an amazing organization out of North Vancouver that reach out to British Columbia's most vulnerable children; those who face food insecurity over the weekend. Each student registered receives one bag of food each weekend. Each bag of food includes nine meal items, fresh fruit and snacks; enough food to last the entire weekend and beyond. Each bag is ready to eat, non-perishable, and familiar. Backpack Buddies works with schools across BC to deliver food directly to kids through their partnership with BC schools.

Every two weeks, our district receives two pallets of food provisions. They are sorted at the board office and delivered to each school that has requested them. The bags are discreetly distributed to the kids that need them through their Youth Care Worker. Since November, the program in our district has grown from supporting 59 students to 103! We are so thankful for this program and the support they provide these students. Check out their website for more information or to donate.

<https://www.backpackbuddies.ca/>

STRONGSTART'S FAMILY FUN NIGHT!

Family Fun Night has come to an end for this school year. It was held at Amy Woodland Elementary on Tuesdays evenings and at Steeples Elementary on Thursdays evenings. A light supper was provided for the families and lots of gym time available. The program had full attendance at both schools.



Watch for it to start up again in the fall. Sign up will be required and there will be space for 8 families.



CHICKS, CHICKS, AND MORE CHICKS



Our 6 incubators, chick life cycle kits, posters, and brooder lights have been put to good use this spring and as promised, we have started getting reports of successful hatches.

Carolyn Cross' kindergarten class at Kootenay Orchards welcomed 24 chicks late last month as they learned about oviparous animals, eggs, the chick life cycle, and the care of baby animals.



READY, SET, LEARN

All of our elementary schools have set dates for their Ready, Set, Learn events and a number have already taken place. Kindergarten orientations will take place during the month of June.



Objective: to improve the percentage of students who feel there are two or more adults in their school who care about them.

Young people need to be surrounded by people who love, care for, appreciate and accept them. Other adult relationships are one of the positive supports that young people need to succeed. A resiliency is fostered when the young person receives support from three or more non-parent adults.

MEET ÉCOLE TM ROBERTS'S NEWEST STUDENT

On Tuesday, April 26, 2022, École TM Roberts staff and students welcomed a new friend who joined their community from Ukraine.

This little boy along with his mama and younger brother left behind the world they once knew including their beloved Papa. They have come to Cranbrook to live in peace and are currently living with family.



Despite speaking very little English, he will catch on quickly! His cousin who is in French Immersion at École TM Roberts and is also from Ukraine has been a big help with interpreting and providing encouragement and moral support along the way; this included taking the bus to school on day one!



Miss Sheryl, her student teacher Miss Fletcher and the students have been so kind and welcoming and the excitement of baby chicks hatching made for the best first day ever!

When the ELL teacher was in to observe she said, "He couldn't be in a better place. I was so impressed with her warmth and understanding. She gave him a present as he left for home yesterday. You can't tell me that teachers can't change lives. She even had sunflowers on the wall."



As a community, we have an amazing opportunity; we will make a difference in the life of a child who at the age of 8 has already been through more than most can ever imagine. What a brave, strong human. We can learn so much from this young child.

As he left from his first touring of his new school, he said, "*I am happy.*"

That is what really matters in life!



Objective: to improve the quality of student's feeling welcome, safe and connected to their school community.

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, states basic needs must be met before humans can feel safe and secure. Those humans need to feel safe and secure before they can trust relationships and love that strengthens the sense of belonging. Belonging is essential before a person develops enough self-esteem and worth to create a feeling of accomplishment. All these need to be in place to achieve one's full potential.

Mental Health First Aid Basic is intended for adults interacting with adults (18 years and older). This course focuses on the four most common mental health disorders including substance, mood, anxiety and trauma, and psychotic disorders. Participants who take this course are well prepared to interact confidentially about mental health with their family, friends, communities, and workplaces.

On May 17 and 18, we will have 25 participants from across our district attend this two-day training event provided to us by the Canadian Mental Health Association.

“We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Education.”

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is a two-day interactive workshop in suicide first aid. ASIST teaches participants to recognize when someone may have thoughts of suicide and work with them to create a plan that will support their immediate safety. Although ASIST is widely used by healthcare providers, participants don't need any formal training to attend the workshop — anyone 18 or older can learn and use the ASIST model. This session will be provided, in partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association, to select staff on June 14th & 15th at the KLC in Fernie.

INTRODUCING LIVE IT EARTH

Coming to the BC Digital Classroom this fall. The District Resource Center is so excited about the partnership School District 5 and Focused have worked out with this new Canadian-developed Digital Science Resource! Teachers and administrators can get a sneak peek at the latest here:

[Live It Earth Link.](#)

Have you checked out [CBEEN's Spring Virtual Workshop Series?](#)

There are still four sessions left in this outdoor learning opportunity!



**4 PM PT
7 PM ET
Thursdays
Apr - Jun 2022**

CBEEN's Outdoor Learning 2022 Spring Virtual Workshop Series!

14 April 2022 Mapmaking with Children: Sense of Place Education for the Elementary Years	21 April 2022 Looking Closely: Supporting K-7 Emergent Inquiry Outdoors	28 April 2022 The School Garden Curriculum: Discovering Science, Ecology & Whole-Systems Thinking
12 May 2022 Walking Forward: Indigenous Perspectives in Learning from Place	26 May 2022 FoodCycler for Schools: Activating School Communities to Reduce Food Waste	9 June 2022 Indigenous Resources for Educators and Learners

REGISTER AT [CBEEN.CA/WORKSHOPS](https://cbeen.ca/workshops)

Objective: students will successfully graduate with BC Graduation certificates (Dogwood) that will better lead to attaining career and occupational objectives.

Student completion of the Graduation program with a Dogwood certificate is a necessary and vital prerequisite to a successful transition to post-secondary programs or to viable employment. A successful graduation is important to prepare students to attain their career and occupational objectives; to assist in the development of effective work habits and the flexibility to deal with change in the workplace

LEGACY OF LEARNING CONNECTS THE BASIN



[Articulate Spring 2022 web.pdf \(wkartscouncil.com\)](#)

by Erin Knutson

CBIRH board chair and SD#5 Trustee Chris Johns (left) and CBIRH founder Derryll White celebrate the installation of a Jaffray history digital display at the First Perk Coffee House. Photo: Erin Knutson

Since its inception in 2013, the Legacy of Learning Project has built bridges in the community. The Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History (CBIRH) has partnered successfully with School Districts #5 and #6 to preserve the unique educational history of the communities in those areas.

Through the partnerships, the CBIRH has brought childhood roots back to life. Its mission is to preserve and save precious school memorabilia through multimedia presentations, yearbook displays and the archiving and exhibition of artifacts.

As the project expands, the delivery methods continue to grow as the CBIRH team embarks on a journey to tell the story of the Columbia Basin's history through its schools.

“Our community needs to know from whence it came, what the training ground was where we learned to proceed civilly,” says CBIRH historian and founder, Derryll White.

White recognized a need to prevent further losses when he saw the disposal of school items with the change of an administration or the closing of a school. People's lives and childhood memories forever lost to the abyss of a landfill or a basement sparked the movement by the CBIRH to ensure that institutional memory remained a vital part of local history.

“Right now, we are working on growing the network and letting communities in these districts know that we are collecting the educational legacy of the region,” says White.

According to White, unearthing the foundations on which society is built through the education of young people while preserving and presenting these collective educational memories through different mediums is paramount to the area's identity. “School memories are things that build as one grows older, fostering a pleasing sense of community.”

The impetus for the project resulted from a combination of elements, including the work of SD#5 trustee and CBIRH board chair Chris Johns. Johns was instrumental in developing and constructing a relationship with the school districts. A lifelong educator, Johns' interest in preserving the legacy of his students was part of the vision to create multimedia exhibits for several locations, including the SD#5 and #6 board offices, the Kootenay Learning Campus and First Perk Coffee House in Jaffray. “It's part of the mission to protect school legacy through the storage and preservation of it,” he says.

Johns believes that learning about school history is vital to progress. However, without an attempt to retain and showcase school history, the story at the foundational level has missing pieces. “Learnings about the past are lessons going forward,” he says.

With the help of SD#5 board chair Frank Lento, Johns transformed the CBIRH office in Cranbrook to include an archives room for artifact storage and to house a school trophy exhibit. The room itself is a mark of progress for the project and the CBIRH. It continues to evolve, representing a change for the Institute, which has grown despite the pandemic and ever-changing funding streams in the heritage, arts and culture sector.

Along with former CBIRH executive director and current business manager Anna Majkowski, volunteers, donations and the help of board members, the Legacy of Learning Project is beginning to find traction with the goal to encompass the entire Columbia Basin. “We want to look at how different the Kootenays are compared with larger areas. Working on this project has helped us define Basin culture, which is different from the Lower Mainland and rooted in schools,” says Majkowski.

Majkowski emphasizes that grad boards (thumbnails of individual grad class photos) and yearbooks are being siphoned off and discarded, erasing valuable school landmarks. “If we don't have access to these visuals, childhood memories are lost, people's roots to their communities are lost.”

As the project proceeds, representing all the schools within the region and showcasing their history is at the forefront of the CBIRH's agenda. “Legacy of Learning will help foster ideas for the communities about where they've grown up and where they've come from while documenting and providing an opportunity to learn from the past. Community starts with the schools,” says Majkowski.

As the CBIRH moves forward with this project and others, school history is one way the Institute will continue with its mandate to protect and showcase local history.

For more information on the CBIRH, visit basininstitute.org. To view the organization's work in the South Country visit trianglewomensinstitute.ca.

Erin Knutson is the executive director of the Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History.

LOCAL EDUCATION AGREEMENT

At the end of April, the team was very excited to travel to Tobacco Plains to meet face to face to discuss a Local Education Agreement. While there have been a series of successful meetings online, this was the first opportunity to meet in person. We are progressing well through the provincial template and very much look forward to implementing the positive, proactive ideas being discussed at the table.

CORE COMPETENCIES WORK

The Indigenous Education department has been happy to work with teachers from Highlands Elementary on incorporating Ktunaxa animals and artistry into a Core Competencies project. Thanks to Tera Merkel, Shelia O'Grady and Faye O'Neil for taking on this project and presenting it to others in the district (and beyond!).

HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

With less than 2 months left in this school year, Human Resources is in full swing of planning this year's retirement party. This year's celebrations will take place on June 9, 2022, at the Prestige in Cranbrook with invitations going out early next week.

We have posted two exciting vice principal opportunities, one at Jaffray Elementary Jr. Secondary School and another in Cranbrook at Kootenay Orchards Elementary School. We are also in the process of searching for a Principal at Elkford Secondary School. As we start to wind down the CUPE postings for this year we are already planning for the next school year as we continue to recruit in the areas of mechanics, plumbers, education assistants, aboriginal education support workers and bus drivers. We also have a posting on our website for teachers teaching on call for next year and we expect to start short listing successful applicants over the next few weeks.

Please visit our website for more details or email HR@sd5.bc.ca.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



Children and Youth with Support Needs Framework Engagement: The Ministry of Children and Family Development is inviting families, services providers, and sector partners to participate in an [online survey](#) on the [Children and Youth with Support Needs \(CYSN\) Service Framework](#). The CYSN Service Framework describes a vision for a new, provincial service-delivery model. The survey is open until September 9, 2022. Please visit govTogetherBC for more information.

Leading Change Program: Applications are being accepted until April 29 for the Leading Change program. Developed by the Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) and the non-profit Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC) and funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada, this 18-month program (May 2022-October 2023) is for ECEs who are interested in developing a local community change project that positively impacts the Early Care and Learning sector. Register for a Q&A session on April 20 at 6:30 pm PT to learn more about the program.

Moose Hide Campaign Day 2022: This year the Moose Hide Campaign Day of ceremony and fasting is taking place on May 12, 2022. Please visit the [Moose Hide Campaign website](#) to order pins, register for the livestreams, or find educational resources.

Traditional Foods and Indigenous Recipes Webinar: There is still space to register for the webinar on May 12, 2022, from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The webinar will include a presentation from three Indigenous chefs and knowledge keepers on the findings from Feed BC's 2020 Traditional Foods and Indigenous Recipes in B.C.'s Public Institutions report, with a discussion on how schools can consider ways to integrate Indigenous recipes and traditional foods and practices for B.C. schools. Please send an email to christina.waters@gov.bc.ca by May 9 to register.