

SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

Superintendent's Report to the Board

February, 2019



Lynn Hauptman - Superintendent

The Busy Season is Upon Us!

The School Year is always busy for everyone involved but this year presents some unique needs all within a small window. Our District Staff will be very busy in the next coming months on (in no particular order):

- Building School Budgets for next year
- Staffing for Next Year
- Local Bargaining with CUPE
- Local Bargaining with CFTA
- And the other usual day to day "stuff"



School Growth Plans Now Available

School staffs have completed the work on their Growth Plans and they are now available for viewing on the individual school's web-sites under the Tab: About the School. School administration also recently shared their Growth Plans with our Board of Education. These plans are the road maps for schools to focus on student achievement. Staffs are commended for the very thorough work done to ensure our students are successful. There is a focus on such things as reading and writing improvement, numeracy, social and emotional learning, self-regulation and, of course, the renewed curriculum with a focus on embedding Aboriginal Perspectives and inquiry and project or place-conscious learning.

District Framework for Student Achievement

Check out the newly launched Framework for Student Achievement [here](#) that outlines our plan and district initiatives for continuing to improve. A huge thank you to Jason Tichauer who took the lead on this project and the Committee Members who helped to contribute to this project that include: Teachers Adrienne Demers (committee co-chair), Catherine Fillis, Sean Sinclair, Diane Wolchuk Shelley Balfour and Chris Kielinski (CFTA Co-Chairs); Principal and Vice-Principal reps Erin Hay and Bill Johnson; District Management reps Diane Casault, Brent Reimer and Jennifer Roberts. And finally a big shout-out to Executive Assistant Gail Rousseau who pulled it all together into the final magazine format. This is best viewed in its digital format so that the links can be accessed for video links and other data sources.

Grizzlies Stick Together

"We just want you to know that we're all with you; Grizzlies stick together," said Rocky Mountain Elementary School vice principal, Thomas Skelton, to 10-year-old Kaleb Hills-Dagenais.

In support of Kaleb, the school modified their school shirts with a message about the Elkford youth who is currently battling cancer.

On the back of the shirt it reads: 'A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.'

"You are a hero to us, how positive you've stayed, climbing eight stairs to get up somewhere. We're proud of you," said Skelton.

To read the full story visit:

<https://www.thefreepress.ca/.../elkford-boy-10-brave-in-the-.../>

To support Kaleb and his family visit:

<https://www.gofundme.com/6l0sjz4>



Lynn Hauptman - Superintendent

MBSS Art Story

"Only so many words can adequately describe the pleasure that I had while attending the art exhibit that the Mount Baker art classes put together last week. With Aurora Gagnon singing, different styles of art flooding the room, and the captivating architecture of the "Studio and Stage Door" -- it all culminated to create a delightful atmosphere that kept me smiling from the moment I entered the building. Without a single note of disappointment, I can firmly say that the Mount Baker art exhibit was an absolute sensation." *written by Rhys Boekelheide , student, MBSS*



Thank you to Fort Steele Heritage Town! They are giving every student in our district a free day pass to the Fort which will be sent home in their June report card!!!!

Canadian Parents For French!
check out this link!
CPF

Cranbrook and Jaffray students in K-3 will be attending the 26 Letter Dance at the Key City Theatre on April 4 free of charge! Thanks to our great community partners!

Dr. Linda O'Neill

On February 1st, our educators had the opportunity to spend a half day with Dr. Linda O'Neill who spoke to us about building respectful, challenging and empowering learning environments for our students and, in particular, for our students who have previously experienced trauma. Dr. O'Neill graciously agreed to spend the morning at Fernie Secondary School for our educators from Sparwood, Elkford, Fernie, and Jaffray and the afternoon at Parkland Middle School with our Cranbrook educators.



Growing Innovation in Rural Sites of Learning: 2018-2019

Two projects from Sparwood Secondary, one from Elkford Secondary and a project submitted from our District Helping Teachers will be receiving a financial grant of \$1000 each from the Rural Advisory Committee!! Exciting News!

Education Update

Ministry of Education



FOR ACTION, SUPERINTENDENTS, PRINCIPALS & TEACHERS – 2019 Premier’s Awards for



Excellence in Education: The second annual [Premier’s Awards for Excellence in Education](#) is now open for nominations. See the news release below for additional details.

FOR ACTION, PRINCIPALS – DUE AUGUST 14, 2019 – BC Training & Education Savings Grant

Deadlines for Students: Eligible BC children ages six through nine qualify for a \$1,200 grant when they sign up for a [Registered Education Savings Plan \(RESP\)](#). No additional contribution is required. For children born in 2006, the deadline is August 14, 2019 and for children born in 2010, they have until the day before their 9th birthday.



FOR INFO, SUPERINTENDENTS, PRINCIPALS & COUNSELLORS – Provincial Scholarship Program:

Applications for the BC Excellence and Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarships are due February 15, 2019. Information on these and other scholarships are available on the [Provincial Scholarships Program Information for Students web page](#). Please contact scholarships@gov.bc.ca if you have any questions.

News from Schools



Snowshoeing at RMES



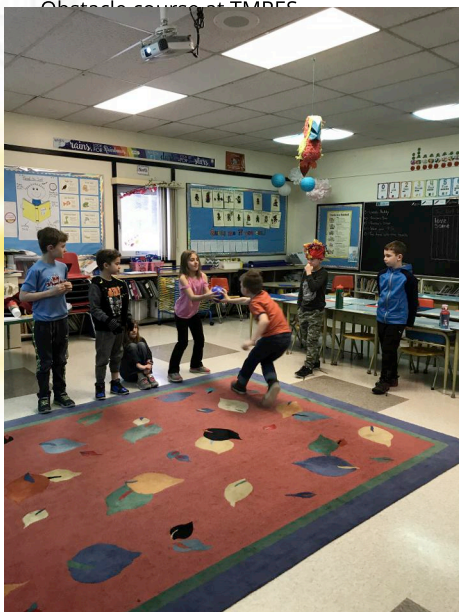
Art by Mr. Bartraw's class at HES



Obstacle course at TMPEF



Hydroponics garden in the science lab at SSS



Piccadilly Circus from the "Play is the Way Program" at FJMES



Kindergartens in their new playground at IDES

Director of Student Learning and Innovation - Diane Casault

Community Field Experience with our UBC partner (CFE)

The key purpose of the Community Field Experience is for teacher candidates to experience teaching and learning in a new context that provides a more holistic view of teaching and enhances the teacher candidate's formal teaching experience.

Southeast Kootenay is excited to welcome six teacher candidates this coming spring. Three teachers will be experiencing our area from April 23 to May 10 (secondary) while the other three elementary teachers will be here from June 10 to 28th. They will have an opportunity to “showcase their educational knowledge and skill” while at the same time establishing connections with communities and classrooms. <http://cfe.educ.ubc.ca/>



Practicum Placements and COTR

As always, we are pleased to be in partnership with the COTR and the East Kootenay Teacher Education Program (EKTEP). We currently have several students completing practicums in our schools. (7 Post Degree students, 5 Year 4 students, 7 Year 3 students and 7 year 2 students). We also have teacher candidates from U Vic, U of C, UBCO, U of L, Lethbridge College, UNBC and McGill. In addition, we are supporting 2 teacher counselling and 1 School Psychologist placements. This would not be possible without the great mentor teachers in our District. Thank you for your time and expertise!



Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education- Jason Tichauer

School and Community Mental Health Conference

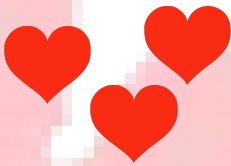
This past week, we were able to send our district Mental Health Literacy team to the 2nd annual Ministry of Education Mental Health Conference. Thank you very much to the Ministry for providing funding for our team of local folks to attend! Our district team is Sharlene Charest, Tessa Rokosh, Jennifer Adams, Viveka Johnson, Lynn Hauptman and myself. A lot of valuable information was received on how to prioritize and implement our District Mental Health Action plan over the next few years. We have already started to train our staffs on this important initiative, based on destigmatizing Mental Health conversations and fueling these necessary conversations with proper terminology and information.

On a related note, after a few glitches at the provincial level, the ERASE report it on-line reporting tool is now live and operative!

erase not knowing | embrace open conversations

Aboriginal Education

This week sees the second meeting of the Enhancement Agreement Review Committee. We are sharing our latest graduation results with the committee and will also be reporting on the feedback received from our student surveys last spring. We are investigating small changes to make this survey even more informative and impactful to our practice.



Thinking Classrooms Initiative

This week, Dr. Judy Larsen is back for the 2nd in-service day with our new 'Thinking Classrooms' cohort in conjunction with SD6. Teachers from almost all of our middle and secondary schools will be gathering again for a very interactive and positive session to continue the work of Dr. Liljedahl and others who have dramatically changed not just pedagogical approaches to the classroom, but have made us look differently at the basic concept of 'classroom' in general.



Director of Instruction, Human Resources - Brent Reimer

Staffing for the current school year continues for secondary schools as second semester blocks have been posted and filled. To date there have been 179 teacher postings and 132 CUPE postings for the 2018-2019 school year.

The School Joint Occupational Health and Safety teams are receiving a day's training on February 13, 2019. The teams are receiving in-service on their roles and responsibilities to help them better serve their mandate under WSBC requirements.

Planning for the 2019-2020 school year has begun. District staff will be meeting with school principals/vice principals in late February to discuss staffing and student projections.

Registration for the next year has officially started as of February 1, 2019. With the expectancy of new registrations, also comes the process of out of catchment transfer requests. This process of requesting a placement outside of the catchment also commences the first day of February. Requests received before Feb 28, 2019 will be reviewed according to District policy 3.1 with decisions being made on the requests by the end of May.

CUPE bargaining with local 4165 will begin February 6, where protocol exchange will take place. We look forward to productive sessions in the upcoming weeks.



School Psychologist Position

We are pleased to welcome Olivia Griffioen to School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay) as our new School Psychologist in the Elk Valley (0.3 FTE).

Dakota, a therapy dog from Therapeutic Paws of Canada and Kendra his handler reading with a student at Highlands.



District Principal Student Services - Darcy Verbeurgt

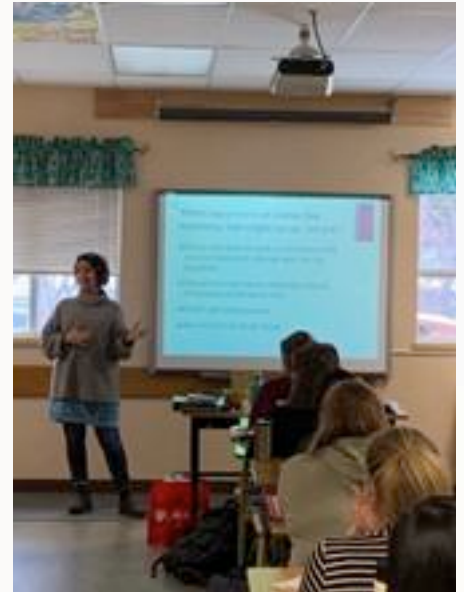
Professional Development on February 1

In addition to the keynote speaker, Dr. Linda O'Neill, Educational Assistants, Youth Care Workers and Aboriginal Education Support Workers in the Elk Valley and in Cranbrook enjoyed a fantastic choice of workshops and professional development opportunities on Friday, February 1, 2019.

Workshop choices in **Cranbrook** included:



- Positive Behaviour Management with Susy Passey
- Move Work Breathe – A Program for Sensory Regulation with Carmen Olver
- Sound Connections with Sue Robertson
- Assessment of Lagging Skills for Students with Behaviour Difficulties with Megan Stasuik
- AAC Strategies for Classroom Success with Liza Frieri



Workshop choices in the **Elk Valley** included:

- Move Work Breathe with Renee Fairchild
- Hearing Loss, Technology and Effective Learning Strategies with Sarah Paziuk
- Communication and Behaviour with Adele Minto and Lesley Runzer
- Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) with Helen McAllister
- What Are Good Emotions Anyway? with Kari Olson



Here is a short video of the fantastic work support services do in our district!!!



Mandt Recertifications will be throughout the month of February. Mandt Relational Skills – Chapters 1 through 3 Training was held on Friday, January 18. There were 15 participants in this workshop.



The Mandt System

District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

Winter Wonder with Wildsight! Wildsight continues to awe the children and staff of School District 5 with the amazing learning opportunities OUTSIDE the classroom. Gordon Terrace (left) spent a beautiful afternoon at Elizabeth Lake learning about the environment and Kootenay Orchards (right) conducted experiments with thermal energy.



Computational Thinking, Place Based, Transformative Learning...You Name It...our Teachers of Transformative Learning have it all COVERED!

TM Roberts students in Catherine Laporte's class learned the basics of Design and Coding with different tools like the Microbits, Makey Makeys and LEGO WeDo Kits.

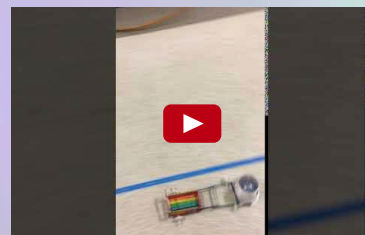
They were then challenged with designing and building a wearable device that solved a problem. Finally, they created a commercial to showcase their projects.

Overheating seemed to be one common problem to solve with these two groups creating devices that regulate body temperature. Check out these videos!



Check out the Racing WeDo Robots in this video!

The Sphero Tractor Pull at Isabella Dicken!



Congratulations to **Carissa Hart's Class at TM Roberts!** The class was the GRAND PRIZE winner in the **Take Me Outside for Learning School Year Challenge**. The class received 2 nights at Blue Lake Camp!



District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

Creating Paper Circuits at Elkford Secondary School



Students at Elkford Secondary have been immersed in MicroBits, Paper circuits and Spheros. They created beautiful paper lanterns.

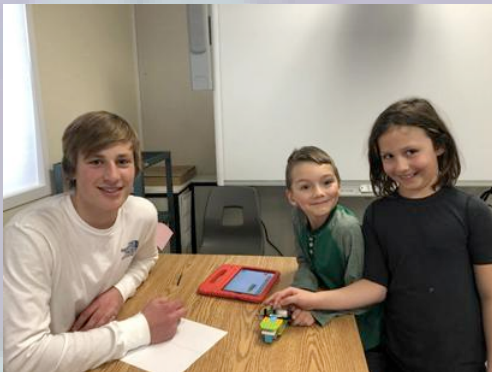


Isabella Dicken & Fernie Secondary – Design Bubble Wands

Mrs. Sutherland's Grade 1-2 class and Mrs. Lloyd's Computer 10-12 class worked together at Fernie Secondary before the winter break to draft and design bubble wands on Tinkercad, a 3D modeling program.

In January, both classes came together at the Fernie Design Lab to see their bubble wands created on the 3D printer!

The two classes also worked through some Design and Science challenges using the Lego WeDo kits. Students learned about the stages in the life cycle of a frog. They documented the changes of their frog from birth to adult.



*Design Lab 1 –
Gordon Terrace
at the Design Lab
in Cranbrook*

SD5 Scratch-A-Thon



Coming Soon!

Stay Tuned for More Details