

SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

Superintendent's Report to the Board

March, 2019



Lynn Hauptman - Superintendent



For a short month, we manage to make February a very busy month in our school district. It is the new semester for all of our high school students and the Grade 12 students are ensuring they are ready for Commencement in just a few months. Scholarship information was also shared with our schools and the information can be found on our website [here](#)

February is also the month to celebrate Random Acts of Kindness throughout many of our schools and the very important Pink Shirt Day. We received many pictures showcasing this event where schools emphasize the importance of being kind to everyone. Check out some of the pictures we have included.



The Regional Science Fair preparations are also in full swing as it takes place at the College of the Rockies on March 8 and 9th. Many of our schools held their own Science Fairs as the build-up to this event.

I also attended the Deputy Minister's meeting with all Superintendents on February 21st where we focused on Government Activities and Priorities, Capacity Building in Key Priority Areas (Truth and Reconciliation, Mental Health, Early Learning and Child Care, and Children and Youth in Care), District Frameworks for Enhancing Student Learning, and the Funding Review. The following day Superintendents, Secretary-Treasurers and Board Chairs met with Ministry people again in the 3rd Annual Partnership Meeting. After hearing from the Minister of Education Rob Fleming, further information was shared and discussed about the Aboriginal Tripartite Agreement, Bargaining Update and the Funding Review.



Finally, our District Team has been preparing for bargaining with our own CUPE Local 4165 and our Cranbrook Fernie Teacher's Association (CFTA) and our first few meetings are already underway. We also met with all of our schools in order to build the budget for the upcoming school year. This will be Secretary-Treasurer Rob Norum's final budget for our School District after 34 years of dedicated service to our school district. Rob will be officially finished at the end of this month but will be consulting with the district as part of the transition with our new Secretary-Treasurer Alan Rice. I know you all join me in thanking Rob for his passion and dedication to education for Southeast Kootenay School District. You will be missed!

Education Update

Ministry of Education



NEW MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS – [Students supported by new school mental health resources](#)

Here is the latest news from government on measles vaccinations – still voluntary.

<https://vancouversun.com/news/politics/b-c-government-to-boost-immunization-strategy-for-measles>

BCSTA
British Columbia
School Trustees
Association

BCSTA's 115th Annual General Meeting information

BCSTA Regional Leadership Series, Cranbrook, B.C. April 15 & 16, 2019

**Kootenay Boundary Branch
AGM - September 27-29,
2019 location TBD**

News from Schools



Take me Outside Day at JEJSS



Library Club at Amy Woodland



Ice Fishing success! Students in Carissa Hart's class at T.M. Roberts Elementary enjoyed an outdoor adventure and even caught a fish!!!



Regional Skills Competition March 1, 2019



Pink Shirt Day Assembly at GTES

Director of Student Learning and Innovation - Diane Casault



School District 5 is inviting all three-to -five year olds to school! *Ready, Set, Learn (RSL)* is an early learning initiative sponsored by the Ministry of Education. Schools that participate in *Ready, Set, Learn* will receive funding to help plan school-based community events. *Ready, Set, Learn* is intended to facilitate partnerships between schools, local community agencies and early childhood service providers. Funds may augment activities already underway within your school district and community, or support new activities.

Ready, Set, Learn is intended for families of three- to five-year-olds to develop positive connections with the school system and with participating community agencies.

Events may include activities such as:

- a tour of the school, visits to classrooms and/or visits to the school library;
- interactive play activities for children and their parents;
- information sessions for parents and caregivers;
- engagement of the school's older students to act as tour guides and ambassadors;
- applications for local public library cards;
- presentations or displays by the school, school district, or by participating community partners (Health Authorities, Early Years Centres, etc.); and/or
- other activities appropriate to influence school readiness.



APRIL 26 & 27, 2019
St. Eugene Resort
7777 Mission Road
Cranbrook, BC Canada

WELCOME TO "IMAGINE-NURTURE-GROW" 2019 EAST KOOTENAY EARLY YEARS CONFERENCE

It is with great pleasure that the planning committee welcomes you to the 2019 East Kootenay Early Years Conference. We are very excited about this year's inspiring and educational program. The conference is hosted by East Kootenay Children First/Success By 6. The planning committee is made up of regional service providers that work directly with children and families. Committee members have worked to ensure this is an educational and fun conference. We are very grateful to have the conference in such a beautiful area, and would like to honour and give thanks that we are on the traditional territory of the Ktunaxa People, specifically ʔaq'am First Nation. We also would like to acknowledge and thank Chelsea Nicholas, Ktunaxa Nation member and presenter, who will be doing the Friday evening welcoming prayer, and Joe Pierre, ʔaq'am First Nation's Nasukin (Chief) and presenter, who will be doing Saturday morning welcoming prayer. Our goal for the conference is to empower, educate and connect participants. We have collectively put together a program that will provide opportunities for professional development for those who work with young children and families in child care settings, family resource programs, primary school educators, community development and other community programs. The conference will also be of interest to parents, grandparents, caregivers and those looking to make a positive impact in children's lives.

We are excited to invite you to come and discover how to "Imagine, Nurture and Grow" with us this April.

Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education- Jason Tichauer

Aboriginal Education

Recently we have reopened our Local Education Agreement discussions with a team from ?aq'am. While we have a signed LEA, it has become quite dated, and there is a want from both our District and the Band to have a more modern document that is not only reflective of the excellent relationship between the parties, but is also aligned with our Enhancement Agreement.

In addition, there is impetus from the Ministry to have updated Local Education Agreements as part of the newly signed BC Tripartite Agreement. We look forward to the great discussions and initiatives that these meetings have generated!

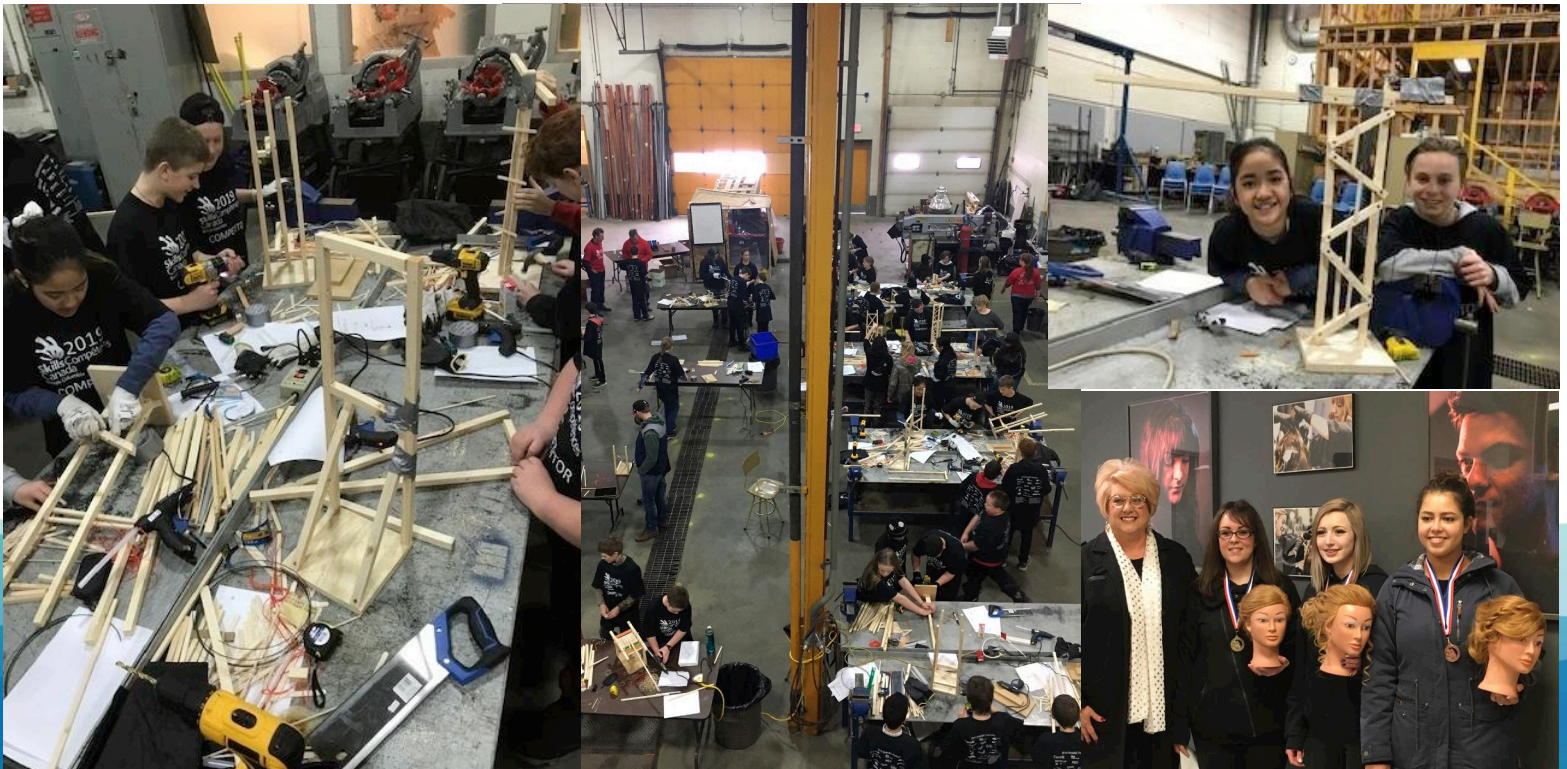
Skills Canada Regional Competition

On Friday, March 1st, the annual Skills Canada Regional Competition was held at the College of the Rockies campus, Mount Baker Secondary and Fabrite in Cranbrook. This competition provides local students from across our communities with opportunities to discover, explore and showcase in-demand careers from a variety of sectors. Over 100 students will be competing!

Secondary Students will be competing in events such as Welding, Photography, Hairdressing, Carpentry, Cabinet Making, Public Speaking, Video Production and Architectural design. Junior (Grades 6 and 7) students will be competing in a 'Mega Maker Day' competition.

Special thanks to our folks who have worked tirelessly to make this happen. In particular, Karen Kettenacker from MBSS is the Regional Coordinator for Skills BC, and along with Paul Duczek is hosting on behalf of MBSS. Brian Conrad, our transitions coordinator is very involved as well. Thanks again!

We will keep you updated on any Southeast Kootenay winners who may be going on to the Provincial Skills BC Championships!



Director of Instruction, Human Resources - Brent Reimer

Human resources has posted 182 teaching and 149 CUPE positions to date for the 2018-19 school year. Planning for next year has begun. School Principals/Vice Principals met with District staff planning for staffing for the coming school year. We had productive conversations in the last week of February in that regard.

We are advertising for qualified TTOCs, EAs and Secretaries for our casual list for next school year. This is done with the anticipation of upcoming retirements and movement of staff within the district.

The new joint Occupational Health and Safety Teams from each school met on Feb 13, 2019 to receive a day of training to help them meet their mandated requirements. We thank Dave Cavezza from School District 23 and Larry Dureski from School District 5 for their providing in-service for this day.

Local bargaining is under way with CUPE local 4165 and the CFTA. We look forward to productive discussions with both unions.



Youth Care Worker Position

Congratulations to our new YCW Amanda Culver. Amanda will be working between Rocky Mountain Elementary and Elkford Secondary.

District Principal Student Services - Darcy Verbeurgt

March 8 and 9 at the College of the Rockies!



The East Kootenay Regional Science Fair is pleased to report that 33 students have registered for the Non-Competitive Fair and 78 have registered for the Competitive Science Fair. Results of the 2019 Science Fair will be available in the next Superintendent's Report and in the Learning Leaders News.



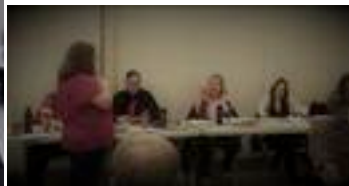
English Language Learners

The Cranbrook Board Office hosted the workshop "Strategies to use with ELL Students" on Thursday, February 28. This workshop was facilitated by SD5 ELL Teacher, Patricia Michael. A similar workshop will be coming to the Elk Valley after Spring Break and Paddy is presenting at the Regional Specialists Association Professional Day in April.



The Mandt System

February was a busy month for Mandt Recertifications. Over 60 staff including Aboriginal Education Support Workers, Youth Care Workers, Educational Assistants, Student Services Teachers, Counsellors and Administrators were recertified. Thank you to our Mandt Instructors – Darcy Verbeurgt, Julie Russchen, Megan Stasuik, Kim McKeown and Michelle Iaccobucci.



District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

Technology

TM Roberts and Parkland Middle roll outs were completed in the fall of 2018. The Technology Department is now starting on Mount Baker Senior Secondary. During the 2018-2019 roll outs, Windows 10 was installed on all computers.

Windows 10



All computers that are running Windows 7 will be reimaged to Windows 10 by the end of the summer. Windows 7 is almost at the "end of life" and will no longer be supported by Microsoft.

Transformative Learning

[The WonderLab Project](#) – a modern learning service designed in collaboration with educators, students, community partners and other educational stakeholders to better support educators in preparing students for future success.

Growing Innovation was "conceived as a partnership between the Ministry of Education and the University of BC through the office of the Eleanor Rix Professorship of Rural Teacher Education".

Congratulations to our Teachers of Transformative Learning, Kim Froehler, Ryan McKenzie and Analesa Crooks-Eadie for being awarded \$1,000 from the Growing Innovation Fund for the project "Sparking Student Engagement with Immersive Virtual Reality Experiences".

In the Recording Studio at Mount Baker...

Mount Baker Music Department is composing a film score for educational purposes for **BBC Blue Planet**. Listen here to a few examples.

More from Mount Baker Music



The Mount Baker Concert Choir was invited to perform on stage with Foreigner at Western Financial Place on February 26th. The choir was recognized by the band's "Grammy In The Schools" Program, designed to promote and support music programs in schools all across the US and Canada.

Creative Classrooms

Rocky Mountain's Most Magnificent Thing School Project!

Students at Rocky Mountain Elementary design magnificent things out of empty boxes, practicing the stages of critical thinking along the way.



Here at Rocky Mountain Elementary School our focus for our project was on **Critical Thinking**, one of the core competencies of the redesigned curriculum. Critical thinking, or the need to think deeper and differently about a subject, are important qualities to instill in children to help them navigate through their learning and their lives. Critical thinking skills will help students learn to interpret and understand information, rather than simply memorizing it. Students will be designing "magnificent things" out of empty boxes, practicing the stages of critical thinking along the way.

District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

ZomBee Watch

Fernie Secondary School has been selected to test the new Citizen Science kits for Nat Geo Education. Harmony Lloyd's Science classes will be using ZomBee Watch, a citizen science project sponsored by San Francisco State University and partnered with Planet Bee Foundation. ZomBee Watch was initiated as a follow up to the discovery that the Zombie Fly (*Apocephalus borealis*) is parasitizing honey bees in California and possibly other areas of North America. The parasitized honey bees become "ZomBees" showing the "Zombie Like behaviour" of leaving their hives at night on a flight of the living dead. Stay tuned for more information!



Harvest Bin Project

Fernie Secondary School has been selected to participate in the Harvest Bin Project with BC Agriculture in the Classroom. Through the Harvest Bin Project, Fernie Secondary will be provided with raised beds and seed money for establishing their own growing garden. Thank you to Harmony Lloyd for seeking out this wonderful experience for our students.



Place Based Learning

Congratulations to William Percy of Elkford Secondary School for being awarded \$1,000 from the Growing Innovation Fund for the project, "Take a Tree, Plant a Tree".

Congratulations to Justin Hart and Stephen Larsen for being awarded \$1,000 also from the Growing Innovation Fund for their project, "Elk Valley Schools and the Trans Canada Trail".



*Steeple Elementary sledding on Wilderness
Wednesday*

*Exploring TM Roberts
Elementary garden*

