



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

March 9, 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 March 9, 2021 be approved as [circulated/amended].

**1.3. Approval of the Minutes**

5

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

**1.4. Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings**

13

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

**1.5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

**1.5.1. Kootenay Christian Academy Announcement**

**1.6. Receiving of Delegations/Presentations**

**1.6.1. Tanya Malcolm**

DPAC Rep - Isabella Dicken Elementary School (EIDES)

**1.6.2. CFTA 2021-22 Budget Input**

Shelley Balfour and Chris Kielpinski

**2. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**2.1. Advocacy/Education Committee**

14

**RECOMMENDATION A**

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.

**RECOMMENDATION B**

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

**RECOMMENDATION C**

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.

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

**2.2. Policy Committee**

19

**RECOMMENDATION A:**

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.

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

**2.3. Student Services Committee**

22

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

**2.4. Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee**

26

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

**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**

**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 March 9, 2021 Secretary Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

**4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

30

The Pathway's report can be found on the School District's website at [www.sd5.bc.ca](http://www.sd5.bc.ca).

M/S that the March 9, 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**

**7. TRUSTEE BOUQUETS**

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

BCSTA AGM 2021 - April 17, 2021

High Ground Conference - March 24,26 and 27, 2021

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. LATE ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT

M/S that the March 9, 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**

**February 17, 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 February 17, 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.

Chair Lento welcomed our CDTA and FDTA Union Representatives, Shelley Balfour and Chris Kielpinski. He also welcomed members of the public attending and indicated a question period at item 9 of the agenda.

Chair Lento acknowledged the passing of Doug Stevely, former MBSS educator and relayed the Boards condolences to Doug's wife, Marianne Langin.

**1.2 Consideration and Approval of Agenda**

Additions: 6.3 Kootenay Christian Academy Announcement

**MOTION R-21-16**

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

**CARRIED**

**1.3 Approval of the Minutes**

Minutes of the Public meeting of the Board of Education of January 12, 2021.

**MOTION R-21-17**

M/S that the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of January 12, 2021 be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

**1.4 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings**

**MOTION R-21-18**

M/S to accept the closed records of the in-camera meeting of the Board of Education of January 12, 2021.

**CARRIED**

**1.5 Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

**1.5.1 Trustee Stipends/Honorariums**

Chair Lento had a brief discussion with a BCSTA table offering regarding taxable income to trustee stipends and honorariums.

**1.6 Receiving of Delegations/Presentations**

**1.6.1 Graduated Student Funding**

Director Tichauer introduced Mr. Brian Conrad, the Transition Co-ordinator for the College of the Rockies (COTR) and School District 5 (SD5). Director Tichauer discussed the letter of December 16, 2020 that School District 42 wrote to the Minister of Education advocating the reinstatement of funding for graduated students under 19 that are continuing their second year of their trades training program with school districts.

Director Tichauer and Mr. Conrad shared a “Funding for Graduated Students” presentation with the Board.

Mr. Conrad mentioned that the COTR reserves five seats for school aged students, which is not enough to fill the demand. He discussed the exceptional circumstances and local implications such as program availability, prerequisites, accessibility and cost.

The Board appreciated the presentation. They understand the importance for them to advocate to the Ministry of Education, to follow through with support for these trade programs and to address our districts unique issues. Chair Lento continues to pursue red seal programs in the Elk Valley.

## 2. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

### 2.1 Advocacy/Education Committee

Co-chair Trustee Bellina/Whalen reviewed the minutes of the January 25, 2021 meeting of the Advocacy/Education Committee.

#### **MOTION R-21-19**

M/S that the District Student Advisory Council come together virtually using the appropriate technology.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-21-20**

M/S that the Board write a letter to the Minister of Education similar to School District 72's letter of December 2, 2020 supporting and advocating for our school district employees through this Pandemic.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-21-21**

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 January 25, 2021 meeting of the Policy Committee.

#### **MOTION R-21-22**

M/S that the Board approve changes to the Family Request for Student Placement form for use while COVID-19 protocols remain in place.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-21-23**

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 January 25, 2021 meeting of the Student Services Committee.

#### **MOTION R-21-24**

M/S that the Board write a letter and send to the Ministry of Education outlining our concerns about the audit report specifically targeting the issue of adequate provincial funding.

**CARRIED**

Trustee Johns, Secretary Treasurer and District Principal Verbeurgt will draft a letter to the Ministry of Education outlining the districts concerns in the audit report and bring back to the Board meeting.

#### **MOTION R-21-25**

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 January 25, 2021 meeting of the Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee.

**MOTION R-21-26**

M/S that the Board send a letter to the City of Cranbrook Council prior to their public hearing on February 1st, 2021 stating, please be advised that the Board of School Trustees, School District No 5 Southeast Kootenay, has considered the proposed zoning amendment for 209 16th Avenue North to accommodate a community temporary emergency homeless shelter. It is the consensus of the Board that our MBSS educational site and school operations will not be affected with the Proponent's commitment to protocols, monitoring and staffing levels.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-21-27**

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

**CARRIED**

**2.5 BCSTA /Provincial Council**

Trustee Bellina and Trustee Turner will attend the virtual Provincial Council AGM on February 20, 2021.

**MOTION R-21-28**

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

**CARRIED**

**2.6 Communications/Media Committee**

Trustee Ayling reported on two letters.

- The January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 letter to the City of Cranbrook re: rezoning for the temporary homeless shelter.
- Letter pending in support of the SD5 staff.

**MOTION R-21-29**

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

**CARRIED**

**2.7 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee**

Trustee Johns shared an article in the local paper of the options for the Mount Baker Secondary School facility and the link to the survey. He thanked Secretary Treasurer Rice and Sandy Gronlund for their work on the MBSS options survey. Trustee Johns has provided interviews to the media advocating for MBSS.

**MOTION R-21-30**

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

**CARRIED**

**2.8 Key City Theatre**

Trustee McPhee attended the January 21, 2021 Key City Theatre Board meeting. It is difficult to run a theatre with no audience due to the pandemic. Galen Olstead and the crew have had some time to give to the renovations at the theatre.



Julie Godsave has come up with innovative ideas for fundraising and membership drives. They continue to apply for grants. Trustee McPhee was happy to announce a new creative member to the Key City Theatre Board, Will Ayling. Trustee Turner reported that Galen Olstead's contract is now completed and signed.

**MOTION R-21-31**

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

**CARRIED**

**2.9 Legacy of Learning**

Trustee Johns met with the Director of Student Learning at School District 6 to discuss the possibility of SD6 partnering with the Legacy of Learning. They are hoping to role out partnerships with school districts in all the school districts in the Columbia River Basin using SD5's Legacy of Learning experience. They all seem very enthusiastic and we are now waiting for a response.

The Province will be hosting a Virtual Town Hall on the Columbia River Treaty, February 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m. MST. The Zoom link is posted on their webpage.

**MOTION R-21-32**

M/S to accept the Legacy of Learning report.

**CARRIED**

**2.10 French Advisory Committee**

Director Casault mentioned that the committee has completed a survey regarding their budget. Their next committee meeting is March 16, 2021.

**MOTION R-21-33**

M/S to accept the French Advisory Committee report.

**CARRIED**

**2.11 Trustee Reports**

Trustees reported on their activities for the month.

Trustee Johns attended a virtual presentation February 16<sup>th</sup> on "Sexting", which was part of a 5-part series delivered by the White Hatter who teamed up with the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL). The final session is February 26<sup>th</sup> on the Dark Web. Registration is required for these presentations.

**3. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

**3.1 Stage 2 Restart Protocol Update -Secretary Treasurer**

Secretary Treasurer Rice delivered a review of the latest updates from the Provincial Health Authority and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) which have been posted on the SD5 webpage. He shared with the Board where the district is at with implementing the updates. The documents have been revamped providing more clarity. The school documents will be distributed by the Principals. A few more symptoms have been added to the self-assessment check list. There is a COVID-19 App available that asks the self-assessment questions. The App does not collect data of any kind. The link to the App is <https://www.thrive.health/bc-covid19-app>.

Secretary Treasurer Rice responded to questions from the Board.

### **3.2 2020-21 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw**

Secretary Treasurer Rice thanked his accounting department for their work on the amended budget.

#### **MOTION R-21-34**

M/S that the Board consent to three (3) readings of the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-21-35**

M/S read a first time the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-21-36**

M/S read a second time the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-21-37**

M/S read a third time, passed and adopted, the Amended Annual Budget for 2020/21 on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 in the amount of \$81,726,816.

**CARRIED**

### **3.3 BCPSEA Employee (Care) Leave**

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported on the directive from BCPSEA and stated that there will be more information at a future date.

### **3.4 Budget 2021-22 Budget Working Session**

Secretary Treasurer Rice has been working on next years budget. There is an opportunity for stakeholders to contribute input into the 2021-22 budget at the next Board meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Contact Sandy Gronlund if you would like to present or if you would like to submit a written request.

### **3.5 City of Cranbrook - Zoning Amendment**

Secretary Treasurer Rice mentioned that Trustee Johns did attend the virtual City Council meeting February 4, 2021 on the proposed rezoning of property at 209 16th Avenue North to accommodate a temporary community emergency homeless shelter. The Board was happy to hear the rezoning bylaw was passed.

Secretary Treasurer Rice gave a brief update on the Isabella Dicken Elementary School expansion project.

#### **MOTION R-21-38**

M/S that the February 17, 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](http://www.sd5.bc.ca).

Superintendent Yardley delivered an update on where they are at with the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) collection of data and explained the processes involved.

The Directors and District Principals each reported on their departments.

**MOTION R-21-39**

M/S that the February 17, 2021 Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**5.1 Policy Redevelopment (Draft Policy Handbook Session)**

Chair Lento advised the Board that Dr. Sloan is currently working with his staff on the first draft of the SD5 Administration handbook. He will be contacting Superintendent Yardley and Secretary Treasurer Rice to confirm a date for a virtual meeting.

**5.2 Partner Liaison Meetings January 22/February 5 (Strategic Planning)**

Chair Lento attended these virtual sessions and noted they were very well presented. He expressed the need for a blue print for collaboration, which Superintendent Yardley will bring forward. The key is our alignments with the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL).

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6.1 Business Arising from Delegations**

**MOTION R-21-40**

M/S that the Board develop a comprehensive response to the unique circumstances specific to all School District 5 communities and the provision of apprenticeship programs in general.

**CARRIED**

Chair Lento and Trustee Johns will draft a letter to the Minister of Education, with input from Director Tichauer and Mr. Conrad, regarding the provision of apprenticeship programs in our communities and bring it to the March Board meeting.

**6.2 Draft School Life Cycle Funding - Discussion Paper**

We are awaiting the final version from BCSTA. Trustee Johns urged the trustees to review the report by accessing the link provided in the attachment to the agenda.

**6.3 Kootenay Christian Academy (KCA)**

Trustee Johns commented on the announcement in the February 3<sup>rd</sup> addition of the Townsman. The KCA is starting a three-year rollout of expanding towards a full graduation program, with Grade 10 registration opening up for the 2021-22 school year.

**MOTION R-21-41**

M/S that Director Tichauer to provide a report on the Kootenay Christian Academy announcement of February 3, 2021 and bring back to committee day.

And further,

that Secretary Treasurer Rice will provide information on the funding private schools receive from the Ministry of Education.

**CARRIED**

**7. TRUSTEE BOUQUETS**

- Trustee McPhee to Chair Lento and our district managers collectively, for the days they spent in LRB hearings.
- Trustee Bellina shared her written bouquet with the Board.
- Trustee Damstrom to the Principal and Vice Principal at Jaffray school for their calm leadership during the last week.
- Chair Lento sent a challenge to all students at School District 5 to learn the art of juggling. He also suggested that given the times we are in and the minority and ethnic backgrounds etc. that the schools plant 4 trees each on their grounds. The trees would represent our past, present, future and our multi culturalism in the district.

Director Tichauer mentioned there will be a signage ceremony on the April Committee day which could tie into the tree planting at the Board office.

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

**8.1 2021-02-09 Letter Early Learning-Reno to SD5 Facility**

**8.2 Upcoming Events**

BCSTA Provincial Council - February 20, 2021  
BCSTA AGM 2021 - April 17, 2021  
High Ground Conference - March 24,26 and 27, 2021

**9. QUESTION PERIOD**

- CDTA and FDTA presidents has no questions.
- Member of the public was invited for her questions an Chair Lento after hearing the background felt her question or concern would more appropriately be directed to himself or Superintendent Yardley, assuring a timely response. The member was grateful and complimentary on the meeting.

**10. LATE ITEMS**

Nil.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION R-21-42**

M/S that the February 17, 2021 regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 5:22 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Frank Lento, Chairperson

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Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer



#### 1.4. RECEIPT OF RECORDS OF CLOSED MEETINGS

##### **In-camera Meetings for**

February 17, 2020

- Exempt Compensation
- BCPSEA Representative Report
- IT Reimbursement
- Board Chair Summary Feb 16, 2021 Meeting
- PVP Certification Update
- Bank Tender
- Personnel
  
- Superintendent's Report
  - Staffing Update

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

Alan Rice  
Secretary Treasurer



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
Minutes - Advocacy/Education Committee**

**February 22, 2021, 9:30 a.m.  
Meeting via Zoom**

Committee Members  
In Attendance:

Trustee Bellina  
Trustee Whalen  
Trustee Turner  
Trustee Ayling

Regrets:

Board/District Staff in  
Attendance:

Trustee McPhee  
Trustee Johns  
Trustee Damstrom  
Trustee Kitt  
Trustee Lento  
Silke Yardley, Superintendent  
Jason Tichauer, Director, Student Learning  
Diane Casault, Director, Student Learning  
Jennifer Roberts, District Principal  
Darcy Verbeurgt, District Principal  
Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer  
Gail Rousseau, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

**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.

The Advocacy/Education Committee Meeting of February 22, 2021 was called to order at 9:32 by Co-Chair Bellina.

**1.2 Approval of Agenda**

M/S that the agenda of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of February 22, 2021 is approved as circulated.

### **1.3 Approval of Minutes**

M/S that the minutes of the Advocacy/Education Committee meeting of January 25, 2021 be approved as circulated.

## **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING - nil**

## **3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **3.1 How Are We Doing Report? - Jason Tichauer**

Director Tichauer presented the yearly report produced by the Ministry of Education on Indigenous performance. Highlights included:

- almost all of our self-identified students receive support
- starting to track different categories in relation to the goals in our Enhancement Agreement
- Indigenous students make up 1/3 of students that have an IEP
- completion rates – biggest area of success – this is a 6 year completion rate; SD5 always one of top performing districts as far as 6 year completion rate goes
- bigger gap this year; success went up for all this year
- Ministry of Education starting to track 5 year completion; they want to know how students are doing without taking the extra time to graduate; no difference this year
- starting to looking at “how” kids are completing in relation to the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning
- we do see percentage gaps in the number of kids who are finishing as adult graduates
- looking at bringing in Indigenous student data and our goals in our Enhancement Agreement into the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning
- looking at academic gaps – English 12, Math 10, want more academic options
- looking at Student Learning Survey data and seeing positive and interesting things
- *How Are We Doing Report* is public but the student by student results is private as most data is masked.

## **4. REPORTS**

### **4.1 DSAC Report - Virtual Meeting to be held February 24, 2021**

- Looking forward to connecting with the students.

### **4.2 DPAC Report - Trustee Turner**

Highlights included:

- great attendance at both DPAC and PAC meetings due to Zoom; might be something to consider moving forward
- most schools have hot lunches now operating under the district’s health and safety protocols
- PACs are doing more and more online fundraising
- most schools have been responding to staff and students needs during COVID; supporting families who have been affected the most

- some schools starting to make long-term, 5 year plans in creating outside school yard spaces with equipment like rock circles for outdoor classes and new playground equipment
- the NDP government is providing grants for inclusive playground equipment.

Discussion:

- concern about safety issues with circle rocks with inclement weather – any other schools hear this? Trustee Turner will ask at next meeting
- rocks are sourced within footprint; composite rocks don't fit the description of why they have the rocks in the first place; wood circles are used as an alternative at KOES; another option
- The White Hatter presentations - what is relationship between CBAL and The White Hatter? DPAC has money that they would like to support PACs within a variety of ways i.e., presentations or whatever the district is in need of at the time
- Trustee Turner did pass comments along to DPAC about The White Hatter and how much Trustees have enjoyed the presentations
- CHEQ will be presenting to DPAC on April 7; individual community presentations are also being done in all four communities; all four early learning tables have met twice already with CHEQ to develop plans that will be delivered to each community later this Spring; Trustees will be invited to attend both sessions
- Director Casault will send out link for Trustees to register for the White Hatter.

#### **4.3 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) - Survey Results, Working Committee Results and Recommendations - Silke Yardley**

Superintendent Yardley presented the PowerPoint that was shared with the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Working Group, led by Director Casault on February 1, 2021. She also shared a summary of the themes that emerged from the survey questions as discussed by the Working Group on that day. The survey was sent to many different partner groups with just under 300 responses received. District management will now divide into three groups, Intellectual Development, Human and Social Development and Career Development using these results as well as other data to come up with recommendations on how to move forward on the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. The recommendations will be brought back to the Working Group and to the Board in April.

Questions/Comments:

- professional development and continuous improvement should not only be for staff but for students as well
- clarification was provided on who the survey was sent to and how they represent SD5; the survey was sent to students, parents, teachers, CUPE, principals/vice-principals, Indigenous community, community partners, district management and exempt staff.

#### **4.4 Child Care - update on Fernie- Alan Rice and Silke Yardley**

Secretary-Treasurer Rice gave an update on child care in Fernie. Highlights and discussion included:

- Board motion to investigate bringing StrongStart programs within our SD5 employee base



- currently in the process of setting up meetings/calling our coordinators; some anxiety around the timing
- not easy to hire Early Childhood Educators (ECE) in district, i.e., pay grid and job descriptions; working on this with Unions; when we are dealing with collective agreements need to be cognizant of how we hire
- we believe this is the best approach for the future
- looking at the Fernie Learning Center (FLC) this week to look at space and tenants; will give them the heads up this week so they understand Board motion; might be able to still use space as current tenants are not-for-profit
- make FLC an early learning center
- only not-for-profit groups are eligible to use SD5 space; discussion needs to happen in the Policy Committee
- StrongStarts are funded by the Ministry of Education – historically outsourced
- question about consultation ahead of time? Not-for-profits have yearly renewal in agreements; timely now to have conversation
- StrongStart programs will continue to have space in our schools
- need to check with not-for profits – childcare centers will require space in each community; each community will have input on what that looks like

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Policy 3.18 - Scholarships and Awards - Looking for Board representation on District Authority Scholarship presentations - Jason Tichauer

***Recommendation A – 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.***

Trustee Johns brought up a suggestion to rename the SD5 Top Student (Cranbrook) scholarship to the Dr. Arnold Lowden Scholarship and wondered about the process. A discussion took place. Director Tichauer recommended keeping the flavour of the award, that it is not a generic award.

***Recommendation B – M/S that the Board rename the Cranbrook SD5 Top Student award to the “Dr. Arnold Lowden Top Student Award”.***

Discussion:

- award criteria will focus on citizenship and contribution for the community
- suggestion to wait until next year as the scholarship packages were already sent out; worried about creating more work at this time
- MBSS is on board with this change
- the current criteria for this scholarship is applicable

## 6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

6.1 DSAC Initiative - Vaping Strategies, approaches

6.2 Invite UBC to present to Board meeting to present EDI/CHEQ trends; invite DPAC and PACs

- 6.3 DSAC involved in Climate Change initiatives/Vaping strategies
- 6.4 Invite Marisa Phillips to a future Board meeting to recognize her work on the Aboriginal Education Logo - to be invited for April Board meeting – this has now been changed to the April committee day – April 27
- 6.5 Dr. Atwal's vaping presentation presented to P/VPs - scheduled for April 8

## 7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

### 7.1 Trades

#### 7.1.1 SD 47

Receive and file.

Jason Tichauer, Brian Conrad, Frank Lento and Chris Johns working on a letter response to hopefully be done by the next Board meeting.

### 7.2 Racist School Assignment

#### 7.2.1 BCSTA to Moms Against Racism Canada

Receive and file.

### 7.3 Budget/Funding

#### 7.3.1 SD 42

Receive and file.

### 7.4 Executive Compensation Freeze

#### 7.4.1 SD 74

***Recommendation C – 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.***

Receive and file.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

The Advocacy/Education Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
MINUTES - POLICY MEETING**

**February 22, 2021, 11:30 a.m.  
Meeting via Zoom**

Committee Members in Attendance:	Co-Chair Trustee Turner (by Zoom) Co-Chair Trustee Ayling (by Zoom) Trustee McPhee (by Zoom) Trustee Whalen (by Zoom)
Board/District Staff in Attendance:	Chairperson Lento (by Zoom) Trustee Bellina (by Zoom) Trustee Damstrom (by Zoom) Trustee Johns (by Zoom) Trustee Kitt (by Zoom) Superintendent, S. Yardley (by Zoom) Secretary Treasurer, A. Rice (by Zoom) Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal Education, J. Tichauer (by Zoom) Director of Student Learning/Innovation, D. Casault (by Zoom) District Principal/Student Services, D. Verbeurgt (by Zoom) District Principal/Transformative Learning, J. Roberts (by Zoom) Executive Assistant, J. Nixon (Recorder)

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The Policy Committee meeting of February 22, 2021 was called to order at 11:41 am by Co-Chair Trustee Wendy Turner.

**1.2 Approval of the Agenda**

M/S that the agenda for the Policy Committee meeting of February 22, 2021 be approved as amended.

Addition:

2.2 Child Care Programs Policy

### 1.3 Approval of the Minutes

M/S that the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting of January 25, 2021 be approved as amended.

## 2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

### 2.1 Policy Model and Administrative Procedures

Superintendent Yardley is awaiting a response and confirmation of meeting date with Dr. Leroy Sloan.

### 2.2 Child Care Policy

Director Casault reviewed the documents emailed as an addendum to the Policy Committee Agenda on February 19, 2021:

- Legal Bulletin Board of Education Policies re: Child Care Programs (*September 11, 2020*)
- Child Care Order (*Ministerial Order effective August 31, 2020*)
- School Act – Policies respecting child care programs (*Section 85.1-85.4*)
- BCSTA Child Care Policy Template and Backgrounder (December 11, 2020)

Director Casault also briefly discussed the School Act Policies respecting child care programs (*Section 85.1-85.4*) and the process for establishing a revision to the Child Care Policy for School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay).

The Child Care Order (Ministerial Order 326/20) effective August 31, 2020, establishes significant requirements for the policy and clearly states:

“When establishing a policy regarding the use of board property for the provision of child care programs, a board must consider the results of the board’s engagement with individuals or groups the board considers are representative of

- (a) employees of the board,
- (b) child care operators,
- (c) parents and guardians, and
- (d) Indigenous communities, rightsholders, and service providers”

School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay) will adopt the British Columbia School Trustees Association (“BCSTA”) Template for Child Care Policy (dated December 11, 2020) as our draft until such time that a new policy be created specifically for this district.

Chairperson Lento discussed the future funding model under the new provincial Child Care policy.

Trustee Ayling further noted that the promotion of board property for the provision of child care programs provides the opportunity to not only have community child care but also a viable daycare option for teenage parents.

**RECOMMENDATION A:**

**Acceptance of the BCSTA Child Care Policy Template to be used as the draft policy by The Board of Education of School District 5.**

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

**4. REPORTS**

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS - APPENDIX A**

**6.1 Revised Policy 3.33 Use of Cell Phones and Digital Devices**

**6.2 Revised Policy 3.42 and 3.42R Students Registered for Distance Education and Continuing Education**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 am.



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
MINUTES - STUDENT SERVICES MEETING**

**February 22, 2021, 10:30 a.m.  
Meeting via Zoom**

Committee Members in Attendance: Co-Chair Trustee Damstrom

Co-Chair McPhee  
Trustee Johns  
Trustee Kitt

Board/District Staff in Attendance: Chairperson Lento

Trustee Ayling  
Trustee Bellina  
Trustee Turner  
Trustee Whalen  
Superintendent, S. Yardley  
Secretary Treasurer, A. Rice  
Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal Education, J. Tichauer  
Director of Student Learning/Innovation, D. Casault  
District Principal/Student Services, D. Verbeurgt  
L. Giesbrecht (recorder)

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The Special Education Student Services meeting of February 22, 2021 was called to order at 10:47am by Co-Chair Trustee McPhee.

**1.2 Approval of the Agenda**

M/S that the agenda for the Special Education Student Services Meeting of February 22, 2021 be approved as circulated.

**1.3 Approval of the Minutes**

M/S that the minutes of the Special Education Student Services meeting of January 25, 2021 be approved as circulated.

## **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **2.1 Inclusive Education Working Group (IEWG) (Diane/Darcy)**

IEWG met on January 27, 2021. Minutes attached. Jason Tichauer attended as a special guest to discuss alternate education. Darcy summarized the pro-d allocations and how teachers, ABED workers and EAs would access those funds.

Budget discussion included the reallocation of existing funds and not necessarily access to a new pot of money.

- Mental health of students and teachers was discussed as well as the potential supports that may be necessary. We discussed the potential of counselling services, in supporting the mental health, in particular for students with an H designation.
- Student services support and Learning Assistants funding hasn't changed only allocation, how do we make Student Services work manageable?
- We will continue to support EA's by making certain that pro-d is out there to support those EA's.

We will look at a 3 year road map at the next meeting.

We've shared the Teacher's Handbook with the IEWG. As a group, we reviewed the parking lot questions and had them prioritize those remaining. We're currently working on the development of the Inclusive Education handbook. Next meeting on Wed. Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>.

Extra funding was available for Youth Care Workers (YCW) this year due to COVID. This also made a significant difference in the work load of the SSTs. Budget is looking at how to allocate resources and keep these YCWs in place going forward.

We are already looking internally for supports. Externally, Employee and Family Assistance Program (FSEAP) is available for our employees. We need to ensure that staff are taking the time to use these.

Learning Assistants/Student Services Teachers – Could these roles be separated? In the past, there was a clear distinction between learning assistant teachers and the student services teachers. Part of the burnout is from putting those roles together and then at the school level expecting things to be sorted out as far as staffing. District has done a great job of adding to the funding. This is a large area that needs further discussion, as well as a conversation with Alan and Darcy. If there is a need for a distinction, we need to look at that SS allocations level. When budgeting, we need to look at keeping this role as a priority.

### **2.2 Social Emotional Learning Centre (SELC) (Diane/Darcy)**

SELC team is wrapping up at Steeples Elementary School (SES) this week. The SELC team met to go over the next group. A lengthy discussion was had over where to go next. T.M. Roberts Elementary School (TMRES) and Pinewood Elementary School (PES) were both discussed. Some translational work would have to be done with the French Immersion class at TMRES. Carissa Hart will be involved to work on this. We've opted to go with PES this round. There will be a lot of carry over as far as language, etc. at PES as 4 of their staff will be involved. This session will start just before spring break and will wrap up in June.

Mental health and social emotional health is becoming a priority now more than ever. We need something for every school in the district that aligns with our secondary career/life programming. There must be a tie in with the grad program around social emotional learning and the expectations that we as a system have around this.

We have active school district representation on the Foundry. Still working on site acquisition. Program would be available for high school to age 24. It is hoped that there will be a report in 2 to 3 months. We are not using the online services locally as of yet. Major delays have been COVID related. Funding has been in place for over a year.

In looking to the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning, there is a recognition that there should be a focus on mental health.

The student learning survey, in the area of human and social development, does tie into mental health and into the curriculum. A summary report on this area will be presented at the next committee meeting in April.

### **2.3 Behaviour Resource Teacher update (Diane/Darcy)**

1.0 continuing BRT in Cranbrook to start in September posted last week.

0.5 position has been posted 17 times. With no applicants to date. One of the reasons that we are struggling with filling this position is the 0.5. A 1.0 position may be easier to fill. We need to look into the cost of making this a 1.0 position and having them travel to the different areas. District staff will be presenting this in the budget meetings.

Could we redistribute these funds and put towards the SSTs? Are there other options that we could look at? We need to look at the people we already have.

## **3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

## **4. REPORTS**

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

## **6. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS - APPENDIX A**



**6.1 Prevalence Model Discussions**

**6.2 Inclusive Education Handbook**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32.

DRAFT



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

**MINUTES - FINANCE/OPERATIONS/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (PUBLIC)**

**February 22, 2021, 12:30 p.m.  
Meeting via Zoom**

Committee Members in Attendance: Co-Chair Trustee Kitt  
Co-Chair Trustee Johns  
Trustee Bellina  
Trustee Damstrom

Board/District Staff in Attendance: Trustee Ayling  
Chairperson Lento  
Trustee McPhee  
Trustee Turner  
Trustee Whalen  
Superintendent, S. Yardley  
Secretary Treasurer, A. Rice  
Director of Instruction/Human Resources, B. Reimer  
Director of Instruction/Student Learning, D. Casault  
Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal Education, J. Tichauer  
District Principal/Student Services, D. Verbeurgt  
District Principal/Technology, J. Roberts  
Executive Assistant, (recorder) S. Gronlund

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The public Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee meeting of February 22, 2021 was called to order at 11:57 a.m. by Co-chair Trustee Kitt.

**1.2 Approval of the Agenda**

Additions: 2.3 Kootenay Christian Academy

M/S that the agenda of the public Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee meeting of February 22, 2021 be approved as amended.

**1.3 Approval of the Minutes - January 25, 2021**

M/S that the minutes of the public Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee meeting of February 22, 2021 be approved as circulated.

**2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**2.1 Budget 2020-21**

Secretary Treasurer Rice has sent the Board approved 2020-21 Amended Budget to the Ministry of Education.

## **2.2 Elk Valley/South Country Bussing Update**

No update since the Board meeting on February 17, 2021.

## **2.3 Kootenay Christian Academy**

Secretary Treasurer Rice and Director Tichauer will provide a report for the March Board meeting.

### **3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS (10 min max)**

#### **3.1 2021-22 Budget Input: Jaffray School Home Economics (Leah Sandkuhl)**

Leah introduced herself as the home economics teacher at Jaffray School and introduced 4 of her current and future students.

Leah began her presentation by sharing the current state of her existing ovens in her classroom. She expressed the need of replacing these ovens with convection and the benefits. The convection ovens have an approximate 25% quicker baking time than conventional ovens and would make cooking and clean up in a 73-minute class a possibility.

Leah responded to questions from the Board and Co-chair Kitt thanked her for her presentation.

#### **3.2 2021-22 Budget Input: Jaffray School Woodshop (Paul Fennema)**

Paul introduced himself as the woodshop teacher at Jaffray School and proceeded to share a presentation with the Board on the need of connecting design aspect with technical. A CNC Router Machine would make this a possibility. He went on to explain the benefits the students would experience. He shared the fundraising the school has done to this point and shared the amount still required to purchase this router.

Paul responded to questions from the Board. Chair Lento thanked Paul for his presentation.

### **4. REPORTS**

#### **4.1 Stage 2 Restart Protocol Update - Secretary Treasurer**

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported that the schools worked on updating their protocols as per the Ministries latest updates (includes input from BC CDC and Office of the PHO). The workplace checklists that are required will take place this week and submitted to the safety working committee.

Operations Manager Joe Tank spoke with a mechanical engineer and was informed the air flow in a building is more important than a Merv 13 filter would be. He reported on the following steps taken for better air flow in the buildings

- Increased outside air flow from a minimum of 10% to a minimum of 20%.
- Filters are being changed six times per year (previously 3 times).
- The district is allowing all windows to be opened if need be.

This is in conjunction with other preventative measures taken such as super cleaning schools approximately every two weeks.

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported that the small portion of funding that the Ministry of Education had held back from the initial Covid-19 funding was provided to districts with

confirmed COVID cases. Our district did not qualify for this funding hold back, which is a positive sign our safety protocols are working, and staff are doing their part.

Discussion ensued regarding the positive nature of this message and thanked the District Health and Safety Committee for their diligent efforts during the pandemic.

#### **4.2 Stage 2 Restart Protocol Update – Superintendent**

Superintendent Yardley is ensuring that the health and safety protocol updates are posted on the SD5 webpage and school webpages.

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **5.1 Budget Update**

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported one more session for presenting input to the 2021-22 Budget is at the March 9<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. He would require any written submissions before spring break.

He will be meeting with district management, principals and vice-principals next week. They will look at the Baragar enrolment forecasts, the February enrolment count and enrolment on the MyEducationBC student database to determine the schools needs. The next budget session with the Board is April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Trustee Johns discussed the possible need to advertise the benefits public schools can offer to students. He sees advertising billboards for private schools.

Trustee Turner indicated we have good reason to celebrate our public schools that we have been acknowledged by the Ministry of Education for our safety in schools in relation to COVID.

Trustee Turner asked if the enrolment report could include a column to show the previous year also.

Superintendent Yardley replied that public education speaks for itself. Public schools have more to offer students than the private schools. Our district shares positive media to the public from our Facebook page, webpage and Pathfinders report. The more we can share our events with the public the better.

Director Casault indicated the early learning conversations taking place are very helpful in building positive relationships with parents along with the work District Principal Verbeurgt is doing with the transitioning of students. Chair Lento mentioned that programs like Strong Start and Day Care before and after school will be another great initiative to bring in students.

### **6. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**6.1 Jaffray - Ministry of Transportation (safe crossing on Hwy3)**

**6.2 Jaffray- Ministry of Transportation (lower speed limit on Hwy 3)**

**6.3 Staff Travel Summary Report Review**

**6.4 Fernie - Ministry of Transportation (safe crossing on Hwy 3and 13th St)**

**6.5 Innes Avenue Development**

**6.6 School Site Acquisition**

**7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**7.1 District Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes**

Nil.

**7.2 Finance Report**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The public Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee meeting of February 22, 2021 adjourned at 1:09 p.m.

DRAFT

# SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY PATHWAYS TO LEARNING



Celebrating the 80th day of  
school on January 25th at Frank  
J. Mitchell Elementary School

## March, 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

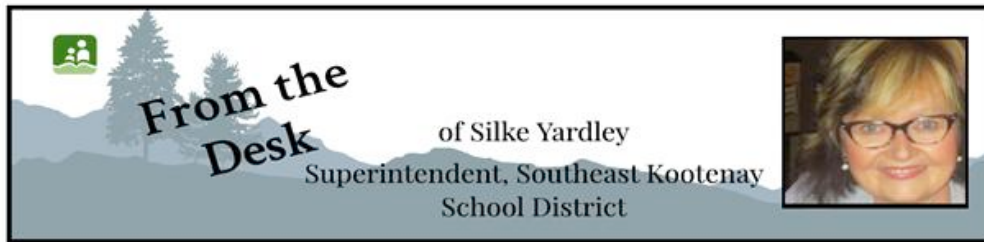
**Goal:** Continue to foster two-way, ethical communication between the District and all learners, students, staff, parents and community in a timely, concise and inclusive manner.

- 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



March 3, 2021

Dear students, staff, parents, caregivers:

Almost a year ago on March 12, 2020, the Ministry of Education announced that our schools would be going to online learning. This announcement, the day before our spring break, had a significant impact on all of us. While I reflect on the year, I feel very proud and grateful to be a part of School District 5. I want to acknowledge the struggles and difficulties that last year brought and the adverse outcomes and sadness that resulted. It was a challenging year for all and I want to recognize the resiliency I saw day to day in our students, staff, and parents during this time.

Kevin Cameron, Executive Director, North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response has offered insight about this past year and strategies to help guide us through this Covid-19 marathon. You can find his recent article [here](#).

I want to thank each and every one of you for the part you played in ensuring that our students could come to school to learn each day.

While school is not the same, and we do not offer all the same courses or opportunities, it became very clear from the few months that we did online learning that students needed to be at school to learn with their peers and staff. Sending children to school was not for all families and although some families chose to learn in other settings, the majority of our students came back to us.

Our staff did a marvellous job of adhering to the health and safety protocols laid out by the provincial health officer. While it was difficult, and people wanted “things back to normal” the district health and safety working group was able to continue to guide and lead us through this.

I feel renewed optimism for the next school year, but we need to hang in there for a bit longer. The news each day indicates we are closer to having a vaccine which will enable us to get back to some type of normal in the near future. All staff will be looking at the fall and working together to look at what went well last year, what we should continue doing, and what we should change. I will be curious to see what changes we decide to keep as a result of the pandemic.



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As the image says "In a marathon, the last miles are the toughest." We have done such a good job in our communities following the protocols laid out by the provincial health officer. It is important now, more than ever, (while I acknowledge it is difficult) to please continue to be diligent and follow our [guidelines](#) as we wait for vaccines and new information from the provincial health officer.

Thank you to all the parents and staff who continue to send us wonderful photos and videos of the good things happening in our district. Please continue to send them to [cbomailing@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:cbomailing@sd5.bc.ca) and we will put them on our [Facebook](#) page as well.

I wish you a restful spring break and hope you take advantage of all of the endless outdoor activities in our beautiful East Kootenays.

Take care,  
Silke



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# Engaging All Learners

**Earthquake Test - KOES** - Grade 3's at Kootenay Orchards Elementary took on the challenge of creating robust structures that could withstand an earthquake. They first built a prototype earthquake machine using the Lego Wedo kits. Once they had a working prototype, they began building a larger version out of cardboard to test out on the larger and more powerful earthquake machine. The challenge was a success for all. Some were dedicated to making their prototype as robust as possible while others moved ahead quickly to the larger build and redesigned them multiple times.



## Make the Best Toboggan - TMRES

Students in Mr. Flegel's class took on the challenge of making "the best" toboggan. They drew some blueprints and built their designs using cardboard and the MakeDo kits that use special screws and tools made for younger students. With the cold temperatures, the toboggans barely slid at first. That led to some excellent inquiry into what would help make their creations slide better. They explored forces and motion along with snow science and came up with innovative ideas that succeeded. Click on the video link to the left!

## Spheros and Space -JESS

Students in Ms. Traverse's class spent one afternoon learning about some constellations, basic coding, and robotics. Students traced the constellations and created their own constellation for Sphero to code and draw. The drawings represent code, and the young students learned that drawing and tapping on the canvas will execute the code for the Sphero. Teaching can be scaffolded with Spheros as it allows children to move through different coding spaces and challenges.



## Landforms and Greenscreen -JESS

Students in Ms. Markle's class at Jaffray Elementary Junior Secondary wrote and performed amazing presentations as part of an inquiry project on landforms. Students brought in props and chose the appropriate background for their presentation. They then recorded the presentations using greenscreen technology. Students performed flawlessly in front of the camera!

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# Engaging All Learners

## Spheros and Biomes -FJMES and RMES

Students in Ms. Nohel's class at Frank J. Mitchell Elementary participated in an inquiry project on different biomes. In small groups, they studied the flora, fauna, and threats/dangers in these habitats. They then chose an animal to study. Students created a map of their biome. Collectively, they programmed the Sphero to act as the animal and to travel to different places on the map to explain what it eats, where it lives, and its threats. Students in Ms. Bisson's class at Rocky Mountain Elementary are also completing this project in the month of February.



## Traveling "Home" During a Pandemic -ESS

One lucky student at Elkford Secondary was able to travel back home to South America, thanks to the modern technology of virtual reality. The student was very excited to "travel" through the streets to see the cars, motorbikes and buildings that were familiar. Virtual reality can be used as a social emotional tool and to research and explore places not easily accessible. It can also be used to teach science and history in a fully immersive environment. It can even be used to encourage physical education through different interactive gaming applications.

## EKEEPSA Workshop – February

Jennifer Roberts had an amazing day with the EKEEPSA executive and facilitator Selina Metcalf, brainstorming topics such as what is going well, what are the local challenges and what are some future goals. It was fabulous to connect and have discussion around these topics and how we can support teachers in our district getting students outside for learning.

[https://jamboard.google.com/d/10EBQq\\_pEjRpEuFDbOikT1KDF7ZrW1lwVfSesJzMpv8/edit?usp=sharing](https://jamboard.google.com/d/10EBQq_pEjRpEuFDbOikT1KDF7ZrW1lwVfSesJzMpv8/edit?usp=sharing)



Grade 7 Aboriginal Girls Group at Parkland Middle School is a group that met after school on Wednesdays in January and February. They worked with Big Sisters who Zoomed into their program for the four sessions. The girls enjoyed the group and they finished it off with kindness on Have a Heart Day by making the presenters hearts and thanking them.

## The Caring Society

The First Nations Child & Family Caring Society is a non-profit organization that works with Indigenous and non-Indigenous people of all ages and organizations to ensure First Nations children and young people have the same opportunities as others to grow up safely at home, be healthy, achieve their dreams, celebrate their languages and culture and be proud of who they are. [www.fncaringsociety.com](http://www.fncaringsociety.com)



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# Engaging All Learners

## [Reconciliation Begins with You and Me](#)

Learn from young people why reconciliation matters and how you can help make a difference.

<https://fncaringsociety.com/7-free-ways-make-difference>. A film by Rhiana Chinapen for the Caring Society. [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com).



**Amy Woodland Elementary School Have a Heart Day - February 14, 2021**



**Posters in the Compass class at Laurie Middle School**



**Sparwood Secondary School Have a Heart Day - February 14, 2021**

## Technology Update

The teacher laptop roll-out was completed on February 25. Laptops were replaced at Amy Woodland Elementary, Gordon Terrace Elementary, Pinewood Elementary, Steeples Elementary and F.J. Mitchell Elementary.



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# Engaging All Learners

This past week saw the virtual gathering of all leaders of Indigenous Education in the province. We have started the conversation around joining the Provincial Equity in Action program for Indigenous Learners. This provincial level work really dovetails well with our district programs, agreements and philosophies. We were very happy when the Ministry reached out to ask us to talk about this program knowing the successes we already have and the focus we have on success for all students.

## Reconciliation is All of Us

No matter who you are or where you're from, you can take part in peaceful and respectful actions to help make a better Canada for First Nations children and their families. Here are a few ways you can participate.

**Reconciliation Ambassadors - Year-Round**  
The Reconciliation Ambassadors Program invites groups to host one of our Reconciliation Ambassadors (ambassadors + bearbuddies) who will guide you through a year of free ways to make a difference for First Nations children and promote the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. Hosting groups work alongside Elders, "teach" the bear Indigenous languages and stories, and make sure they join in cultural activities so they become a well-known Reconciliation Ambassador in the community.



**School is a Time for Dreams - September-October**  
Every child in Canada has a right to quality education, but many First Nations young people do not get the same opportunities to learn or to achieve their dreams as others do because of inequities in First Nations education. Shannen Koodachin, founder of Shannen's Dream for safe and comfy schools, wanted all children to be able to live their dreams. Caring individuals can support equitable education for First Nations and all young people in Canada by learning about Shannen's Dream and sending letters to your elected officials.



**Elderberry Day - March 20**  
Elderberry Day honours and celebrates the contributions of our Elders, who do so much to teach and raise our little ones. Celebrate by thanking your Elders for all that they do for you and for your community by writing them letters, drawing them pictures, or in any way you believe best represents how much you care.



**Have a Heart Day - February 14**  
First Nations children on reserve receive less funding from the federal government for education, child welfare and health services than other children receive from the provinces and territories. Have a Heart Day is a child and youth-led reconciliation event that brings together caring Canadians to help ensure First Nations children have the services they need to grow up safely at home, get a good education, be healthy, and be proud of who they are. Anyone can take part by sending a Valentine's Day card or letter to your elected official, hosting a Valentine's Day party to raise awareness.



**Bear Witness Day - May 10**  
May 10 is Spirit Bear's birthday and an important date in the history of Jordan's Principle at the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal. Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle and legal rule named in memory of Jordan River Anderson. It ensures that First Nations children receive the services and supports they need when they need them. Supporters of all ages can celebrate Bear Witness Day by bringing their teddy bears to work, school or even daycare to "bear witness" and support the full implementation of Jordan's Principle in honour of Jordan River Anderson.

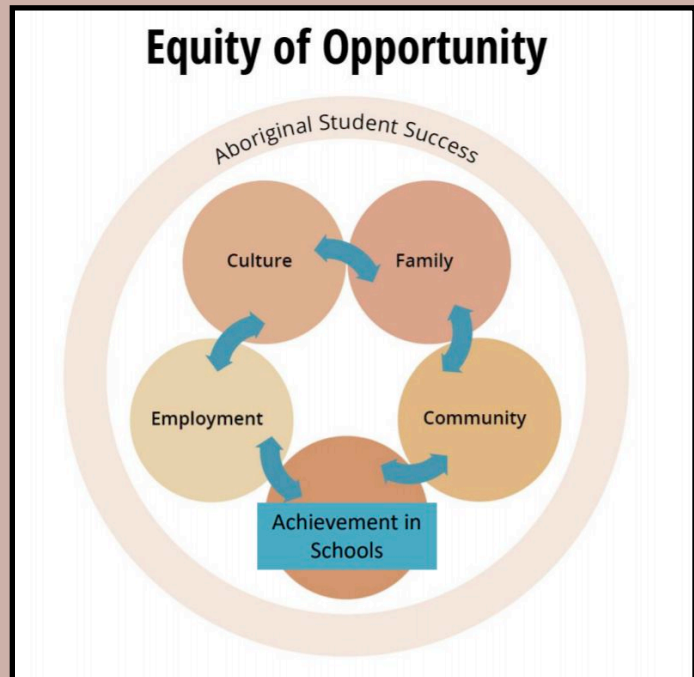


**Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams - May/June**  
Individuals and groups are invited to plant Heart Gardens in memory of the children lost to the residential school system and to honour residential survivors, their families, as well as the legacy of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



[fncaringsociety.com/events](http://fncaringsociety.com/events)

First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada



### COTR Education Students host Winter Carnival for TM Roberts School

La Carnaval d'hiver is a tradition in Quebec City that is over 400 years old. On February 22, 2021 some of the Education students from the College of the Rockies in Cranbrook brought the winter celebration to École TM Roberts School.

Students enjoyed circus tricks, sled relays, ice decorating and other fun activities during the morning activity.



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# Inclusive Partnerships

## Enhancing Communication with Parents and Students

School District 5 has launched the [MyEducation BC Family Portal](#) in three schools: Mount Baker Secondary, Elkford Secondary and Parkland Middle. The family portal allows parents to have access to the MyEducation BC system where they can view report cards, attendance, demographics, and progress towards graduation.

## SchoolMessenger Communicate and SafeArrival – A Powerful Way to Stay Connected

SchoolMessenger Communicate and SchoolMessenger SafeArrival are being utilized by our schools to send announcements and attendance information to parents. Parents can decide how they want to receive information (email, phone call, and/or text message). Parents are also able to report a child's absence from school through the automated system.



## Upcoming Online Workshops for Educators

1. March 11 - [Voice of the River – Students Connecting to the Columbia Basin](#)
2. April 20 - [Imaginative Ecological Education](#)
3. April 27 - [The Sky Above and the Mud Below](#)

4 PM PT  
7 PM ET  
Tues & Thurs  
In April & May

### Canada's Outdoor Learning Spring Virtual Workshop Series!

 David Sobel THE SKY ABOVE AND THE MUD BELOW	 Laura Gilbert WATER EDUCATION RESOURCES
 Ian Shanahan TEACHING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE	 Hailey Higdon THE IMPORTANCE OF INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES IN CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL INQUIRY
 Benny Rodden INSPIRING ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING THROUGH MUSIC & SONG!	 Gillian Judson IMAGINATIVE ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION



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# Inclusive Partnerships

## The Childhood Experiences Questionnaire



A CHEQ parent information session is planned for April 7th where representatives from CHEQ will present our district's CHEQ data along with a breakdown of the data. Anyone interested in attending should watch for an invite from the DPAC.

### French

Collaborative opportunities are being provided for French Immersion schools in each community to begin discussions on the areas identified as being of priority.

1. Support diverse learners
2. Review current programs and plan for the future
3. Examine the recruitment and retention of staff
4. Plan for retention of students through to graduation
5. Improve communication/information sharing with stakeholders
6. Understand the budget process/allocation and make recommendations
7. Investigate flexible/distributed learning programs
8. Teacher access to professional development.



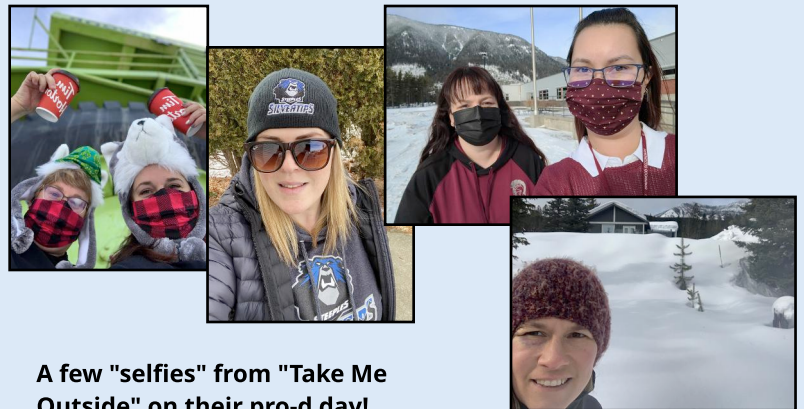
Both Design Labs are OPEN! Book your session by emailing [Kim.Froehler@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:Kim.Froehler@sd5.bc.ca) in the Elk Valley and [Ryan.Mckenzie@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Mckenzie@sd5.bc.ca) in the Cranbrook area.

## READY, SET, LEARN

Ready, Set, Learn planning has begun! Dates of all events will be shared in April with an April/May time line.

### Clerical Professional Development

On February 26, the entire clerical staff came together by TEAMS for the second time this year for a professional development day. With the support of the MyEducation Team, our clerical spent the day learning about the new SchoolMessenger as well as other valuable tools for their everyday roles as well as registration tips for the coming school year. They also had time to share ideas with their peers as well as time for working sessions. Our SD5 clerical rock!



A few "selfies" from "Take Me Outside" on their pro-d day!

### 2021 District Day Planning

Our planning committee for our October, 2021 professional development day has come together to start the process of organizing the Indigenous Education day. Building on the successes of the past two years, the committee is charged with the task of keeping the conversations going, while at the same time having to plan multiple options given potential Covid-19 regulations. We are trying our best to honour the work that our partners and friends had previously planned but were unable to do last year. We will also be using participant feedback to shape our day moving forward.

More details to come!

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# Inclusive Partnerships

Black history month during February is a great time to celebrate and reflect on diversity. We are proud to add these two novels to the District Resource Centre sets of novel studies. Please scan the QR codes to watch a book trailer for a sneak peek.

"Gracefully Grayson" - A. Polonsky (2014) - "deals sensitively and honestly with the struggle people feel when who they are does not match what other people think they should be." (Focused Ed) Requested by one of our amazing Grade 6 teachers, Gracefully Grayson examines the issues of stereotypes, bullying, and self-identity of a young transgendered person. (Grades 6-9)

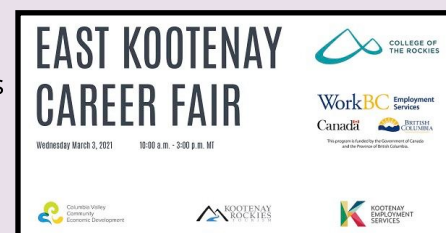


"A Boy Called Bat" - E.K. Arnold (2017) - Focused Education says: "The character with autism serves as an example of anyone who may appear "different." He is lovingly accepted by his family, teachers, and ultimately makes a friend. Class discussions around acceptance, diversity, and integration would support tolerance and develop further a positive classroom culture." (Grades 3-6)



# Advocacy

With the arrival of spring comes the work of school budgets so, as we head into the next few weeks, human resources, together with the secretary treasurer, district management and school administrators will meet to take a look at the 2021-2022 school year. As we look at enrollment projections we start to get a glance into what the next school year will bring. While most of our postings for next year will go out after spring break we have already started recruiting for some hard-to-fill positions for next year. Human resources staff attended the College of the Rockies annual hiring fair in March and this year is no different as we learn to navigate a new on-line platform – HOP IN. Much like Zoom and Teams this platform will help us to connect with members of our communities about the many job opportunities School District 5 can offer job seekers. Our jobs are vast and are not limited to those in a classroom setting as this year we are actively recruiting for custodians, mechanics, plumbers, grounds workers as well as many more positions. Visit our website to review all the opportunities we have available and don't forget to check back often so you don't miss out on the next opportunity at <https://bc09.atriveerp.com/postings-sekootenay/>.



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# Ministry of Education Update

**FOR ACTION, SUPERINTENDENTS – Homeschooling Procedures and Guidelines Manual:** A [consultation draft of a Homeschooling Procedures and Guidelines Manual](#) has been posted for public review and feedback. Please share this information with your school community, as appropriate. Questions, comments or suggestions can be sent to [educ.Homeschooling.Guidelines@gov.bc.ca](mailto:educ.Homeschooling.Guidelines@gov.bc.ca) until April 2, 2021.



The [COVID-19 Daily Health Check website](#) contains the most up-to-date B.C. health guidelines and is user-friendly for children to complete daily. This resource can assist in preventative measures for families and help with the decision on whether students should attend school that day. A mobile app is also available and can be downloaded on [iPhone/iPad iOS devices](#) or [Android devices](#).



**Youth Work in Trades 2020/21 Awards:** As outlined in the [Spring Cycle 2021 schedule](#), the Ministry will work with school district career program staff and the Industry Training Authority in the coming weeks to process [2020/21 Youth Work in Trades Award](#) winners. Please contact [educ.skills@gov.bc.ca](mailto:educ.skills@gov.bc.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.



**ChARTing Change Art Contest:** Access to Media Education Society's [ChARTing Change Art Contest](#) is now open until May 1, 2021. B.C. students aged 14-18 are invited to submit original art on the themes of social and environmental injustice, activating change, and envisioning a better future.

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# Schools



The Compass class from Laurie Middle School enjoyed a fantastic day snowshoeing at the Wycliffe Butte.



ESS Photography Class



All Grade 7 students at Elkford Secondary School in Mr. Gulyas' English class studying the novel *Hatchet* and learning outdoor survival skills.



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# Schools



**ESS Careers 9 Class** spent some time trying the trades of electrical, drywall installer and drywall finisher. Each student had to cut some drywall, install it on a frame, then put a hole through it with a hammer and go through the process of repairing it. They also had to wire a switch and a light. Trying a trade serves several purposes. First, it exposes students to some practical real-life skills that they may use in the future. It also gives them a taste of what it would be like to be in that trade. This experience will help students decide if they would like to apply for a trades program in the future. We hope to expand the program with plumbing, mechanics, painting, concrete, and cooking. Students are also exposed to the welding, carpentry, cabinetry, and culinary trades in other classes.



**Gordon Terrace Elementary School** grade 1-2 class learning outside.



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# Schools



Sparwood Secondary School teacher Mr. Lund applied for several grants to purchase this sawmill. Students will mill lumber from fallen trees from around the community.



New sign at Kootenay Discovery School!



Highlands Elementary students using the outdoor classroom at Idlewild Park.



Madame Patrice's Grade 6 class with PE teacher Mr. Barlow at Fernie Provincial Park.

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# Schools



Celebrating the '80s at F.J. Mitchell Elementary



Celebrating Green Heart Day! Powerful Poems about our Wild Knocks!



Have a Heart Day at Amy Woodland Elementary



Library Learning Commons at Frank J. Mitchell



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# Schools



Parkland went to Mars last month!



Mme. Ashley's grade 3 class at T.M. Roberts Elementary on their hike up the Butte.



100 Day at Gordon Terrace Elementary!



Kindergarten class at Gordon Terrace discovering dinosaurs!

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# Schools

## Pink Shirt Day! February 24, 2021



SSS



MBSS



ESS photoshopped by a very talented student!



PMS

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03-Mar-21

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	55	75	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	488
Frank J Mitchell Elementary	57	63	49	49	55	49	53	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	253	202	228	683
Laurie Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	117	131	99	0	0	0	347
Amy Woodland Elementary	33	35	37	37	42	41	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	266
T M Roberts Elementary	47	51	42	46	49	56	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	339
Gordon Terrace Elementary	31	36	35	36	41	45	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	273
Highlands Elementary	29	31	25	31	36	38	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	226
Pinewood Elem - Cranbrook	16	21	11	17	13	28	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	127
Steeples Elementary	31	30	26	16	27	31	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	191
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	84	90
Parkland Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152	137	137	0	0	0	426
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	64	64	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	31	65	121
Kootenay Discovery School	11	7	16	11	13	15	9	14	22	41	20	17	66	262
<b>Total</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>5731</b>