

# SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

## Superintendent's Report to the Board

*May, 2019*

PES Poetry Assembly - K Class





# Lynn Hauptman - Superintendent

## April continued to be a busy month throughout the school district:

- District Management has been busy with bargaining with both CUPE and CFTA.
- Our elementary schools have been organizing fantastic Ready, Set, Learn events for our early learners and are now preparing for Welcome to Kindergarten events. Such an exciting time for our little ones.
- Transition activities are also underway between our elementary schools and either the middle schools in Cranbrook or the high schools in Fernie, Sparwood and Elkford.
- I attended the Provincial Sub-committee Funding Review for Adult and Continuing Education as well as the Provincial Rural Education Advisory Committee
- I also had the pleasure of attending the BCSTA AGM with three of our trustees. I was particularly moved by the keynote speaker, Gabrielle Scrimshaw, who as a young Dene woman growing up in northern Saskatchewan. She had an incredible message of resiliency and hope. Gabrielle has founded the non-profit society of the Canadian Association for Aboriginal People.

## Spring Fine Arts Performances

Teacher Evan Bueckert of MBSS recently took 100 students went to Whistler for an international music festival. Once again, they were extremely successful. MBSS received the following rankings:

- Jazz Band: Silver
- Concert Band: Gold
- Concert Choir: Silver
- Vocal Jazz: Gold

Congratulations to the students and Mr. Bueckert. I had the opportunity to attend the concert just prior to the Whistler trip where they showcased their music that they were performing at the Festival. It was very evident to me why they came home with these awards. It was an evening I thoroughly enjoyed.

Another sure sign of spring is the number of drama performances that happen throughout the district. I attended the modern day adaption of Julius Caesar called **"Wasted"** at Sparwood Secondary School gym on April 30th. The students and staff did an amazing job of this well-known story that took place in modern day London in a school.

**"Mama Mia"** will take to the stage at Key City Theatre by Mount Baker students from May 9th to the Sunday matinee on May 12th. At the time of the writing of this report, I have not had a chance to see the play but I know it will be a rollicking good time for everyone involved.

On May 29th and 30th, the play **"Silver's Secret"** will be performed at Frank J Mitchell Elementary School.

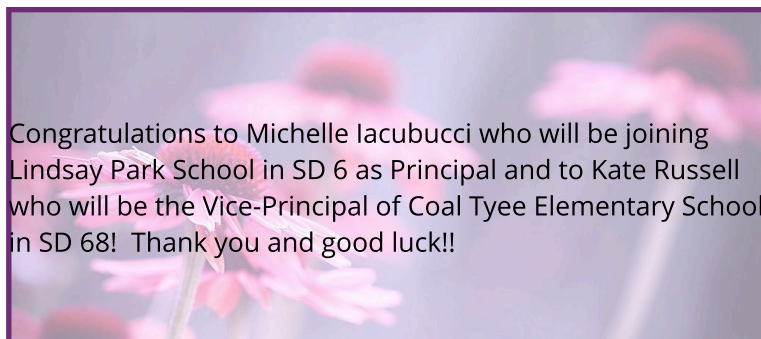
## ***Education Students' Association, held in partnership with UVic, fundraises to thank local schools for support***

Below is the media release regarding the Education Students' Association at the College of the Rockies:

<https://www.cotr.bc.ca/press/fullhdLine.asp?ID=921>



International Music Festival-Whistler



Congratulations to Michelle Iacubucci who will be joining Lindsay Park School in SD 6 as Principal and to Kate Russell who will be the Vice-Principal of Coal Tyee Elementary School in SD 68! Thank you and good luck!!

# Education Update

Ministry of Education



**Provision of Menstrual Products:** Minister Fleming issued a ministerial order requiring all B.C. public schools to provide access to free menstrual products for students in school washrooms by December 31, 2019. His direction comes with [\\$300,000 in provincial start-up funding to improve access.](#)

**Measles Immunizations Catch-Up Campaign:** Additional information on the [school-age measles immunization catch-up campaign](#) to be conducted in schools this spring is now available.



May 5-11 is Emergency Preparedness Week. Please encourage your school communities to prepare for an emergency situation by knowing the risks, making a plan, and building an emergency supplies kit. Visit [PreparedBC](#) for more information and useful resources.

**Mental Health Week, May 6-12:** The Canadian Mental Health Association has developed a [toolkit for schools](#), including posters, school activities and a fact sheet, to promote this year's Mental Health Week. #GetLoud is the theme, encouraging people to spread the word about what mental health really is. Please share these resources in your schools as you deem appropriate.



**FOR ACTION, PRINCIPALS & VICE-PRINCIPALS – BC Training and Education Savings Program Grant Letter to Parents:** Please consider sending this [letter](#) home with the parents/guardians of all students born in 2006 to let them know their child may be eligible for a \$1,200 BC Training and Education Savings Grant. Additional [promotional materials](#) are also available for your use if you are interested.

# News from Schools

## [A Class Project to Reduce Plastic](#)

[www.ferniefix.com](http://www.ferniefix.com) Ms. Shully's Grade 3/4 Class, at Isabella Dicken Elementary School, has been working hard for the past few months hand-sewing reusable produce bags to sell to community members. Their goal is to reduce plastic waste one plastic bag at a time, starting with produce bags at the grocery store.



Isabella Dicken students in Ms. Barras' Gr 4/5 Science Outside class spent time with Mr. Wrigglesworth from Xylem Water Technology and Solutions learning about the importance of and method for monitoring water. They then took the water monitoring kits he brought along to sample Maiden Lake and the Elk River as part of Earth Echo's water challenge - testing for the temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and pH. It was an amazing hands on experience and they were excited to be a part of the 1.5 million people who have contributed their water monitoring data to Earth Echo's database."

Other students at Isabella Dicken also participated in an Art Start cross curricular project using native plants/berries to create art. They then wrote about the historic uses of the plants as well as prose/stories/ poems.



Fernie Secondary proudly displays their recycling banner and re-introduced the composting and recycling program.



Tinker Time

Cranbrook Design Lab - check this out!!

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/0OvwyNEKXRk>



# Director of Student Learning and Innovation - Diane Casault

## Changing Results for Young Children (CR4YC)

Sheila O'Grady, Kindergarten Teacher from Highlands Elementary, will be representing SD5 at the Spring CR4YC Provincial Network Session on May 15th in Richmond, BC. SD5 will also be participating in this initiative during the 2019/2020 school year.

## EARLY LEARNING

### Family Drop in Centre at PES

Community Connections Society of Southeast BC will be offering a family drop-in program once a week at Pinewood Elementary as part of a newly secured 3 year Ministry of Children and Family Development contract. The program's goal is to provide parents with children aged zero to school entry an opportunity to play together, meet parents and children in their neighbourhood and find out about community resources. The program will provide a two hour facilitated drop-in play session, with a snack for the children. Tentative start date: May 1st

### Sparwood/Fernie Early Years Family Connections

We are pleased to announce two free education and support programs for parents and families raising children under 6. Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., in the StrongStart rooms at FJMES and IDES.

For more information:

Sparwood Family Connections

Fernie Family Connections

We are pleased to offer funding support for the following early learning initiatives:

### Ready, Set, Learn

RSL events are in full swing at our elementary schools from April 24 to May 23rd.



GTES



IDES (76 3-4 year olds and 70 adults attended)

### Elkford Early Years Committee - Tee Off for Tots!

The District will once again be supporting this wonderful fundraiser on June 7th by sponsoring a hole and donating a basket of early learning goodies for the silent auction!



### SD5 proud to support the Kootenay Children's Festival



May 11th (Cranbrook)

### Physical Literacy 101 – Early Years

Workshop facilitated by Sandi Lavery, COTR on April 18th. PL classroom kits were created and sent out to the participants.

# Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education- Jason Tichauer

## Aboriginal Education

This past month saw the Provincial Aboriginal Education gathering occur in Vancouver. Faye O'Neil and I represented our district and we were able to secure Ministry support and participation for our District Day in September.

We are pleased to support a two-day Wellness Workshop with ?Aq'am at the Dan Joe Gymnasium this week. This important workshop is being well-attended by Southeast Kootenay staff and is an integral step in our supporting of students in and out of our system.



## Ktunaxa Language - Months

?u?umi

May

High water or water starts to rise, also known as;

Moon when ponies shed

## Career Education

Karen Kettenacker from Mount Baker did a fantastic job of hosting the Career Educators' Society regional meeting last week. Karen, in her role with the CES and as a Career Ed teacher at Mount Baker, arranged a loaded agenda focusing on new Career courses in the Graduation Plan, as well as discussions around the new Capstone project. There were representatives from each of the West Kootenay and East Kootenay districts. Thank you, Karen!

## Project Heavy Duty

Twenty-four Grade 11 & 12 students from all three high schools in the Elk Valley will attend Project Heavy Duty May 6-8 in Sparwood! They received hands-on experience with 12 different pieces of heavy equipment! Thanks to all the sponsors and to our Transitions Coordinator, Brian Conrad!!

## New Provincial Assessments

We have received updates from the Ministry around the new Provincial Assessments in Numeracy and Literacy in Grades 10 and 12. These assessments are quite far removed from the older Provincial Examinations and are quite cross-curricular in design. More information to come!

# Director of Instruction, Human Resources - Brent Reimer

Staffing processes for the coming school year are now under way. Necessary District-initiated teacher transfers of continuing teaching staff to meet budgetary requirements will be completed no later than May 31.

Teacher-initiated transfer requests will also be completed by May 31. Following this, the post and fill process for available teaching vacancies will begin. We anticipate 4 rounds of teacher postings by the end of the first week of July.

CUPE staffing processes will begin in the early part of May. The District will first issue any necessary layoff notices for budgetary reasons. Postings for available positions in schools will follow.

We will interview for anticipated casual vacancies on May 15 for the upcoming school year. Thank you to our Principals/Vice-Principals for their role in this important HR function.

## Clerical Pro-D Day - May 3, 2019



Forty clerical staff from all schools and the Board Office took part in a Clerical Pro-D Day in Fernie on May 3, 2019. Lots of learning, sharing and networking made for a great professional development day for all!





# District Principal Student Services - Darcy Verbeurgt

## Marine Camp

March 31-April 5

Eight students with vision impairments from around BC participated in a pilot project at the Marine Science Center in Bamfield, BC. Students spent a week on the coast learning about marine life and marine conservation. During the week students took part in labs which included touch tanks, seaweed exploration, beach cleanup, rainforest exploration and even got to see a grey whale up close while out on a whale watching boat.



## Goalball

April 9-10

Students from Gordon Terrace, Highlands and Frank J. Mitchell experienced Goalball, a Paralympic sport played by individuals with visual impairments. Goalball is played on a court with tactile markings to enable players to determine their location on the court and the direction he/she is facing at any time. Silence during playtime is critical to allow the players to listen for the ball which has noise bells to help orientate, concentrate, and react during the game.



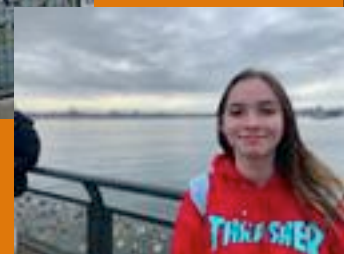
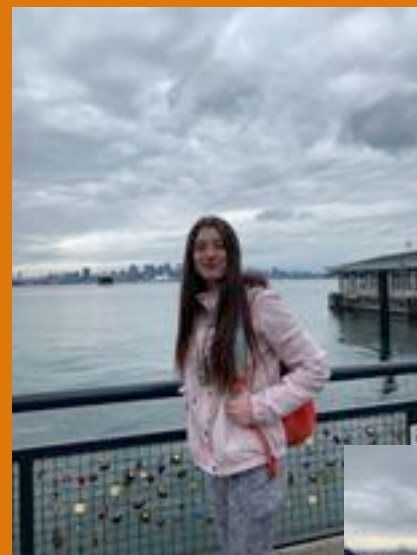
## Deaf/Hard of Hearing Connection Week

April 15-17

Two students from School District 5 attended the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Connection Week in Burnaby from April 15-17, hosted by POPDHH. Jordan Shukin (Laurie, grade 9) and Olivia Hockley (Parkland, grade 9) had the opportunity to take part in several activities during their time in the big city. The girls watched students from across the province present in the Optimist Speech Competition, enjoyed a day racing around the city on a scavenger hunt followed by a barbeque at the B.C. School for the Deaf housing complex, and on their final day, went to Science World with over 240 DHH students!

Olivia Hockley had this to say about DHHCW – *“The community is so different from the community we live in and it’s not an everyday thing we get to experience. It was amazing to meet so many different people and see all the different ways they do things!”*

The students and their Hearing Resource Teacher, Sarah Paziuk, would like to express their thanks and gratitude to the board for their support in attending this event.





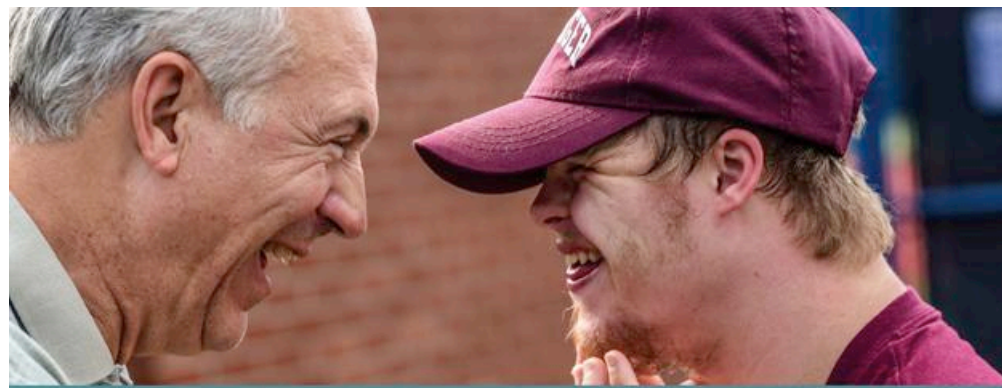
# District Principal Student Services - Darcy Verbeurgt

## May is Speech & Hearing Awareness Month and Vision Health Month

Each year, the month of May is dedicated to raising public awareness about Speech and Hearing.



## Frameworks for Understanding, Teaching & Supporting Diverse Learners



### Frameworks for Understanding, Teaching & Supporting Diverse Learners

NELSON BC • JULY 15-19 • REGISTER BY JUNE 10

For special educators and teachers to engage with frameworks for understanding, planning for, and teaching to diverse learners.

This is a foundational course that invites practicing special educators and teachers to engage with frameworks for understanding, planning for, teaching and supporting diverse learners.

Theory, research and practice will be complemented with classroom examples to uncover how neuro-diverse children and youth can be included in classrooms with the emphasis on building student agency and independence.

This course will be taught by Shelley Moore - a leading expert in the field of inclusive education. Shelley's interactive presentations are constructed based on contexts of specific schools and communities and integrate theory and effective practices of inclusion, special education, curriculum and teacher professional development.

#### INSTRUCTOR



#### Shelley Moore

Originally from Edmonton, and now based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Shelley Moore is a highly sought after inclusive education researcher, collaborator, consultant and storyteller and has worked with school districts and community organizations throughout both Canada and the United States. Shelley completed an undergraduate degree in Special Education at the University of Alberta, her masters at Simon Fraser University, and is currently a Social Science and Human Resources Council (SSHRC) funded PhD scholar at the University of British Columbia.

## BC CASE (BC Council of Administrators of Special Education)

Darcy Verbeurgt, Julie Russchen, Trina Anderson, Kerry Barclay and Kim McKeown attended the BC CASE "A Future for All Students" Conference on April 25-26. The theme of the conference was Building Structures for Diverse Learner Communities. Shelley Moore presented the keynote which focused on structural supports that facilitate inclusion at a system level within the classroom and school.

UBC THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Faculty of Education

facebook.com/ubcpdce  
twitter.com/UBC\_pdce

pdce.educ.ubc.ca/diverse-learners

# District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

## Environmental Education

### Nipika Leadership Circle April 26 to 29

School District 5 was represented by Kelly Henderson, Mardelle Sauerborn, Brooklyn Braconnier, Daniel Whillans, and Jennifer Doll, at the CBEEN Leadership Clinic from April 26-29 at the Nipika Mountain Resort. Faye O'Neil also attended the workshop to give an aboriginal perspective for the delegates.

The participants did place based and nature based goal setting based on Indigenous perspectives and built connections with other school districts.



## Earth Day - April 22

We are striving to make every day Earth Day in School District 5. Schools across the District celebrated our planet during the month of April.



Students in Ms. Doll's class at Gordon Terrace "Pitch In" around Elizabeth Lake



Gordon Terrace Elementary celebrated Earth week with a Virtue Assembly on Respect and Helpfulness. They also launched their new recycling program with a new recycling banner and new recycling bins.



# District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

## Technology



### Digital Citizenship

Sometimes it's hard to decide what to post. Having discussions around the purpose of social media and etiquette surrounding online behaviour can help us make the right decisions.

This month's topic talks Twitter and online relationships. You can find that resource here: <https://portal.sd5.bc.ca/Education/thinking/DigitalCitizenship/Pages/default.aspx>

Media Smarts has also released some new resources surrounding online behaviour. This one's even available in French!

### Transformative Learning

#### Design Lab Update - Cranbrook

Students in recent Design Lab visits have been building all different types of cars. After exploring virtual worlds and making cars appear in the middle of the room with the use of VR and AR tools, classes were given a design challenge to build cars that could complete different tasks. Some tried to build the smallest car possible while others had to design something that could carry or tow heavy and awkward objects. These challenges really emphasized the cycle of revisiting, re-imagining and improving their designs.

On another occasion, students in Mrs. McGovern's class created earthquake machines then tried to build the largest structure possible that could withstand intense shaking. A lot of Lego came crashing down but spirits stayed high all day long.

#### Design Lab Update - Fernie

Students have been busy creating projects at the Design Lab with Lego Wedo and learning about augmented reality. They've been especially intrigued with the 3D printer and they enjoy seeing their designs being made in front of their own eyes!

In Fernie, Kim Froehler has hosted Mr. Lund's class from FJMES, Mr. Buck's class from RMES, and Ms. Brown and Ms. Spergel's classes from IDES at the Design Lab. Ms. Spergel invited parents/family members to come to the Design Lab and they had just as much fun helping the children make and create with Lego Wedo. The Fernie Design Lab also had three Community Field Experience student teachers from UBC drop in to participate in various activities.

Students in various classes this month have also learned about augmented reality, Minecraft EDU, Scratch, and the basics of Tinkercad in order to prepare themselves for their upcoming trips to the Design Lab in May and June.



# District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

## Scratch-A-Thon

There are over 250 students signed up to participate in a Scratch-A-Thon over the next two months. Some classes have already started learning how to create stories and games in Scratch to prepare.

During the month of May, classes will have a full day to design and create their own program based on a theme given to them on the day. Students will have the opportunity to share and explore each other's creations.

## RSA Day Report

### Portfolio Session

The Scholantis ePortfolio session was well attended by both SD5 and SD6 teachers. Participants were guided through the basics of setting up and curating their portfolios in the most efficient way. More advanced users were informed of the recent updates that improve the parent experience and more advanced tips that will save time uploading and creating content. There were also some valuable suggestions that were offered that will be passed on to the development team to further improve the portfolio platform.

### Kodu Game Lab Session

The Kodu Game Lab Session was also a success. Everyone in the session was new to the game creation and computational thinking platform but quickly picked up on it. Participants learned how create a new game from scratch and access a large library of interactive tutorials to learn different skills. We were able to see many different applications that could relate everything from storytelling to physics while learning ADST concepts and computational thinking. Kodu is different from other introductory coding platforms because it uses a sequential way of programming rather than the block based format that other programs teach.

## Place Based Learning

### Mr. Gulyas' PE 10: Community Month -April 2019

April was an amazing month for Elkford Secondary's PE 10 class. This class of wonderful young people participated in some new, lifelong healthy activities within the community and also learned about the strong physical demands of local career possibilities.



## IBM STEAM Workshops

IBM hosted three days of STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics) workshops at Parkland Middle School from April 16-18.

The Professional Development Day for teachers was held on April 16. The focus of this session was creating more flexible schedules to allow for cross-curricular and inquiry based learning along with the potential for professional/collaborative time.

On April 17 and 18\* Grade 7 and 8 girls from across School District 5 as well as girls from School District 6 and School District 8 participated in the **IBM STEAM4Girls Day** at Parkland Middle School. The main theme of the STEAM4Girls day was Keeping Girls in STEAM. The day included many hands on activities (including the challenge of extracting DNA from a strawberry). The girls also participated in Speed Mentoring with women in our community that have chosen professions in Science Technology Engineering Arts and Mathematics.

*\*This was a one-day event but was repeated both days to ensure all girls in our geographic area were able to participate. A huge thank you to IBM for sponsoring these workshops as well as our community volunteers.*

