



School District No. 5
From the Office of the Superintendent

To: Trustees
From: Lynn Hauptman
Date: January 13, 2015
Re: Monthly Report to the Board

Purpose of this Report:

As the Board's Chief Executive Officer, the Superintendent of Schools is accountable for the day-to-day operations of the school district and for ensuring that the Board is aware of how the school district is doing in all areas of its operations.

Enrolment report – see attached

Superintendent's Activities

We had 53,941 SD5 website visitors in October – Google Analytics

I love December! Every year, I have the privilege of attending a number of Christmas Concerts in our schools. While I wasn't able to get to every concert, I know that the staff at every school should be commended for the many hours of dedication to make the concert season such an overwhelming success. The pride and joy on the faces of both the children performing and the proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles watching in the audience, is truly a wonder to behold. The concerts I attended this year included Gordon Terrace, Isabella Dickens, and Steeples Elementary School although I also visited the practices in a number of other schools. We also were treated to the Mount Baker Choir on December 18th who came and sang for us at the Board Office. What a talented group of young people!

Another highlight in December was the luncheons with the Maintenance, Transportation, and Board Office staffs both in Cranbrook and Fernie. What a great group of people we have working to ensure our district runs smoothly.

The Superintendent's report on Student Achievement for 2014/15 will be sent to the Ministry of Education by the end of this month once the Board of Education gives final approval. Previous reports on Student Achievement, along with current and past SD5 Achievement Contracts can be found at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/schools/sdinfo/acc_contracts/welcome.htm.

Our schools collected over 25 boxes of food items and \$1355 cash for the Salvation Army, donated cash and items for Christmas Tree Angel campaigns, over 40 bags of groceries for the Food Banks throughout the district and over 30 Christmas hampers which included gift cards and presents going to needy families. Gordon Terrace School raised \$3510 for their sister school in Nepal and LMS donated all dance proceeds to the worthy cause Free the Children. Thanks to all schools in the district for making Christmas so much more meaningful for many families in SD5.

Rocky Mountain Elementary School Official Grand Opening

On December 12, 2014, the ribbon was cut at Rocky Mountain Elementary School to signify the official opening of the school after a power outage and electrical surge in June caused fires within the school's heating and cooling system that led to the necessity of a complete refit of the school. This \$4 million restoration was celebrated with a school video featuring every person in the school and speeches from a number of visiting dignitaries including both MLA Bill Bennett, MP David Wilks, Mayor McKerracher, Board Chair Lento, Trustee Helgesen, PAC Chair Jennifer Gernon, Student Josie Ellice and Teacher Lisa Durand. Of course, there was also mention of the community's work in coming together to help the school win the Indigo Adopt a School contest resulting in a \$10,000 grant for books for their library. A good time was had by all!

Find Your Fit Tour – WorkBC

Laurie Middle School has been chosen as one of the few, if not the only, stops for WorkBC and the "Find Your Fit Tour" scheduled for Friday, February 13 in the school gym. It is a highly interactive, technical display that teaches students about work place fit and expected salaries and future opportunities. They will be inviting students from LMS and other schools in the area to participate. For more information visit <https://www.findyourfittour.ca/>.

Regional Adolescent Drug Use Survey

The East Kootenay Addiction Services Society will be conducting its 7th Regional Adolescent Drug Use Survey in the spring of 2015. All students in Grades 7-12 will be targeted to gain current information on substance use behaviours, patterns and consequences. This year, there will also be questions on time spent on gaming and social media and explore its impact on student functioning and correlation with substance use. Results should be ready by mid-December.

Sound Grading Practices/Assessment Literacy Conference – Portland, U.S.A.

We were able to support teams of teachers and administrators from our middle and high schools (ESS, SSS, FSS, LMS, PMS, MBSS) to attend the Portland Conference on Sound Grading Practices/Assessment Literacy in early December. The reviews from participants were excellent and this had led to deep conversations back at the schools and there will be further sharing at the P/VP meeting next week.

Finance/Operations Updates:

- Funding Announcement
- Purchasing Card Project
- Budget Prep 15/16
- Enrolment Projections – September 2015
- Budget Sessions with Education, Administrators, Operations and Transportation

Update from the Director of Instruction/Student Learning

CR4YR (The Ministry initiative Changing Results for Young Readers) has continued this year with two parallel groups: CR4YR (facilitator Carole Johns) CR4AR (facilitator Deb Kennedy). Both facilitators as well as two teacher participants from each group will be attending the January 22/23 CR4YR Winter Provincial Network Session held in Vancouver. Sessions will revisit the intellectual underpinnings which frame CR4YR: Spiral of inquiry, Indigenous principles of learning, evidence-based practice in reading instruction, social-emotional learning, self-regulated learning, inclusion, teacher collaboration, co-teaching, and co-planning and continuously building on the strengths of all learners.

Counsellors working group continues to meet on a regular basis with several meetings scheduled throughout the year. We are happy to announce that we now have all elementary positions filled as of January 5th!!! Welcome to Andrea Gotaas (HES/KOES), Andrea Spowart (AWES) and Kylie Philpotts (RMES). Professional development around suicide prevention, anxiety, depression, crisis response debriefing, peer counseling, and Child Protection continue to be encouraged and supported. Rick Nash presentations were very well receivedthanks to all our counselors who helped coordinate the events in our middle and high schools.

Provincial Exams and Semester End

Only three weeks left of Semester One. Teachers and students are busy preparing for Provincial as well as final exams. SD5 has selected the February provincial exam option and the exam schedule can be found at: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/>. Schools may have altered class schedules as a result of provincial exams, classroom exams or summary assessments.

Science Fairs

The Regional Science Fair has been scheduled for Friday, April 10 - Competitive Fair (Gr 6 to Gr 12) and Saturday, April 11 - Non-competitive Fair (Kinder to Gr 5) held at the COTR gymnasium. Registration fee is \$15 per student, with a maximum of 2 students per project. SD5 schools/students will be well underway with their school fairs and most likely looking for judges. Judging is a fantastic way to get to experience the talents/passions our students possess. For more information or assistance, please check the main webpage <http://www.ekrsf.ca> or email info@ekrsf.ca

Technology Update

Update for Baker: Server that was originally delayed is now here and is up and running. We will be able to move it to Baker and should be able to start cloning the computers soon. Switches are in and running properly. We will still need to configure them with our VLANs when we go live. Some old switches will need to be removed once we go live. Wiring has been completed. The roll out is now on pace to have MBSS complete during spring break. As the staff is very familiar with the PC platform very little support/training will be needed but will be in place once the staff returns from March break.

Update for FSS: Switches have been replaced with new ones. The switch cabinets will need to be looked at and possibly replaced.

The plan and school schedule will be reviewed once we are confident funding is in place. This will be discussed further during the budget process.

MyEducation BC

Cohort 3 schools have now been added to the converted districts and many of the original concerns have been addressed. SD 5 is moving forward with ensuring all converted data is accurate and we are once again able to utilize the modules available to us in BCeSIS. A report card working group with 4 teacher representatives has been established and will be meeting January 14 to begin training in MyEd. Planning for the Wave 2 district will begin in late January for all remaining schools.

Update from Director of Instruction/Safety/Aboriginal Education

Skills Training

We have been meeting about a few exciting Skills Training initiatives coming up in SD5. Our successful Project Heavy Duty continues this year in the Elk Valley. The SD5 team has been working hard to line up sponsors, suppliers, equipment and students!

Other initiatives in the planning stage include 'Maker Day' at COTR to enable kids to explore potential areas of interest and 'Yes 2 It', a grade 9 skills training initiative.

Aboriginal Education

Initiatives focusing on AB Ed include sending an SD5 team to the FNEESC conference in Vancouver. In addition to staff, we were very fortunate to have two elders accompany us to this valuable learning opportunity.

I had the rewarding opportunity of spending a morning at Aqamnik school. The principal, Michael Dereck, and I had a very fruitful conversation about results, resources, meeting student needs and transitioning to the public school system. Mr. Dereck and I hope to continue to have regular dialogue to address the needs of our students.

As well, I will be attending the Ktunaxa Education Summit next week and we will be bringing together our Enhancement Agreement review committee to review our Aboriginal Learners data as well.

Safe Schools Coordinator

This month we 'signed up' for Level 111 Erase Training as a School District. This advanced level includes the formation of Safe School Teams- teams of administrators, teachers and support staff working together to ensure the safety and continued achievement of our students.

Learning Initiatives

We are very excited that Leyton Schnellert will be returning to work with teachers again in SD5. This time, Leyton will be working on new curriculum and literacy initiatives with teams of Secondary folks!

Update from the District Principal/Student Services

The winter break always brings a few new families to the community and a need for further support for some students. We have responded to this small but significant influx with a few staffing adjustments.

We have expanded our use of assistive technology with text-to-speech software called Kurzweil 3000 and Firefly to assist readers with disabilities and difficulties. We have also expanded our use of speech-to-text software called Dragon Speaking Naturally to assist writers with disabilities and difficulties. There is another group of students who have low or no verbal ability and they use communication tools in flipbooks or on iPads to facilitate communication with others.

As we past the mid-point in the year, we start to collect the information to build our understanding of what next year's student population will look like and what supports are needed in schools.

To assist with understanding our Sept 2015 group of Kindergarten students, the Student Services Coordinators are collecting transition information from supported child care settings, pre-school settings and from the speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists.

Update from the Director of Instruction/Human Resources

Staffing for the current school year continues for secondary schools as second semester blocks have been posted and are in the process of being filled. To date there have been just over 200 teacher postings and 84 CUPE postings for the 2014-2015 school year.

We continue to interview qualified candidates for the TTOC list and for casual EAs for the communities of Jaffray, Fernie, Sparwood and Elkford of School District 5. Currently we are advertising for qualified TTOCs on Make a Future, in particular we are searching for teachers with Special Education, Industrial Education, Counselling and French Immersion qualifications to help meet the needs of students in our district.

Important Dates for Trustees:

Committee Meetings – January 26

Lynn Hauptman
Superintendent

School District 5 Enrolment - January, 2015

School	Student Funded FTE Sept. 30.13	Student Funded FTE Jan. 1.15	Difference
Amy Woodland Elementary	241	256	15
Elkford Elem/Secondary	163.625	172.375	8.75
Fernie Secondary	303.375	282	(21)
Frank J. Mitchell Elementary	336	350	14
Gordon Terrace Elementary	277	268	(9)
Highlands Elementary	245	260	15
Isabella Dicken Elementary	352	380	28
Jaffray Elem. Junior Secondary	168	168	0
Kootenay Discovery School	31.125	6	(25)
Kootenay Educational Services	52	65.75	13.75
Kootenay Orchards Elementary	231	237	6
Laurie Middle	302	301	(1)
Mount Baker Secondary	903.25	836.5	(67)
Parkland Middle	467	448	(19)
Pinewood Elementary	110	116	6
Rocky Mountain Elementary	236	219	(17)
Sparwood Secondary	253	261.5	9
Steeple Elementary	141	147	6
T.M. Roberts Elementary	360	351	(9)
Total District	5172.38	5125	-47