



École Isabella Dicken Elementary School

1301 2nd Avenue, Fernie BC

<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/Pages/default.aspx>

T: 250-423-4651

Principal's Message

Thank you for joining us for our Virtual Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 10.

With the weather now changing, please be sure your child/ren are dressed appropriately.

When there is inclement weather, dress warmly on cold weather days as school buses may be delayed and your child may be waiting for the bus longer than usual.

During the winter months, inclement weather may cause the disruption of bus transportation and regular school operations. In case of poor weather, the decision to close schools and/or cancel buses is communicated to parents beginning as soon as possible.

It is always a parent's decision whether to send their child to school on inclement weather days.

Since communication is key in alerting families to the status of school operations and busing, we use a variety of methods to communicate this important information including:

Primary Methods of Communication

- School Messenger
- School District #5 Southeast Kootenay Website
<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx>
- EIDES Website [École Isabella Dicken Elementary School \(sd5.bc.ca\)](http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/Pages/default.aspx)
- School Facebook Page
- Local radio station, as they are notified when the decision to close schools and/or cancel buses is made.

Our boys' and girls' volleyball teams have been practicing hard! The Elk Valley Tournament will be in Elkford on November 25. Go Panthers! Thank you to our all coaches who have dedicated many hours of their time. This year we are playing the Triple Ball Format. For more information on Triple Ball, go to <http://vcdm.org/global/images/misc/Tripleball%20anglais%20modifi%C3%A9.pdf>

As always, we appreciate your support!

Sincerely,

Laura-Lee Phillips & Janet Kuijt
Admin Team





IMPORTANT NOTES FROM OUR OFFICE

ABSENCES

The SchoolMessenger app is up and running. If you know your child will be absent or late from school, please use the app. You may also call the office at 250-423-4651 or email ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca **before 9:00 am.** Your help with this will save our secretaries a lot of time as they make a call home for every unreported absence to ensure the child is safe. **If you haven't downloaded the app please read the information provided in this newsletter.** Thank you.

VISITORS

For safety reasons we ask that all visitors sign in at the main entrance off 2nd Avenue. While in the building masks are mandatory. Thank you.



MASK MANDATE

All K -12 staff, visitors, and Kindergarten – Grade 12 students are required to wear masks - indoors and on buses. Thank you.



COURTESY BUS RIDERS

Due to a bus overloading situation, **we are no longer able to allow courtesy bus riders** to be transported on school buses from ÉIDES. Safety for our students is our utmost concern and an accurate passenger list is essential. Only students registered with the bus department will be allowed to ride our buses. If you have any questions, you can call the bus department at: 250-423-5885 EXT 223.

VERIFICATION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

We are asking families to **update any changes** to their contact information (emails, phone numbers, emergency contacts, address etc.) as soon as applicable. Please email any updates to ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca

ÉIDES IS A “PEANUT & NUT FREE” SCHOOL

PLEASE DO NOT send ANY product to school that contains peanuts or nuts. ÉIDES has several children and staff who have a severe life-threatening food allergy (anaphylaxis) to peanuts and nuts, which can cause a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes.

MEDICAL ALERTS

If your child has a medical condition that requires special attention (i.e. life threatening allergy or carries an epi pen) PLEASE ensure that you inform us. We have a Medical Alert policy and planning forms for parents to sign in order to help us provide any necessary care.



TRAFFIC SAFETY

Morning drop off and after school pick up times are very busy and continue to create safety concerns. Please help us keep everybody safe by helping with the following:

- Remind your child to use the crosswalk properly and to look both ways before crossing.
- **Please do not stop or block crosswalks with your car.**
- **Please do not block driveways with your car.**
- We ask that you **DO NOT** bring your dog onto the playground.
- Bikes and scooters need to be walked through the playground, on sidewalks and crosswalks.
- Remind your child of bicycle safety rules especially for riding on the streets.
- The staff parking lot is for STAFF only; please do not use it as a drop off spot.
- Please do not linger in drop off/pick up zones during peak times.
- Please respect the no stopping and handicap parking zones.
- 13th Street is a bus zone **DO NOT** use it for drop off or pick up.
- Please **NO U-Turns** in School Zones
- Please **DO NOT IDLE** cars while parked in front of the portables



Change of Seasons

Now that the cooler and wetter winter weather is here, it's a good time to remind students to dress appropriately for the weather as we still embrace the outdoors for mornings, recess and lunch throughout the fall and winter. It is our policy to stay outdoors unless the temperature is -20° Celsius or colder. Rainy days also don't stop us from going outside, so please make sure your child has rain and waterproof boots. Of course, monsoon rains and the wind chill factor will be taken into consideration and keeping students indoors will be at the discretion of the Principal. When cold weather persists for several days, we do allow the children to stay in, but will send them out for 15-20 minutes only, just so they get a little fresh air and exercise. We find that students become very restless if they stay in too often.

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Our Outdoor Classroom is now operating, and we need your help to keep the students warm and dry this winter. Do you have outdoor gear that is too small for your children (but still weather-proof) that can be donated to our lending library? We are looking for boots (winter, rain), mitts, jackets, and snow/rain pants. Also looking for firewood - we need this to be chopped into small pieces for easy fire lighting in our new portable fire pit. Please email melissa.fleischacker@sd5.bc.ca with any questions and to arrange a drop off for gear.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SD5 Annual School Calendar:

<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/About/calendar/Pages/default.aspx>

ÉIDES School Calendar on Website: <http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/Pages/default.aspx>

December

Tuesday, December 7

Friday, December 10

Monday, December 20 – Dec 31

Virtual PAC Meeting

2nd CSL (Written reports go home)

Winter Break

January

Tuesday, January 4
 Tuesday, January 4

First Day back to School
 PAC Meeting



École Isabella Dicken Elementary School
Daily Bell Schedule

8:20 - 8:50 Morning Supervision #1
 8:40 - 8:50 Morning Supervision #2
 8:50 Welcome Bell / Students Enter
 8:55 Classes in Session

Recess	
10:15-10:30	Kindergarten & Gr. 1 on the primary playground Grade 5 – 6 on the intermediate playground
10:30-10:45	Grade 1/2 – 2 on the primary playground Grade 3 – primary or intermediate Grade 3/4 -4/5 on the intermediate playground

12:15-1:05	Lunch		
Lunch	K-1 & 1/2	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Outside primary playground Lunch
	2-3	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Lunch Outside primary playground <i>3s allowed on intermediate</i>
	3/4-4/5	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Lunch Outside intermediate playground
	Gr 5 – 6	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Outside Lunch

1:00 pm Welcome Bell
 1:05-3:05 Classes in Session



Parents, if your child is missing something the lost and found is on the wall by the gym doors.
 Thank you.



[Grade 2 Fun Pass – Resorts of the Canadian Rockies](#)

The Grade 2 Fun Pass allows unlimited access to all four RCR resorts including Fernie Alpine Resort, Kicking Horse Mountain Resort, Kimberley Alpine Resort and Nakiska Ski Area. Proof of age/enrollment in grade 2 required at time of pass pick up. Child must be enrolled in a Canadian school.
skircr.com

RUNNING CLUB

We are so excited to see so many keen runners coming out for running club. As we transition into our winter running season, please ensure that your child comes dressed for the weather with a toque, mitts and running shoes (no boots). Parents who are joining us, please check the school Facebook page for cancellations due to adverse weather conditions. We run most days regardless of weather, so please remember to run with care.



Keep up the great running Panthers!

Volunteers Wanted Ad

Youth Care workers at Ecole Isabella Dicken Elementary School are looking for parents who are passionate about food security within the school community as well as, someone who has a knack for organization. We have found that our food programs have been so helpful to our students the past three years, but this job takes quite a bit of extra work and many different skills, so we are reaching out to our parents and community members to ask for help!

If you're interested in becoming involved, please contact me (Teyadora W- YCW 250-430-7048) or (Kim Legge 250 430 7005)



FosterNow.ca



"She believed in me until I could believe in myself." - *Guy,*
Former youth in care

Throughout this pandemic, children are still coming into care. If becoming a foster parent has been on your mind, please reach out to us.

Ministry of Children and Family Development Local Contact:

Resource Social Worker: Halina Wloka

Ph: 250-423-9718

Email: Halina.Wloka@gov.bc.ca

341 2nd Avenue

PO Box 950

Fernie, British Columbia, V0B 1M0







SCHOOL DISTRICT 5
S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

School District 5 Introduces SchoolMessenger

Continuing to foster and enhance ethical communication between the School District and all learners, students, staff, parents and community in a timely and inclusive manner.

School District 5(Southeast Kootenay) is launching SchoolMessenger for communication with parents. SchoolMessenger is a communication platform that allows our schools and district to send out mass communications to parents/guardians using multiple methods simultaneously. The SafeArrival system provides parents with a faster and easier way of reporting absences.

The benefits of SchoolMessenger include:

-  Parents can choose how to be notified (email, phone call, text message)
-  Absences are easier to report at **1-(833) 566-1225**, on the app or website)
-  More timely notification in an emergency
-  Schools can respond faster when a student is unexpectedly absent and may be missing

SchoolMessenger Communicate



SchoolMessenger Communicate is an automated notification system used to send out general announcements.



As a parent/guardian, you can decide how you want to receive announcements (email, phone call, and/or text message).

There is nothing you need to do to receive announcements from the school. You can customize how you receive what kind (General, Emergency, or Attendance) announcements. For example, you may only want to receive general announcements (upcoming events, newsletters, etc.) via email, but you might want attendance info to come as a text message so that you see it right away.

You can set up your Smartphone or Android phone app or website account right away to make sure you are ready when we launch SchoolMessenger Communicate and SafeArrival:

-  Using your mobile device, download and install the [School Messenger app](#) from the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
-  Use the [Safe Arrival website](#). The first time you use the website, select [Sign Up](#) to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.



Please get in touch with your child's school if your contact information (email or phone number) has recently changed so SchoolMessenger has the most current information on file.

SchoolMessenger SafeArrival





One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school every day. To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay) is introducing a new, more efficient student absence

reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, making it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unreported student absences.

It is also used to contact parents and guardians when a child is absent (if the absence was not reported in advance). The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents/guardians at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up.

If you report your child's absence in advance using the SafeArrival [toll-free number](#), [website](#) or [mobile app](#), you will NOT receive these notifications.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these **3 convenient methods**:

-  Using your mobile device, download and install the [SchoolMessenger app](#) from the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
-  Use the [SafeArrival website](#). The first time you use the website, select [Sign Up](#) to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
-  Call the toll-free number **1-(833) 566-1225** to report an absence using the automated phone system.
-  Contact your child's school directly to report an absence.

The SafeArrival options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time up to a maximum of 10 consecutive days. It is important to note that when setting up your account, **you must register using the email address and phone number associated with your child's MyEducation BC account.**

SchoolMessenger SMS

Opt In





**if your number is Canada-based.*

You will receive a text message requesting you to opt into your school or School District 5 text message alert service. This number was provided through your contact information in MyEducation BC.

If you would like to continue receiving messages from your school or district you must reply affirmatively with one of the opt-in key words. Simply reply to the original message (or send a text message to 978338 in Canada) with either the words "opt in" or "subscribe".

If you do not receive a text message, you still can participate in SchoolMessenger SMS (Short Message Service), known as "text messages" from your cell phone by texting "Y" or "Yes" to 978338. Standard message and data rates may apply.

-  For help information, text HELP, INFO, AIDE to 978338.
-  To opt out at any time, text STOP, END, CANCEL, QUIT, UNSUBSCRIBE, ARRET to 978338.

Participating carriers: Rogers Wireless, MTS, Bell, Sasktel Mobility, Telus Mobility

Yours truly,

School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay)

Jennifer Roberts
District Principal



School District 5 Southeast Kootenay – Back to School 2021-2022

Safety is our Priority	Guidelines
<p>Students and staff can safely participate in full-time, in-class instruction in accordance with current public guidelines for schools. All members of our School District 5 Southeast Kootenay (SD5) community have a shared responsibility to protect themselves and others from the spread of COVID-19, or any other communicable disease. A detailed Communicable Disease Plan is part of SD5's commitment to promote the health and safety of all employees, students, and visitors by providing information that can be used to prevent the contraction and spread of communicable diseases, and to guide appropriate responses.</p> <p>Our plans are based on current guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).</p>	<p>To Continue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All K -12 staff, visitors, and Kindergarten -12 students required to wear masks - indoors and on buses Daily health check - K-12 Health Check App, Self-Assessment Tool, or BCCDC's "When to get Tested" Don't come to school when sick - seek guidance Daily attendance management Daily cleaning & disinfecting - 1x/day Hand hygiene & respiratory etiquette - be diligent! Ventilation & air exchange Case & contact management - directed by public health Health and safety orientation - for staff & students <p>New:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccinations - the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19. Available for ages 12 and older Full operation of all school spaces - gyms, libraries, washrooms, water fountains etc. Extra-curricular activities & sports - resume Regional health measures - as needed Gathering & events - resume in alignment with PHO orders Visitors are welcome - following safety guidelines; appointments encouraged <p>No longer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cohorts/Learning Groups Physical Distancing of 2m
<p>Supportive Environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the health and well-being of students, staff and families continues to be our top priority. Addressing pandemic impacts on student learning and well-being, with a focus on the "whole child" including literacy, numeracy, social-emotional development and mental health. Providing inclusive and compassionate learning environments through trauma-informed practices. Implementing strategies to routinely support students to practice personal prevention measures. 	

All members of the SD5 community are expected to follow the SD5 Communicable Disease Plan in conjunction with the [BCCDC Public Health Guidelines for K-12 Schools](#), and the [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#). All employees are expected to read, [know](#) and organize their work in accordance with these guidelines.

DAILY HEALTH CHECK	
KEY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	WHAT TO DO
Fever (above 38°C) Chills Cough Difficulty breathing Loss of sense of smell or taste	If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home. Contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
OTHER SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
Sore throat Loss of appetite Headache Body aches Extreme fatigue or tiredness Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea	If yes to 1 symptom: Stay home until you feel better. If yes to 2 or more of these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours. If symptoms don't get better or get worse, contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:	WHAT TO DO
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	If yes: Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption . Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school for 14 days after arrival , as part of federal requirements .
CLOSE CONTACT	WHAT TO DO
Have you been notified by public health that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	If yes: Follow the instructions provided by Public Health.

You can also check your symptoms with the [K-12 Health Check](#) or the [BC Self-Assessment Tool](#).

Call 8-1-1 with any questions about symptoms of illness. If you have severe symptoms, like difficulty breathing (struggling to breathe or you can only speak single words) or chest pain, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.

Visit the [BC Centre for Disease Control website](#) for more information on COVID-19.

 **School District 5**

2021-2022 Amended Annual School Calendar

October 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

-  School Breaks
-  Professional Development Days
-  Stat Holidays
-  Administrative Day
-  Second Semester Starts

FIRE CHIEF FOR THE DAY!

