

# SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY PATHWAYS TO LEARNING



The Frank J. Mitchell Kindergartens took a break on a sunny hill during their participation in the Terry Fox Run.

**November, 2021**







## School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay)

### PATHWAYS TO LEARNING

Vision	Mission	Values
<b>Students love to learn here, staff love to work here, families love to gather here</b>	<b>Our students will graduate with dignity, purpose and options</b>	<b>Respect, Vision, Fairness, Collaboration, Integrity, Inclusion</b>

#### 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

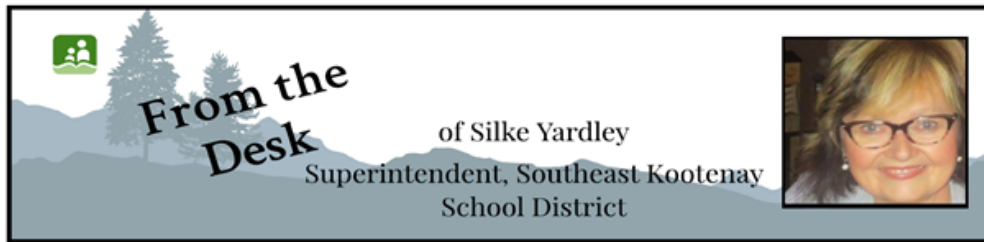
**Goal:** Continue to foster two-way, ethical communication between the District and all learners, students, staff, parents and community in a timely, concise and inclusive manner.

- 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



## Rainbow of Learning Opportunities

We are very excited to be able to share with you the “Rainbow of Learning Opportunities”. In the Rainbow you will find a variety of learning opportunities not only to support our Framework for Enhancing Student Learning, but also a place where staff may be able to find different opportunities to support their learning.

Watch for frequent updates on the portal as well as invitations from different district leaders as they share their learning sessions with you.

### The Rainbow of Learning Opportunities

The Rainbow of Learning Button is found in the [Portal Under Education](#)

#### Who can use this?

Available for all staff with Portal access

#### Where to find it?

On the Portal under Education

#### What does it contain?

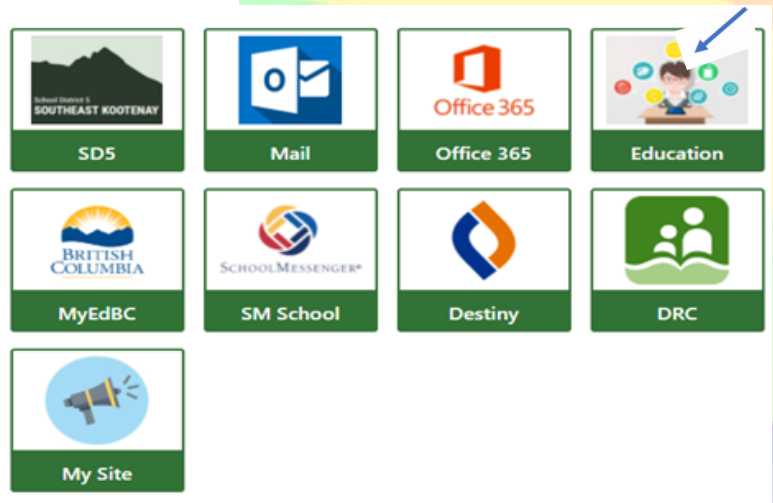
A listing of professional learning opportunities (both internal and external) organized by colour

#### When is it updated?

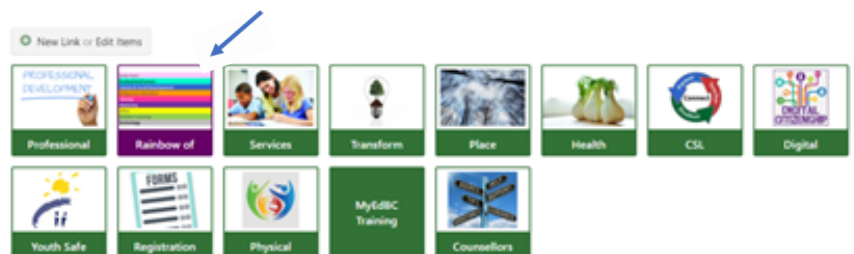
The Rainbow is updated frequently (daily!) as new opportunities arise

#### How do I search?

Searching the Rainbow is as simple as sorting by any column headers (Category, Date, Colour, Presenter)!



#### Education



We will also be sending out **The Rainbow Connection** every Friday promoting what sessions are up and coming!

A special thank you to the district learning team for all their work on supporting professional learning in our district. This has been a team effort and I am very proud of all the work that the team has done to help and support professional learning.



# The Rainbow Connection

Professional Learning in School District 5

- French for the Future** - November 2
- EF in Language Arts** - November 16
- Reimagining Math Seminar** - November 3
- 3W & How of Writing Assessments (EV)** - November 24
- Story Workshop** - November 4
- FESL Project with Dr. Louie** - November 25
- Game of Groans with Dave Quinn** - November 5



Have you checked out the [Rainbow of Learning](#) lately?

Clear instructions, which can be printed, on how to use the Rainbow have also been put in the portal as well as a powerpoint presentation for easy reference. Here is a snippet of what the Rainbow looks like!

Category	Event	Link	Date	Time	Series or Or	Presenter Organizer	QRCode	Location Room	Who is it for?
Technology	Using Teams in your Classroom to Make Teaching Easier	Registration	2021/09/14	3:15 PM	1	Microsoft		Teams	Teachers
Outdoor Learning	Outdoor Learning Tips, Tricks and Tools	Registration	2021/09/16	5:00 PM	1	CBEEN		Zoom	Teachers Outdoor education learning experts
Technology	Using M365 (Formerly O365) to Improve Productivity and Teaching	Registration	2021/09/21	3:15 PM	1	Microsoft		Teams	Teachers
Indigenous Education	Indigenous Resources & Perspectives for Outdoor Learning	Registration	2021/09/23	5:00 PM	1	CBEEN		Zoom	Teachers SDS's Own Faye O'Neil discusses it
Early Years	Beyond the Classroom: Providing Learners with Quality Outdoor Experiences	Registration (\$19)	2021/09/25	10:00 AM	1	Play Outdoors Magazine		Remote	Teachers/Early Learning Cost for the workshop is \$19 (Credit)
Early Years	Exploring the Benefits of Taking Learning Outdoors	Registration (\$19)	2021/09/27	6:00 PM	1	Play Outdoors Magazine		Remote	Teachers/Early Learning Cost for the workshop is \$19 (Credit)
Technology	Improving in person PT Meetings Using Teams	Registration	2021/09/28	3:15 PM	1	Microsoft		Teams	Teachers
Technology	Tech-Quilla Tuesday Mail Merge FSA Labels	Join the Meeting	2021/09/28	3:30 PM	1	Jane Nixon		Remote	Clerical, Executive Assistants, PVP CSV Easy Mail Merge for FSA Labels
Outdoor Learning	Skills and Dispositions for Intentional Outdoor Learning	Registration (\$19)	2021/09/29	4:30 PM	1	Play Outdoors Magazine		Remote	Teachers/Early Learning Cost for the workshop is \$19 (Credit)
Early Years	Tinkering and STEM - Concepts in Early Learning and Kindergarten	Registration (\$19)	2021/10/02	9:30 AM	1	Play Outdoors Magazine		Remote	Teachers/Early Learning Cost for the workshop is \$19 (Credit)
Early Years	Changing Results for Young Children - Fall Provincial Session	Registration by Invite	2021/10/06	10:00 AM	1	Joanne Holme CR4YC		Remote	Teachers/Early Learning Provincial Session
Numeracy	The Performance Standard - Numeracy	Registration by Invite	2021/10/06	9:00-12:15	1/2 Part	Brian Faucher, Jaslene Atwal		TBA	Teachers, Admin
Early Years	Changing Results for Young Children Series	Registration by Invite	2021/10/13	9:00 AM	1/6 Part	Joanne Holme CR4YC		Remote	Teachers/Early Learning Session 1 (9:00-11:30)
Other	Take Your Seat at the Table: Our Community Needs You	Register	2021/10/13	4:00-5:15 PM	1	Shauna Niemo		Remote	French Teachers
Early Years	Outdoor Learning in the Early Years	Registration	2021/10/14	5:00 PM	1	CBEEN		Zoom	Teachers/Early Learning Play is the best way children learn!
Technology	Digital Literacy Project	Registration by Invite	2021/10/14	1:00 PM	1/3 Part	Various (JR, KF, RM, MM)		KLC/CBO	Teacher Librarian/Grade 4 Teachers Session 1 (1:00-3:0 pm) at either CE
Other	A Conversation with BC Educators	Registration (\$50)	2021/10/14	5:00-6:30	1	Andy Hargreaves (Diane C)		Remote	Teachers Engagement: The Promise and the
Technology	Tech-Quilla Tuesday on Thursday - SMS Messaging for Early Dismissal	Join Meeting	2021/10/14	3:30-3:45		Jane Nixon/Jennifer Roberts		Remote	Clerical, Executive Assistants, PVP Turning your world upside down of





# Engaging All Learners



The Aboriginal Education Department met on October 8, 2021 at the Cranbrook Board Office for their first of 3 meetings to be held this year!

Check out the new Ktunaxa sign at the Cranbrook Board Office!



## Mandt

In the month of October, we had over 160 staff in School District 5 complete this training. We are happy to support our staff and students in this way. The Mandt System teaches prevention and de-escalation concepts to help people safely manage behaviour so that everyone can be safe in their environment.



## Indigenizing Education in the Classroom

Dustin Louie teaching Grade 9 and 10 teachers from across 5 district schools how to Indigenize Education in the Classroom. This was Part 1 of a 3 part series.

School District 5's Connecting Leaders Hub made up of Principals and Vice-Principals across the district got together for some great conversations last month!



**East Kootenay  
2021 HUBbers**

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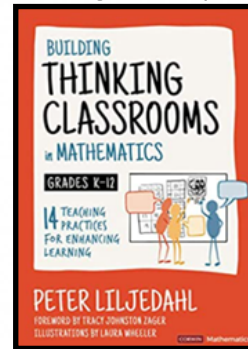
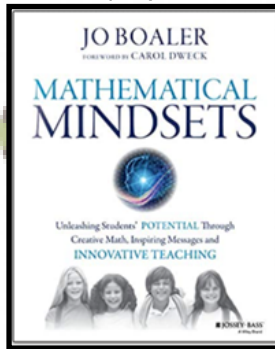
# Engaging All Learners



## Food is Culture

Students from both Laurie Middle School and Parkland Middle School participated in an after school cooking program at Laurie Middle School. The program offers students the opportunity to cook delicious meals to share with their family, which ultimately creates connections. This month's menu: hamburger soup and apple crisp. The after school cooking club is offered to Indigenous students monthly.

**Numeracy** - A couple of Numeracy Projects are in full swing in the district and we currently have two numeracy book studies underway in addition to the projects. We have had a great response to both.

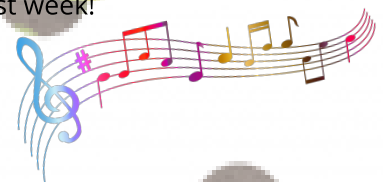


## Reading and Writing with AI

Students at many schools were introduced to a set of applications to support their reading and writing. **Seeing AI** is an app that can scan and read everything from short text, scenes, currency, and even people's emotions in just a few short seconds. Microsoft has made their voice to text and text to voice applications even more reliable and easier to access. Multiple classes at Amy Woodland Elementary School were trained how to use Dictate and Immersive Reader to support their writing. The computer voices seem to be getting more and more friendly every day. All these tools are available on our computers and iPads and are supported by the Transformative Learning Team.



Students at Highlands Elementary School have been doing glow in the dark music this past week!

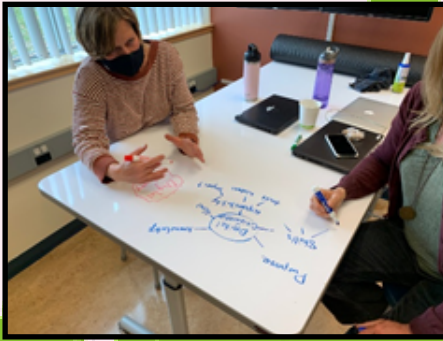
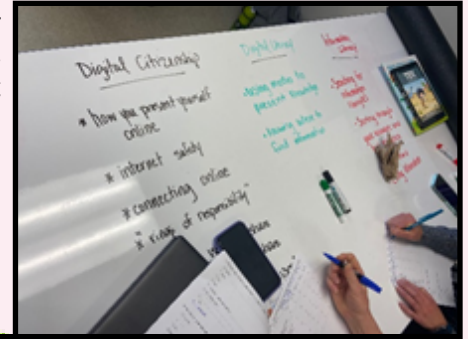


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# Engaging All Learners

Teachers from multiple schools in Cranbrook and the Elk Valley got together for the first of many Framework for Enhancing Student Learning sessions surrounding the topic of Digital Literacy. They explored the diversity of this topic and resources that will help students build social and technical skills when working with digital mediums. This project is geared towards Grade 4 teachers and teacher librarians in the district. The goal of the project is building and following digital literacy skills of these Grade 4 students over the next few years.



Students in Ms. Lloyd's Media Design class at Fernie Secondary School assembled a drone obstacle course and tried their hand at piloting a drone. Students learned that it is harder than it looks! Under strict safety precautions, some students had the opportunity to fly the more advanced DJI drone inside of Traynor Hall. Students are showing a keen interest in learning more about drone technology.



## VR Inquiry Project Environmental Education

Ms. Demer's students at Kootenay Discovery School have shown a keen interest in learning more about animals and their habitats. Students will be participating in a virtual reality inquiry project where they will explore different animal habitats and biomes using the Oculus Quest 2 headsets and the Wander app. For examples, students will view chimpanzees in Africa, penguins in Antarctica, and go diving in the Red Sea to view colorful coral reefs and fish.

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# Engaging All Learners

**Jaffray Shutterbugs** - Students from Jaffray Elementary Junior Secondary School learned how to use the growing set of DSLR cameras at their school. After multiple learning sessions, they took a trip to Fort Steele to capture the views, details and history of the area. Back at school, they learned how to organize and edit their photos in Adobe Lightroom. The final event was a lighthearted photo contest with prizes going to different categories such as best landscape, portrait, perspective, to name a few. There were also prizes for awkward and funny photos as well as the best accidentally amazing photo which went to a photo of a girl on a swing whose outfit colours matched the paint and decor of the surrounding Fort Steel Heritage Town perfectly.



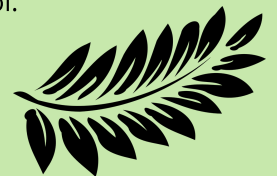
**Book Creator and Story Studio at Steeples** - Students at Steeples used eBooks to document their learning and reflections. Students explored design, layout, and an introduction to being a digital citizen. The students also used hands-on manipulatives to explore settings. They created and designed a setting and then introduced a character.



**Making Core Competencies Visible** - Students at Steeples Elementary School are connecting to communication/collaboration and creative thinking by exploring the story book, "The Idea Jar" by Adam Lehrhaupt. They used words, pictures, and objects to share their ideas.



Dreyden Williams - Grade 7 Grass Dancer at Laurie Middle School.



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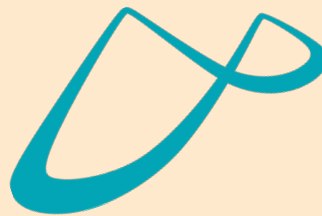
# Inclusive Partnerships

On behalf of School District 5 thank you to Telus for their generous donation of back packs for the 2021-2022 school year. A personal thank you to you Charlene for going above and beyond with ensuring that the back packs are distributed to the schools.

*Thank you!*



**StrongStart Centres** got back into full swing in October. Our facilitators were thrilled to welcome back all the happy faces into their spaces. The StrongStart Centres at Amy Woodland Elementary and Steeples Elementary School tried their hand at making fresh apple juice with the Kimberley Wildsight Apple Recovery Program. Steeples Principal, Chris Catherall, even joined in the fun!



ita | YOUTH  
**TRAIN**

We are pleased that there are 22 students enrolled in dual credit Youth Train in Trades programs through the College of the Rockies this fall. This is a very positive number, given the societal restrictions. We are excited that so many students are signed up!

Electrician	1
Welder	5
Carpenter	4
Millwright	5
Auto	2
Hairstylist	2
HD	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>

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# Inclusive Partnerships



The StrongStart Centre at Isabella Dicken Elementary was moved over the summer to a new space in the same building as the Bright Beginnings Preschool behind Fernie Secondary School. A lot of work went into packing, moving and setting up at the new location.



Thank you to everyone who applied for the excess operating funds for outdoor learning initiatives and resources! We had an overwhelming response and are excited about the project ideas presented.



## Advocacy

In September, the Human Resources Department implemented an electronic on-boarding package with an enhancement through Powerschool software. After two months of use, the new feature is seeing huge benefits with the streamlining of the required paperwork for all new hires.

As of October 28, 2021 we started the process of posting/recruiting for a new position of Assistant Manager of Operations. This new position will be based in Fernie to support the communities of Elkford, Sparwood, Fernie and Jaffray.

In addition, our first date of local teacher bargaining will begin on November 10, 2021 where we look forward to productive sessions with the Cranbrook Fernie Teacher's Association bargaining team.



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# Inclusive Partnerships

Excitement is in the air this fall! We have been working with teachers, administrators and staff to get the word out about our amazing resources at the District Resource Center.

## Resource Binders

Each school has received a colourful binder for their staff room table. The binders are organized with quick reference tabs.

### REFERENCE CORNER: ENCYCLOPEDIAS, MAGAZINES, DATABASES



## Equity in Action Program Update

This month we will be hosting folks from the Indigenous Education Department from the Ministry of Education to start our Equity in Action Program. Along with those visitors, we will have representatives from most of our stakeholder groups to be involved in this exciting project. We are interested to see where the Ministry sees this Program going and how we can build on our student successes.



The DRC has provided one on one, small and large group training for those wanting to learn to work with Destiny. Training has also been provided on our digital resources and Mathletics/Mathseeds resources.

In person or virtually, learning together is what this information hub is all about! Please let us know if you would like to learn about our resources. Contact our District Librarian, [Maxine Malmberg](#) for more information.

## Have you checked out CBEEN's Resources?



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# Ministry of Education Update

**Enhancing Substance Use Prevention in BC Schools Survey:** In Phase 2 of an ongoing engagement initiative, the Province is seeking input on how to help meet the challenge of youth substance use and its associated harms. Please invite parents and caregivers in your school community to complete this [short survey](#) by November 19.



Nominations are being accepted until January 7, 2022 for the Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education. Bestowed annually, these awards recognize education professionals who have made exceptional contributions to benefit their school, students and communities. Please visit the [Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education website](#) or read the [news release](#) for more information, and share this [poster](#) with staff and school communities to encourage nominations of deserving candidates. Email [excellenceineducation@gov.bc.ca](mailto:excellenceineducation@gov.bc.ca) with any questions.

## BC Education News

Legislative changes to support First Nations jurisdiction over education



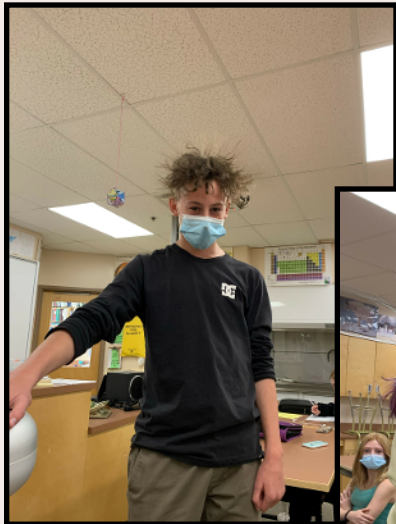
**Seamless Day Kindergarten pilot program expands**

New guidelines support K-12 boards considering staff vaccine requirements

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# Schools



A little static electricity fun with the Van de Graff generator in Science 9 at Parkland Middle School.



Please remember to send photos of your students learning outdoors to [Jane Nixon](#).



The Grade 6 class at Highlands Elementary went to Idlewild on a blustery afternoon to inspect the beaver dam that is a marvel of natural engineering.



The students and staff at Highlands Elementary were challenged to share some of the things they are thankful for. They recorded their ideas on post it notes and attached them to our school thankful sign.



Check out the new shade structure at Steeples Elementary School!



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# Schools



Mt. Baker Secondary School art classes took a trip to the 1401 Art Gallery in Cranbrook. All classes saw the Aging, Art and the Modern Elder paintings from the North Okanogan chapter of Canadian Federation of Artists.

Grade 10 English students at Elkford Secondary School have been enjoying some sunny fall days outside, listening to podcasts at their Sitting Stones. Students will soon be recording their own podcasts.



Prepping the garden for winter at T.M. Roberts Elementary School.

## South Star Hike

Mr. Hammond's class at Steeples Elementary enjoyed a beautiful hike up South Star. It was a chilly Friday in October but the sun was shining and the views were amazing.



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# Schools



Leigh Cormier, Mt. Baker Secondary School Teacher and her Outdoors Class out on Columbia Lake.

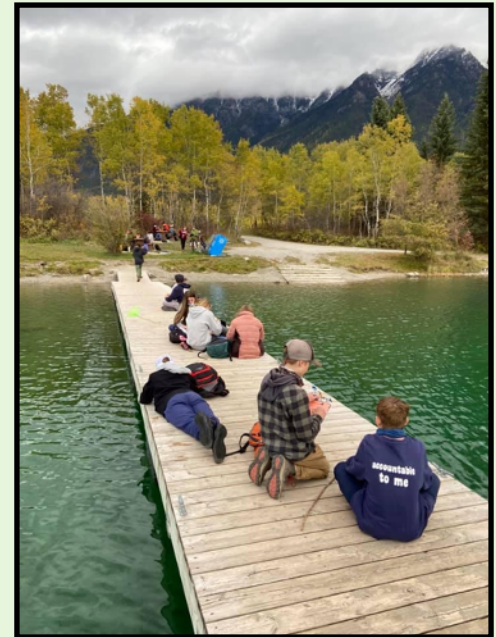
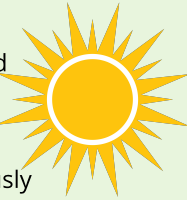


Beaver dam challenge at Idlewild Park with Highlands Elementary School.



Highlands Elementary School visits the Design Lab in Cranbrook!

The Compass Program spent a day at Norbury Provincial Park in October. Students learned about the spring fed lakes and the reason they are such a vibrant color. They also concluded a writing exercise about tea time with different needles that we had previously collected and tasted. Another gorgeous day in the Kootenays!



TM Roberts at Idlewild

Miss Sheryl's class at TM Roberts Elementary School enjoyed a beautiful day of joyful learning about beaver dams at Idlewild.

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# Schools

Ms. Vording's grade 3/4 class at Highlands Elementary School took part in "Build a Solid/Waterproof Beaver Dam" at Idlewild Park. The students even saw a real beaver dam!



Wilderness Wednesdays at Pinewood Elementary School!



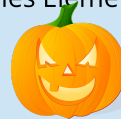
Elkford Secondary students know how to carve! 55 pumpkins, 91 students and \$115 donated to the Elkford Food Bank.



Mrs. Willumeit's Kindergarten class from Gordon Terrace braved the cold and rain in search of the "Magic Pumpkin".



Steeles Elementary School



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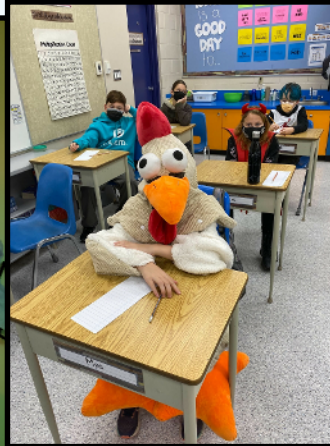


# Schools

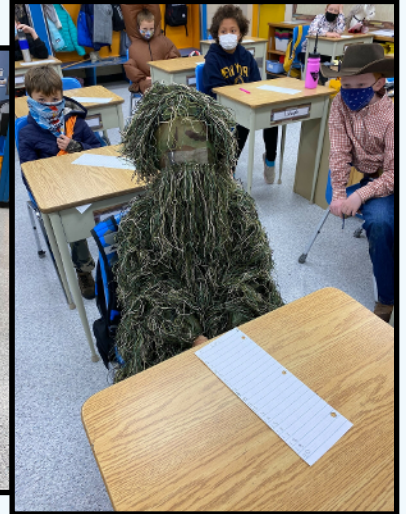
## Halloween 2021



Gordon Terrace Elementary School



Pinewood Elementary School



Highlands Elementary School



Isabella Dicken Elementary School



Steeple Elementary School



Parkland Middle School



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# Schools

## Halloween 2021



Laurie Middle School



Kootenay Orchards Elementary School



Parkland Middle School pumpkin launchers!



T.M. Roberts Elementary School



Amy Woodland Elementary School Halloween and Pancake breakfast.



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