



# **SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY PATHWAYS TO LEARNING**



**September, 2019**



## 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



# SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

August 30, 2019

Welcome back from Alan Rice, Secretary-Treasurer and Silke Yardley, Superintendent of Schools to all students, parents, staff, and trustees of School District 5 to the 2019/2020 school year!

We are very pleased to be working together in a dual reporting model. The Superintendent of School's role is primarily to support student learning and the Secretary Treasurer's role is to support the operations and finances related to the learning for our students. We are both really looking forward to working closely with the Board of Education, staff and students to ensure that we continue to focus on what is best for our students.

Learning is always at the forefront of what our focus is and we are proud to hear all the good things that are already happening in our schools. We had the opportunity to meet with the principals and vice principals last week where we heard about many great opportunities for students and that schools are ready to go for September 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have also had a chance to meet with the Teacher's Association Leadership and are looking forward to connecting with the CUPE Leadership, District Parent Advisory Council, the District Student Advisory Council and community partners over the next few weeks.

The summer is a time for our maintenance team to complete projects and ensure the schools are ready to welcome students back. We want to thank Joe Tank and his team for all of their hard work.

We had the pleasure of touring the bus yard and seeing all of the shiny busses ready to start the year. A special thank you to our caring bus drivers and maintenance people who transport our most precious cargo.

We also wanted to thank all of the CUPE employees, district employees, principals, vice principals and teachers who are working very hard to ensure that schools are ready to go for the school year to support our students. The first few days with smiley faces, sparkling floors and anticipation of the year ahead are always exciting times.

We look forward to learning and working together to continue the great work focusing on improving outcomes for students. Our door is always open.

Sincerely,

Alan Rice  
Secretary Treasurer

Silke Yardley  
Superintendent

# ENGAGING ALL LEARNERS

Click here to check out the new Grades 10-12 curriculum that is being implemented this year.

**B.C. Graduation Program - New Gr.11 and 12 Curriculum Effective July 2019**

What hasn't changed	What is changing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>High and measurable standards</b></li> <li>• Current 80 credits (20 courses) to graduate:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 52 required credits (13 courses)</li> <li>• 28 elective credits (7 courses)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reporting policy               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• letter grades and percentages</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Better prepare students with literacies and competencies the future requires</b></li> <li>▶ New curriculum in all subjects and courses - fully implemented July 1, 2019 with the release of the Grade 11 and 12 curriculum</li> <li>▶ Three new mandatory assessments:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Numeracy in Grade 10 - 2018/19</li> <li>▶ Literacy in Grade 10 - 2019/20</li> <li>▶ Literacy in Grade 12 - 2020/21</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ <b>Better prepare students for transition to post-secondary and careers</b></li> <li>▶ Adding two new required Career Education Courses (8 credits)</li> <li>▶ Developing new Career Strategy</li> </ul>

<p><b>Curriculum</b></p> <p><b>New Learning Resources</b></p>	<p><b>Indigenous Learning</b></p> <p>A strategy has been developed with key education partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes creating a video with facilitator's guide, K-12 curriculum connections document, inventory of existing provincial resources, and educator support guides</li> <li>• Will help ensure that teachers are well-supported to teach about Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in BC classrooms</li> <li>• Resources will be available on the ministry website during the 2019/20 school year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Physical and Health Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize that teachers would benefit from further support in teaching of two key areas – mental health and sexual health</li> <li>• Supports under development include elementary- and secondary-level lists of age-appropriate resources and a K-12 teacher resource guide focused on these topics</li> <li>• Resources will be available on the ministry website September 2019</li> </ul>
---	---

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



Welcome back breakfast at the Cranbrook Board Office on September 3!



## September 20th District Day

Planning is well underway for our District day on Sept. 20! The theme of the day is "Our Classrooms: A Vehicle to Reconciliation." We are very excited to have two keynote speakers joining us as well. Jo Chrona is the Curriculum Director for FNEC as well as having a long, successful career as an educator in our province. Our second keynote speaker is Michelle Sam, a very successful local facilitator. Michele has over 25 years of active research with Indigenous Peoples across Canada, and across disciplines including fields of Health, Governance, Education, Human Development and Social Work.

The model for the day is to use two sites with a conference-style format. Cranbrook and Fernie will each host for a full day. One keynote will start in Cranbrook, while the other will start in Fernie. They will then travel and speak at the other site. In between, we have exciting learning opportunities with local panels of elders, community people, Aboriginal Education Support Workers and students. As well, there will be presentation by Southeast Kootenay teachers. We are super excited for the day!

## NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION

We had our new teacher orientation session on August 27, 2019. We had 37 new teachers attend a very successful day lead by district staff. A special thank you to Maxine Malmberg for touring this group at the District Resource Center on this same day.



Huge appreciation to Joe Tank for ensuring the repainting of the Board Office welcoming sidewalk was completed this summer....it looks Spectacular!! Special thanks and appreciation to our painters, Harry Otte and Mandy Pighin for their work!

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



## The Design Labs – Cranbrook and Fernie

Learn to Invent, Invent to Learn at the Design Labs in Fernie and Cranbrook. The Design labs and teachers are ready to guide students through the Design Thinking Process and use state of the art technology to design create, test and make a project either in the physical or digital world.

[Ryan McKenzie \(Cranbrook\)](#)

[Kim Froehler \(Elk Valley\)](#)



## ERAC CONFERENCE

Kim Froehler and Maxine Malmberg attended the ERAC Conference in Vancouver from July 4-5. Participants in the conference left with strategies, resources and practical tools to:

- support the integration of Aboriginal worldview and perspectives
- focus on resources to support ADST and Health
- support learning resource selection practices in classrooms and
- connect evaluated digital learning resources to new curriculum implementation



<https://bcerac.ca/>

## WILD VOICES FOR KIDS IN SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

School District 5 teachers were avid users of the Wild Voices program in the 2018-2019 school year! **We had a total of 1,690 students in the Southeast Kootenay district participate in Wild Voices field studies or presentations.** The majority of Wild Voices lessons in SD5 took place in schoolyards or further afield with 1,243 students going outdoors to learn. The top rated Wild Voices programs for 2018-2019 were:

- Turtle Truths
- Trees and Me and Schoolyard Exploration
- Backcountry Food Prep



## The Take Me Outside for Learning Challenge is ON!

This year's registration incentive is the BC Nature Set of 3 Laminated Field Guides for teachers who commit to taking their students outside at least once a week all year. Don't forget one teacher from each district will also win a Wild Voices Field Study (including bussing) prize package.



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

# EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

## Principal/Vice-Principal Meeting in August:

On August 22 in Cranbrook and August 23 in Fernie the principal group and district management team met. Joe Pierre started off our day in Cranbrook with the traditional Ktunaxa blessing. We had presentations from principals and vice principals who attended professional learning sessions on a variety of topics. During our meetings we talked about our successes with our grad rates, procedures to get the schools up and running, staffing and many other topics. We also discussed our reporting pilot, as well as the Ministry of Education updates. As we have new additions to the team a special thank you to Jennifer Roberts for organizing connecting activities for all of us to get to know each other better. A special welcome to our new principal and vice principals.



The following principal/vice principal changes have occurred effective August 1, 2019:

- Ian Jarrell – Vice Principal @ ESS
- Christie Johnson – Vice Principal @ HES
- Rachel Romero – Vice Principal @ FSS
- Erin Hay – Principal @ FSS
- David Martin – Principal @ GTES
- Chris Catherall– Principal @ SES



## Clerical Pro-D

Thirty of our school clerical staff were brought together on August 28 (Cranbrook) and August 29 (Elk Valley) to review the vast amount of information (which is always changing) they are required to know for their jobs. District staff from the MyEdSupport, Human Resources, Accounting and Payroll Departments were all on site to assist with the training. Kuddos to our clerical staff for everything they do for our staff and students!!!!



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

# INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS

## SD5 and SD6 International Program

District staff had the pleasure of meeting with SD6's International Education Manager Amy Shoup and the International Program Coordinator Ulli Murtagh to discuss our international students for the next year. It is impressive to see students from Austria, Brazil, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, France, Australia, Mexico, Spain, Japan, Germany, New Zealand and the Netherlands come to our communities. We have 69 students coming throughout the year. Having international students in our schools is a wonderful way for students to connect and learn from each other. Special thank you to the schools and homestay coordinators, homestay parents and SD 6 for supporting the students.

## The Kootenay Learning Campus

We are very excited to have the Kootenay Learning Campus building nearing completion in Fernie! Our ability to offer Distributed Learning, Alternate and Continuing Education opportunities to our students is a foundational piece in our belief that we honour all pathways to Graduation. We look forward to being able to offer these programs to students across all of our communities. More details to come as the building opens soon!

## Social Emotional Learning Centre

School District 5 is excited to announce that it is moving forward with the development of a Social Emotional Learning Center. The Social Emotional Learning Centre (SEL) provides support for grades 1-3 students in acquiring social, emotional and behavioural skills. The Centre provides a short term part-time (morning or afternoon) opportunity for students to develop strategies for self-regulation, social skills and self-advocacy which will support them back in their home school environment. Students maintain a daily connection with their home school classroom where they are able to utilize their new skill set. Updates will continue as the program takes shape.



## School District 5 Welcomed Community Field Experience Students

School District 5 has hosted a total of six Community Field Experience students from April 23 to June 10 for three week field placements. Thank you to all staff that have welcomed these students!

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



# INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS

## Early Learning.

In addition to supporting the Ready, Set, Learn events in each of our elementary schools, we supported many Early Learning initiatives this year:

- StrongStart Equipment/Resources and clerical support
- Field Trips to Ft. Steele for StrongStart families
- Kindergarten Transition Meetings
- Kindergarten Readiness for Parents (Fernie ECD)
- EK Children's Festival / Growing Healthy Kids (Cranbrook)
- Tee Off for Tots (Elkford ECD)
- Kindergarten Orientation (all elementary schools)
- Family Drop in Center Program (PES)
- Health Snacks program for all StrongStart Programs
- StrongStart Evening Family Program
- CR4YC Provincial Project s Meeting (attended by Sheila O'Grady and Carol Johns)
- CR4YC team books "Really Seeing Children: Deb Curtis"



**Southeast Kootenay School District has been selected as one of the pilot district for the draft Reporting Policy which will be going into its second year.**

The introduction of the provincial curriculum has offered an opportunity to rethink the way we assess and report on student progress in British Columbia. Informed by research on effective practices and by thorough engagement with parents and educators, the draft provincial Student Reporting Policy for K-9 encompasses key reporting policy shifts.

These include:

- more timely and flexible communication
- descriptive four-point provincial proficiency scale for K-9
- end-of-year student self-assessment of Core Competencies, as well as additional student selected evidence-based reflection during the school year



The purpose of the K-9 Student Reporting Policy Pilot is to:

- trial the draft K-9 Student Reporting Policy in 2018/19 as well as 2019/20 to inform possible revisions to provincial legislation and policy
- test specific policy language and make recommendations for revisions
- inform future reporting guidelines
- refine the proficiency scale
- recommend, where relevant, future changes to the reporting policy for Grades 10-12

Participating districts will provide feedback on the successes and challenges of implementation, helping to inform the finalization of the new K-9 Student Reporting Policy and supporting guidelines.

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

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UPDATE

Welcome Back from the Minister of Education: click here for the letter: [welcome back letter for all BC parents and guardians](#)



**Better Access to Mental Health and Addictions Care:** As part of its [ten-year vision for mental health and addiction care](#), government announced that multi-disciplinary teams will be established in five districts to bring integrated services and supports directly to young people so that families and caregivers do not have to navigate a system on their own. The ministries of Education and Mental Health and Addictions are working together to select the districts that will take part. More information on this project will be provided at a later date.

**Mandatory Reporting of Immunization Status:** As announced this summer by the ministers of Education and Health, the [province is implementing mandatory reporting of immunization status](#) for school-aged children. Over the summer, local public health units reviewed the immunization records of school-aged children and contacted parents/guardians whose children are under-immunized. If parents are not contacted by their health unit, no further action is required.



## BC EDUCATION AND TRAINING SAVINGS GRANT

[Don't let your child miss out on a \\$1,200 grant](#)

**LOCAL EDUCATION AGREEMENT FUNDING -** [Local partnership agreements support First Nations in education decision-making](#)

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

# COMMUNITY

**A Letter received from Miriam Roberts:**

While I would have preferred to send you a letter, we are currently away from our Vancouver home on a 3-week road trip through the Interior and I wanted to contact you before schools close for the summer. Hence this email.

I am the granddaughter of a former mayor of Cranbrook, Thomas Mason Roberts, so you will not be surprised that I stopped by your school on Wattsville Road last Thursday (June 13). It was a pleasure to see the exterior and grounds so well cared for. But the real surprise happened inside when, although I intended only to have a brief look around, the moment I identified myself I was greeted most enthusiastically not just by the principal and then the teachers in the staff room but also a group of students in the hallway!

Education was a high priority for my grandfather and among his three successive generations are several UBC graduates. Although it is really just a coincidence, the career of his great-granddaughter (Dr. Jordan Lancaster) reflects the bilingual aspect of the school. Living in the UK, where he was born, she is an author and translator/interpreter in French, Spanish and Italian.

The principal, staff and students of L'Ecole T.M.Roberts Elementary School are a credit to his memory.

With appreciation,

**Miriam Roberts Lancaster**



Miriam Roberts Lancaster pictured with her grandfather.



Michael Meinig, Payroll and Benefits Coordinator, raised \$3500 for School District 5's and 6's School Breakfast Programs earlier in June!

Community Connections Society of SE BC (CCSSEBC) will be offering a family drop in program once a week at Pinewood Elementary School in Cranbrook as part of a newly secured 3 year MCFD contract. The program goal is to provide parents with children aged 0 to school entry an opportunity to play together, meet other 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.

Please call Community Connections for more information at 250-426-2976.



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

# SCHOOLS

Mrs. Gauthier and Mrs. Reinarz' grade 5 class and Mr. Eadie's grade 4 class from T.M. Roberts raised \$1437.40 by selling popsicles after our school-wide run on Fridays. The money raised will go to help provide medical treatment to the people of Haiti.



Mme. Victoria and Mme. Hart's grade 2/3 French Immersion class won a trip to Blue Lake for 2 nights from Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network. The students thoroughly enjoyed their time there and engaged in a variety of place-based lessons. Check out this great video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNz3C9BGe5c>



Rainbow amphitheater at Isabella Dicken Elementary School in Fernie!



Mme. Catherine's grade 5/6 class from TM Roberts put on a play at the Key City Theatre and raised \$273 for the SPCA. Bravo la classe!

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