

# École Isabella Dicken Elementary School

1302 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Fernie BC

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

T: 250-423-4651



## Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff at École Isabella Dicken Elementary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2020-21 school year! It is with great excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you. I am honored to have the opportunity to be working at École Isabella Dicken Elementary School again. As Principal, I look forward to helping make the school year a great one. We have a great team! A team who is dedicated to providing quality learning experiences for all of our students in a safe, caring, friendly, supportive, and inclusive environment. We are look forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

As the principal at ÉIDES, it is important to me that everyone who steps through our doors – teachers, students, and parents are excited to be here. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to phone the school at (250) 423-4651 or email me, [laura-lee.phillips@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:laura-lee.phillips@sd5.bc.ca). If parents wish an interview with a teacher, counsellor, or administrator please phone, and request that the secretary arrange a convenient time.

We continue to live in an interesting and most definitely different world, but as I have said many times "we can do this, we WILL do this". We are living in a time of uncertainty and change, which can be exciting and at the same time quite scary. As a team, we need to help our students be able to put aside their fears and do the job they are charged with...first and foremost being kids and secondly being curious learners; let's stay together strong and embrace the change that is upon us all.

PAC – I cannot emphasize how lucky we are to have this extremely committed group of people working on behalf of our students; wow! The students at ÉIDES are provided numerous extra-curricular activities thanks to the hard work and dedication of this team. I encourage you to come out and be part of the voice that supports the goings on of your child's school and to be a part of educational decision making.

While lots of familiar faces will be in and around the school we have a number of new additions to our staff for the 2020/2021 School year.

ÉIDES families will be receiving a copy of our Student Handbook through email. If you do not receive it this week, please contact our office so we can make sure you get a copy. It is also available to view or download off our website: [École Isabella Dicken Elementary](http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/Pages/default.aspx). Students in grades 2-6 have also received Student Planners and the ÉIDES Code of Conduct and Code of Cooperation can be found inside. Please take time to read and familiarize yourself with these. Our newsletters are posted on our website and sent home by email unless you notify us that you need a paper copy. I encourage you to check our Website regularly for calendar events, announcements and news. We also have a Facebook Page (Isabella Dicken Elementary School) where we share reminders, events and resources.

If you ever have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 250-423-4651. I am looking forward to another exciting year of wonderful learning!

Laura-Lee Phillips

## Notes From Our Office

### Absences

If you know your child will be absent from school please inform the teacher and office in advance. Likewise if your child is going to be late or is sick and staying home, we need you to call the office at **250-423-4651**. 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.

### Visitors

For safety reasons we ask that all visitors enter the school at our main entrance off 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. All visitors must sign in outside of the office door upon arrival and sign out as they leave the school.

### 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 busses. If you have any questions, you can call the bus department at **250-423-5885 ext 223**.

### Verification of Personal Information

Over the previous school years our secretarial staff sent home student verification forms for all students to ensure that our information on file is accurate. They Worked diligently to make sure our records were up to date. Moving forward 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](mailto:ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca).

### Permission Slips

This week students will be bringing home a package of permission forms (general walking permissions, grade 6 emergency evacuation policy and personal information release) that need to be signed and returned to school yearly. Please read carefully before signing. The personal information consent form determines whether or not we can include photos of your child in our newsletter and yearbook. Please be sure of your intent when signing the form.

### Medical Alerts

If your child has a medical condition that requires special attention (ie 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.
- 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.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Street is a bus zone DO NOT use it for drop off or pick up.

**Please note that the Fernie Family Housing Development is progressing, and they are planning to commence their works required to tie into the City water, sanitary and storm systems on Mon Sept 21, 2020. In order to do so, they will require a road closure of 13<sup>th</sup> Street, between but not including its intersections with 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave & 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. The full road closure is anticipated to last 1 week. The traffic disruptions and partial road closures will continue for approximately 2 weeks following that in order facilitate the rebuilding of the road structure, paving, and sidewalk repairs. I will have their detour & Traffic management plan shortly and can answer any more detailed questions you may have, but wanted to get this information to you.**

### Dates To Remember

#### September

Friday, Sept 18 <sup>th</sup>	No School, Professional Development Day
Tues, Wed & Thur Sept 22, 23 & 24	School Photo Days (schedule to come)
Wednesday, Sept 30	Orange Shirt Day

#### October

Tuesday, Oct 6	Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting – Info to follow
Tuesday, Oct 6	School Picture Retakes
Friday, Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	No School
Monday, Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>	No School, Thanksgiving Stat Holiday
Mon –Thurs. Oct 19 - 22	Early Dismissal 2:05 pm
Friday, Oct 23 <sup>th</sup>	No School, Professional Development Day

#### November

Tuesday, Nov 3	Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting – Info to follow
Wednesday, Nov 11 <sup>th</sup>	No School, Remembrance Day Stat Holiday
Friday, Nov 27	No School

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>

#### Terry Fox

As we celebrate 40 years of the Marathon of Hope, we have a new set of challenges to overcome. This year has been particularly difficult, to say the least, but we need you now more than ever!

**It's "Your Way" in 2020.** This year, the Run's theme is "One Day. Your Way." Due to public health concerns, we will participate in spirit, not in person this year.

On Sunday September 20th, we ask that you continue to support cancer research by participating in and fundraising for your Virtual Run. We leave it up to you to choose how to celebrate your Terry Fox effort – walk, run, dance, hike – on a favorite route and with your favourite people.

<b>ÉIDES TEACHING, CUPE &amp; SUPPORT STAFF 2020-21</b>	
<b>GRADE</b>	<b>TEACHER</b>
Strong Start	Jodie Parker
K	Bree Green
K	Sarah Finch
K	Jane Fraser
K	Leah Spergel
1	Lindsay Snea
1	Danielle Degagne
1	Christina Smith
1	Shelley Faucher
1/2	Katie Lynn Granger
2	Colleen Bedard
2	Nicolle Sutherland
2	Pam Murray
3	Tammy Temrick
3	Jill Jackson
3	Ami Barras
3/4	Cheryl Brown
4/5	Melissa Fleischacker
5	Jackie Mccullough
6	Erin Jones
FI 4	Jennifer Heath
FI 4/5	Russell Hanson
FI 5/6	Rhonda Shippy
FI 6	Patrice Oscienny
Student Services	Donna Cameron, Leanna Shully
PE/Library Prep	Gareth Barlow
Music	Alison Pace
SP	Adele Minto
SLA	Julie Nish
Counsellor	Rusan Morgan
Library	Jen Schacker
Library Clerk	Val McArthur
YCW	Amanda Culver
Custodial	Joanne Durham, Randi Langille, Carol Roberts, Dawn Westhaver
Aboriginal Ed	Kerry Peters
Education Assistants	Nicki Mitchell, Melissa Creelman, Val Luznar, Jen Champagne, Sherri Mutcher
FI Classroom Assistant	Tecla Mouchet
Lunch Supervisors	Lori Kennedy, Natalie Parr, Carol Roberts
School Secretaries	M. J. Andreola and Arlene Dykhuizen
VP/French Enh.	Janet Kuijt
Principal	Laura-Lee Philips



**HEALTH PROMOTING SCHOOLS  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
PARENT VERSION  
SEPTEMBER 2020**

**DASH RESOURCES**



Resources are available on the [Healthy at Home](#) page for educators and parents. Resources can be sorted by grade level and topic area.

**GOVERNMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES**

[Future Bright](#) is a free program funded by Employment & Social Development Canada that provides assistance to middle and low income families to access grants for their children’s post-secondary education. Although operated out of Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver, this program is available to families across Canada, and anyone in IH can sign-up online or by phone. Many families are not aware of the \$3,200 in free grants available to them by the Federal and Provincial Governments. Future Bright is launching an awareness campaign to promote this program with families and organizations to get the word out. Families can sign-up for free at: [my smart future.org](http://my.smartfuture.org)

The Future bright facilitators are available to give presentations to groups and organizations, and provide posters and handouts. They can be reached at [futurebright@elizabethfry.com](mailto:futurebright@elizabethfry.com) or 1-604-520-1166.

When a family registers, they will be connected with a Future bright registration Facilitator and they will:

- Get unbiased information about the different government grants available for a child’s education and how to access them.
- Assist families in opening a no-cost and \$0 fee RESP account.

- Support in acquiring missing documentations like SIN, BCID or Birth Certificates. We also cover the cost of obtaining these documents.
- Support in breaking down any barriers preventing families from accessing the grants.
- Get reminders about important dates, incentives or opportunities that may benefit the parents and their children.
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## INJURY PREVENTION

### Speed Danger Focus of Teen Driver Safety Week



This year's **National Teen Driver Safety Week** is focusing on showing the negative consequences of speeding on our roads, a particularly relevant topic given the resurgence of stunt and speed driving in 2020 as roadways were less-busy due to COVID-19-related reductions in traffic. Because of COVID-19 public health restrictions on large public gatherings, we're taking our campaign virtual this year, rather than encouraging school assemblies and Positive Ticketing activities. We're still providing social media guides, key messages and other resources for partners to promote and use. Help us spread the messages!

[Read more about National Teen Driver Safety Week's key messages and activities.](#)

## MENTAL WELLNESS

### Stigma-Free COVID-19 Youth Wellness Toolkit

The [Toolkit](#) includes information, videos and downloadable resources for youth (grades 4-12), parents and educators to promote mental wellness.



### Enhanced Mental Health Programs Support a Safe Return to School

As families, teachers and staff prepare for a school year that looks very different, help is available if worries begin to feel unmanageable. Free and low-cost counselling services are available online, by video and phone through programs such as BounceBack, Living Life to the Full, Here2Talk, Foundry's virtual services and more, for anyone who needs someone to talk to. For more information see these resources:

[Free and low-cost mental health supports during COVID-19](#)

[Here2Talk](#) connects students with mental health support when they need it

[Foundry Virtual](#) – Get Support Online

[Find a Child and Youth Mental Health walk-in intake clinic nearby](#)

Erase services and resources for students, parents and teachers: [www.erase.gov.bc.ca](http://www.erase.gov.bc.ca)

## TOBACCO AND VAPOR PRODUCTS

### Covid-19: Vaping and Youth Survey

To gain a better understanding of youth vaping during the COVID-19 pandemic, youth aged 12-19 have an opportunity to complete an online survey. The survey asks about their experiences with vaping (including if they have never vaped). Young people's involvement is voluntary and anonymous. Once they complete their survey, they can choose to enter a draw to win one of six \$50 e-gift cards (of their choice). The survey takes around 5–10 minutes to complete and is available until the end of September 2020. A link to the survey can be found here: [form.simplesurvey.com/f/I/YouthVaping2](https://form.simplesurvey.com/f/I/YouthVaping2)

For previous newsletters: [Health Promoting Schools Newsletters](#)

Or contact: [valerie.pitman@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:valerie.pitman@interiorhealth.ca)

## HEALTH PROMOTING SCHOOLS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020

### Teaching and Learning

### Healthy Schools Information Sharing

The following School Districts have a Healthy Schools tab on their websites. Take a look at all the great information available from: [SD 5](#), [SD 6](#), [SD 8](#), [SD 22](#), [SD 27](#), [SD 53](#), [SD 73](#), [SD 83](#)

## Teaching Toolkits

Interior Health has recently updated the [Teaching Toolkits](#) with resources for teachers on a variety of health related topics.

## COVID-19 RESOURCES

### Teaching and Learning

New resources have been created and are now posted on the [IH Public Website](#)

The [COVID-19 Information- Teaching Toolkit](#) contains information and resources to support teaching and learning about the 5 main principles of school-based control measures for containing the COVID-19 Virus.

Appendix A: Summary of School-based Control Measures



An accompanying [COVID-19 PPT -School-based Control Measures](#) is also available for school staff.

## DASH RESOURCES



### Teaching and Learning

Resources are available on the [Healthy at Home](#) page for educators and parents. Resources can be sorted by grade level and topic area.

To find out more about DASH's Healthy School Communities Certification initiative and how you can get your schools involved for the 2020/2021 school year, please contact [ksmeltzer@dashbc.ca](mailto:ksmeltzer@dashbc.ca)

Stay up to date with current news, events and initiatives by signing up for the DASH BC [Newsletter](#).

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### Community Partnerships

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## NUTRITION

### Our School Policies

#### Meal Programs and Food Based Learning

Schools can continue to include food preparation as part of learning and provide food services, including for sale and meal programs. For schools seeking guidance please see the Food Service section of the [Provincial Covid-19 Healthy and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#). Look to pages 13-14 and 29-30 for information related to food, culinary programs and food services.

### Community Partnerships



## **Grant Opportunities**

### **President's Choice School Nutrition Grant**

Does your school run a daily meal program? Are you looking for additional funding to offer higher quality, more sustainable programming? Apply for a President's Choice **School Nutrition Grant**. Applications are due September 30, 2020. Eligible schools must have an existing, universally available school meal program.

[Find out more.](#)



### **Fresh to You Fundraiser**

The BC Agriculture in the Classroom's Fresh to You Fundraiser is a unique opportunity for schools to fundraise by selling bundles of locally grown fruits and vegetables. This year, to help families that are finding it difficult to get fresh produce due to COVID-19, BC Agriculture in the Classroom will be supplying schools with a complimentary bundle of produce for every bundle sold through the fundraiser. Schools will be able to give the complimentary bundles to families that need them. Sign-up before September 21, 2020. [Find out more.](#)

## **TOBACCO AND VAPOR PRODUCTS**

### **Teaching and Learning**

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#### **Keep Parents in the Loop on Vaping and Smoking**

The Tobacco and Vapour Prevention and Control team encourages schools to add a section in their parent newsletters on vaping and smoking. Our ready-to-go inserts can be found here:

[www.interiorhealth.ca/sites/Partners/SchoolDistricts/Pages/HealthPromotionResources.aspx](http://www.interiorhealth.ca/sites/Partners/SchoolDistricts/Pages/HealthPromotionResources.aspx)

### **Community Partnerships**

#### **Tobacco and Vapour Prevention and Control:**

Do you need to reach Interior Health Tobacco and Vapour Prevention and Control?

Contact us at [tobacco@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:tobacco@interiorhealth.ca) or 1-855-744-6328 prompt #5

**For previous newsletters:** [Health Promoting Schools Newsletters](#)

Or contact: [valerie.pitman@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:valerie.pitman@interiorhealth.ca)