

**SOUTHEAST  
KOOTENAY**  
**Superintendent's  
Report to the Board**

*April, 2019*



# Lynn Hauptman - Superintendent

## SD5 Sports Teams

The 2018-2019 school year has been another great year for our teams. A huge shout-out to our staff members and community volunteers who put in countless hours to support our students in their athletic endeavours. The work they do enables our students to learn and grow. Congratulations to all of our school teams and individual athletes!



## Bargaining in Full Force

We are currently in bargaining with our CUPE Local 4165 and Cranbrook Fernie Teachers' Association. I would like to take this time to thank the members of both bargaining teams for your commitment to making our Collective Agreements possible. We very much value our relationships with both unions and believe that through our bargaining process, we will achieve a stronger CA for all of our employees. We are all aiming to finish by the end of this school year. Thank you.

## Adult and Continuing Ed Funding Model Implementation Working Group

I have the privilege of being asked to represent the "Rural" voice on the Ministry of Education's K - 12 Public Education Funding Model for this particular focus. There are four working groups in total (adult and continuing education, inclusive education, on-line learning and overall funding) that have been created with a wide variety of stakeholders: teachers, support staff, principals, district administrators, special interest associations, trustees, parents, etc.

Our task is to assist the Ministry of Education with determining the best approach to implementing Recommendation 11 of the Report of the Funding Model related to Adult and Continuing Education. The working groups are expected to meet between three to five times between now and the fall to complete a list of recommendations outlining how to best educate members of the organizations on the proposed changes and complete the reporting template that lists the specific implications of the implementation scenario, identifies corresponding strategies on how they can be addressed and considers how best to monitor the implementation process to ensure that it is successful.



Spring Music Assembly at GTES



Dan Whillans. Photography 11/12 class at FSS

# Lynn Hauptman - Superintendent

## Science Fair

Once again another very successful Regional Science Fair has happened and later in this report, you will be able to see the list of finalists. But at this time, we would like to note the recent board motion that was passed at the March Board meeting:

*"M/S that the Board send a letter to Darcy Verbeurgt recognizing his involvement and support of the Science Fair over the years."*

Congratulations to District Principal Darcy Verbeurgt for your passion, dedication and commitment to the Regional Science Fair for the past 20+ years. This event that sparks the interest of so many students would not be possible without people like you who make it happen year after year after year.

During the week of March 11th – 14th, Rhoda Merkel from the Tahltan Nation was in the Highlands Elementary School library delivering a small glimpse of her storytelling program. Rhoda believes that storytelling is a powerful way to convey abstract concepts indirectly while awakening the imagination. The program is designed to link B.C. Curriculum's Big Ideas, specifically to the inclusion of First Nations ways of doing and knowing. It engages the whole body, is fun- which was the First Peoples way to teach.



### 2019 Grad Dates

FSS - June 28 at 1:00 p.m.

ESS - June 27 at 11:00 a.m.

SSS - May 25 at 6:00 p.m.

MBSS - June 27 at 5:00 p.m.



HES Acceptance Project

# Education Update

Ministry of Education



**Collaboration with the Human Early Learning Partnership:** The ministry has engaged the [Human Early Learning Partnership](#) (HELP) to support the implementation of our Early Action Initiatives for mental health in schools. Between February and May 2019, HELP will be connecting with districts to begin aligning systems leadership research and practice, the science of mental health promotion and well-being in education toward a comprehensive and collaborative approach to mental health.

**District Scholarship presentations will take place on May 15 (Elk Valley) and May 16 (Cranbrook)! 48 Awards of \$1250 will be given out this year!**



**SCHOOL-BASED GANG PREVENTION PROGRAM:** [Helping B.C. students fight lure of gangs with new ERASE strategy](#)

**Due April 30 – 2019 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education:** Do you know a teacher who deserves recognition for the exemplary work he or she is doing in the classroom? Nominate that person today for a [2019 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education](#). Recipients will receive a \$3,000 bursary for professional development and a \$2,000 contribution to their school community for professional learning.

**Subject: Strategies to Help Slow-Working Students | Cult of Pedagogy**  
<https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/slow-working-students/>

**Province to launch catch-up immunization program to protect against measles**

*The Province is launching a measles immunization catch-up program to help B.C. families ensure their children are protected from measles.*

*The program will run from April through June 2019.*

*"With outbreaks of measles occurring globally and here in B.C., we know we will see threats of further outbreaks and can be doing more to raise immunization rates," said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. "That is why we are launching a catch-up program to immunize children from kindergarten to Grade 12 who have not previously been immunized against measles and to provide a dose for those who may not have received both doses.*

[Read more here.](#)

**Subject: Reasons Today's Kids Are Bored, Entitled, Impatient with Few Real Friends**  
<https://deeprootsathome.com/kids-bored-entitled/>

**PLAYGROUND FUNDING:** [Funding provides thousands of students with new school playgrounds](#)

# News from Schools

An SSS student in grade 7, Hayden Eluik, came 2nd place in BC for her anti bullying poster that she created in her Literacy 7 class. The press release is attached and a copy of the poster can be found here:

<http://unitedtoendbullying.com/contests?fbclid=IwAR3iGgq>

[Ovpwc8WsRSDDmYHOzNrSjmYgR-mjV4G45VN\\_I4Y3gldIE0bW0kBY](http://Ovpwc8WsRSDDmYHOzNrSjmYgR-mjV4G45VN_I4Y3gldIE0bW0kBY)



Makey Makey SS Poster Project Gonsalvez SSS



Gr.3/4 Inquiry- Can we fit into a bear den? We are finding out by measuring the perimeter! Students at PES



This is my grade 7 class working on IT and English with Sphero's and at the design lab. Kate Russell ESS



As part of our school's growth plan to increase the love of literacy, our school had a "dress up as a book character day" at TMRES

# Director of Student Learning and Innovation - Diane Casault

## Federal French Funding

We recently received good news from the federal government!

*"Our data shows that last year, your district had an absolute enrolment growth in French Immersion programs that represented an increase of 4.9%. By "absolute enrolment growth", we mean that your district enrolment numbers in French Immersion had never been so high since 2013. In our efforts to recognize and support growth in French Immersion programs, we are pleased to offer your district a growth grant of \$14,059. Note that this additional funding was calculated based on the FTE enrolment growth specific to your district. "*

We look forward to providing additional support for our French Immersion programs!



## Concours

We had 12 French Immersion students (11 - FSS and 1 - MBSS), Grades 7-12, attend the Concours on March 13th at the Fernie Course House. Unfortunately, the roads were an issue and some of our Cranbrook students did not attend due to the worry of the weather.



## Physical Literacy

We continue to have amazing things happening in the district relating to physical literacy and health promoting schools. The following workshops scheduled for April are funded by our CBT PLAY Grant:

April 16th PL 101 for Early Years

April 25th PL 101 for Elementary K-6

May 2 PL 101 for Middle/Sec Gr.7-10

Facilitated by Sandi Savory from COTR

April TBD PL Math Workshop Facilitated by Candace Ivanco, Student Teacher from COTR



# Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education- Jason Tichauer



**Youth Cultural Day at FSS**

## **Aboriginal Education**

This month is the annual Provincial Aboriginal Education gathering for school district leaders. Faye O'Neil and I will be attending on behalf of our School District and there is always lots of good sharing and information at this gathering.

## **SOGI**

We have been chugging along as part of the SOGI Educator provincial network, and we will be hosting the provincial SOGI team this month here at the board office. Hopefully, updates to SOGI 123 and the network will be presented at that meeting!

## **DSAC**

We had a fantastic DSAC meeting the week before spring break. Mike Suto came and spoke to our student leaders about 'The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People' with very much an adolescent lens. The feedback from our students was fantastic!



**Ice fishing with  
Aboriginal Education  
boys' group at SES**



**DSAC Day with Mike Suto**

## **Ktunaxa Language - Months and Meanings**

**Kak kmi**

**April**

Cracks begin to form in the ground, also known as:

Moon of the big leaves

Moon of the red grass appearing

Moon of making fat

# Director of Instruction, Human Resources - Brent Reimer

Staffing processes for the coming school year are under way with final budgetary decisions being made in the next few weeks. Any necessary district initiated transfers or layoffs of continuing teaching staff to meet budgetary requirements will occur after final decisions are determined. In addition, continuing teacher initiated transfer requests will be considered prior to the post and fill process for next year's available teaching positions.

CUPE staffing processes will begin in the middle part of May and will continue through the summer as required.

We are bargaining with both CUPE local 4165 and the CFTA on local matters. We are looking forward to productive meetings with both parties.

## HES Young Entrepreneur Show 2019



# District Principal Student Services - Darcy Verbeurgt



The East Kootenay Regional Science Fair was held March 7-9, 2019 at the College of the Rockies. Congratulations to Best of Fair winner, Tanner Eckersley, Grade 8 student at Parkland Middle School for his project **Vision Therapy and Post Traumatic Vision Syndrome**.

## Summary Report by Tanner Eckersley

"Can you imagine what your life would be like if you couldn't read because your eyes don't work properly? This is me. This is what led to my science fair experiment, "Can vision therapy, specifically the Neurotracker vision therapy program, improve my Post Traumatic Vision Therapy? I hypothesized that by utilizing the program Neurotracker on a regular basis, my ocular flutter will become less severe and my reading duration will increase. I worked with my mentor Ryan Sleik, a concussion expert. He recommended that we try Neurotracker.

I did Neurotracker every other day, twice a day, for five months. On the tenth of every month I participated in a reading test to track the duration of my reading time, recovery time, and the time until I could start reading again. I also recorded my Neurotracker scores. After five months, my reading duration increased from 31.54 seconds to 74.03 seconds. This is an average improvement of 8.4 seconds per month. My Neurotracker scores improved from 0.56 to a high of 3.36, my average score being 2.02.

My results proved my hypothesis to be true. I increased the time I was able to read, and decreased the duration of my ocular flutter."

The following SD5 students will be joining Tanner at the Canada-Wide Science Fair to be held in Fredericton, New Brunswick, May 11-17, 2019.

- Braxton Chan (Grade 10 – Mount Baker Senior Secondary) - The Effect of Autologous Blood Components on Human in vitro Articular Cartilage (long-term study)
- Keanu Chan (Grade 7 – Parkland Middle School) - HEALIT 4.0 (Hemostasis by Expanding Automatic Life-saving Innovative Technique - 4th Iteration)



Tanner Eckersley (PMS), Braxton Chan (MBSS), Arianna Harrington (TFA), Keanu Chan (PMS)

# District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

## Technology

The Technology Department has been busy over the spring break as they continue to image student machines to Windows 10 desktops. They have also started to image student laptops to Windows 10 at Elkford Secondary and Rocky Mountain Elementary. Most of the student laptops will be completed during the summer months.

The Technology Department is also continuing to enhance our Cybersecurity. This will include email filtering software to protect the District.



## Transformative Learning



School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay) Board of Trustees toured the Fernie Design Lab before the March 12 Board Meeting. The Trustees were able to see the Design Lab in full-swing with Grade 3 students from Frank J Mitchell working with Teacher of Transformative Learning, Kim Froehler.



Joanna Popoff's Kindergarten class from Gordon Terrace experienced a great morning of transformative learning as they cooperated, collaborated and created robotic Lego race cars as they worked with Ryan McKenzie, Teacher of Transformative Learning at the Cranbrook Design Lab.

# District Principal Transformative Learning - Jennifer Roberts

## STEAM Workshops - (Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics)

IBM has offered to come to our area to host a few *STEAM* professional development workshops for teachers (April 16) and students (April 17 and 18) at Parkland Middle School. What a fantastic opportunity!



The district is able support two (2) teachers from each Middle/Secondary school to attend. This opportunity is also being offered to teachers in SD6 and SD8.

## Place-Based Learning

In early March, Mr. Gulyas' grade 10 English class at Elkford Secondary School experimented with the new Creative Writing curriculum and bridging experiential learning with PE 10.

As an English 10 class, they went into the local back country for a snowshoe. While out in the local wilderness, they read and worked on creative writing. Students read and heard the story "A Mountain Journey", by Howard O'Hagan. This was a story of survival and perseverance in the great Canadian wilderness. O'Hagan's story was used as an example of the natural and rustic landscape of Canada's natural beauty as well as exemplified the way in which a writer can use imagery to connect to their readers senses while creating tension and intrigue.

Students then went through some creative writing exercises and prompts that focused in on their senses while outside in the local mountains. Students later took their rough drafts of their experiential writing and polished their work back in the classroom. Experiencing their creative writing and including it into their final story has developed their writing skills and fostered a strong intrinsic connection to their work.

