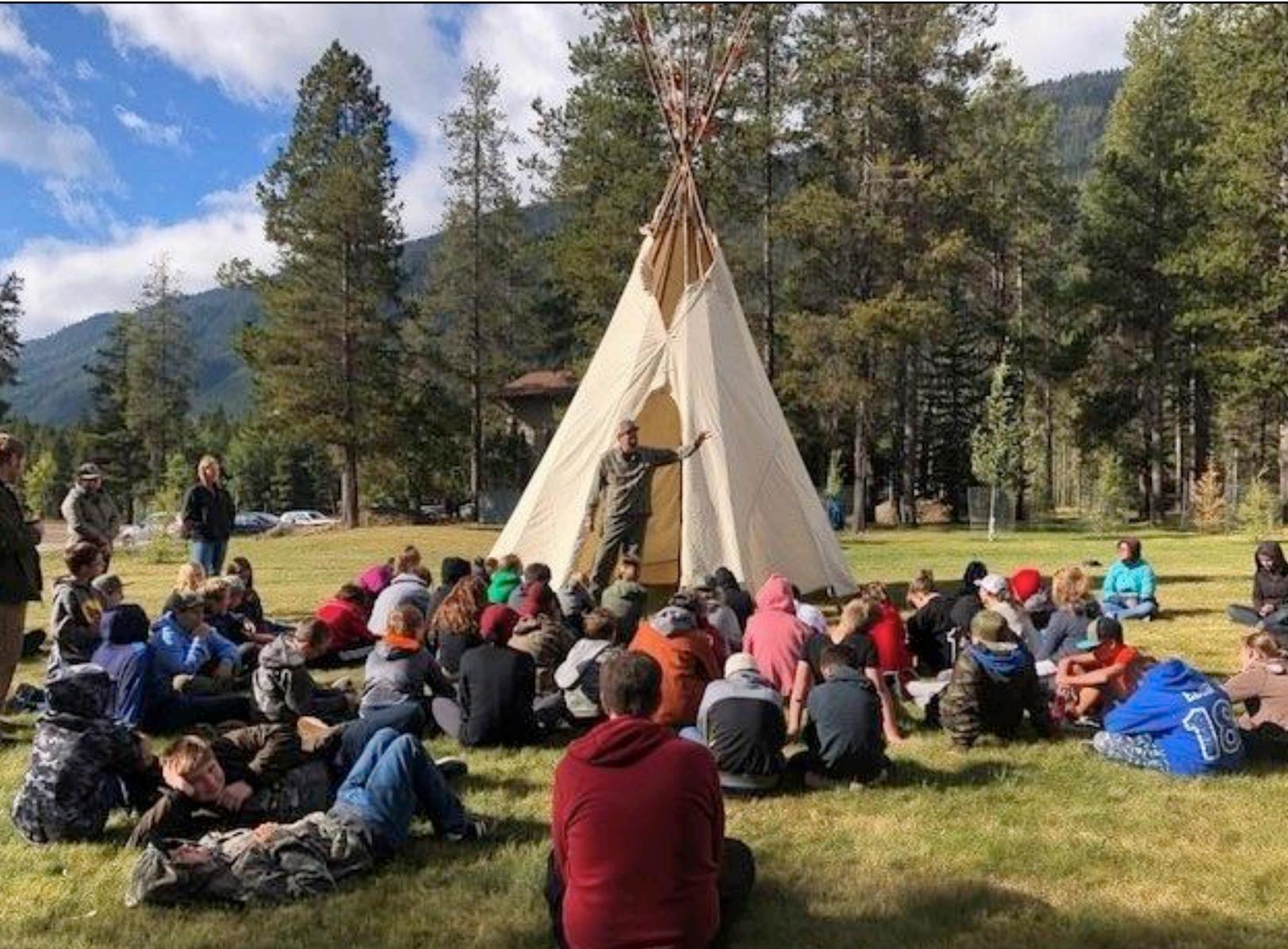


SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY PATHWAYS TO LEARNING



October, 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

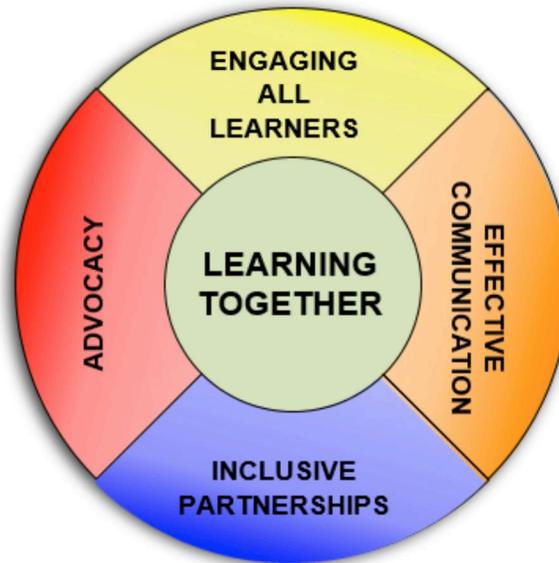
Goal: To inspire all learning partners to create and contribute to an engaging, personalized educational experience for our learners.

- 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

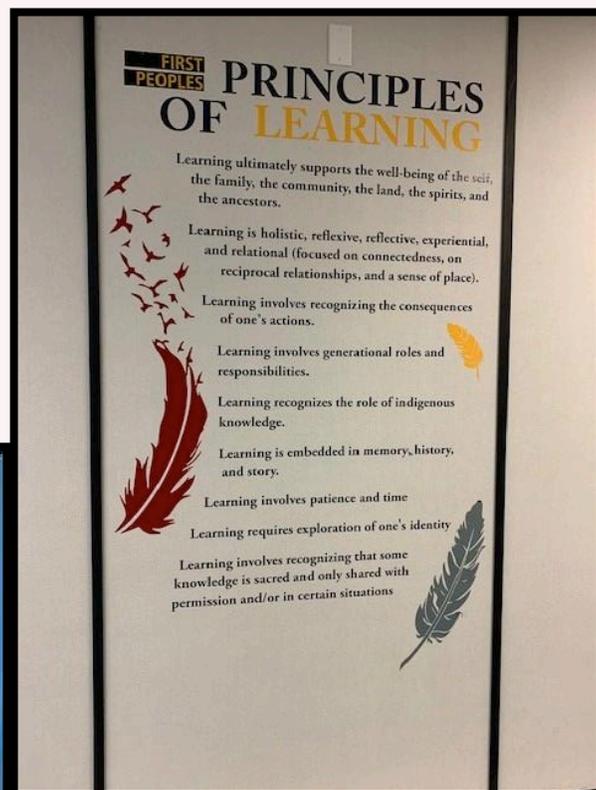
Inclusive Partnerships

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

Out and About

Last month I took the opportunity to visit some schools and meet with the principals and vice principals. What struck me right away was the beauty of each community and the pride shared about their school and community. In Elkford, I had a chance to meet Trustee Kathryn Kitt and we chatted about the strength of the community and its successes. What was impressive was the use of Ktunaxa language at both Elkford Secondary and Rocky Mountain Elementary school. The presence of the *First Peoples' Principles of Learning* painted at the entrance when you walk into Rocky Mountain Elementary shows we value the importance of weaving *First Peoples' Principles of Learning* in everything we do.



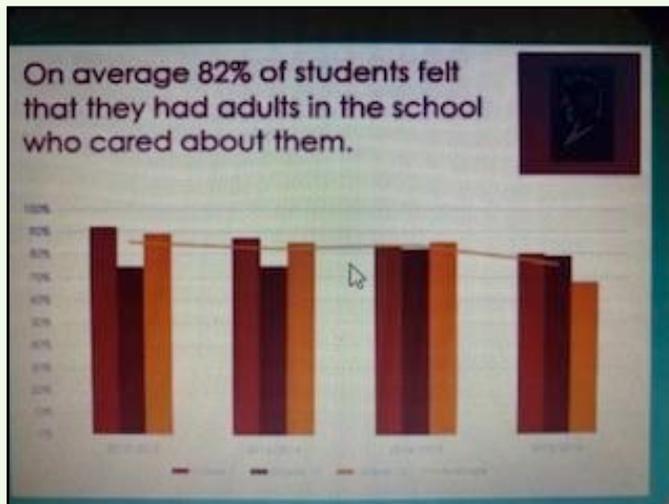
My next stop was Sparwood. Principal Lois Ehman and Vice Principal Jennifer Adams of Frank J. Mitchell gave me a great tour of the building. I could tell right away that this was a collaborative administrative team and this window affirms that! Because they both were in an office side by side, and wanted to be able to run ideas by each other, they had a window cut into the wall between their two offices complete with sliding glass for those days when privacy is required.

Thank you as well to Frank J. Mitchell's drama teacher Renee Maccormack who invited me to the spring drama performance of "Law and Order: Nursery Rhymes Unit" in April. I really looking forward to attending!

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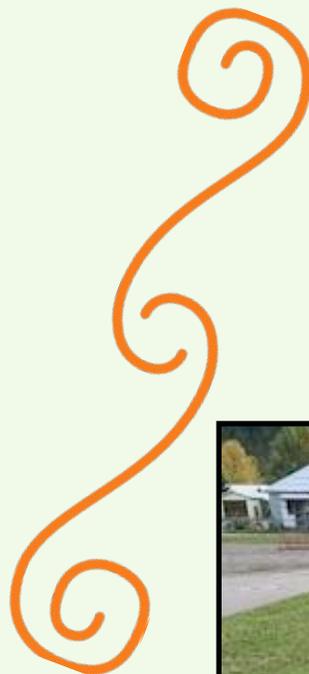
Out and About

I then headed over to Sparwood Secondary where I met acting Principal Jaslene Atwal while Principal Frank Sopko is away. In our conversation it became very clear that she is passionate about supporting her students and staff. During my walk about, talking with students and staff, I was impressed that they feel very connected to their school and community which really shows in this slide.



I have been spending a bit of time in Fernie, visiting the new Kootenay Learning Campus, attending the opening, visiting schools and also hosting a barbeque with Secretary Treasurer Alan Rice and district staff.

I had a great tour of Isabella Dicken where I spotted this gorgeous buddy bench made by a local artist. Vice Principal Janet Kuijt shared that there are two of these benches on the school property and are used frequently.



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Out and About

Heading over to Fernie Secondary, where I was so impressed with the number of bikes at the front of the school! It is apparent from talking to staff in Fernie that the outdoor lifestyle and place-based learning is very important.



In Jaffray I met with Trustee Krista Damstrom and she gave me some insight into the history of the school. It was wonderful to hear how many of the staff attended Jaffray School and the pride they showed when sharing their history. This pride came through when Principal Erin Boehm shared with me their Legacy Wall.



Congratulations to the Jaffray Community Club who received \$296,100 from the Community Outdoor Revitalization grant. The funds will go to the construction of a timber framed pavilion that will serve as a community gathering space as well as an outdoor classroom for the students of Jaffray School.



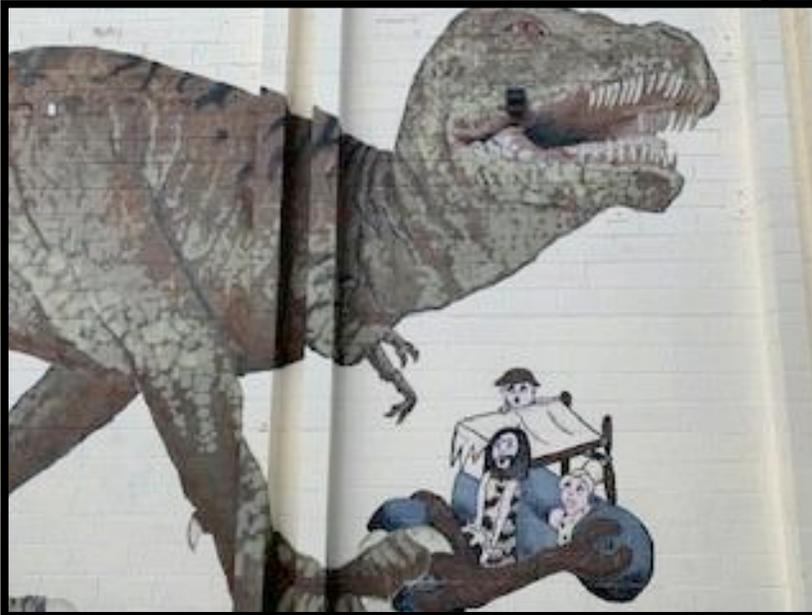
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Out and About



On our Professional Development day, I had the privilege of listening to wonderful speakers on “Our Classrooms as Vehicles to Reconciliation”. What struck me the most about the day was how passionate and committed we are in making a difference for our students and I felt very proud to be part of the day. A special thank you to Faye, Gail, Jason, Joe and everyone behind the scenes that made this day happen.

Heading over to TM Roberts, Principal Brenda Tyson and Vice Principal Carissa Hart gave me a tour of their school. They had a lot of pride in showing me their outdoor spaces for students, and the legacy that staff before have left for students to enjoy.



I then headed over to Steeples Elementary where I was greeted with a wonderful painting. What has impressed me with our school district is the uniqueness of each of the buildings and the creativity of each of them to show who they are. I had a nice chat with Principal Chris Catherall as he is starting his first year as the principal at Steeples Elementary School.

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Out and About

Meeting with Principal Bill Johnson at Highlands Elementary, he shared with me the pride he has in his students and staff. They have a really cool maker space room and I loved this unique “tree” where the Highland Huskies Community” come together.



I also had the opportunity to tour Kootenay Orchards School with Principal David Standing. I was very impressed with the building! There was clearly a lot of planning and care that went into the building of this school, and lots of thought on classroom collaboration spaces. This motto is a wonderful greeting for students to see when they enter their school. I had a nice chat with the music teacher and am looking forward to attending a concert in the future.



I had the opportunity to visit Parkland Middle school and meet with Principal Scott Holt and Vice Principal David Doll to hear about all the great things that are happening. Check out the picture of the data chart where they are tracking students in literacy and numeracy and then as a staff looking at ways to support students.



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Out and About

Last weekend, Secretary Treasurer Alan Rice and I spent time with some of our trustees at the Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM hosted by SD6. We were given a tour of the land by students from a neighbouring school near Canal Flats. While it was a bit chilly, it was a great day of learning. Trustee Bev Bellina, president of the chapter lead us through a morning as well.



I am looking forward to continuing my visits in the next couple of weeks. The first month is a busy time for students, parents and staff. Enjoy what October brings and hopefully we will see you soon as I travel around.

Silke Yardley, Superintendent

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ENGAGING ALL LEARNERS

Sept 20th District Day

We had a great District Professional Development Day! The feedback so far on our district-wide “Our Classrooms as Vehicles to Reconciliation” has been extremely positive. We have developed a feedback survey and will have it live ASAP to gather information and opinions on how the day was perceived by everyone and what we can look at doing moving forward. As well, the event was recorded and we will be making it available online in a timely fashion!

Thanks to the teams at MBSS and FSS who spent countless hours setting up the facilities. They looked fantastic! As well, thank you to staff who participated as speakers or members of the panel. Not an easy task!

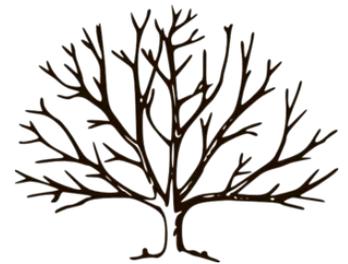
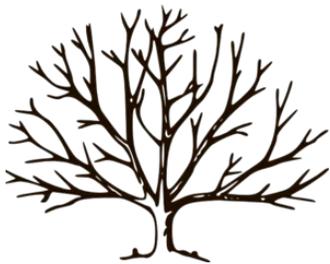
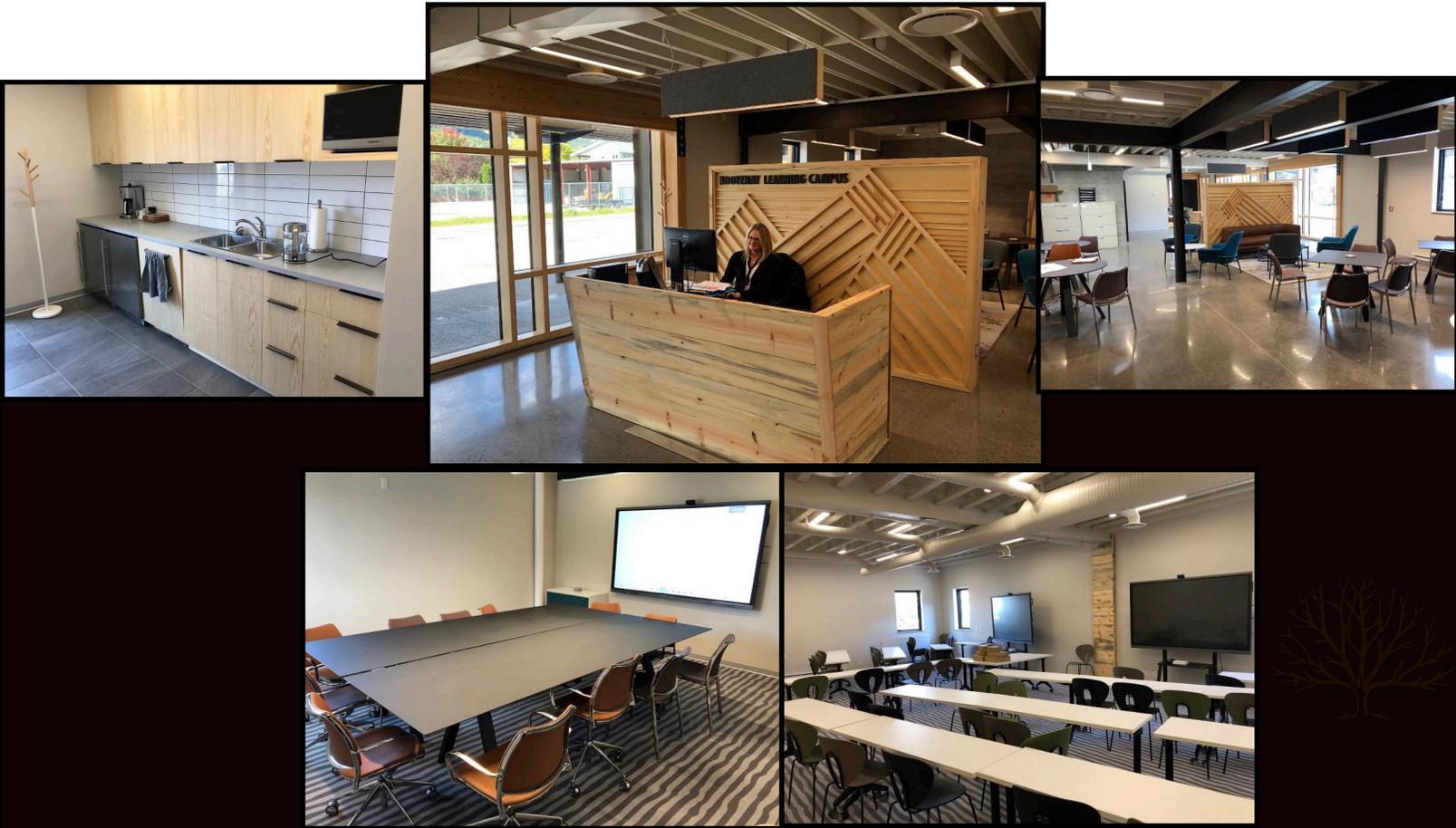


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ENGAGING ALL LEARNERS

The Kootenay Learning Campus

The Kootenay Learning Campus is open! Our staff is now in place at the Kootenay Learning Campus. We are now able to register and enroll students in our Continuing Education and Distributed Learning schools. This blended model will allow us to better meet student needs in each of our communities by offering courses by distance, alternate and/or separate sites. As well, we now have plans in place to support the logistics of having our spaces available to the public. We are very excited for the possibilities!



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ENGAGING ALL LEARNERS

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

- LOFT training held at Kootenay Learning Campus
- Zoom training held at Kootenay Learning Campus
- Training for new library staff on our Library Management System-Destiny

Transformative Learning

DUE DILLIGENCE IN K-12 CONTEXT WORKSHOP - October 4

The purpose of this workshop is to engage in a conversation through a one-day provincial workshop on due dilligence in the K-12 education context.

Jennifer Roberts will be presenting a session on Developing a Toolkit for Consent. This workshop will focus on the use of apps and the classroom and how to promote due diligence at the classroom level.

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. One teacher from each district will also win a Wild Voices Field Study (including bussing) prize package. Deadline to register is October 31, 2019



Orange Shirt Day



Amy Woodland Elementary



Bonnie Harvey from the Ktunaxa Nation Council paid a visit to Pinewood Elementary School to recite a beautiful poem in Ktunaxa at the Orange Shirt Assembly! She attended Pinewood as a child! Imagine that!



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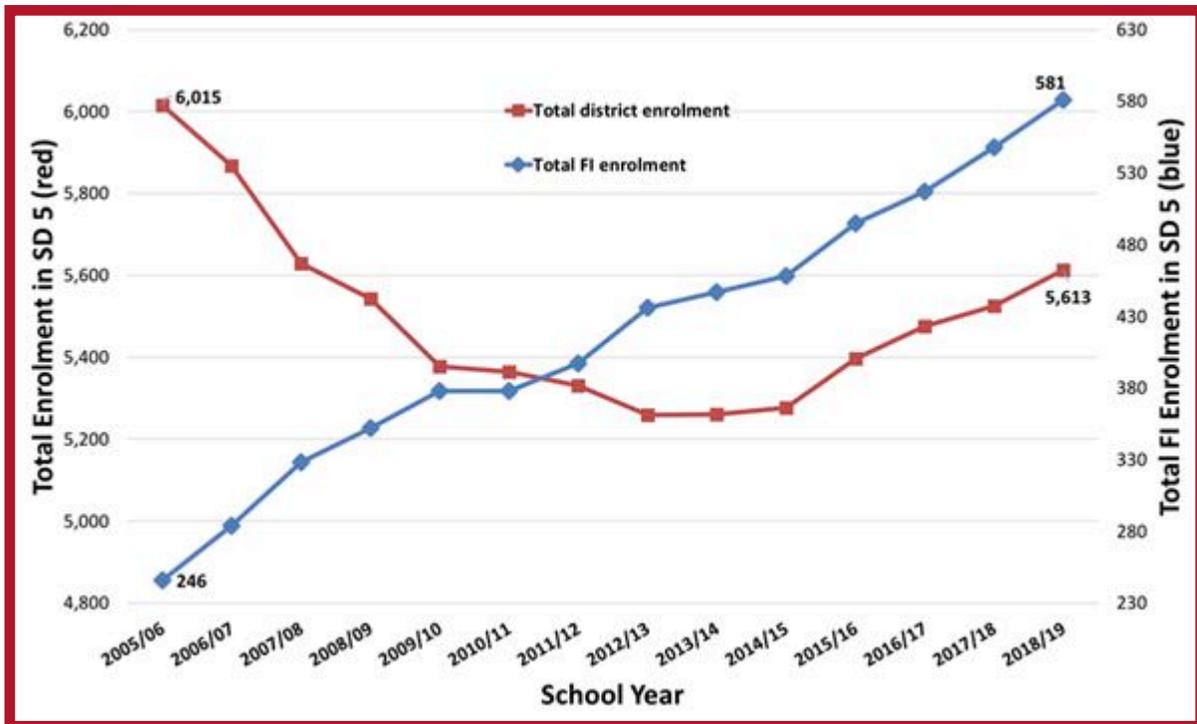
French Immersion Enrolment Sets New Record in Southeast Kootenay School District
Vancouver, BC - According to a report released today, more students in British Columbia are participating in French immersion than ever before.

The report showed that province-wide, French immersion enrolment has been increasing for 21 consecutive years. Enrolment in SD 5 has also hit yet another record this year.

*As of the 2018-2019 school year, 53,995 students were enrolled in French immersion across BC, or 9.49% of the entire student body.

*As of the 2018-2019 school year, 581 students in SD 5 – Southeast Kootenay were registered in the program, or 10.35% of the entire student body.

Southeast Kootenay Total Enrolment compared to French Immersion Enrolment



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EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

District Resource Center

Maxine Malmberg and Jennifer Roberts went to TM Roberts this month to promote and model how some of the resources from the DRC can be used in the classroom. Maxine set up a display of Adrienne Gear resources in the staff room for teachers to peruse. Jennifer and Maxine then led a teambuilding exercise in the outdoor classroom with African djembe drums and boomwhackers. The students were engaged and energized by the experience seeing the connection between music and how the classroom works. They learned that the base beat is the structure of the classroom and the teacher keeping the students aligned “playing to the same beat” and rules of the classroom. The students were compared to the notes and rhythms in the music bringing their individuality, strengths and passions to the classroom. Each person in the classroom is diverse and unique and brings an important element to the classroom. The session was brought to a close recognizing that we all have to listen to each other and be aligned to our common goal; otherwise we just make a lot of noise instead of music.



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ADVOCACY

CBEEN's Awards of Excellence recognizes educators who demonstrate excellence in environmental education in the Canadian Columbia Basin. Joe Pierre (Cranbrook Aq'am) was given this prestigious award for his outstanding mentorship in connecting Indigenous knowledge and land-based learning with students and teachers across the learning region.



CBEEN's Awards of Excellence recognizes educators who demonstrate excellence in environmental education in the Canadian Columbia Basin. Kate Ruoss (Cranbrook) as recognized for building capacity for community support as a primary teacher and through the East Kootenay Environmental Educators Association (EKEEPSA).



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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UPDATE

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH - [Increased funding to improve students' mental health](#)

Graduation Assessment Requirements: To clarify, the **Grade 10 numeracy assessment** is required for *all* students; Grade 10 students must take it this year. The **Grade 10 literacy assessment** is required for Grade 10 students; only Grade 10 students take it this year. **This year's Grade 12 students** do *not* take a literacy assessment and do *not* take a Language Arts 12 exam; Language Arts 12 exams are only for students re-writing an exam or completing courses from the old curriculum. See the [full assessment requirements for grades 10, 11, and 12 students](#)



Provincial Métis Early Years Program Pamphlet: A [new resource from the Métis Nation British Columbia](#) is now available to connect Métis families to their community and culture, and to link them to early years programs and services.

World Teachers' Day: [Oct. 5 is World Teachers' Day](#) - a time to recognize the hard work, professionalism and commitment that teachers demonstrate every day to ensure their students' success. Thank you for all you do!

INNOVATIVE LITERACY PROGRAMS - [Literacy programs help British Columbians develop essential language, listening skills](#)



Indigenous Education Resource Inventory: The [Indigenous Education Resource Inventory](#) is a non-comprehensive list that includes guides, books, articles, videos and web links to help further incorporate Indigenous knowledge and perspectives into B.C. classrooms. This is the second in a series of five Indigenous education resources to support the redesigned K-12 curriculum.

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COMMUNITY

Upcoming Presentations

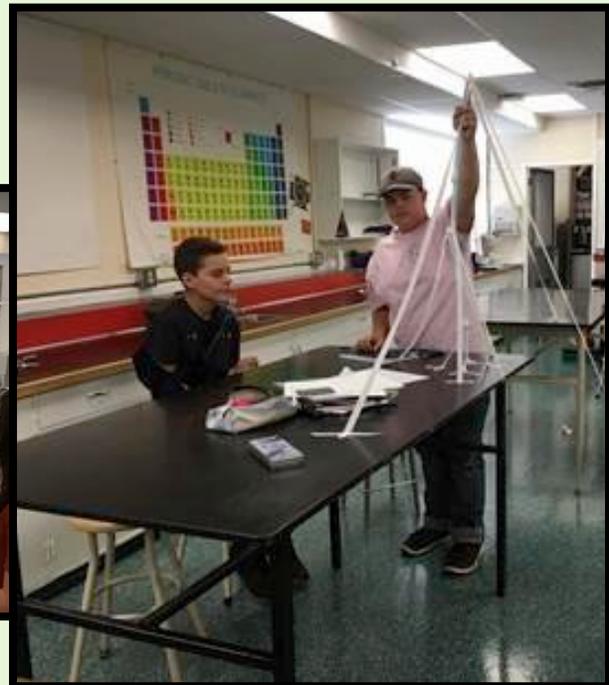
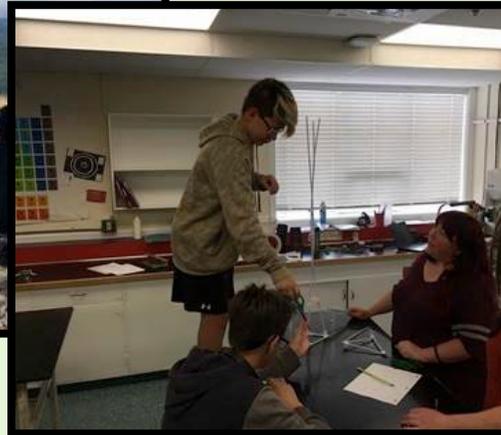
There are a couple of events coming up to be aware of. On September 17th, the RCMP will be providing a "Cannabis Dialogue Workshop" for Grade 7 students on cannabis awareness in the afternoon. Also, Ivan Coyote will be presenting to some of our students on October 16th at Key City Theatre starting at 10:00am. At this point, we only have 225 seats so are considering sending all grade 9 classes and perhaps a few grade 8 classes. Ivan will also be presenting to parents on October 16th at the Key City Theatre at 7:00 p.m. Here are some links to some of Ivan's stuff:



https://www.ted.com/talks/ivan_coyote_why_we_need_gender_neutral_bathrooms/discussion

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ivan>

LEARNING THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS AT LAURIE MIDDLE SCHOOL



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SCHOOLS

Isabella Dicken is so grateful and excited about the arrival of 2 new Freedom Concept adaptive bikes! Thanks to Deb and Jay Zammit's Cross Canada Joy Ride - two of our grade 2 students are the very happy recipients of new custom built bikes. The Zammit's donated a bike in every province they biked through - and lucky for us - they managed to fund two extra bikes for their hometown (Fernie)!



What an awesome collaboration session with the College of the Rockies Georgraphy 101 and Leah Cormier's Outdoor Ed class!



Mme. Kathleen's grade 4/5 French Immersion class harvested the kale from their new school garden and had a kale chip competition. In 4 teams, they came up with their own kale chip recipe, complete with a sales pitch and slogan.



Great hike to the Buttes by the Mt. Baker Outdoor Ed Class!

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