



SOUTHEAST KOOTENAY

School District 5 Superintendent's News



April, 2018

Superintendent's Activities - Lynn Hauptman

Science Fair

I had the honour of being part of the opening of the Regional Science Fair on Friday, March 9th at the College of the Rockies. This year's theme "Human Impact on the Environment" obviously really resonated with students as there were many very interesting and inspiring displays. A big congratulations to all of our students who were part of this year's fair during British Columbia's Science Fair Month. There were even examples from work done by first year students at College of the Rockies on the Joseph Creek Project in which many of our schools are also participating.

I would be remiss if I didn't also extend our gratitude to the Science Fair Committee, the judges, the sponsors and, of course, the parents who have all supported the students through this journey to get to the Regional Fair.

Congratulations to Mount Baker student Rory Smith who once again went away with top honours for the second year in a row. Here are a complete list of winners:

Rory Smith - Mt. Baker

Tanner Eckersley - Parkland Middle

Paul Alexander Chong - Parkland Middle

Isaac Meulenbeld - Kootenay Discovery School



Mount Baker Choir News

Evan Bueckert, Band and Choir Teacher from Mount Baker Secondary School recently shared this great news about the recent trip to the Jazz Festival in Moscow, Idaho:

"I am proud to share with you that two of our musical ensembles, the Mount Baker Vocal Jazz and Jazz Band have returned from their performances and adjudications at the 2018 Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow, Idaho. Both of the groups received tremendous responses from audiences at every venue.

When the competition was done, the Mount Baker groups received a U.S. All-State grading of "Excellent", with many of their performance and skill elements marked as "Superior". Also, their final total mark was only three percent below the highest awarded mark in the festival!

One of the judges, Great Yasinitzky, Director of Jazz Studies at Washington State University summed up his critique by saying: "There's something special in that water up there in British Columbia..."

Our students behaved professionally both on and off the stage and made our school, community (and province) proud."

We are indeed very proud of our teacher Evan, and his students. Bravo!!



School Organization

In the latter part of February and beginning of March, we held our school planning meetings with all principals and vice-principals. This yearly event is the beginning of the building of the budget for the following school year. We verify enrollment projections, create class scenarios with each of our schools, and then determine the various levels of support that are necessary. This is the second year of the return of the class size and composition language. The funding announcement for our school district was released just prior to Spring Break so our budget building will now move forward. Brent Reimer and the Human Resources Department will begin the staffing process shortly so that we ensure the greatest stability possible for our schools in preparation for the 2018 -19 school year.



SD5 Sports Teams The 2017-2018 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!

Terry Fox Foundation News

Another great year for the Terry Fox Run with 13 schools participating and raising \$11,303.55! Way to go team! Please remember to sign up for the 2018 event!

Education Update

Ministry of Education



Canadian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines for Children and Youth. Do you know how much a kid should sweat, step, sleep and sit? Check this out!

<https://www.participation.com/en-ca/thought-leadership/benefits-and-guidelines/0-4>



SOGI 1 2 3 Parent Videos: ARC Foundation, the BC Ministry of Education and BCCPAC are in the process of finalizing the SOGI 1 2 3 Parent Videos and accompanying presentation tools. The goal is to launch the videos by the end of March.

Funding supports better learning environments for B.C. students

Students throughout British Columbia will benefit from safer, more efficient and comfortable schools, thanks to \$198 million in maintenance funding for school districts.

"Students deserve to learn in schools that are well maintained and operating the way they should. That's why we've boosted funding to these programs by more than \$20 million over last year," said Education Minister Rob Fleming. "We are supporting B.C. schools with this funding, so students, teachers and school district staff can focus their energy to where it matters most – in the classroom."

Under the School Enhancement Program, all school districts will receive a portion of this year's \$65-million investment. The program is funding 176 separate projects that upgrade a wide range of building systems. For example, schools might receive mechanical upgrades to improve the heating, cooling and ventilation of classrooms, or safety upgrades to fire alarm and sprinkler systems.

Province recruiting teachers internationally to support B.C.'s French language students

Recruiting French-speaking teachers is the key goal of a delegation of British Columbia's education leaders who are taking part in a mission to France, Belgium and the Netherlands, from April 3 - 6, 2018.

The mission's intent is to build on current efforts to recruit French-language teachers to help address the shortage in B.C. The delegation will be working with representatives from the French and Belgian education sectors to discuss opportunities for students in French-speaking teacher training programs wishing to become teachers, and for existing teachers, to work in B.C.

The delegation will include Rob Fleming, Minister of Education; Scott MacDonald, deputy minister of education; Suzanne Hoffman, Vancouver School Board superintendent and Glen Hansman, president of the B.C. Teachers' Federation (BCTF).

Government is already taking action by investing to create 37 additional spaces in French teacher-education programs at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and Simon Fraser University (SFU) over the next two years. Intake for these seats begins in fall 2018. Government is also providing SFU and UBC with \$180,000 to support programs that will help recruit and retain students to French teaching programs.

Important Dates for Trustees:

Committee Meetings -

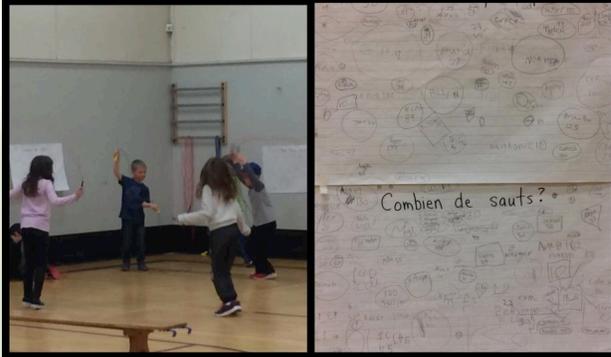
April 23

BCSTA - April 26-29

NEWS FROM SCHOOLS



Gordon Terrace students developing life-long skills in environmental stewardship each time they go out on nature walks!



Jump Rope for Heart at T.M. Roberts Elementary School



Mega Maker Day at JEJSS!

Mr. Bartraw's Grade 4/5 class studied residential school using the novel Fatty Legs. The students expressed their thoughts on residential schools and bullying creating a bulletin board.



FIND YOUR FIT

Work BC at FSS



Find Your Fit - Work BC Day Fernie Secondary, Sparwood Secondary and Isabella Dicken Elementary students

Steeple's Elementary StrongStart Program saw 32 kids in one day!



NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER, DIRECTORS, DISTRICT PRINCIPALS

Update from the Secretary-Treasurer: Rob Norum

Funding announcement is under review and we are also completing the budget building process.

Portables have been ordered for new classrooms.

Our main Financial/Payroll/ HR system is now web based and after a few bugs worked out, we are up and operating.

Our Continuing Education Center renovation is proceeding to the tender stage once all the documentation is prepared.



Update from the Director of 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 currently advertising for TTOC positions for the next school year. TTOC applicants with specialties in French Immersion, Student Services and Counselling will be given special consideration.

Update from the Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education: Jason Tichauer

Aboriginal Education

We have received our 2017 Aboriginal Education 'How Are We Doing' Report. This report is a provincial report on all aspects of Aboriginal Student success in British Columbia. Our academic results are excellent. We have a 6 year completion rate for Aboriginal Students that is higher than our rate for all students. This has been a multi-year trend of increased success for Indigenous learners. This is significant, as our overall self-identified Aboriginal Student population is also up, to well over 15% of our total student population.

Within the Report, we still have a number of performance goals that we will strive to improve on to meet the goals of our Enhancement Agreement. Primarily, we are tracking data to determine school connectedness for our learners. Our satisfaction survey results in the Report indicate to us that we need to continue to track this as a performance indicator in terms of that goal in the Enhancement Agreement.

Framework for Enhancing Student Achievement

We will be bringing together a committee this month to continue the process of developing our Framework for Enhancing Student Achievement. This important Ministry requirement has enabled many districts to focus their collective efforts on raising the achievement of their students. Our hope is that this Framework, within the Board's Strategic Plan, will set guidelines to help all learning meet their personal learning goals.

Dovetailing into this work is the work that our Secondary Schools have started to incorporate the new Graduation program into school timetables for next year. The Career Education component is now a necessary driver to housing those personal learning goals and will be culminated by a 'capstone' project where the student's academic success and career plans will be presented. More details to come!



Aboriginal Report 2012/13 - 2016/17
How Are We Doing?

Unmasked Data
NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

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Update from the District Principal Student Services: Darcy Verbeurgt

April 2nd marks World Autism Awareness Day. One in sixty-four people worldwide are diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). One in thirty-eight children and youth are diagnosed with ASD in the Southeast Kootenay District student population.

Adults usually refer to students with a diagnosis as a student on the autism spectrum or as a student with ASD. There is a small group of youth and adults that prefer to be referred to as autistic. Autistic youth and adults believe they are simply a neuro-type with unique skills and abilities. It is respectful to understand how each person with an ASD diagnosis wishes to be referred to when talking about their diagnosis.

The hallmark characteristics in this spectrum are difficulties or differences with communication and social skills, and repetitive behaviors. There are other factors that can affect a child's or youth's functioning in their home, school and community. Some of these factors often include intellectual deficits, mental illness, sensory sensitivities, learning disabilities, and vision impairments.

The spectrum of autism is wide and diverse. There is a saying that if you have met a student with autism, you have met one student with autism.

Given this wide and diverse spectrum, there are a variety of therapies and strategies to help students on the spectrum navigate and interact in the world most of us find straight forward. There are also approaches that are primarily behavioral and others that are developmental. A team approach that considers the student's profile, their development, their environment, and the attitudes, knowledge and skills of those who support the student, is necessary to build a unique program for each student.



Noel Bullock, French teacher at SSS took 21 students on an exchange trip to Trois Riviers, Quebec from Feb. 9-16. Here are a few pictures. The students from Trois Riviers will be here in Sparwood in April.



Hackergal Sessions

The next Hackergal Hackathon will be on Wednesday, May 2. Girls in the Elk Valley and Cranbrook will work together over this day to first learn how to use a game development platform and then create a functioning game. Exposing our students to coding and the rush of a hackathon is sure to inspire them! We are anticipating very strong participation in both the Elk Valley and Cranbrook.



RSA Day

Fairchance Learning, in partnership with Microsoft, will be providing professional development, compliments of Microsoft, to districts across Canada. We are very fortunate to host Dustin Jez and Derek Tangredi from Ontario to provide workshops at our RSA Day. Mr. Jez will be presenting "Minecraft: Education Edition" and "Micro: bit Unbox Learning: Makerspace and STEM Learning with ADST". Mr. Tangredi will be presenting "Personalize Learning with Microsoft 0365 and Mobile Apps" and "O365 Collaboration Tools: OneNote and Teams". Our own, Ryan McKenzie and Kim Froehler will also be presenting sessions at the RSA Day including "How to Host a Hackathon", "Introduction to Office 365", "Creating Interactive Storybooks with Scratch Jr" and "Scholantis Portal and Portfolios for Teachers".

WONDERLAB Project

On March 13, Jennifer Roberts took part in a project hosted by the Ministry of Education Services and Technology Division in Langley, BC. The WonderLab project involved stakeholders from BC including educators, school administrators, librarians, indigenous school representatives, community and technology partners. The project followed a service design methodology, working directly with intended end-users (i.e. educators, learners and community members) to design a service for BC's education system that supports connection, collaboration, exploration, and knowledge-sharing. Through facilitator-led activities, early-stage concepts of what the WonderLab service could be, were formulated. These concepts will then be developed into prototypes for user-testing in future months followed by a proposal for funding to bring this to fruition. Tera Merkel and Adrienne Demers also attended the WonderLab project in Kamloops at the beginning of March.

The Five Design Challenges at the WonderLab workshop were:

How might we enable educators and students to collaborate with others both within and outside their school/district to learn from one another?

1. How might we enable opportunities for place-based learning both locally and in the broader community?
2. How can we enable educators to grow their capability and confidence in delivering inquiry based learning techniques effectively to students with diverse needs?
3. How might we help educators integrate both the big ideas of ADST (the why) and the instructional strategies necessary to adopt ADST (the how) in their practice?
4. How might we help students develop the capacity to drive their own learning experiences?
5. How might we help students develop the capacity to drive their own learning experiences?



Take Me Outside Week

The Spring Take Me Outside for Learning Week is April 23-27. We look forward to hearing about the many activities our schools have planned for this outdoor week. Stay tuned at the end of April!