



From the Desk

of Silke Yardley
Superintendent, Southeast Kootenay
School District



June 8, 2020

Dear parents/guardians and all staff:

We are now into our second week where some of our students are learning from home and some are learning from school. I wanted to give a big “shout out” to everyone in SD 5 for the smooth transition to a unique model of school that we have never seen before. It is really quite amazing that we are where we are today! When we look at how resilient our school district has been with all the changes, I feel a great sense of pride for the entire system. We, in essence, have had “3 starts” if that makes sense. We started a regular school year in September, started learning from home in April, and now some have started into an entirely different way of being at school!

Thank you for continuing to send in a variety of pictures from both home learning and in-school learning. Three stood out for me last week:

Parkland Middle School students lining up: a strange photo that we would not have understood 4 months ago, but now we have new vocabulary which includes “social distancing”.



Two girls from T.M. Roberts Elementary School on their first day enjoying each other in a field of flowers. This photo really speaks to why it is so important to have our students back in school. Connections and relationships are so important.



First day of school in the “Covid” world! Who would have thought we would have a photo like this? This will be an interesting conversation when these siblings are grown and reminiscing about their childhood.



Our students have really shown resiliency through all this and we are very proud of them.



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Teachers are busy working on report cards that will be going home at the end of the year and schools will be communicating with parents soon on how to obtain your child's report card. District staff are busy hiring for September, our Board is having their final public Board meeting on Tuesday, DPAC is hosting a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, secondary schools are organizing their graduation plans and the district is preparing for our retirement get-together.

Please continue to send us your pictures and videos as a way in which we can stay connected to your kids and to each other. Great pictures and videos can be accessed through our Facebook link on our website.





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Please see the following links from the Ministry of Education for more information:

[**K – 12 Education Restart Plan**](#)

[**Continuity of Learning – Planning Guide for teachers**](#)

[**WorkSafeBC K – 12 Education Protocols**](#)

[**Frequently Asked Questions on Continuity of Learning**](#)

[**Keep Learning**](#)

[**BC's Response to Covid-19 Website**](#)

Please check out our website for more information at: www.sd5.bc.ca.

Please continue to send any photos or videos you would like to share to our CBO email at cbo.mailing@sd5.bc.ca and we will post these on our Facebook page [here](#).

Take care,
Silke Yardley

