



École Isabella Dicken Elementary School

1301 2nd Avenue, Fernie BC

250-423-4651

## September 2023 Newsletter

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- Calendar with upcoming events
- School News
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**Hello, bonjour and K i?su?k kyukyit Panthers & Parents,**

**Somehow, we have arrived at the end of September checking off 4 full and exciting weeks of learning at EIDES! We are so grateful for so many new connections and re-connections, exciting firsts as well as familiar faces and traditions.**

**Probably the newest excitement has come from the opening of our new wing with 4 fabulous classrooms, a new multi-purpose space for gatherings along with library expansion, new counsellor, and student services rooms and additionally more space for Indigenous Education and Youth Care areas. We are so grateful for all the hard work and collaboration of SD5, Parastone, City of Fernie and so many**

**more that has moved this plan from a dream, off the planning papers and build it up into reality.**



**Back to school traditions have also brought a lot of enjoyment as well. This past Friday saw our 22<sup>nd</sup> Terry Fox Run with fabulous weather, courageous participation, and generous donations. Thanks to Ms. Nimmo, our new PE lead teacher – all classes had a great time, and we surpassed our fundraising goal to reach \$3000 in donations to fund cancer research. Thank you to each and everyone of you for supporting this important tradition and cause.**

**Finally, we are looking forward to Orange Shirt Day on Friday September 29<sup>th</sup> following a week of important learning to continue our truth and reconciliation and ensuring students. Hu sukikukni, thank you to the stories and events you have helped**

**In closing, we'd like to share how are of the wonderful support and experience working with each of you in community and beyond. Our doors are discussion, involvement, and**

**Warmly,**

**Janet Kuijt & Amy Leeden**

**EIDES Admin Team**



**journey towards equity for all Ms. Peters for all to organize for us.**

**appreciative we connection we our EIDES always open for collaboration.**

# School District 5

## 2023-2024 Annual School Calendar

### Upcoming Events

Orange Shirt Day-Sept 29

Statutory day for

National Truth and Reconciliation-

No School

October 2

Statutory day for Thanksgiving

No School

October 9

Grade 6

EV Schools Soccer Tournament

October 13

Professional Development

No School

October 20

Statutory day for

Remembrance Day

No School

November 10

July 2023						
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October 2023						
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November 2023						
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January 2024						
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February 2024						
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March 2024						
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31						


April 2024						
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May 2024						
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June 2024						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

 School Breaks

 Professional Development Days

 Stat Holidays

 Administrative Day

 Second Semester

## SEEKING STAFF FOR ON CALL/CASUAL WORK OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for casual staff to fill several job opportunities at our school:

- Noon Hour Supervisors
- Casual Educational Assistants, library clerk, custodial, bus drivers

Whether you'd like daily work or casual call out for when we are short of these staff positions - we have several options for you to join our team! Please contact the office or email us at [ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca).

### Donation Asks:

PAC Reading Incentive volunteers are looking for gently used books your family is no longer using for new readers to enjoy.

The Student Services team are looking for any LEGO block donations, that you would like to give new life to.

With appreciation, these items can be brought into the office.



Thank you!

### PAC Volunteer positions we need:

- Coding club organizer
- Panther Pantry/Breakfast wagon organizer
- PAC Panther Corner writer for the monthly school newsletter (new this year!)
- Running Club pizza day co-organizer
- School clothing order co-organizer
- Reading Logs program co-organizer
- Track meet concession organizer
- School event/dance/carnival organizer

More details regarding the vacant volunteer positions above are in the attached minutes from September's PAC meeting emailed to you on September 18. **NEXT PAC MEETING IS ON October 3, at 7pm in the Library.**

# PAC NEWS





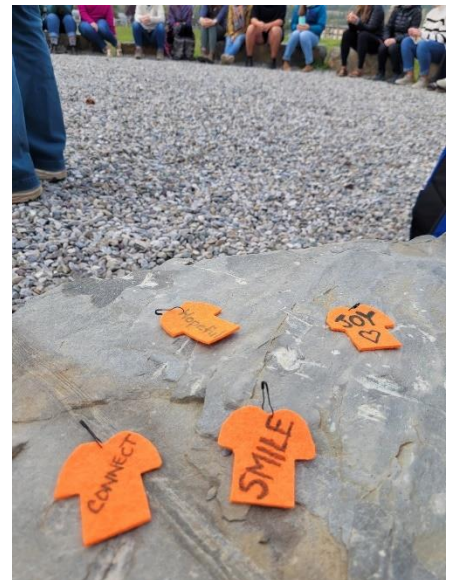
Following a meeting with RCMP, SD5 transportation, PAC, and the City of Fernie, we have updated the accompanying street map to review several actions to improve traffic safety around our school. Please note and discuss these points with your child(ren):

- Traffic is one way from 13<sup>th</sup> Ave-15<sup>th</sup> Ave. Bikes and scooters must also obey this one-way direction. High School bike traffic must use 1<sup>st</sup> Ave when travelling north to FSS.
- Sidewalks bordering school property are for pedestrian traffic from 8:30am-3:15pm. Bikers on sidewalks must walk their bikes.
- Bike racks have been moved to 13 Street. Bikers must park bikes at this location and walk to classes. Fence along 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave is now a fire muster area. Bikes are not to be parked along fence along 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. This will reduce traffic (and wrong way bike traffic) in this high congestion area.
- Bikers should use 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue for safer travel to and from downtown direction.
- For longer-term parking options – use Prentice Park Ball Diamond parking lot by hospital.

Figure 1: Updated Traffic and Parking Changes on 2nd Ave













# ATTENDANCE using the SchoolMessenger SafeArrival APP

Our greatest priority is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school every day.

It is also used to contact parents and guardians when a child is absent (if the absence was not reported in advance). The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents/guardians at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence.

If you report your child's absence in advance using the SafeArrival [toll-free number](#), [website](#) or [mobile app](#), you will NOT receive these notifications. You can also report absences to the school directly by email [ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca) or calling us directly at 250-423-4651.

With SafeArrival, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these **3 convenient methods**:

-  Using your mobile device, download and install the [SchoolMessenger app](#) from the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
-  Use the [SafeArrival website](#). The first time you use the website, select [Sign Up](#) to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
-  Call the toll-free number **1-(833) 566-1225** to report an absence using the automated phone system.
-  Contact your child's school directly to report an absence. **250-423-4651**

The SafeArrival options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time up to a maximum of 10 consecutive days. It is important to note that when setting up your account, **you must register using the email address and phone number associated with your child's MyEducation BC account.**

## SchoolMessenger SMS- Opt In





\*if your number is Canada-based.

You will receive a text message requesting you to opt into your school or School District 5 text message alert service. This number was provided through your contact information in MyEducation BC.

If you would like to continue receiving messages from your school or district you must reply affirmatively with one of the opt-in key words. Simply reply to the original message (or send a text message to 978338 in Canada) with either the words "opt in" or "subscribe".

**If you do not receive a text message, you still can participate in SchoolMessenger SMS (Short Message Service), known as "text messages" from your cell phone by texting "Y" or "Yes" to 978338. Standard message and data rates may apply.**

-  For help information, text HELP, INFO, AIDE to 978338.
-  To opt out at any time, text STOP, END, CANCEL, QUIT, UNSUBSCRIBE, ARRET to 978338.

**Participating carriers:** Rogers Wireless, MTS, Bell, Sasktel Mobility, Telus Mobility



Jumpstart your career in childhood education

Take the Responsible Adult Course for FREE.

\$0

## The YMCA is pleased to announce the Responsible Adult Course is now available to ANYONE in British Columbia for FREE

This comprehensive course provides valuable training and certification for anyone who works or volunteers in child care facilities, schools, before- and after-school care, camps, and other settings where children are present. Although this course is designed to meet the criteria for Child Care Facilities Licensing in the province of British Columbia, anyone working with school-aged children will benefit from this course.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM?



- BC Child Care Facilities Licensing regulations require all persons certified as responsible adults working in licensed child care facilities to be 19 or older.
- No experience necessary. Responsible Adult is a great course to get you started working with children!

### WHAT SHOULD PARTICIPANTS EXPECT?



- Cost: FREE—for a limited time only
- Length: 20 Hours
- Participants receive the knowledge and skills necessary to create a safe and nurturing environment for children.
- Upon successful completion of the course, you'll satisfy the 20 hours of recognized training and will be certified as a Responsible Adult working in Licensed Child Care, as required by the current BC Child Care Licensing Regulations.

### WHEN AND WHERE IS THE PROGRAM OFFERED?



- Program Type: Self-Paced Online.
- This course is developed by YMCA BC and available through YMCA Ignite—a new digital platform jointly launched by YMCA BC and YMCA of Greater Toronto, and generously supported by RBC Future Launch.
- Visit [www.gv.ymca.ca/responsible-adult-course](http://www.gv.ymca.ca/responsible-adult-course) to register.

Invest in your future and the future of the children you care for. Enroll in the 20-Hour Responsible Adult Course, offered FREE for a limited time.

Register today at: [www.gv.ymca.ca/responsible-adult-course](http://www.gv.ymca.ca/responsible-adult-course)





# Fernie Strong Start

Mondays 9 am – 12 pm  
Tuesdays 9 am – 12 pm  
Wednesdays 12 pm – 3 pm  
Thursdays 9 am – 12 pm  
Fridays 9 am – 12 pm

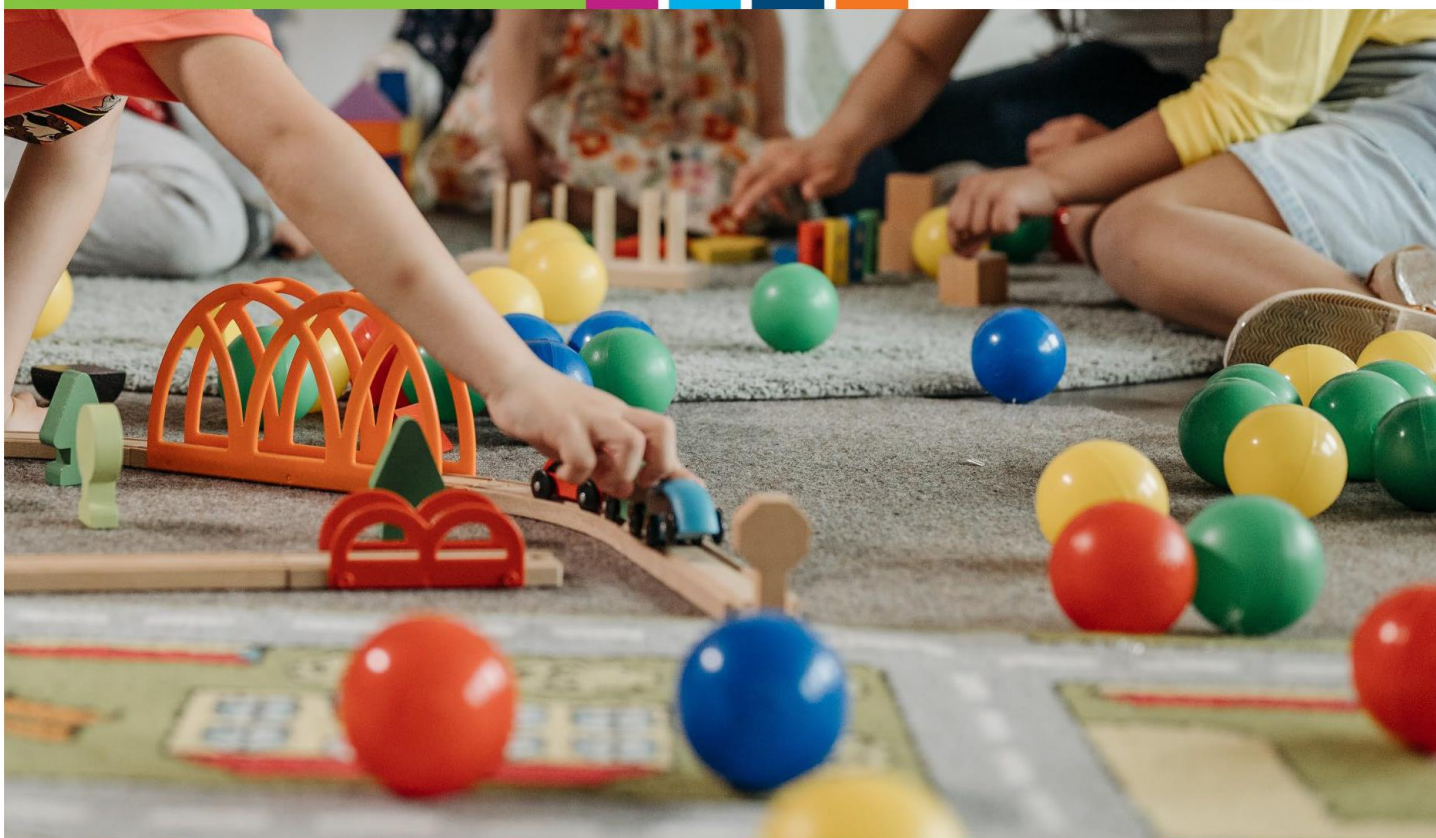
Isabella Dicken Elementary School  
1301 2nd Ave

StrongStart is a free early learning drop-in program for children (birth to 5 years old) and their parents or caregivers.

Join us for play time, art, songs, stories, gym time, and snacks. Make new friends and have fun!

*Please register at the Isabella Dicken office*

*Learning*  
TOGETHER



TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT:

Chryl Hill, Community Literacy Outreach Coordinator



[chill@cbal.org](mailto:chill@cbal.org)

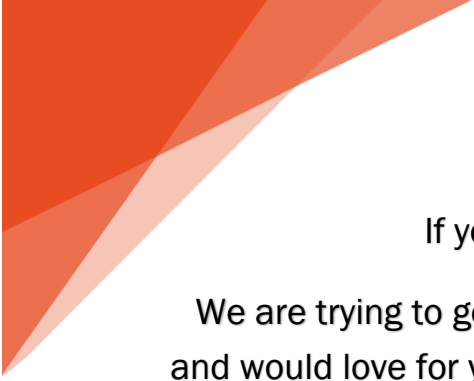


or text (250) 946-7257



[www.cbal.org](http://www.cbal.org)





If you made it this far, thank you for reading!

We are trying to get our students involved in the newsletter and would love for you to show them and have them find the maple leaves, they can come to the office and let us know how many they found and discuss the newsletter and what they liked or would like to see in here.



**Have a wonderful long weekend-  
see you Tuesday October 3**