



École Isabella Dicken Elementary School

1301 2nd Avenue, Fernie BC

<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/Pages/default.aspx>

T: 250-423-4651

Principal's Message

On behalf of the staff at École Isabella Dicken Elementary School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2021-22 school year! As the principal at EIDES, it is important to me that everyone who steps through our doors - teachers, students, and parents are excited to be here. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to phone the school at (250) 250-4651 or email me, laura-lee.phillips@sd5.bc.ca. If parents wish an interview with a teacher, counsellor, or administrator please phone, and request that our clerical team arrange a convenient time.

While lots of familiar faces will be in and around the school, we have a number of new additions to our staff for the 2021-22 school year. Please check our website for school information.

<https://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

This year, as last year, continues to have its challenges with COVID-19. Please rest assured that our schools are following the Interior Health Guidelines for our students, staff, and visitors. As we have learned in the last few years, things change, and we continue to adjust and adapt. If there are any changes, we will contact you as soon as we can. Below is the link for the K-12 Health Check.

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>

DAILY HEALTH CHECK:

A daily health check is a tool to reduce the likelihood of a person with COVID-19 coming to school when they are infectious.

- Parents and caregivers should assess their children daily for illness before sending them to school.
- Staff and other adults should complete a daily health check prior to entering the school.
- If a student, staff or other adult is sick, they must not enter the school.

PAC – I cannot emphasize how lucky we are to have this extremely committed group of people working on behalf of our students. The students at EIDES are provided numerous extra-curricular activities thanks to the hard work and dedication of this team. I encourage you to come out and be a part of the voice that supports the goings on of your child's school and to be a part of educational decision making. Thank you, PAC, for purchasing granola bars for our Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 17th. We had a great day!

Sincerely,

Laura-Lee Phillips & Janet Kuijt

Admin Team



IMPORTANT NOTES FROM OUR OFFICE

ABSENCES

The SchoolMessenger app is up and running. If you know your child will be absent or late from school please use the app. You may also call the office at 250-423-4651 or email ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca before 9:00 am. Your help with this will save our secretaries a lot of time as they make a call home for every unreported absence to ensure the child is safe. **If you haven't down loaded the app please read the information provided in this newsletter.** Thank you.

VISITORS

For safety reasons we ask that all visitors sign in at the main entrance off 2nd Avenue. While in the building masks are mandatory. Thank you.



COURTESY BUS RIDERS

Due to a bus overloading situation, **we are no longer able to allow courtesy bus riders** to be transported on school buses from ÉIDES. Safety for our students is our utmost concern and an accurate passenger list is essential. Only students registered with the bus department will be allowed to ride our buses. If you have any questions, you can call the bus department at: 250-423-5885 EXT 223.

VERIFICATION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Over the previous school years our secretarial staff sent home student verification forms for all students to ensure that our information on file is accurate. They worked diligently to make sure our records were up to date. Moving forward we are asking families to **update any changes** to their contact information (emails, phone numbers, emergency contacts, address etc.) as soon as applicable. Please email any updates to ides.mailing@sd5.bc.ca

ÉIDES IS A "PEANUT & NUT FREE" SCHOOL

PLEASE DO NOT send ANY product to school that contains peanuts or nuts. ÉIDES has several children and staff who have a severe life-threatening food allergy (anaphylaxis) to peanuts and nuts, which can cause a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes.

MEDICAL ALERTS

If your child has a medical condition that requires special attention (i.e. life threatening allergy or carries an epi pen) PLEASE ensure that you inform us. We have a Medical Alert policy and planning forms for parents to sign in order to help us provide any necessary care.



TRAFFIC SAFETY

Morning drop off and after school pick up times are very busy and continue to create safety concerns. Please help us keep everybody safe by helping with the following:

- Remind your child to use the crosswalk properly and to look both ways before crossing.
- Please do not stop or block crosswalks with your car.
- Please do not block driveways with your car.
- We ask that you DO NOT bring your dog onto the playground.
- Bikes and scooters need to be walked through the playground, on sidewalks and crosswalks.
- Remind your child of bicycle safety rules especially for riding on the streets.
- The staff parking lot is for STAFF only; please do not use it as a drop off spot.
- Please do not linger in drop off/pick up zones during peak times.
- Please respect the no stopping and handicap parking zones.
- 13th Street is a bus zone DO NOT use it for drop off or pick up.
- Please **NO U-Turns** in School Zones

Change of Seasons

Now that the cooler and wetter fall weather is here, it's a good time to remind students to dress appropriately for the weather as we still embrace the outdoors for mornings, recess and lunch throughout the fall and winter. It is our policy to stay outdoors unless the temperature is -20° Celsius or colder. Rainy days also don't stop us from going outside, so please make sure your child has raingear and waterproof boots. Of course, monsoon rains and the wind chill factor will be taken into consideration and keeping students indoors will be at the discretion of the Principal. When cold weather persists for several days, we do allow the children to stay in, but will send them out for 15-20 minutes only, just so they get a little fresh air and exercise. We find that students become very restless if they stay in too often.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SD5 Annual School Calendar:

<http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/About/calendar/Pages/default.aspx>

ÉIDES School Calendar on Website: <http://www.sd5.bc.ca/school/ides/Pages/default.aspx>

September

Friday, September 17	Terry Fox Run
Mon & Wed Starting Sept 20	Grade 6 Girls 3:15 – 4:15
Tue & Thur Starting Sept 21	Grade 6 Boys 3:15 – 4:15
Thursday, September 23	Grade 6 Band Night
Mon, Tue, Wed, Sept 27, 28, 29	Picture Days
Wednesday, September 29	Orange Shirt Day
Thursday, September 30	No School, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

October

Friday, October 1	Pro D, No School
Monday, October 11	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, October 22	Pro D, No School

November

Thursday, November 11	Remembrance Day
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École Isabella Dicken Elementary School
Daily Bell Schedule

8:20 - 8:50 Morning Supervision #1
 8:40 - 8:50 Morning Supervision #2
 8:50 Welcome Bell / Students Enter
 8:55 Classes in Session

Recess	
10:15-10:30	Kindergarten & Gr. 1 on the primary playground Grade 5 – 6 on the intermediate playground
10:30-10:45	Grade 1/2 – 2 on the primary playground Grade 3 – primary or intermediate Grade 3/4 -4/5 on the intermediate playground

12:15-1:05	Lunch		
Lunch	K-1 & 1/2	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Outside primary playground Lunch
	2-3	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Lunch Outside primary playground <i>3s allowed on intermediate</i>
	3/4-4/5	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Lunch Outside intermediate playground
	Gr 5 – 6	12:15-12:40 12:40-1:05	Outside Lunch

1:00 pm Welcome Bell
 1:05-3:05 Classes in Session



Hello EIDES Families!

PAC is excited to be once again holding our Fall Apple Fundraiser! Click the link below for details on these delicious apples and to order. If you have any questions, please contact Sheri Earl at earlfamilysix@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

<https://forms.gle/iyn9bP38YWpLjjaz9>

ELK VALLEY Pride Fest



VIRTUAL EDUCATION WITH SKIPPING STONE

Thursday, September 23 / 11am

Queer 101 for Parents and Caregivers

Come to this 1-hour session for families, parents, and caregivers of trans, gender diverse, or queer children and hear about ways to care for your child while finding ways to care for yourself. Explore principles for gender-affirming parenting and capacity building.

Friday, September 24 / 1:30pm

Creating Inclusive Spaces

Gain the foundational knowledge for creating inclusive and affirming spaces. This 2-hour session combines the exploration of core concepts, vocabulary, challenges and barriers, and tangible action that can be taken and is a great choice for businesses and organizations. This session will also have a focus on primary care (clinics, nurses, doctors).



Lost and Found



Parents, if your child is missing something the lost and found is on the wall by the gym doors.
Thank you.

French Immersion Parents

1 ADVOCACY

Canadian Parents for French's research-based advocacy gives a voice to the thousands of Canadians nationwide who want greater French opportunities for their children with each passing generation. As successful advocates, we have informed and influenced decision-makers at every jurisdictional level, from the school board to the Canadian Cabinet.

2 RESEARCH

Keeping abreast of French as a second language (FSL) acquisition research helps us to better understand FSL programs and student needs, determine gaps in access or effectiveness, and explain why official bilingualism is a valuable life skill.

Keep up to date with the *CPF Magazine*, regular social media posts and many additional Canadian Parents for French publications which include pamphlets, posters, videos, and more.

3 PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION

EVENTS, LEARNING AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

- *Concours d'art oratoire*
- Annual General Meeting
- Biennial Conference
- CPF Signature Breakfast
- Branch and Chapter events
- Summer Camps
- and more.

4

5 TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Canadian Parents for French provides extensive French second language tools and resources for parents, students and educators. Whether you're looking for information on FSL education in Canada, activities to assist your child in his or her studies, or tools to assess and improve your school's FSL performance, CPF can help.

6 MEMBER SAVINGS AND DISCOUNTS

As a member of Canadian Parents for French, you can access member savings on a growing number of products and services.

7 AWARDS, BURSARIES AND RECOGNITION

Several volunteer, educator and student awards are given out across the country.

8 OTHER MEMBERSHIP SERVICES AND BENEFITS

- Online account management
- Volunteer opportunities
- Research reports and database
- General membership support from National, branch and chapter leaders, volunteers and staff
- and more.

NEED MORE REASONS TO JOIN?

When you join Canadian Parents for French you become a member of your provincial/territorial Branch and of CPF National. You will also have the opportunity to join or help establish a local CPF Chapter. Each part of CPF offers unique benefits. Visit the CPF National website for a comprehensive list of national benefits. Also be sure to check the Branch and Chapter websites to find out about benefits in your region.



CPF.CA



CANADIANPARENTSFORFRENCH



CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH

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School District 5 Introduces SchoolMessenger

Continuing to foster and enhance ethical communication between the School District and all learners, students, staff, parents and community in a timely and inclusive manner.

School District 5(Southeast Kootenay) is launching SchoolMessenger for communication with parents. SchoolMessenger is a communication platform that allows our schools and district to send out mass communications to parents/guardians using multiple methods simultaneously. The SafeArrival system provides parents with a faster and easier way of reporting absences.

The benefits of SchoolMessenger include:

-  Parents can choose how to be notified (email, phone call, text message)
-  Absences are easier to report at **1-(833) 566-1225**, on the app or website)
-  More timely notification in an emergency
-  Schools can respond faster when a student is unexpectedly absent and may be missing

SchoolMessenger Communicate



SchoolMessenger Communicate is an automated notification system used to send out general announcements.



As a parent/guardian, you can decide how you want to receive announcements (email, phone call, and/or text message).

There is nothing you need to do to receive announcements from the school. You can customize how you receive what kind (General, Emergency, or Attendance) announcements. For example, you may only want to receive general announcements (upcoming events, newsletters, etc.) via email, but you might want attendance info to come as a text message so that you see it right away.

You can set up your Smartphone or Android phone app or website account right away to make sure you are ready when we launch SchoolMessenger Communicate and SafeArrival:

-  Using your mobile device, download and install the [School Messenger 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 [Safe Arrival website](#). The first time you use the website, select [Sign Up](#) to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.



Please get in touch with your child's school if your contact information (email or phone number) has recently changed so SchoolMessenger has the most current information on file.

SchoolMessenger SafeArrival





One of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely to school every day. To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay) is introducing a new, more efficient student absence

reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, making it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unreported student absences.

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 our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up.

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.

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.

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

Yours truly,

School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay)

Jennifer Roberts
District Principal



School District 5 Southeast Kootenay – Back to School 2021-2022

Safety is our Priority	Guidelines
<p>Students and staff can safely participate in full-time, in-class instruction in accordance with current public guidelines for schools. All members of our School District 5 Southeast Kootenay (SD5) community have a shared responsibility to protect themselves and others from the spread of COVID-19, or any other communicable disease. A detailed Communicable Disease Plan is part of SD5's commitment to promote the health and safety of all employees, students, and visitors by providing information that can be used to prevent the contraction and spread of communicable diseases, and to guide appropriate responses.</p> <p>Our plans are based on current guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).</p>	<p>To Continue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All K -12 staff, visitors, and Gr. 4 -12 students required to wear masks - indoors and on buses • K - Gr. 3 students encouraged to wear masks - personal/family choice • Daily health check - K-12 Health Check App, Self- Assessment Tool, or BCCDC's "When to get Tested" • Don't come to school when sick - seek guidance • Daily attendance management • Daily cleaning & disinfecting - 1x/day • Hand hygiene & respiratory etiquette - be diligent! • Ventilation & air exchange • Case & contact management - directed by public health • Health and safety orientation - for staff & students
<p>Supportive Environments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the health and well-being of students, staff and families continues to be our top priority. • Addressing pandemic impacts on student learning and well-being, with a focus on the "whole child" including literacy, numeracy, social-emotional development and mental health. • Providing inclusive and compassionate learning environments through trauma-informed practices. • Implementing strategies to routinely support students to practice personal prevention measures. 	<p>New:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinations - the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19. Available for ages 12 and older • Full operation of all school spaces - gyms, libraries, washrooms, water fountains etc. • Extra-curricular activities & sports - resume • Regional health measures - as needed • Gathering & events - resume in alignment with PHO orders • Visitors are welcome - following safety guidelines; appointments encouraged <p>No longer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cohorts/Learning Groups • Physical Distancing of 2m

All members of the SD5 community are expected to follow the SD5 Communicable Disease Plan in conjunction with the [BCCDC Public Health Guidelines for K-12 Schools](#), and the [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#). All employees are expected to read, [know](#), and organize their work in accordance with these guidelines.



September 1, 2021

Dear School District Superintendents and Principals,

The new school year is around the corner and we are committed to supporting your efforts in welcoming students and staff back to school. Schools play an essential role in communities. Allowing children to return to closer-to-normal learning, recreational and social activities is important for their wellbeing during the pandemic.

In light of increased COVID-19 activity across the Interior Region, Medical Health Officers are recommending additional prevention measures above and beyond those included within the [Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools](#) and [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#). These measures should be implemented starting September 7th:

- Indoor assemblies are limited to 50 people or two classes (whatever is larger), in a single space.
- Visitors entering the school should be limited to those supporting activities that are of benefit to student learning and wellbeing (e.g. teacher candidates, immunizers, meal program volunteers, etc.).
- Extracurricular school sports should follow the [Interior Health Order](#) for Gatherings & Events, where sports and tournaments are allowed. Spectators should be limited to 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors.

We will provide written notice when these additional prevention measures can be removed.

Ensuring everyone eligible has two doses of COVID-19 vaccine is the most effective protective measure. Everyone eligible who is entering a school is strongly encouraged to get fully vaccinated.

Public Health will continue to conduct contact tracing for every case of COVID-19. The Interior Health Communicable Disease Unit will connect with any student or staff who tests positive for COVID-19 to determine whether they were infectious at school. Individuals identified by public health as [close contacts](#) will be directly provided with information on what actions they should take, including whether they should self-monitor or self-isolate. School district Superintendents will be made aware when an exposure at school is suspected to have resulted in school transmission. In these situations, it is anticipated that self-isolation will be recommended for close contacts who are unvaccinated, which may be larger groupings of students and staff, including entire classrooms.

The K-12 Pandemic Recovery Team (formerly Rapid Response Team) will continue to provide support to all IHA schools, including independent and First Nations schools.

Please include this information where relevant in your communications to staff, parents/caregivers and students in advance of school starting.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sue Pollock
Interim Chief Medical Health Officer

Dr. Carol Fenton
Medical Health Officer

Dr. Karin Goodison
Medical Health Officer

Dr. Shobhit Maruti
Medical Health Officer

Dr. Silvana Mema
Medical Health Officer

Dr. Fatemeh Sabet
Medical Health Officer

We recognize and acknowledge that we are collectively gathered on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the seven Interior Region First Nations, where we live, learn, collaborate, and work together. This region is also home to 15 Chartered Métis Communities. It is with humility that we continue to strengthen our relationships with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit peoples across the Interior.



"If you need a friend and are feeling blue, then this seat is for you. Open your heart and your mind to anyone trying to be kind."

1. Before you sit on the Buddy Bench, think of something you would like to do.
2. Ask someone else to play with you.
3. The bench isn't for socializing. Only sit there if you can't find anyone to play with.
4. While you're sitting on the bench, look around for a game you can join.
5. If you see something you want to do or if you see a friend you want to talk to, get off the bench!
6. When you see someone on the bench, ask that person to play with you.
7. If you're sitting on the bench, play with the first classmate who invites you.
8. Keep playing with your new friends!

