



Superintendent's Report

January 2022

Submitted by: Dr. Christine Perkins, Superintendent/CEO



Acknowledgement:

We are proud to live, work, play, and learn on the ancestral, unceded territory of the syilx people.

Mission:

To inspire and develop lifelong learners who can communicate, think creatively, problem-solve, collaborate, and understand their personal and social responsibilities.

Vision:

To create a safe, healthy, and respectful learning community that enables each student to build a bright future.

Seaton Family of Schools:



Alexis Park Elementary

Alexis Park was excited and ready to welcome back students of essential workers and inclusion students on January 4th.



Mr. Sutch and Mr. Ware created a fun but also educational video about COVID guidelines for Alexis Park's first virtual assembly of 2022!



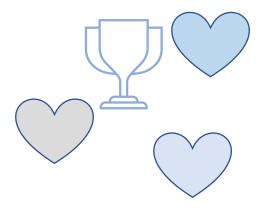
Our wonderful students wasted no time in enjoying the winter weather and fluffy piles of snow. We definitely have some future winter Olympians in our mists.





One of our grade 1 students, Micah, was so excited to clear snow on the school yard to get ready for his friends to return the following week. He demonstrated a high level of perseverance and served our school community.

Well done Micah!





Beairsto Elementary



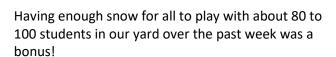
In December we did our traditional ugly Christmas sweater picture with staff in the foyer.

Upon our return in January, we celebrate our staff who were ready for anything! **Toujours prêt à Beairsto!**



Staff working together and pitching in to help each other with tech or supervision ... creativity and flexibility for all the team. From our noon hour supervisors to our indigenous workers to the teachers, EAs and custodians all working together to encourage and make the school a great place to work for children and adults.

The picture here is the package the grade 1 team has been preparing to send home next week for students to tuck away and have something tangible and ready to go at any moment.



Our grade 6-7s helping look after the littles along with sprucing up the front foyer and other parts of the school!









Harwood Elementary



Some of our gr. 6/7 students shoveled snow around the Harwood neighborhood.



Our fantastic EAs have been hard at work organizing guided reading and take-home reading books during the week of January 4-7 so they are ready when students return to school.





Kindergarten students enjoying all the fresh snow and taking advantage of some fresh outdoor air.





W.L. Seaton Secondary



Seaton students have been busy demonstrating their skills in December.

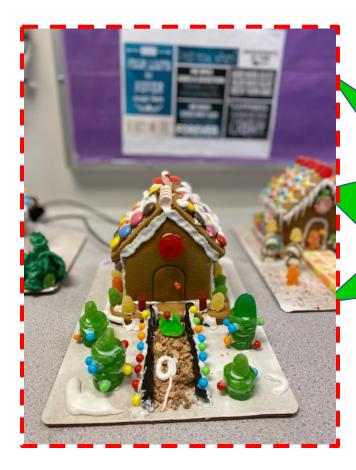
The Sr. Girls Volleyball claimed the Silver Medal at the AAA Provincial Championships.

The Sr. Boys finished 8th.





Our choir had a wonderful Christmas Concert under the direction of Lana O'Brien.



Our students enjoyed our spirit activities before winter break by building gingerbread houses

Vernon Family of Schools



Alternative Programs

ALP

In December ALP students participated in many holiday activities such as cookie decorating, art activities and a Christmas Turkey dinner.



Open Door





During the last week before the holidays Open Door staff and students enjoyed a turkey feast together.

CrossRoads



Our Crossroads students enjoyed a wonderful turkey Christmas Dinner and opened Christmas gifts to celebrate the holiday season together.





VLearn

VLearn Elementary students enjoying their outdoor learning time in the snow!





Volleyball Academy students gave back to the community through several "Serve it Up" project to support those less fortunate. They completed a sock drive, toy drive, SPCA donations, baskets to support our seniors and a bottle drive to support our Veterans.

What amazing students we have!





BX Elementary

It's been an absolute pleasure to have our students of essential workers at BX this week. The large snowfalls made for opportunities to go snowshoeing, climb the huge snow hills that our district plows left for us, complete art and reading activities in the library and spend lots of time in the gym.









We've been hard-at-work...and play! Our entire team have been working together to renew our Health and Safety systems, while enjoying time with small groups of students.



Trying out our new snowshoes.... it's exhausting!









...Renewing our signs and systems for a safe return to school.



Silverstar Elementary



The Wolfpack work together to make learning fun. Our grade 7 buddies teaching the Kindergarten class how to bead.

A great time had by all at our Reading Blitz popcorn party!! Celebrating the success of all our readers in grade 2/3.

Congratulations to the Wolfpack on their reading growth this term.



The Montessori classes experiencing snowshoeing at Sovereign Lake. The Wolfpack are always on an adventure.









We had a wonderful week before the holidays with great spirit!

Our music program put on a fabulous show in our commons with fantastic ambiance. The finale "All I want for Christmas" by the Mass Ensemble. What a finish on a tremendous evening!





Lots of Whos from Whoville at VSS today (December 14th)! Great school spirit thanks to our students, staff, and Leadership class.











Fulton Family of Schools

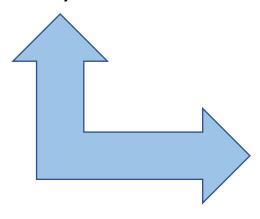




The Ellison Eagles had a great first week back to school in 2022! Our staff spent the week collaborating and revising our Health and Safety protocols. We also had lots of fun with our students who joined us for the first week!

Walking down our hallway, following single-lane traffic!

Welcome to our new principal, Mr. Smyth!





Students are doing a great job with our morning line-ups! We start our days listening to some great tunes!





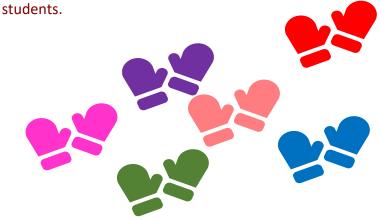
Students at Mission Hill are spending time outside, enjoying some time on our sliding hill. Check out the new "CRAZY CARPETS" that we get to enjoy!







Our school community is very grateful to Onside Restoration for thinking of us this holiday season. Before the break, they dropped off boxes of mittens and warm scarves for our



We appreciate each other at Mission Hill. Check out our "Caring Wall" where staff members leave uplifting notes for each other.



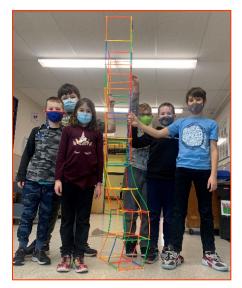


Okanagan Landing Elementary



We're all set to welcome all of our students back next week.





Some of our students kept busy doing STEM activities this week.



The office staff got busy making popcorn for all of our students to eat while they watched the virtual Christmas concert the last week before holidays.



Clarence Fulton Secondary



Our teachers getting in on the fun of Spirit week and wearing their ugly sweaters.





Students participating in formal day during spirit week.





Our Vocations program cooked a delicious turkey and ham dinner for students/staff in the Resource room and our Junior and Seniors Vocations program.



Kalamalka Family of Schools

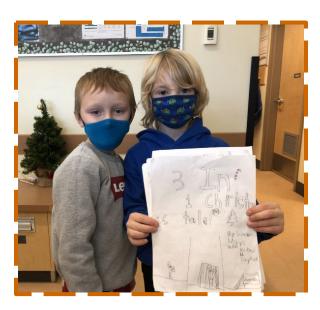


In December, we took some time to have some fun and to celebrate success by highlighting students' strengths on the mid-year communication of student learning. Our students showcased their enthusiasm and talents during our Virtual Coldstream Christmas Concert and our focus of the month was "Light Up the Season with Kindness" ~ our students really did shine!





These budding authors wrote a book!



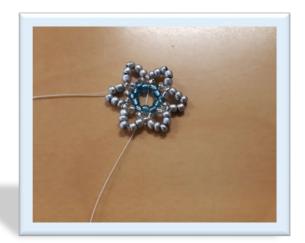
Our Intermediate Choir caroled their way through the Coldstream community and performed a choral showcase of songs for seniors at Coldstream Meadows.



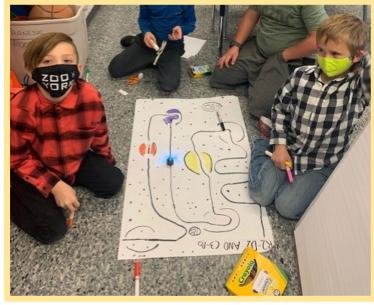


Christmas beading with grade 7 led by our Indigenous support worker Ms. Sitter.



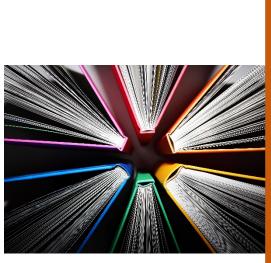


Exploring with Ozobots in the grade3\4 class.





Buddy reading with bear books that the Kindergarten students created.







Lavington Elementary

Mr. Maccagno would like to thank the Lavington community for their continued support, flexibility, and understanding.

All communication during these uncertain and ever-changing times has been respectful and solution based.

The school cannot be the same without being filled with the excitement, curiosity, and the youthful exuberance of the students.

We are looking forward to seeing the students once again and will have all the new health and safety guidelines implemented for their return.







Kalamalka Goings-On in December:

December was a busy month for Kalamalka as we worked at being as 'normal' as possible with many activities for the kids to enjoy and participate.



Kal put on the musical 'Urinetown' for a series of shows in early December to the delight of both student audiences and evening performances. Under Shon Thomas's direction, the kids had a great time rehearsing and preparing as the senior drama class, as well as building the set through the Stagecraft class.

We had the privilege of being able to enjoy a great evening of music under the direction and tutelage of our music teacher, Paul Hunter. The concert featured the grade 8 and 9 band playing their very first concert in front of real people!

It also had our choir class as well as the Jazz Band along with a Christmas Cheer Tour band to finish things up.





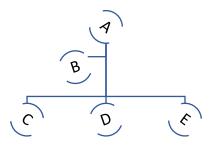
The grade 8 STEM class led by Jennifer Bitz had the kids making functional Christmas decorations using their math and physics as well as art skills. Oh, and everyone had fun, too.



Finally, Rob Kopera, our Numeracy lead teacher, put on a school-wide competition to engineer the highest structure using limited amounts of spaghetti and marshmallows.

Pictured here is the winning entry.

The winners got to eat their project as their prize.



Bloom Family of Schools



Charles Bloom Secondary

Charles Bloom Secondary



Senior Foods Class made some delicious treats to share with their families for Christmas!



So grateful to the maintenance staff for working so hard to get our boys changeroom all repaired and look forward to when the boys have a great place to be again.





The most beautiful wood projects come out of our wood class taught by Mr. Kuhn.
Lovely wood turned bowls.

Great signs made by some students and our counsellor
Ms. Fenn. Positive Welcome Back to our students.



Cherryville Elementary

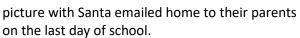
Our grade 3/4s and 5/6's went skating at the Lumby arena. They were so excited to go on a field trip!







We had Santa come and visit and every student got a physically distanced



We also had a Christmas carnival!

In December we had a Christmas concert! With our school being so small we were able to invite the parents of each class to come and watch their child's class individually.

We also filmed all four classes and created a link for parents and grandparents who could not attend to watch. we had over 100 views!!







J.W. Inglis Elementary

With only 60 - 79 students in the building this week- getting photos has been a challenge! But here we go:



"Students are getting ready for the basketball season!"



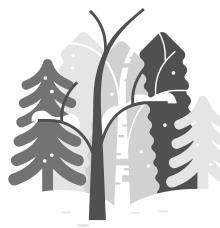


"Three students diligently reading in preparation for the Grade 3/4 Battle of the Books battle!"

A group of grade 5 students had fun outside on the school field with snowshoes! These 4 students are showing that they were using snowshoes, but they did all fall right after I took the photo!

Lots of laughter!



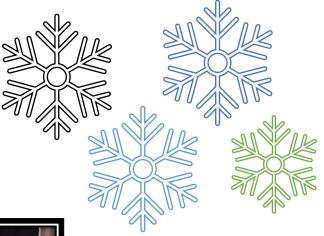


Indigenous Programs

Jessie Brown, Indigenous Support Worker at OKL, organized the 2021 "Bee-zar" with all funds raised going to support the school garden.









Some crazy antics at the SD22 Staff Holiday Luncheon! Oh, these two...Dave Lafontaine and Susan Bowen.

Human Resources

- We continue to recruit and hire many new employees. We encourage all interested in School District No 22 employment to review the postings on the district website.
- Human Resources has been busy updating our Communicable Disease Plan (CDP) and supporting schools as they prepare for a safe return of all students on January 10, 2022.
- Local teacher collective bargaining with the Vernon Teacher's Association continues through January.



Student Learning Curriculum

Over the past few months our district has had a number of teachers participate in the Ministry of Education Performance Standards Project: Proficiency Benchmark Trialing. With the support of Jen Carter, Scott Belshaw and Jen Friesen, teachers were provided professional learning as well as in class collaboration while engaging students in various literacy or numeracy activities. This project has provided the opportunity for teachers to explore new ministry resources and approaches on assessing curricular competencies.

In these pictures students are engaged in a numeracy activity. The sub aspects focused on were communicating, interpreting, and solving. The challenge presented for the students to work through was that the teacher's family supports a local family in need for Christmas by purchasing gifts and food. The students needed to search text (flyers) for viable gifts for two adults and boy of 9 and a girl of 6 with a limit of \$450. Their goal was to get as close as they could without blowing the budget.





Welcome to Rosie Larios and Barb Nerling, newly hired Early Childhood Educators for the Seamless Day Kindergarten Program at Okanagan Landing School. The month of January will be spent getting to know all the new faces in the kindergarten classroom through lots of play, loose parts, and literature!

We are looking forward to opening the doors of our before & after school licensed childcare program in the next month.



Career Programs

December saw several programs come to a successful conclusion with our Aircraft
Maintenance Engineering – Structures, Pastry Arts, and a number of Academic Dual
Credit courses completed. January brings a new round of opportunities for students to
step into their futures with the Gateway to Technology, Academic Dual Credit,
Carpentry, and Heavy-Duty Mechanics all starting up in January.

See our <u>website</u> for more details.

• Early Childhood Education – Dual Credit Program Poster is live. Click this <u>link</u> to learn more.



Early Childhood Education – Dual Credit Program Poster is live. Click the image to learn more.

We had some Holiday fun in December and the Career Programs team hopes everyone had a happy healthy holiday!!



Student Support Services

In Student Support Services Itinerate Staff members have been working on creating Inclusion Resource Kits for our students with diverse abilities. These kits will be rotated so that there is continual access to a variety of materials for enhanced student learning.









International



Students experienced some winter fun Canadian style at Tube Town, tubing, roasting hot dogs, and marshmallows around the Silver Star fire and sharing giggles and smiles galore!!

Just too much excitement to pick the best pictures.

























Finance Department

- The team worked diligently throughout December to ensure suppliers and staff continue to be paid.
- A small department restructuring brings our Board Office Receptionist, Rajvir
 Randhawa, into the team. This change will assist Raj in supporting the accounting and payroll functions as she continues her receptionist duties.

Welcome, Raj, to the Finance Team!



We are also very pleased to welcome **Raelyn Bauer** to our team, who started in January.

Raelyn manages the accounting, purchasing and payroll operations of the School District, supporting the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer and Secretary-Treasurer roles.



Raelyn is a CPA and joins us from UBCO, where she was a Finance Manager. Prior to that, she led benefits finance for the City of Calgary and was responsible for running the financial operations of several companies.

Raelyn is also relatively new to the Okanagan, and I'm enjoying the chance to show off how wonderful our region is.

Welcome, Raelyn, to School District 22!

Transportation

Heartwarming – truly why we do what we do...to make a difference in every student's life.

Bus driver, **Fay Jeberg** "I received the best Christmas present ever!"

A student in grade 11 that has been transported by Fay for four + years had given her a Christmas card and said "thank you for always saying good morning, good night and have a great day. You made me feel special each and every day even while I was going through many challenges."

The importance of a school bus driver greeting students getting on and off their bus could be the positive difference a student needed that day!





The IT department kept busy over the Christmas holidays refreshing laptops for clerical staff in schools, and at the Board Office.



Good News!!



We have started to receive new Chromebooks which will replace 875 student devices scheduled for retirement by the end of summer 2022. Work on this student Chromebook refresh project has already begun.

With the global shortage of devices, and shipping delays, we are very relieved to see these devices start arriving!!

Sing along with me....

"The WiFi on the bus goes round and round, round and round, round and round....

The WiFi on the bus goes round and round, all through the town..."

For the past year we have been piloting the use of WiFi on 6 buses that are travelling on routes to Lumby/Cherryville, and along Westside Road. The idea behind the pilot is to extend the classroom for students, and access to digital resources, while travelling on these longer routes.

STATULES STA

More info to come on the results of this pilot.

Maintenance

Our 2 great cabinet makers – Paul and Gary have been hard at work building cabinets for the new Learning Commons at Harwood and Seaton , we are also working on the Bloom science rooms cabinets .









Engagement – all are invited to get involved

School District 22 would like to extend a huge thank you for your support during the previous week. As you know, the delayed return was supported by an Order from the Provincial Health Officer, which applied to all public and independent schools in British Columbia. The time allowed our school-based staff and transportation team to collaborate, learn about the challenges the new Omicron variant may bring – including the likelihood of *functional school closures, transportation closures, or public health closures* (more on this highlighted later in the letter), implement enhanced safety measures, and proactively ensure the continuity of learning plans. We acknowledge this is all extremely challenging for our families, staff, and students. We have each other and we are a great learning community. We remain SD22 strong.

To ensure that continuity of learning, schools will be reminding all students, staff, and families about existing safety measures, including:

- Using all available space to maximize space between people:
 - For example, different common space, classroom and learning environment configurations (e.g., avoid face-to-face seating arrangements where possible).
- Everyone able to wear a mask.
- Doing daily health checks https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1 and staying home when sick.
- Implementing strategies that prevent crowding during class transition times.
- Holding school gatherings and events (e.g., assemblies, etc.) virtually. If they must be in-person, limit the number of people to no more than 50% operating capacity.
- Holding staff-only gatherings (e.g., meetings, professional development activities) virtually whenever possible.
- Limiting visitors to those who are supporting activities that directly benefit student learning and well-being (e.g., teacher candidates, immunizers, meal program volunteers, etc.).
- Pausing extracurricular sports tournaments and no spectators for indoor events.

The guidelines build on **existing protocols that have succeeded in minimizing the spread of the virus** in schools, such as:

- Encouraging everyone who is eligible to get fully vaccinated.
- Using available space to spread out and to respect personal space.
- Wearing masks in accordance with Provincial Health Officer Order on Face Coverings: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-face-coverings.pdf
- Washing hands regularly.
- Cleaning and disinfecting all surfaces at least once a day. Our district also has enhanced cleaners.

For more on our School District updates, please see the link to our updated (as of January 2022) Health & Safety Video: https://sd22org-

my.sharepoint.com/personal/district_it_department_sd22_bc_ca/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fdistrict%5Fit%5Fdepartment%5Fsd22%5Fbc%5Fca%2FDocuments%2FA%5FWebpage%5FContent%2FSafety%5FOrientation%5FVideo%2FJan%202022%20SD22%20Safety%20Orientation%20Video%2Emp4&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Fdistrict%5Fit%5Fdepartment%5Fsd22%5Fbc%5Fca%2FDocuments%2FA%5FWebpage%5FContent%2FSafety%5FOrientation%5FVideo

Where do I find the District's updated Communicable Disease Plan for January 2022?

Under the COVID tab on the far right of our website. We will put as much information as possible directly on our website https://sd22.bc.ca.

https://sd22.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/January-3-2022-Communicable-Disease-Plan.pdf

Types of School Closures:

<u>Functional School Closure:</u> A functional closure of a school is a temporary closure determined by a school district or independent school due to a lack of staff to provide the required level of teaching, supervision, support, and/or custodial to ensure the health and safety of students. This would likely be due to a high number of staff or certain employees away who are required for a school to function, and the inability to temporarily replace them. This will be a collaborative decision by the school and district and may include IHA. Notification will come directly from your school.

Functional School Closure process:

- Day 0 We will do our best to communicate with you the afternoon prior to a Functional Closure. Please note that staffing challenges may not arise until after the day has begun. If changes occur during the school day, families will be notified to pick up their children or provide permission for them to leave school. Students who are unable to be picked up or transported home will be supervised by available staff until the end of the instructional day.
- Day 1 Families can expect to be contacted by their teachers(s) about the pivot to remote learning.
- From Day 2 onward, instruction will be remote. It is fully expected that after a week (Day 7), students will return to class, however, we must all remain flexible. We will call families back to face-to-face instruction as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Last week, our Principals/Vice-Principals/<u>Teachers</u>/EAs/ISWs prepared for four types of learning:
 - As normal;
 - For a Teacher Teaching on-Call (TTOC);
 - For the collapse of several classes being put together; and
 - For a pivot to remote learning during a Functional School Closure.

We acknowledge the hard work at the school-level in order to make this happen.

<u>Transportation Closure:</u> A transportation closure is a lack of staff able to provide the required level of transportation services for students. This would likely be due to bus drivers and/or mechanics being

away and the inability to replace those absences. This will be determined early in the morning at the District level.

Public Health Closure: A public health closure is the temporary closing of a school by order of a Medical Health Officer and/or Interior Health when they determine it is necessary to prevent the excessive transmission of a communicable disease (e.g., COVID-19). This will be determined by IHA.

Will there still be contact tracing and notifications if there are exposures?

No. This is not sustainable. The situation is no longer the same. Many more people will get the new variant. Omicron has a short incubation stage, transmission is faster, and there will be more self-testing. The good news is that most people are now protected from serious illness through vaccination.

Will we have Rapid Antigen Tests?

"As the Province awaits new rapid tests shipments from the federal government, B.C.'s existing supply of rapid tests will continue to be used at schools where there has been exposure events and outbreaks. When new federal shipments of take-home rapid tests arrive in mid-January, their use will be scaled up with 500,000 tests deployed as needed to support the safe continuation of in-person learning.

Transmission in B.C. schools reflects transmission in the community and schools with consistently implemented prevention measures have proven to be lower risk throughout the pandemic. The government is committed to continuing to support safe in-person education in recognition of its positive impact on the intellectual, social, and emotional development of students. Schools also provide important supports for children, such as meal programs and mental-health supports." (news.gov.bc.ca)

Communication:

We will keep communicating as best we can. Please understand, as throughout the pandemic, that some things may change daily:

<u>School-level communication:</u> Your school principal and/or child's teacher will continue to share school-specific operational and educational information and resources. This will include notice of a Functional Closure, if needed.

<u>District-level communication:</u> You will continue to receive communications from me, and on our website, including information regarding emergent issues, regularly scheduled Superintendent's Reports, and at Board meetings (via Zoom).

To learn more about COVID-19 vaccines for children: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/children

To see the addendum to the Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines-addendum.pdf

In closing, the health, safety and well-being of students and staff are a top priority for all of us in School District 22.

Thank you all for your ongoing trust, support, and patience. I also ask that we continue to treat each other with kindness, compassion, and grace. We are all doing our best.

If you have specific questions about this update, please contact your child's school, and your Principal, directly.

IMPORTANT DATES:

January		
3	Last Day winter break	
3	International Mind-Body Wellness Day	https://nationaltoday.com/international-mind-body-wellness-day/
4	Schools open	
4	World Braille Day	https://nation.com.pk/10-Jan-2022/world-braille-day
10	School reopens to all	
11	National Road Safety Week	https://indianewsrepublic.com/national-road-safety-week-2022-theme-history-importance/611631/
12	National Youth Day	https://www.wincalendar.com/ca/International-Youth-Day
15	Black Shirt Day	https://www.antiracismcoalition.org/black-shirt-day.html
17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	https://nationaltoday.com/martin-luther-king-jr-day/
18	National Winnie the Pooh Day	https://nationaltoday.com/martin-luther-king-jr-day/
19	National Popcorn Day	https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-popcorn-day-january-19/
19	Regular Public Board Meeting	
24	National Girl Child Day	https://indianews.in/festivals/national-girl-child-day-2022-slogans/
24	International Day for Education	https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/educationday
27	International Holocaust Day	https://www.ushmm.org/remember/international-holocaust-remembrance-day
28	ProD day (no school in session)	
28	National Fun at Work Day	https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-fun-at-work-day-january-28/
31	Hot Chocolate Day	https://nationaltoday.com/national-hot-chocolate-day/
31	National Backward Day	https://nationaltoday.com/national-backward-day/

February	Black History Month	https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html
2	Groundhog Day	https://nationaltoday.com/groundhog-day/
5	National Ice Cream for Breakfast Day	https://nationaltoday.com/national-eat-ice-cream-for-breakfast-day/
7	Send a Card to a Friend Day	https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-send-a-card-to-a-friend-day-february-7/
9	Public Budget Committee Meeting	
10	Moose Hide Campaign	https://moosehidecampaign.ca/
14	Valentine's Day	https://nationaltoday.com/valentines-day/
16	Regular Public Board Meeting	
17	Random Act of Kindness Day	https://nationaltoday.com/random-act-kindness-day/
	Okanagan Zone ProD (no school in	
18	session)	
20	World Day of Social Justice	https://www.un.org/en/observances/social-justice-day
23	Pink Shirt day	https://www.pinkshirtday.ca/
24/25 March	BC Winter Games (no school in session)	
8	International Women's Day	https://www.internationalwomensday.com/
13	Daylight Savings	
16	Regular Public Board Meeting	
17	St. Patrick's Day	https://www.calendardate.com/st_patricks_day_2022.htm
19	Spring Break (no school in session)	
20	First Day of Spring/Equinox	https://www.almanac.com/content/first-day-spring-vernal-equinox
20	International Day of Happiness	https://nationaltoday.com/international-day-happiness/
21	World Downs Syndrome Day	
26	Earth Hour	https://www.earthhour.org/
	International Transgender Day of	
31	Visibility	https://nationaltoday.com/transgender-day-visibility/
April		

School reopens

