

Superintendent Report

April 2024

Submitted by: Dr. Christine Perkins





DREAM. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.

Acknowledgement:

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

Mission:

We inspire and nurture students to thrive in their learning, relationships, and community.

Vision:

To become a community where all are respected, and each person is encouraged to develop their potential.

April 2024 Superintendent Report

Under the BC Human Rights Code and the Charter, Boards must provide meaningful access to educational programs for all students, including students with diverse gender identities and expression. Students must feel welcome and included in school, regardless of gender identity or expression.

Schools must respect student's choice of pronouns, and preferred name.

We stand by your Human Rights. Love is Love. Every human deserves love.

Acceptable Use of District Technology document – included in the package as information for the April 24 public Board meeting. **This document is supports Board Policy 220 – District Code of Conduct.**

Thank you to all involved in providing feedback to date for this document:

1. Community of Practice – Teacher Librarians
 2. Student Voice and Student Trustees
 3. Principals/ Vice Principals
 4. District Leadership
-

Anti-Racism Action Plan for SD22 - Our district is currently working on a roll out of Anti-racism education across the district. Thank you to teacher, Kim Tyssen, and our student trustees for leading this work on the ground. **Our DRAFT Anti-racism policy is submitted in the package for the April 24 public Board meeting.**

For more information see, B.C.s anti-racism action plan for K-12 students:

Quick Facts:

- 58% of B.C. students say they have seen other students insulted, bullied or excluded based on their race or ethnicity.
- According to the B.C. adolescent health survey in 2018, a safe and supportive school environment, as well as the presence of caring school staff and feelings of being treated fairly, were associated with more positive outcomes among those who had experienced racism, including feeling safe at school and feeling good about themselves.

K-12 Anti-Racism Action Plan:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/89E84767362543DA8333CA8E4356D957>

Erase Racism: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase/racism>

Anti-Racism Learning Project Resources: <https://focusedresources.ca/en/anti-racism-learning-resources-project>

Anti-Racism Data Act: <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/antiracism>

If you are experiencing racism or would like to report an incident of racism, there is information on the Erase website on how to make a non-emergency report:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase/racism>

Translations

- [Antiracism_Action_Plan_23JAN2023_Chinese\(simplified\).pdf](#)
 - [Antiracism_Action_Plan_23JAN2023_Chinese\(traditional\).pdf](#)
 - [Antiracism_Action_Plan_23JAN2023_Punjabi.pdf](#)
 - [Antiracism_Action_Plan_23JAN2023_Tagalog.pdf](#)
 - [Antiracism_Action_Plan_23JAN23_French.p](#)
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BC School Trustees Association Annual General Meeting (BCSTA)

Trustees and senior staff attended the annual general meeting which began with professional learning. Topics covered included *Boards During Bargaining* and *Board Governance During Challenging Times*, and *Compassionate Leadership*. The Opening Ceremonies featured Riaz Meghji, a human connection expert and bestselling author of *Every Conversation Counts: The 5 Habits of Human Connection That Build Extraordinary Relationships*.

Plenary Sessions covered a wide range of topics including:

- Beyond the ABC's - AI, Bots, Code: Preparing the Next Generation for a Changing World
- Election Forum - Platform on Education
- Student Voice - Truths from Zoomers

Concurrent Sessions included topics covering:

- Board Work Plans: A Key to Effective Governance
 - Inclusion and Accessibility
 - ADEI: Legal Obligations for Inclusion
 - Governance to Enhance Student Outcomes
 - Indigenous Education
-

BC School Superintendent's Association (BCSSA) Spring Forum April 12, 2024: *Their Voices Lead Us: System Transformation Through Student Agency*. Keynote speakers included [Will Richardson](#), Speaker, Consultant, Writer *Why Agency? Exploring Power in Schools in an Increasingly Complex World* and [Shane Safir](#), Educator, Leadership Coach, Writer who presented: *Student Voice Changes Everything: A Pathway to Agency*.

We were most proud of our own SD22 led BREAKOUT session: *Approaching Agency Through Responsive Pedagogy and Student-Centered Coaching* with: Jennifer Carter, Scott Belshaw, Rhiannon Johnson, Kimberley Tyssen, Luke Friesen. Thank you all for your leadership.

Brendan Robertson

We are so proud of all our educators and want to congratulate Brendan Robertson on receiving the Sports BC Presidents' Award Recipient. Brenda has received the highest sport volunteer recognition award in BC. Thank you for all your years of dedicated time and expertise in fencing.



Cell Phone Restrictions

SD 22 is pleased to say that we already include digital device use in our Code of Conduct (Policy 220). We also have updated guidelines coming for *Acceptable Use of Devices* for Fall 2024.

Background:

On Friday January 26, Premier Eby and Minister Singh announced a suite of initiatives focused on keeping students safe, including restricting the use of cell phones in schools.

The Ministry will work with school districts to ensure all schools have policies in place by the start of the next school year to restrict students' cell phone use in the classroom.

Many districts already address cell phones either at the district level and/or school level.

The intention of the new requirement:

- to create consistency provincially
- to create space for focused learning and interpersonal connection in the classroom with fewer distractions and interruptions
- to support students with learning how to use cell phones responsibly and respectfully.
- to help keep students safe from online threats and harmful impacts of social media.

The Ministry is currently looking at mechanisms that will require school boards to address student cell phone use potentially in their codes of conduct while ensuring School Boards have the autonomy to develop an approach that best fits their school communities' needs.

These changes will be in place for the start of the 2024/25 school year.

Experience OC – Attention teachers - this event will be happening at the Vernon Campus on the morning of May 8th. Please email Tawnya Cameron at OC to confirm that you are sending grade 10 students. tcameron@okanagan.bc.ca

- **Registration opens at 8am on April 22**
- **Registration closes at 4pm on May 3**
- Students register for 3 sessions of their choice.
- Registration will be done on Eventbrite again this year.
- **Remember: sessions fill on a first come, first served basis**
- OC will send a brochure out to you all with registration instructions, dates, times, subjects to choose from, etc. within the next week or so.
- **Students are to arrive at Vernon Campus by 9:00am**
- **Remember: your school is responsible for arranging bussing** (we unfortunately do not have the budget to pay for bussing).
- **Bus Drop Off and Pick Up:** Buses are to park in the upper parking lot nearest College Way, against the blue curb, closest to the track.
- **The event ends at 11:35am**

Vernon Job Fair - share with Career Ed teachers or students who may be interested. April 25th, 11 am - 3 pm at the Vernon Lodge

New!!! Video Game Prototyping Micro-credential - Okanagan College is offering a new dual credit Micro-Credential in Video Game Prototyping. This hands-on course is designed to equip learners with a combination of creative and technical skills needed to create prototypes of captivating and interactive gaming experience concepts. Starts April 27th and is scheduled outside of the school timetable. Please share with any students who may be interested in this program. Apply with their Career Coordinator ASAP.

2024/25 Feeding Futures School Food Programs Fund

Information regarding district allocations for the 2024/25 school year is in the [Summary of Grants to Date table](#), information on the [spending criteria](#) is now available, and a [question and answer document](#) is also available to support engagement with key partner groups. Please email ECC.schoolfood@gov.bc.ca if you have any questions.

How Are We Doing Report? Director of Indigenous Education, Charity Sakakibara, will be presenting to the Board in April.

The 2022/23 *How Are We Doing? Report* is available below. The *How Are We Doing? Report* reflects Indigenous student data for our district and is used for our evidence-based decision-making as we move forward.

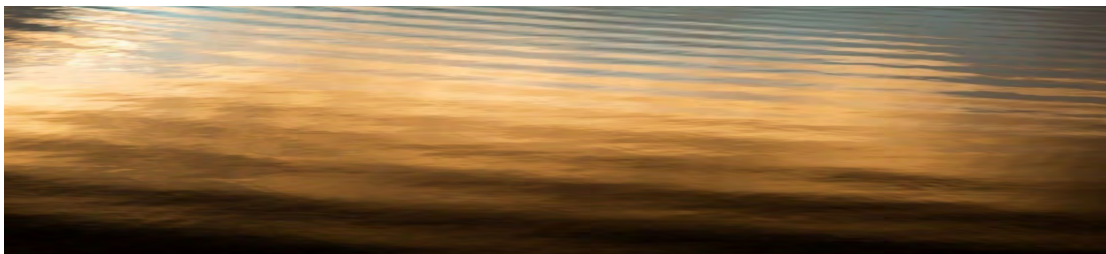
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/reports/ab-hawd/ab-hawd-school-district-022.pdf>

Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2024

This designation offers an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the harm of sexual assault and violence and to explore ways to promote safety and support for all individuals. Sexual violence affects everyone regardless of geography, race, age, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic background.

Student and Family Affordability Fund

The ministry has announced that the [Student and Family Affordability Fund](#) is being replenished and will continue to be provided as a special grant in the next school year. School districts have been made aware of their funding allocations and tables will be posted online in the spring. [Instructions to School Districts](#) regarding the use of the funding is now available together with updated [Question and Answers](#).



April

24 Administrative Professionals Day

25/26 Conferences – early dismissal

28 National Day of Mourning

May

1 National Principal's Day

2/3 District Project Showcase

5 **Red Dress Day (MMIWG)**

7 Teacher Appreciation Day

12 National Child Care

12 Mother's Day

13 **ProD – no school in session**

15 **Regular Public Board Meeting**

16 Moose Hide Campaign

17 International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia

20 **Victoria Day - no school in session**

21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development

24 National Scavenger Hunt Day

26 National AccessAbility Week (May 26-June 1, 2024)

29 Red Shirt Day

29 Indigenous GRAD – Fulton

June

National Indigenous History

Month **and** Pride Month

1 Global Day of Parents

1 International Children's Day

1 International Day for Protection of Children

3 District Retirement Party

4 District Track and Field

6 Higher Education Day

7 National Doughnut Day

7 Bloom Secondary GRAD

8 World Oceans Day

14 Kal Secondary GRAD

16 Father's Day

17 ALP and vLearn GRAD

19 **Regular Public Board Meeting**

20 First Day of Summer

20 Fulton GRAD

21 National Indigenous People's Day

21 VSS GRAD

22 Seaton GRAD

27 Last Day of School

28 Administrative Day – no school in session

Seaton Family of Schools:



Alexis Park Elementary

Our basketball teams had a great season. We had many students on our teams that have never played, and their skills improved throughout the season.

Great job, teams!!



Our school had Oopsie come and perform and talk about the importance of making mistakes. She was entertaining and inspirational to our students and staff.



The grade 7s had their annual Fear Factor challenge. Each item was an edible food but was given a name that made some of our students feel unwell. An entertaining activity!



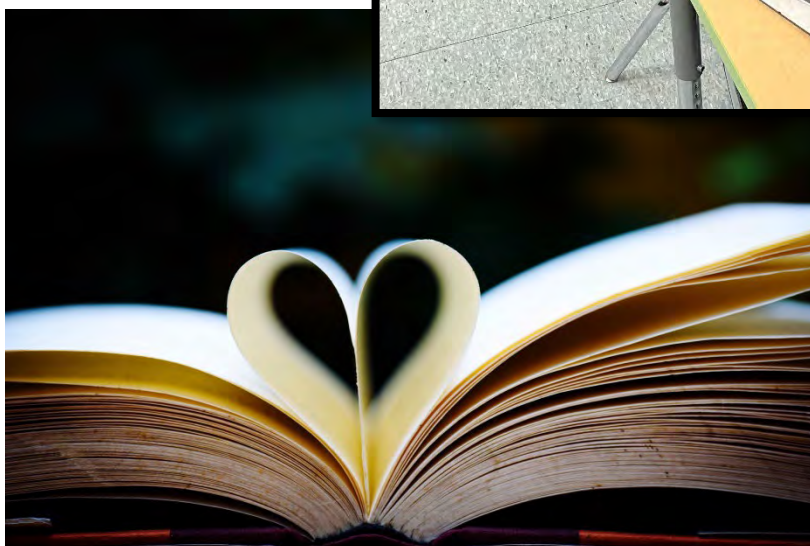
We had spirit week for the last week before spring break. Each day was a different theme, such as Sports Jersey Monday, Tropical Tuesday, Western Wednesday, School Spirit Wear Thursday, and Green Day Friday for St. Patrick's Day. We had a pancake breakfast provided by Superstore for the whole school and a dance party at lunch outside on the last day of school.



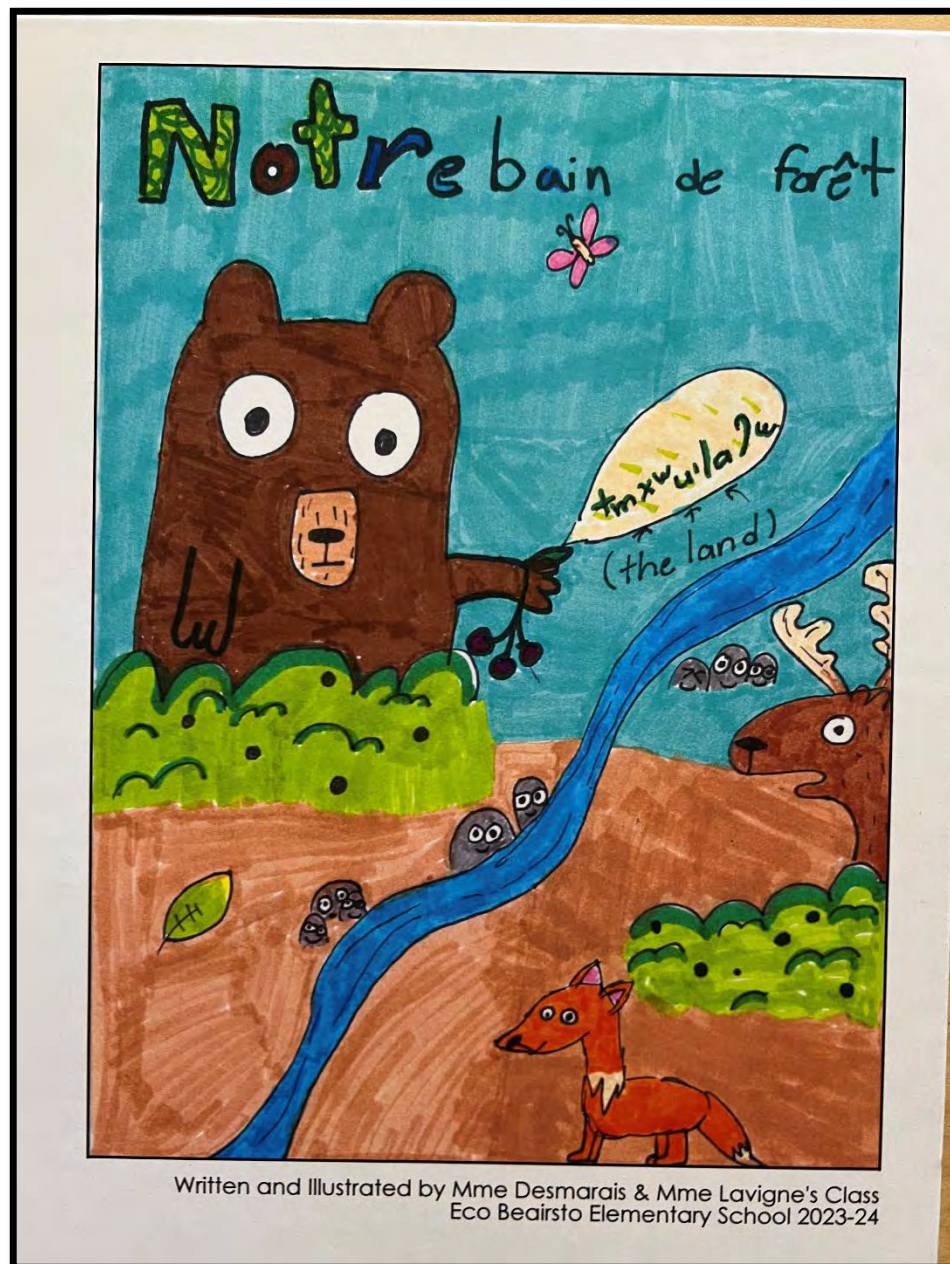


Ecole Beairsto Elementary

Mme Waldegger's class celebrated the completion of their Literacy Residency with M LeBlanc by inviting their parents to a 'Meet the Author' event in the library. Students showed their parents some of the books they have authored using 'loose parts' to help them create their stories. They also got to show off the strategies they have learned to help spell words using letter sounds. The work they have done is truly amazing!



Mme Lavigne and Mme Desmarais's grade 3 class worked hard on creating a class book called 'Notre bain de forêt (Our Forest Bath)'. The students researched local plants, animals and ecosystems and created a page for the book. The book incorporated syilx language and knowledge. The students were so excited to see the final product.





We have also started to work on planting the school garden by filling the planters out front with some colourful flowers.





Harwood Elementary

We keep “crankin’ up the heat” here at Harwood heading into April!



Throughout the past few weeks, our school has been bustling with activity and achievements. Our basketball teams concluded their season on a high note, with each team displaying competitiveness, enjoyment, and significant skill development. Notably, our grade 7 girls emerged as district champions, showcasing their exceptional talent and teamwork.

Meanwhile, our grade 3 students began their swimming lessons, diving into the process of mastering water skills.



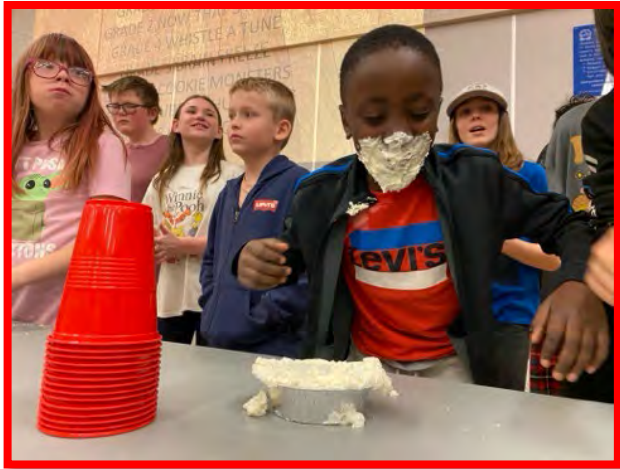
We were treated to a captivating performance by the Seaton grade 11 and 12 band, which left the audience spellbound with their intricate melodies and harmonies.



The excitement continued with the *Harwood's Got Talent Show*, featuring astounding displays of our students' remarkable talents across two showings, including an unexpected performance by the staff, who showcased their hidden talents to the delight of all.



Heading into spring break, we launched the inaugural Harwood's March Madness as the term neared its conclusion. A week-long extravaganza filled with various activities such as a community run, egg drop challenge, twin day, Silly 7 Relay, grade 6/7 dance, hallway races, board game day, and even a thrilling FEAR FACTOR event where students bravely faced their fears. This engaging event provided endless entertainment, fostering a sense of team spirit and excitement among students and staff alike, and keeping our students energized and eager for the upcoming break.





W.L. Seaton Secondary

Dodge ball final with Fire fighters...



Seaton spirit...





Mission Impossible - a night of fun taking over the school.

Leadership team making Seaton great.



Vernon Family of Schools



VLearn



ALP/Open Door/CrossRoads

Face Painting Spirit week ALP



and

Obstacle race Spirit week ALP





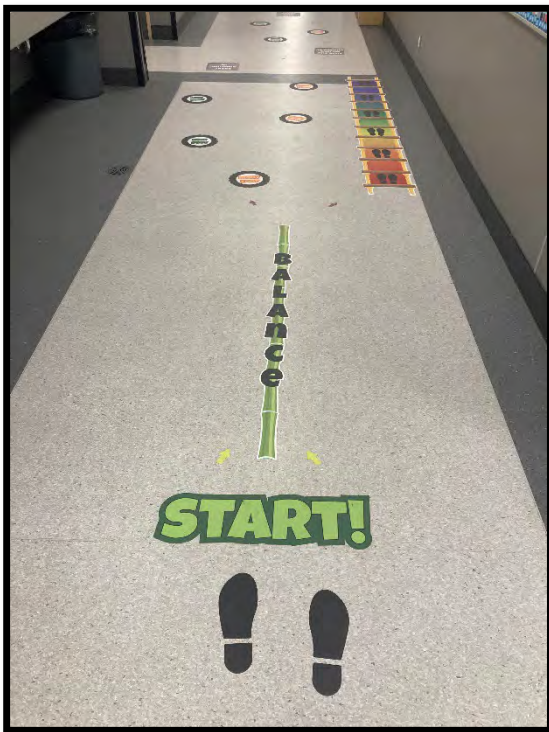
Spirit week Art project ALP

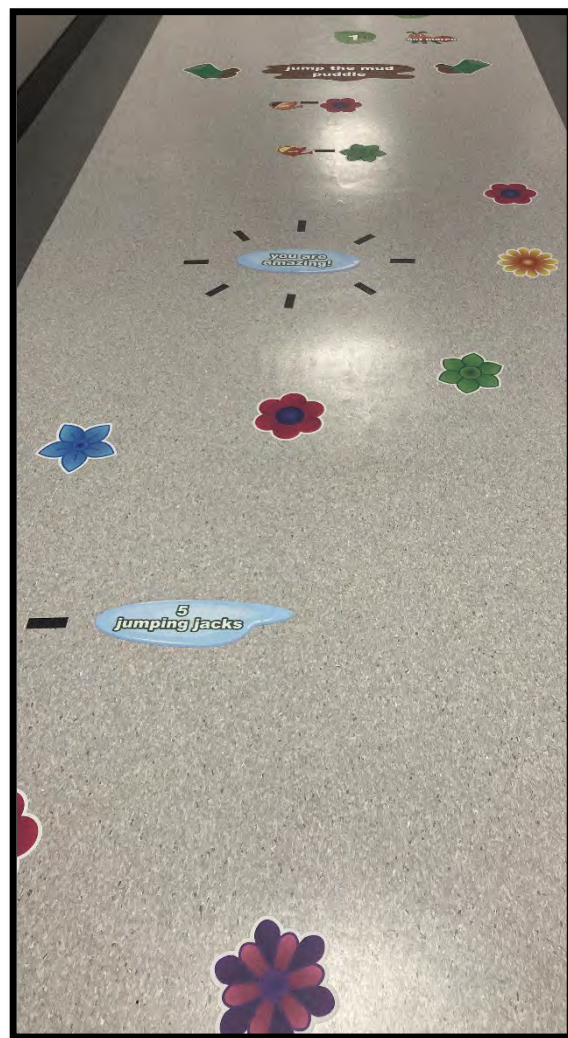




BX Elementary

BX School was excited to come back from spring break and see part two new sensory pathways. We would like to thank our School team and School PAC for making these pathways happen for our learners. These pathways remind us that learning is a journey and give us those much-needed body breaks that help our learning blossom and grow.





The grade 2 and 3 students started their swimming lesson sessions at the local rec centre. Everyone came back with big smiles after first swim.

Our school is also excited to start training for cross-country events. We know it's going to be a great season.



Hillview Elementary



The sun is out and so are the horses! We are lucky at Hillview Elementary to have neighbouring pets. The ponies love to come and see our kids at the fence. Now if we could all agree on names.



En garde! The students at Hillview got to work with the Okanagan Fencing Club to learn about the sport of fencing.

Contrary to Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Utley and Mr. Tyssen's belief, this does NOT make them pirates.

"Ye har, their hearts be heavy, and their legs still be wood."



Who says basketball season is over? The students at Hillview haven't missed a beat shifting from indoor to outdoor games. The next district championship tournament is a mere 332 days away, and we plan to be ready.

Go Heroes Go!





Silverstar Elementary

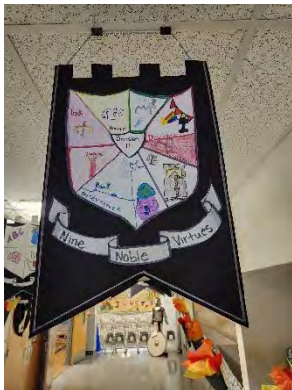
At Silver Star, we have been working with a local artist, Christine Kashuba, to create a collaborative piece of art that represents our WHOLE school! Our desire to build community connection with one another resulted in every student and adult learner in our school designing and painting a 9x9 wooden puzzle piece to contribute to a massive display that was installed in our Library Learning Commons over the break! Our display is called "Do Kindness Every Day!" It shows our connectedness and sends the message on how we work hard to be the best we can be each and every day! It turned out great!



Additionally, in March, over 70 students in grades 2-7 participated in a school-wide musical called, "Joust." This medieval performance saw almost every student in the school participate, either acting or creating the magnificent costumes, stage, entrance, and props! Both our afternoon and evening performances saw record crowds! Accolades to the tireless efforts of Mrs. Keay and Mrs. DeDood for their hard work and enthusiasm!



Each class created a crest representing their own class values to add to the decor for the audience to view as they made their way into the performance!







Vernon Secondary School

The Archway society presented to our grade 10 students on Domestic Violence. It was a very informative presentation.





Chimo days were a huge success at VSS again this year. Lots of students participated. Here is the cupcake challenge and a group of students performing for the student body at lunch.





VSS continues to improve the culture of the school. We have refreshed our cafeteria area with a new paint job and signs as well as a new logo in our office area. Go Panthers!



*Pride
on the Hill*



Fulton Family of Schools



Ellison Elementary

Ellison school community is excited to be back together, and we are enjoying the beautiful spring weather! Our students are learning about nature, celebrating what makes us unique, and participating in new experiences together. We welcomed the Beairsto choir and the Seaton band for a performance just before Spring Break. Many of our students are currently preparing for the Choral Showcase.







This month, our students are looking forward to Battle of the Books, the District Chess Tournament, and Cross Country!





Mission Hill Elementary

We had such a great time of learning prior to spring break. Using our ADST skills to build leprechaun traps, working with our buddies to create with Lego, an amazing Spirit Week organized by the grade 6/7s, and some mixed material artwork by Ms. Ellis and Mr. Becks' class.





Okanagan Landing

Spring has sprung at OKL. There are some great art projects displayed in our hallways to herald the new season. We are springing into some great books and fun stories as well.



Even though basketball season is over we still have a core group of students enjoying playing the game at recesses in the wonderful weather out there.



Our Grades 2-7 were lucky to have some on-site fencing training with Matt just before the break.



We are looking forward to working in our school garden! Our gardening club had their first meeting and cleaned up some of the winter debris from the garden to allow for classes to plant.



Clarence Fulton Secondary

Life Science 11 working with Biologists from the Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans to dissect fresh specimens.





Acid Base
Titrations in
chemistry class.

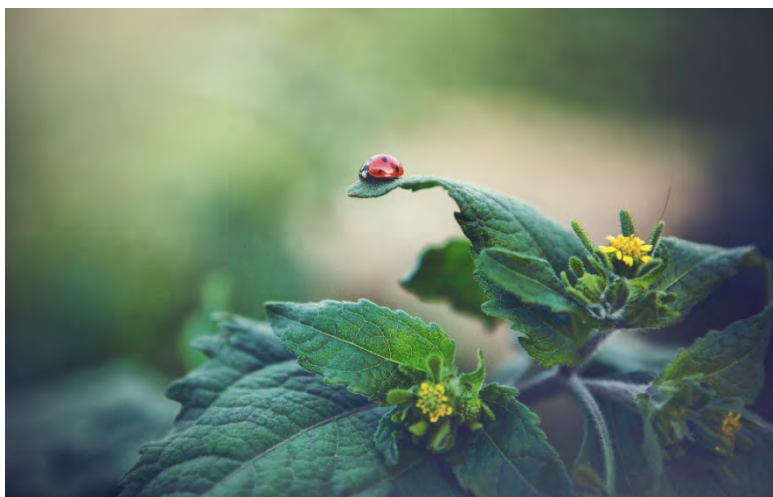
At North Okanagan Gleaners to learn how they transform what might have been wasted fruits and vegetables into significant global aid, sending food and medical supplies worldwide.



Kalamalka Family of Schools



Coldstream Elementary



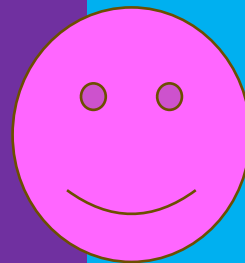
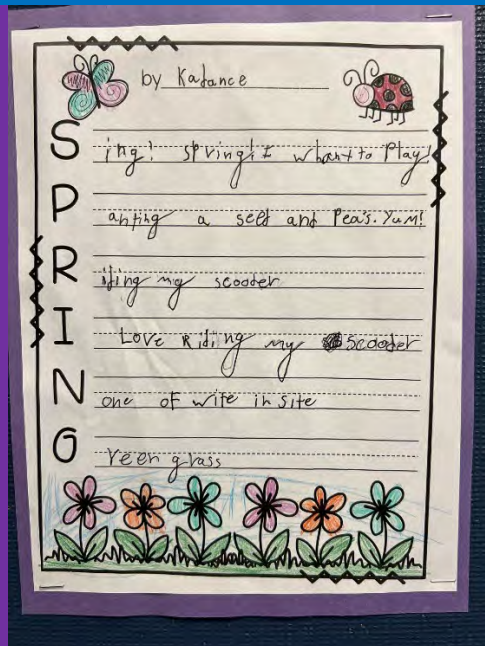


Kidston Elementary



Sing!
Spring!

I want
to play!







It has been very busy at Lavington! We recently wrapped up our whole school production of Annie, took a much-needed spring break to recharge, and came back to a NED presentation to remind us to Never give up, Encourage others, and Do our best (NED)!





Kalamalka Secondary

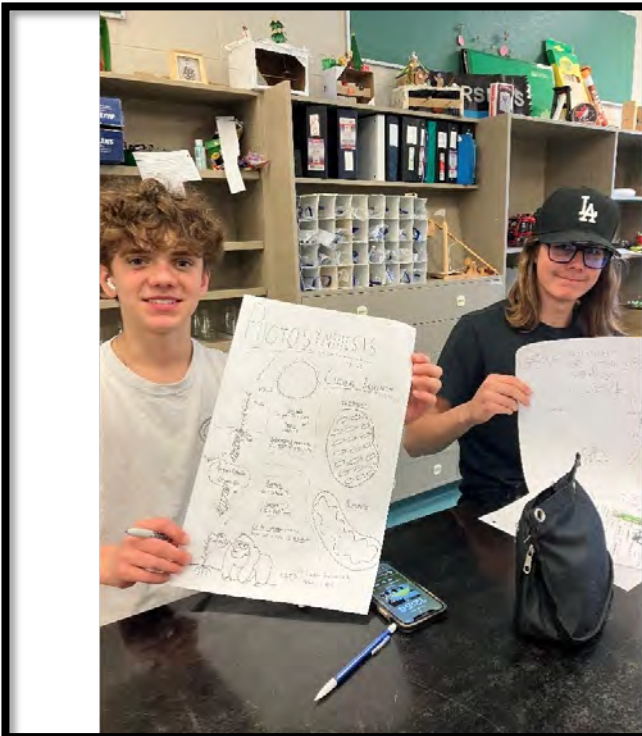
Kal Grads leave behind a mural each year – here is one of our newest, brightening our hallways and welcoming the start of spring.



Kal's indoor vertical gardens are growing and looking vibrant!



Grade 8s learning about photosynthesis in science – great timing, and even better artwork!



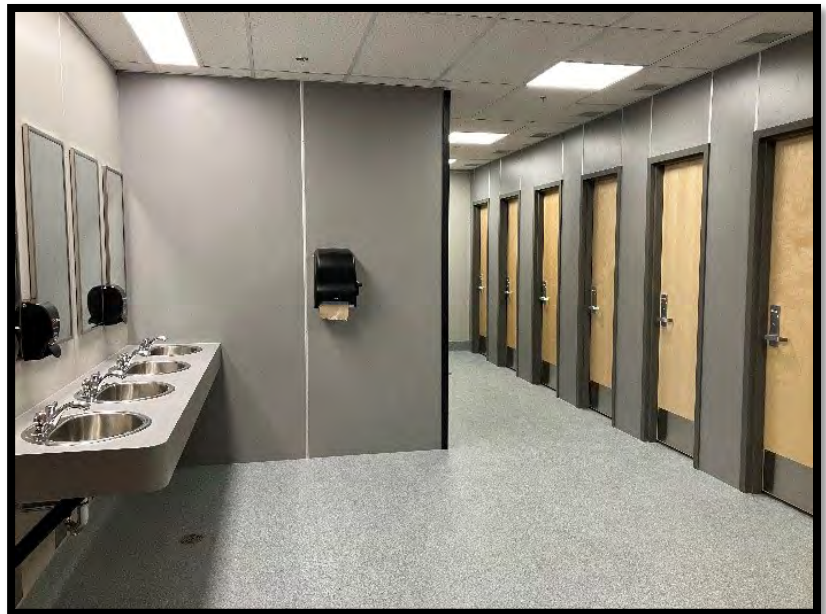
Many of our classes are getting out and about to take part in place-based learning – lots of time spent learning and exercising in Kal Park!





Grade 9 science students at Kal showcased their understanding of mitosis through the most delicious dioramas possible!

Our bathroom renovation project is finally complete, with SEVEN new student and two new staff washrooms. Thanks to our district Maintenance Department and workers for all their hard work! The new washrooms look great.



Bloom Family of Schools



Charles Bloom Secondary

Our Woodworking teacher, Mr. Kuhn, is working on his newest creation! Ms. Barker, our Indigenous Support Worker, and him have been planning and creating a specific and memorable item to present to students at the upcoming Indigenous Grad on May 29th. All Indigenous Grads will receive one of these 'Canoe' lanyard gifts. They are so beautiful. Thank you, Mr. Kuhn and Ms. Barker!





Cherryville Elementary

The grade 5/6 class completed their poetry unit by inviting family to their "Poetry Café".

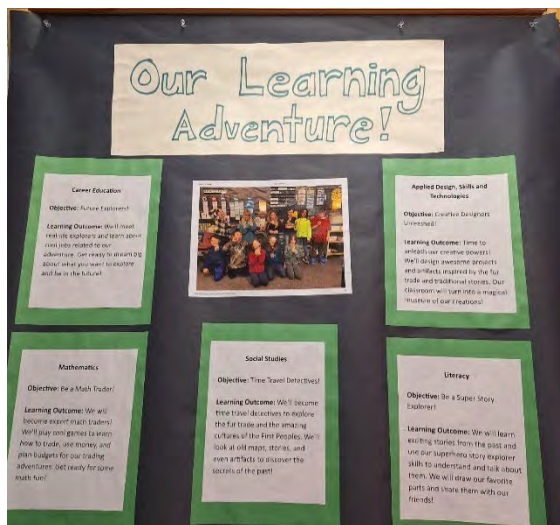


Students waiting to present their poems.





Showcase of Learning Fair Grade 3-4 students. The class invited the other classes in the school to come to their learning fair so they could share their learning, projects, and receive feedback.



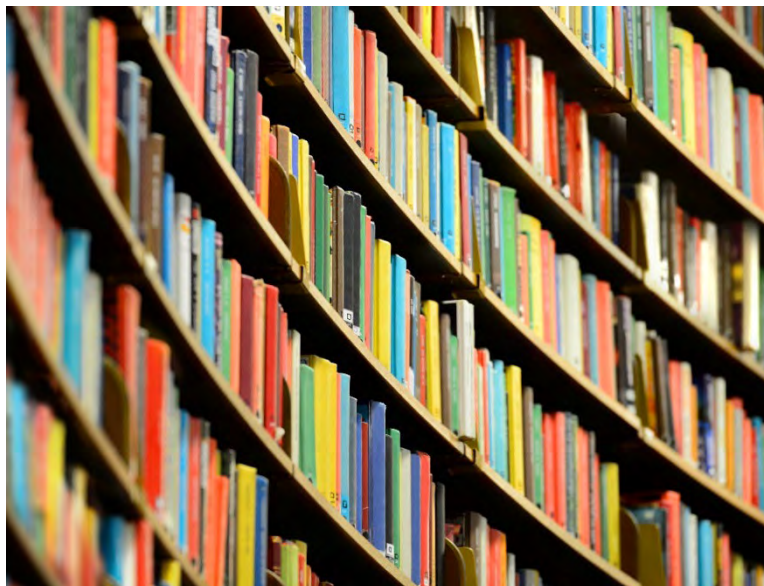


J.W. Inglis Elementary



Out at JWI, our students had the opportunity to participate in traditional hide tanning with the direct support of the Indigenous Learning Department, Stacey Mee, and Michelle Kneller. The experience highlighted our Indigenous students and their incredible leadership skills. We will be doing this again next year as it was an incredible experience for our whole school community.

We also had our own version of Battle of the Books before the break that involved 60 of our grade 4-6 students! It was a fantastic reading experience for all! We celebrated in fashion.



Indigenous Programs



Students at J.W. Inglis Elementary had the opportunity to clean, prepare, and tan a hide this past month.



High school students attended “Entrepreneur Day” to learn from community members about the life journey and experience being entrepreneurs.

Human Resources

April is staffing season for Human Resources as preparations for the 2024-2025 school year are well under way. This includes confirming leaves of absence for next year and confirming staffing levels for the many positions in the district. Postings for vacancies for next year will begin to come out in May for support staff and June for teachers.

Learning Department



A small group of passionate student school trustees committed this year to making a difference in our school district. This group of students, facilitated by Learning Coordinator Kimberley Tyssen, met regularly to brainstorm actionable ways to end racism in our schools. The students created an engaging anti-racism presentation and committed to presenting to all grade seven students in the district. Their first presentations were well received, and the student trustees felt empowered to see their plans in action. They are excited to continue their presentations this spring. Thank you to these student school trustees, who truly understand what it means to be anti-racist.



The Learning Coordinators travelled to Kamloops and spent the morning collaborating with the Learning Team in SD73 sharing ideas to support teacher professional learning and student success. At lunch, teacher Mike Wood gave a presentation on how he engages his students in authentic inquiry experiences. The Learning Coordinators then visited Mike's classroom to see his students engaged in their maker space building finger skateboards.

Career Programs



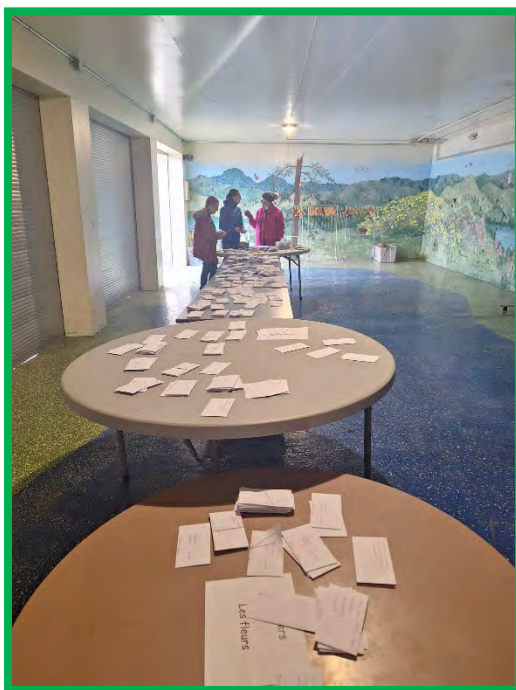
Students completed their 960 plus hours in Work In Trades Apprenticeships this past year and received a \$1000 cheque from Skilled Trades BC.

Inclusive Education Department

Intermediate students at BX Elementary are excited to be planting seeds to grow in their Tower Garden. We have 22 Tower Gardens distributed across the district.



Our first District Garden Swap was on a cold and blustery day at Beairsto Elementary. If you were not able to attend, stayed tuned for another Garden Swap after spring break.



Early Learning & Child Care



Working hard on painting at our Beirsto child care program.

Springtime art at our OKL child care program.

In our preschool programs, 3 & 4 year olds are exploring and growing each day. Children love the fun & engaging learning opportunities that the Early Childhood Educators plan and prepare for them.

Children in our school-age child care programs at BX, Beirsto, and OKL continue to be involved in many different learning opportunities each day that allow them to pursue their passions. We are so grateful for the dedication of our Early Childhood Educators and Child Care Educators that create wonderful environments for children to flourish at the end of the school day in our child care programs!



Building nests with
playdough at our
Mission Hill
Preschool.



Sorting and organizing at our Harwood Preschool – helps build early math skills!

A highlight for April is our Earth Day Concert featuring Bobs & Lolo at the Coldstream Community Hall on April 22nd. All families with children 5 years & under are invited to attend this free event!



SD22

Earth Day Concert

FOR CHILDREN AGE 5 YRS & UNDER!

Join School District 22 & community partners for a fun, family-oriented concert featuring **Bobs & Lolo**

April 22nd
9:30am-12:00pm
Coldstream Community Hall

FREE EVENT!

REGISTER HERE or **SCAN ME!** 

Contact: earlylearning@sd22.bc.ca | 250-260-4490

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the province of BC through the Ministry of Education and Child Care.



International

The spring is always an exciting time for SD22 International Students. The days get warmer and sunnier, and students get to experience what our schools and Vernon have to offer in the warmer months. Prior to spring break, many international students experienced spirit weeks at the high schools for the first time and were amazed by the experience.

During spring break, many students also had the opportunity to travel home or around Canada, and are now back in Vernon, ready to finish the year strong.



Some of our students even had the opportunity to take a trip to Banff and the Rocky Mountains during spring break, and they had a great time enjoying different scenery within Canada.





Looking ahead, many students are working hard as we near the end of term 3 in high schools. Many are also looking forward to spring school sports and international program activities, including the annual International Program Soccer League in which one school is crowned champion at the end of the championship game. This is always an intense and exciting activity for students and spectators.

Finance Department

There is lots of learning happening in Finance these days! During the month of April, a few of our team members are enrolled in courses, others are embracing new opportunities that have arrived on their desks and others are attending educational conferences around the province. Our goal is to enhance our knowledge so we can serve the School District even better. Our team is always up for a challenge so a little fun while learning is also on the agenda. Pickleball here we come...and of course we will never pass up a yummy home-made cake!



Transportation

Busy
bussing!



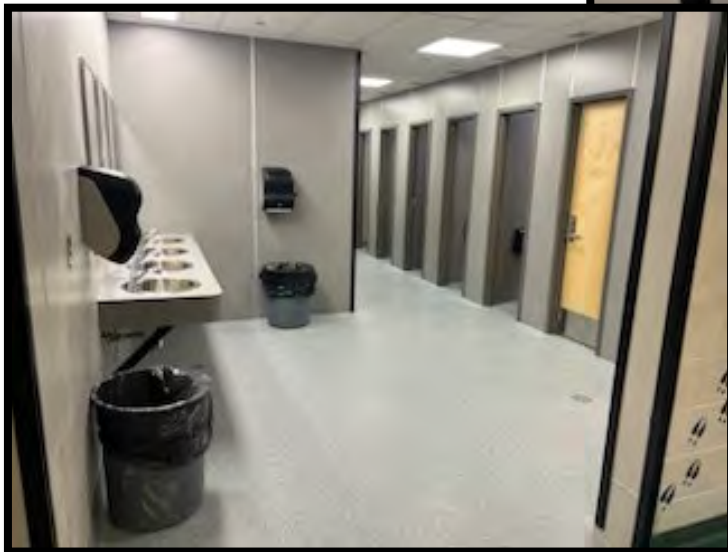
IT

SD 22 hosted a Regional Technology Meeting where several different districts came together to share their experiences and knowledge around different technology initiatives. It was a great collaboration between our neighboring districts, and we all learned a lot from each other. Our team presented on Artificial Intelligence.



Maintenance

Kal before and after...



Beairsto wall getting ready for mural work.



Have the most amazing month possible!!

