

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

OCTOBER 2022

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.

#### **Superintendent Report Notes**

#### October 2022

#### **Affordability Fund**

Last month, our district received \$925,000 to go toward food, security, and fees. Four main areas have been identified. Thank you to all our families for their input. Funds will go toward:

- Food & Inclusion Programs (Brown bag lunch program, top up to starfish back-pack program, fees for inclusion activities)
- **Regular school base for all students** (School activity fees e.g.: field trips, instrumental programs, athletic programs, cultural events, shop fees)
- **Regular school vulnerability** (Breakfast programs, hot lunch program (e.g.: pizza Friday) for vulnerable students, life skills cooking programs)
- Alternate school vulnerability (For alternate programs: Crossroads, ALP, Open door) and other suggested possibilities.

Congratulations to the NEW School Board elected on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The first meeting of the new Board will take place on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the School Board Office.

Gen Acton
Jenn Comazzetto
Lori Mindnich
Vanessa Mitchell
Mark Olsen
Kelli Sullivan
Tom Williamson

Thank you so much to Trustee Lee and Trustee Brewer for your dedication and service to School District No. 22.

#### **Enrolment**

Our enrolment for the 2022-2023 school year is: 9024 plus 253 International students for a total enrolment of 9277. Last year's total enrolment in September was 9173 by Spring.

Student Teacher conferences will be held October 27/28 – early dismissal on both days.

**Foundational Skills Assessment** – **(FSA)** – The <u>Foundation Skills Assessment</u> is a province-wide assessment of British Columbia students' academic skills and provides a snapshot of how students are progressing in the foundational areas of literacy and numeracy. Participation rates in SD 22 are high and we thank all for their support. FSAs provide valuable information about where to focus our efforts and the data is included in our Framework for Enhancing Student Learning report:

https://sd22.bc.ca/fesl2022

Halloween- Monday, October 31st!

Please see the attached notice about appropriate and culturally sensitive costumes for wearing at Halloween. <u>Halloween Costume Guidelines</u>

#### LGBTQ - October is 2LGBTQ+ History Month

Corie McRae has the role this year as the District's SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) lead. SOGI is an inclusive term that applies to all people as every person had a sexual orientation they identify with. SOGI celebrates our diversity and teaches us about human rights. SOGI teaching are embedded throughout the curriculum.

Cori is a counsellor for K-12 with over 20 years experience in multiple districts. Besides SOGI, Cori is also the Mental Health and Healthy Promoting Schools Liaison. Please see link attached for LGBT History Month. https://lgbthistorymonth.com/resources

Non-Instructional Day – Thursday, November 10 – NO SCHOOL

Remembrance Day Stat – Friday, November 11 – NO SCHOOL

#### **Remembrance Day Ceremonies**

School-based Remembrance Day activities will be held on **Wednesday, November 9**. Contact your school as ceremonies are open to the public.

School Bus Safety Week - October 17 - 21, 2022. Drivers are reminded that they must remain stopped until the red stop arm closes, and the red flashing lights go off the bus. At all times, be cautious and look for children who may be crossing the street.

**Winter Break** – Please be aware that school does NOT break until Thursday, December 22 and reopens, in our district, on Monday, January 9, 2023.

#### **PVPs tour Bloom Woodlot**



A huge thank you to all the students and Nathan – the visit to Woodlot 1908 was firstclass.





# \$9000 received from three Rotary groups

Rotarians are left to right:

Calvin Reich (Silver Star), Superintendent Christine Perkins, Brittany Weber (OT) Jacqueline Rivard (Kalamalka), Kieran Terleski, Christine Love, Janice Foster (Vernon).



#### **Seaton Family of Schools:**



## **Alexis Park Elementary**

Each morning Alexis Park Elementary begins the day in a good way by acknowledging the traditional and unceded territory of the syilx people. This is one important reconciliation action the school community is holding close to our hearts.



On September 29<sup>th</sup> the school participated in Orange Shirt Day. The entire school community came together in an outdoor gathering forming two connected circles. The outer circle was formed by the intermediate students and the inner circle was formed by the primary students.





The gathering was opened by Kathy Morgan (ISW). The students first engaged in a traditional round dance led by Rhonda Philip (ISW).

Then the students, led by Tobi Huggins (music teacher), sang the Children's Blessing Song and a group of students accompanied them with traditional drumming. The gathering concluded with a pause for quiet reflection honouring the survivors of the Residential School system and those who did not return home.

Students and staff were gifted an orange epoxy bear pendant handmade by Jenny Inkster (school secretary) which they could wear on a necklace or bracelet.





### **Beairsto Elementary**

A new grade one student wearing her ribbon skirt with pride! She shared it at an assembly as well as had a picture with Mr. McLean – one of our ISWs.

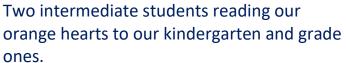




There was artwork in halls regarding calls to action and how each child is important.

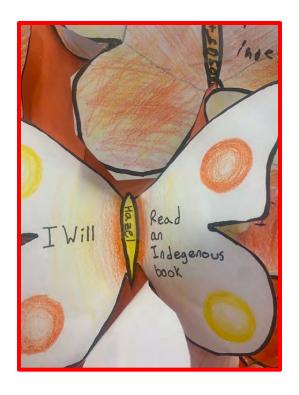
An older sylixen student sharing knowledge with a little buddy.













Groups of students planned what to share at our different assemblies. At a few of them a group of intermediate students shared some information they had prepared. In this instance we have a local Sylixen girl with some allies presenting.

Some more of the acts that will be done by students posted in hallways.











## W.L. Seaton Secondary



Seaton's first Terry Fox Run in over 2 years







**Seth Spotted-Eagle** dances on Truth and Reconciliation Day for School Assembly.





Lillian Marchand and Skek Hanuse deliver the Okanagan/syilx welcome.

## Vernon Family of Schools vLearn



We are so excited about our new surroundings at Clarence Fulton. We explored the parks, hillside trails and playground. We have so much to explore on our outdoor learning days!



Getting to know each other and designing name tags that represent who we are.



At vLearn we recognize the truths of the past and are committed to Truth & Reconciliation.



#### ALP



First responders day in the park and our thanksgiving lunch at ALP today.

















#### **CrossRoads**



Lumby food bank pic was crossroads kids and staff and a few bloom kids. Justin, Toby, the kids and I collected and sorted food for the Lumby food bank for their annual food drive until 9 pm on Wednesday night. They collected \$8461 cash and 5984 lbs of food.



### **BX Elementary**

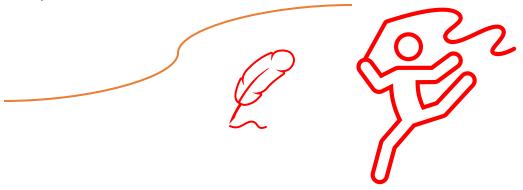
We had our second
Truth and
Reconciliation
Assembly. We held it
outside and there
was a sea of orange.
Students throughout
the week wrote on
feathers words and
sentences to describe
how students should
feel at school.



Words like freedom, trust, love, safe, heard, respected, valued, and happy are some of the words they wrote.



We were fortunate to have BX student Jazmin Robins-Swanson from the OKIB dance a traditional dance surrounded by the school. At 9 years old she beamed with pride and confidence.





William Robins and his son Koenn from the OKIB drummed and sang to welcome everyone and for our Round Dance to close. William explained both to the students. We were very fortunate to have them.

Jazmin with her uncle William Robins and cousin Koenn.





Mrs. Johnson's grade 6/7 class presented their leaves with their words to describe how students should feel at school.



Our Round Dance with over 525 People.



Volleyball is going strong at BX; even our primaries are bumping and volleying!











#### Hillview Elementary

We kicked off the year with a "Pastries with Parents event," and were excited to see a HUGE turn-out of parents and families.



Our PAC hosted the "Hillview Hoedown," complete with live music, dancing and hotdogs! Again, we enjoyed a turn-out of approximately 500 people!

On September 29 we recognized Orange Shirt Day at School. Every student reflected on what it means to say, "Every Child Matters" and we created a heart bulletin board display.

Mrs. Britton, our music teacher along with the choir, shared a song and drumming with the school.



On October 5<sup>th</sup> it was **Hero Day** at Hillview. Students and staff dressed up as Heroes and learned how we can all be **Everyday Heroes**.





## **Silverstar Elementary**





Mrs. Lockhart's class paints rocks with their Big Buddies from VSS grade 9.





#### **Fulton Family of Schools**



We unveiled our new logo to both students and staff. Support for our redesign and new school colours, black and gold, was overwhelming.

We have a few different versions of our new design. Students are excited for our upcoming SWAG order.





On September 29 we recognized Orange Shirt Day at Ellison. Both staff and students took time to reflect on the significance and meaning of this very important day.





We hosted our "Welcome Back" BBQ after a 3-year break. It was a great way to bring our community together and make new connections. We want to thank the Silver Star Rotary for sponsoring this event for our families.





On September 29<sup>th</sup>, we gathered as a school community to remember, reflect, and learn about the intergenerational harm that residential schools have caused to Indigenous families and communities. Mr. Tyssen had a special message to share with students too!







## **Okanagan Landing Elementary**





Last spring, Mrs. Smiley's (Ms. Monroe's) grade 4/5 fine arts class submitted a video to the Canada-wide "Moose Hide Campaign" annual K-12 Art and Video Challenge 2022. They received an honorable mention in the contest and received a moosehide drum, a variety of Indigenous books, and other prizes for their excellent project.









Our Orange Shirt Day Assembly had a wonderful variety of student performances including a walk-in and tribute to the Children who never came home from Residential schools, and Song Buffie St. Marie song performed by two of our classes, and a puppet play created and performed by students.





A whole school mandala project, organized by one of our teacher candidates was a beautiful example of the entire school working together to create something beautiful using natural materials.



We had a great turn-out for our PAC sponsored Welcome Back Bar-b-que. It's so nice to be able to get together as a school community.









## Clarence Fulton Secondary

On September 29<sup>th</sup> classes participated in an interactive observance for Orange Shirt Day. Fulton Leadership and Social Justice students guided classes through the 94 Calls to action from the TRC. They explained which calls to action have started and which are unfulfilled.





Senior Volleyball students teaching teamwork and volleyball skills to some wonderful Ellison Eagles. Making connections!



First ever football game between Fulton and PVSS. Great to have new teams join the league.

#### **Kalamalka Family of Schools**



## **Coldstream Elementary**

Coldstream students have been spending time learning on the land with an indigenous focus. This group was learning about salmon (ntytyix) and its importance in syilx culture and trade traditions.



Our staff was gifted orange shirts made with the handprints from students in each teacher's class.





Grade 4/5 students reflecting on identity and how every child matters in each of the paper links.





### Grade 3 artwork





## **Lavington Elementary**

#### **Memorial Garden:**

On Orange Shirt Day, each class visited our Memorial Garden in honour of the Truth and Reconciliation process.

This is now the second year that we have harvested the seeds from our original garden which grew from the recognition of the tragic findings at the former Residential School in Kamloops.

The seeds are prepared for the replanting of our Memorial Garden in early spring.



### **Stone Soup Gathering:**

Each class planted, cared for, and prepared vegetables for enough stone soup to feed an entire school.

The volunteer time provided by our school community to make this event possible was truly amazing!





It was a great opportunity to enjoy the 'fruits' of our labour, spend time together, and experience First Principles of Learning.



## Kalamalka Secondary



Many Kal staff and students wearing orange to recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and support the 94 Calls to Action.





Kal's International students learning about Canadian and First Peoples history!





Kal's senior boys' soccer team taking on Seaton – a great day for a game!

their learning!



### **Bloom Family of Schools**



## **Charles Bloom Secondary**

Our local newspaper celebrating our Sr. Girls Volleyball Team and reminding everyone of our Grad 2023 Drive Thru Breakfast.



Mr. Honey and Tristan-feeding our minds and bodies, thanks for taking such good care of all of us.





At our Orange Shirt Day Assembly, we had our grade 5/6 students drum along to the Honor Song with drums that had been made by previous students.



We had members of our Indigenous Department come to our school to help our students make warrior sticks and learn about their use.





Terry Fox Run was a great success with members of our community joining us on our run.



# J.W. Inglis Elementary

Students made Orange tshirts with felt, beads, and pins, for themselves and staff to wear on September 29<sup>th</sup> "Orange Shirt Day" - even on their orange t-shirts!





Students enjoying a game together while also practicing sharing, turntaking, and demonstrating good sportsmanship.

Hanging out together on one of the Buddy Benches. Now that's a positive looking group!



### **Indigenous Programs**

On Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> all SD22 employees gathered at Vernon Secondary School to learn from Jo Chrona, author of "Wayi Wah Indigenous Pedagogies: An Act for Reconciliation and Anti-Racist Education".

Following Jo's presentation, Dave Lafontaine, District Principal of Indigenous Learning, interviewed two SD22 graduates, Taylor and Keighan, about their journey through the school system.



#### **Human Resources**

The Human Resources Department would like to welcome Melissa Fedorak as our new TTOC Dispatcher who started in the role this past September.

CUPE Local Collective Agreement Bargaining begins in October and Human Resources looks forward to working with our local chapter to come to an agreement on a new collective agreement.

Throughout the fall Human Resources will continue our work of recruiting more casual workers to join the district.

### **Student Learning Curriculum**

The District Resource
Centre (DRC) provides
teachers with access to
many resources to
support teaching and
learning. Teachers are
welcome to book an
appointment to come
down to the DRC and
meet with Lisa Ball
(DRC Booking Clerk) or
a Learning Team,
Indigenous Education
coordinator to explore
resource options.





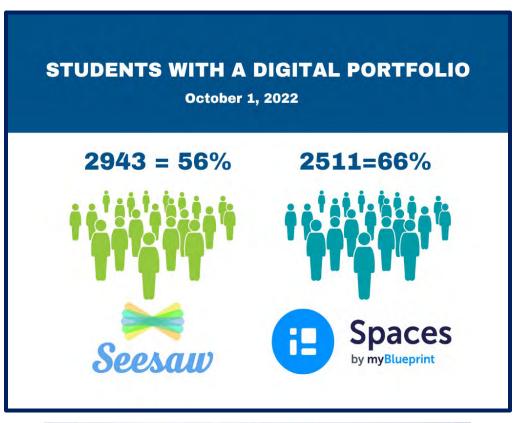




Pictured above is Lisa Ball with Early Learning Literacy resources and a Digital Portfolio documenting kit with 15 ipods to support capturing and communicating student learning.

For more information on what resources are available in the DRC and booking procedures, check out: https://www.sd22learns.ca/district-resource-center.html

In September, SD22 offered two digital portfolio tools for teachers to use to communicate student learning. Since then, 2943 elementary students are using SeeSaw and 2511 secondary students are using Spaces for at least one secondary course to document and share their learning.





## **Career Programs**

#### **FORESTRY 12**





The CBSS Forestry 12 class hosted Administrators from the District to share, connect, and learn from the Land. It was a powerful day for everyone present.

#### **LEARNING ON THE LAND**











During the months of July and August students participated in the Learning on the Land program at OKIB. This program was led by an Instructor from Okanagan College as well as Post-Secondary and Community Members. During the 5 weeks students received immersive training while building a Bus Shelter and for their community.



Career Programs Department has partnered with NVIT. We are looking forward to building new relationships and bringing new opportunities to our students.



### **Student Support Service**

#### **Community Based Instruction Programs started this week!**

**AAC Communication Circles:** Students who use AAC to communicate come together to play games and practice their social communication skills in a monthly workshop. Each month a new school hosts the event and organizes the activities, with the SLP team facilitating the session.









**Swim Lessons:** We run swim lessons twice a week. Students from Kindergarten to grade 12 join their peers in group swim lessons at the Vernon Rec Center. We have 55 students and their EAs in the water each week! New this year are our AAC flutter boards so that our non-verbal communicators have a low tech option to share their thinking with others.







**Art Lessons**: We have 40 students participating in weekly art lessons at the Vernon Community Art Center in an adapted Joining Hands Art Program. They have a half hour lesson in painting and a half hour lesson working with clay each week.









In partnership with CRIS Adaptive Adventures, we had our first bike riding adventure today. Fourteen students and our team rode along the rail trail for an hour. We have 3 biking adventures this fall and plan to start up again with a larger group in the spring.















#### International

"SD22 International Students have settled in well over the first month of the 2022/23 school year. They are adjusting to life in Canada, learning about the culture, and making new friends. A major highlight of September was the opportunity to connect with Students Without Borders Academy students for an afternoon of activities, a BBQ for our homestay families, as well as a concert put on by local musician, Andrew Allen.



October looks to be an exciting month filled with loads of fall activities and great learning opportunities. For some of our students it will also be the first time they've ever experienced Halloween, Thanksgiving, and leaves changing colours. It is always terrific to watch our SD22 International Students live their Canadian experience."







### **Finance Department**

Please join me in welcoming our new Finance Manager, Kayla Coble to School District 22. Kayla will be working closely with myself, the accounting and payroll staff and will be responsible for the day-to-day activities in the Finance department.

Kayla is a Vernon local now living in Lumby with children attending Beairsto school. Kayla is a CPA and has several years of accounting experience, most recently with Nature's Fare in Vernon.

We are very excited to add Kayla's expertise to our department!

The Finance Team is committed to continue learning and understanding the Principles of Truth and Reconciliation through our own personal journeys. On September 29<sup>th</sup>, we proudly supported Orange Shirt Day because every child matters!



## Maintenance



