

Superintendent Report

May 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.

May 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.

May is Asian Heritage Month.

Asian Heritage Month is an opportunity for all Canadians to learn more about the many achievements and contributions of Canadians of Asian descent who, throughout our history, have done so much to make Canada the amazing country we share today. The theme for Asian Heritage Month 2023, "Stories of Determination", embodies the myriad of sentiments that peoples of Asian descent in Canada have experienced and honours their contributions and their diverse stories which are rooted in resilience and perseverance. It is also a call to action for all Canadians to come together to combat all forms of anti-Asian racism and discrimination. "Hate has no place in Canada. In recent years, there has been a frightening rise of anti-Asian discrimination and hate fueled violence against Asian communities. We have to continue our collective efforts to condemn, denounce and combat racial discrimination in all its forms, whenever and wherever it occurs." (Minister Hussen, 01/05/2023)

Accessibility Act update – presentation tonight, at May 15 public meeting.

Climate Action Ripple Effect (C.A.R.E.) –School District 22, City of Vernon, and other local partners are collaborating to mobilize student climate action in Vernon and beyond.

All are invited to attend the third round of CARE, where 15 teachers, 60+ community mentors, and 400+ students are collaborating to create more than 100 climate action projects. These projects will be displayed and judged at the CARE Student Summit on May 28 at the Vernon Curling Club. Public viewing time is from 12:30-1:30 pm.

The evening before is the Community Climate Expo at the Vernon Curling Club from 4 – 8 pm.

District Project Scholarship – A huge thank you to Luke Friesen, Director of Instruction: Learning; Jessica Sinclair, District Secretary, Learning; all staff, all volunteer judges, our amazing parents, and all those who came out to celebrate the 88 incredible personalized learning projects of our SD 22 grade 12 students. Another stellar year of public presentations of learning. Thank you, all.

Cross Country and District Track 'n' Field – Thank you to all staff involved in running and hosting our Cross-Country runs – with over 1500 people attending each event! We also invite you to the upcoming District Track n Field event on Tuesday, June 4th (weather permitting) at the Greater Vernon Athletics Park at Okanagan College from 9:15 a.m. until approximately 1:45 pm. Bring your sunscreen.

Early Learning Update – – presentation tonight, at May 15 public meeting.

Graduation – As grade 12s work to complete their courses, we invite you to mark the following dates and times on your calendars and come out to support these fine young students.

INDIGENOUS	May 29, 2024	4:30 p.m. doors open	Fulton
BLOOM	June 7, 2024	6:00 p.m.	Charles Bloom
KALAMALKA	June 14, 2024	4:00 p.m.	Vernon Recreation Center
VLEARN/ALP	June 17, 2024	11:00 a.m.	Fulton small gym
FULTON	June 20, 2024	4:00 p.m.	Kal Tire Place
VSS	June 21, 2024	4:00 p.m.	Kal Tire Place
W.L. SEATON	June 22, 2024	3:00 p.m.	Kal Tire Place

Human Resources – Thank you to Director of Human Resources, Malcolm Reid, and VTA President, Dave Mackenzie, for hosting the *How Do I Get a Continuing Contract?* event for those interested in a career with SD22. This annual event is most informative, and many questions are answered. Thank you to all who attended.

Professional Development Day – a massive thank you to **Deborah Vandesande** and the entire professional development team who organized some incredible learning for our district last Monday, May 13th.

Keynote was **Dr. Bill Cohen** from UBCO – a Syilx Okanagan artist and educator, a kikwa, and Okanagan Band member.

Other SD22 learning was provided by the following whom we thank from the bottom of our hearts:

- Matt Glover: Supporting Student Writing/Book Making
- Dr. Mike Pruner: Thinking Classrooms and Assessment
- Susan Robinson: Reimagining Fractions: A Visual Approach for Conceptual Understanding
- Troy Sebastian, Indigenous Voice and Location: IndigiLit in 2024
- Mike Wood: Using a Class Business for Inquiry-Based, Authentic Learning
- Ian Busfield: Teaching Financial Literacy
- Stacey Mee: Land-Based Learning
- Becky Wilson: Supporting Multilingual Learners
- Amber Anderson: Intermediate Instruction in Literacy for Struggling Readers
- Chelsea Kiddine/Brendan Robertson: Artificial Intelligence and Storytelling
- Charity Sakakibara: Four Food Chiefs Core Competencies
- Paul Britton: Paddling and Stories
- Sheryl Newton: Drumming and Singing
- Kara Ross: How to be a Good Neighbour/A Syilx Focus
- Jennifer Gray: Food Safe Level 1
- Amiel Logan: A Story and Cyanotype
- David LaFontaine: Weaving Narratives: Metis Histories, Personal Journeys and Future Visions
- Kim Tyssen: What does it mean to be a Culturally Responsive Educator?
- Andrea-Harwood Jones: Outdoor Learning with the Vernon Eco Educators

Trustees on Tour – the final Family of Schools tour for our Trustees will take place on Wednesday, May 29th at Fulton Family of Schools. Over the course of the year, Trustees have had to change to meet staff and students at each Family of School, as well as the District Maintenance, Technology, and Transportation departments.

Videos – Over the last year, SD22 has created some fantastic videos to supports our mission, vision, and motto of *Dream. Believe. Achieve.* Please take the time to review them.

1. **Student Success:** SD22 provides many pathways for all students to pursue and achieve desired outcomes. Pathways to Graduation video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTQcZnZb3Rs>
 2. **SD 22 Indigenous Education** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7qRKMziHWs&t=15s>
 3. **Take Flight in Vernon's International Student Program!**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCFjD6gEL1o&t=23s>
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May

- 17 International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity
- 20 Victoria Day - no school in session**
- 24 National Scavenger Hunt Day
- 26 National AccessAbility Week (May 26-June 1, 2024)
- 28 Climate Action Summit
- 29 Indigenous GRAD – Fulton

June

National Indigenous History Month
Pride Month

- 1 Red Shirt Day
- 1 Global Parent Day
- 1 International Children's Day
- 1 International Day for Protection of Children
- 3 District Retirement Party
- 4 District Track and Field
- 4 National Doughnut Day
- 6 Higher Education 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 kindergarten to grade 2 students participated in Earth Day activities for most of the day. It was a perfect day for all the outdoor activities. They finished off with a community clean-up.



We had some super heroic visitors at our school. They were making sure everyone was working hard.



Our Cross-country runners were excited to be at the run. The energy was high, and most students enjoyed their race.





Beairsto Elementary

Our students and staff have been taking every opportunity to get outside for some friendship and fun! Mme Molaison's kindergarten class took their math learning outside by painting rocks and making their own ten frames with sidewalk chalk.



Mme. Lypchuk's grade 7 spent some time with their kindergarten buddies in Mme Haiworonsky's class to create some beautiful chalk artwork.

OKIB member and master carver, Frank Marchand, brought his knowledge and equipment to Beairsto to teach our grade 5 students a traditional syilx game, double ball.



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

This month at Harwood, there was a flurry of activity and exciting events! The Okanagan Lakers paid a visit to engage with our students before their participation in the Esso Cup.



Additionally, our grade 3 and 4 students showcased their literary prowess at the District Battle of the Books held at Seaton Secondary, emerging victorious as District champions. Furthermore, the Vancouver Science Center brought its enriching programs to our classrooms, imparting valuable scientific knowledge and fostering a scientific mindset among our students.



In celebration of Earth Day, classes ventured into the community for a garbage cleanup initiative.



Taking advantage of the natural surroundings, classes embarked on educational experiences in Kal Park.

And to top it off, our gym received a much-needed upgrade, thanks to the dedicated work of our skilled maintenance carpenters who installed storage units beneath the stage. It's been a bustling and rewarding month at Harwood!



Harwood love: We are so grateful and appreciative of our admin!!





W.L. Seaton Secondary

Hide tanning project that took place at Seaton led by Stacy Mee.



English First Peoples field trip to Caravan Farm for an audio land walk created by four BC artists, each telling a story purpose-built to guide the listener through the soundscape of storytelling.

Vernon Family of Schools

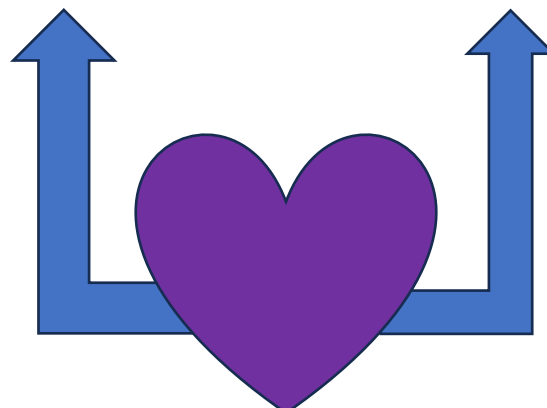


VLearn



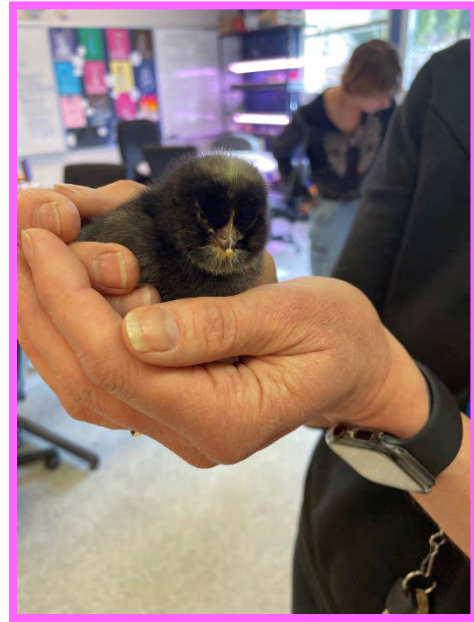
Working with friends to accomplish goals! Quest students made cedar root baskets, while elementary students completed a community clean-up and learned about force and motion at the skate park.

"Friends are the sunshine of life."



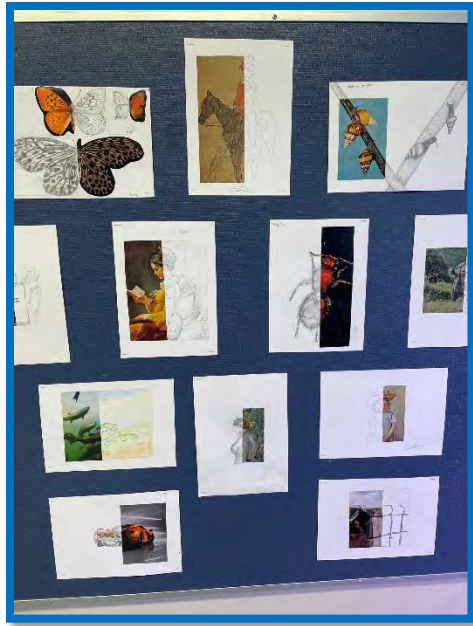
ALP/Open Door/CrossRoads

So much fun happening...baby chicks,



textile extraordinaire(s),





amazing art, and gardening.



BX Elementary

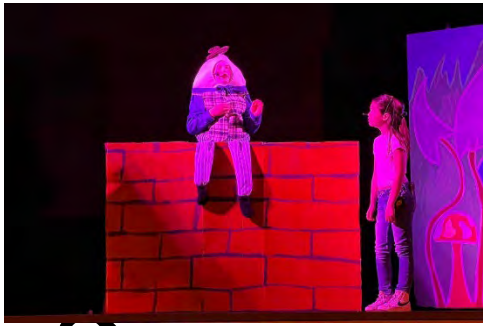
The BX school community was blown away by this year's outstanding school musical. The wonderful fine art program showcased a modern telling of the classic Alice in Wonderland, retitled Alice @ Wonderland.

The show, which involved over 200 students from the school, had 30 lead roles and diverse musical components. The team held three showings, which allowed for greater attendance, and it was needed because each show had a packed gym!

We want to thank all the family support and volunteers, the PAC for their great support, and all the students and staff that made the show come to life. We especially want to thank Ms. J, BX's excellent fine arts teacher, for all her hard work and dedication.

The musical filled the school with joy, fun, and laughter. We are so proud of the students and the high-level performance they achieved.

<https://www.vernonmorningstar.com/community/photos-vernon-elementary-students-dazzle-on-stage-7343999>



PHOTOS: Vernon elementary students dazzle on stage

Grade 4-7 students at BX Elementary performed
Alice in Wonderland on April 10-11

www.vernonmorningstar.com





Hillview Elementary



Spring is in the air! Friends are playing outside, and it is awesome to see! What is your favourite childhood activity from recess and lunch? The Hillview Heroes love to be active and play with their friends, as well as creating great art.





Our Heroes have been busy at the Cross Country races the past few weeks, with many top 10 finishes!

Of course, at Hillview we also show we care for each other by sharing. This month, a handful of intermediates performed a **Robert Munsch Readers Theater** for our Kinder-stars and did an amazing job!



Since literacy is a gift that keeps on giving, some of our neighbours at VSS have been coming by to help our students increase their love of reading too!



Silverstar Elementary

What an amazing start to Spring at Silver Star! Friendship and fun abound!



Working together with friends inside and outside brings us all closer and keeps the fun in learning!



District-wide events have been exciting and have brought our students together to celebrate their individual and collective success...from *Battle of the Books*, to the Chess Tournament, to Cross-Country Running...teamwork makes the dream work! GO WOLFPACK!!



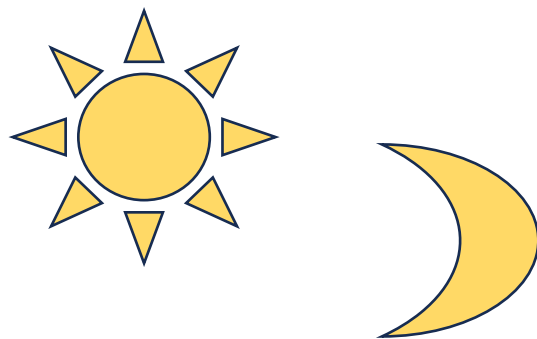


Vernon Secondary School

VSS was pleased to host Kenthen Thomas.

Kenthen Thomas is from Salmon Arm BC. His ancestral lineage comes from the Secwepemc and Syilx Peoples. Grandparents are Dr. Mary Thomas, Mark Thomas, Herbie Johnny and Vera Johnny. He has a partner named Melissa and she has a son Trystan and a daughter name Lexxus. Kenthen has a son named Susep Soulle.

Kenthen has been acting/performing/storytelling for 25 years. Started in high school as Benvolio in "Romeo and Juliet" and it carried on from there. Kenthen has performed with Secwepemc Theatre, Senclip Theatre, Caravan Farm, and many others. His main pride and love have been sharing the words and wisdom of his elders and ancestors. He has been storytelling and sharing for 20 years.



Fulton Family of Schools



Ellison Elementary



Some of our students had the opportunity to meet the Vipers! We love building those community connections!

Our students are enjoying participating in the District Cross Country Meets. They are a great chance to connect with friends and to push themselves to meet new challenges.





Our students loved the opportunity to attend the Esso Cup games. Lots of fun was had by all!



Mission Hill Elementary

Intramural volleyball for our grade 5-7, and our outdoor net is a big hit. Intramural soccer for grades 2-4 has been so much fun, some kids are playing for the first time. Teams are coached by our grade 6/7 students, and the grade 6/7s also do the reffing.



Our grade 6/7 small engine repair group got to spend a day at the college learning from one of their instructors. Students had a great time.



Okanagan Landing

Our students were celebrating Earth Day throughout the month of April—fun class activities, helping to keep our playground clean by picking up garbage, and making Earth posters. Some classes even made promises about how they were going to help the Earth.





Fun times at OKL: it is always good times happening at lunchtime! Our gaga ball arena is busy every recess with different grade groups playing to win. Sometimes the younger grades will invite the older grades to come play for a challenge. Basketball is ongoing before and after school and during every recess. We might have the next NBA star on our court this year! Football took off for a small group of students. One of our noon hour supervisors was showing them how to play flag football.



Big and little buddies are in each class here. Primary classes pair up with an intermediate class and find a new buddy to work and do fun activities with.



A very exciting event coming in May is the grade 6/7 Entrepreneurial Fair. Students in our four 6/7 are busy creating items to sell, planning their budgets, making their shopping lists, and creating posters to publicize what they are selling. It will be another amazing day at OKL!





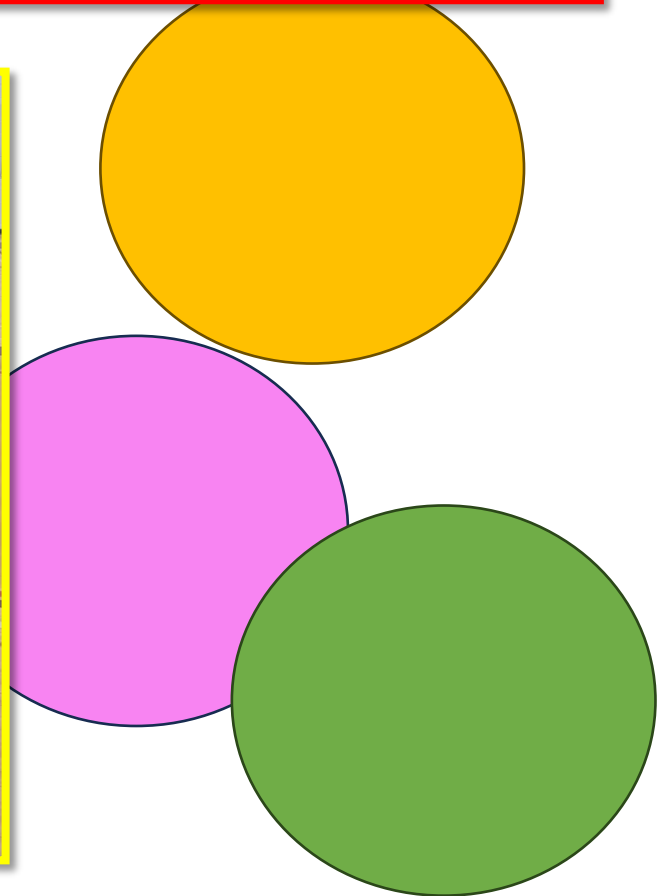
Clarence Fulton Secondary

Clarence Fulton Secondary

Students and staff show their school spirit participating in spirit week at Fulton. Team spirit was high with friendly, daily competitions including creative relay races and skill testing challenges.

The student leadership team along with support from leadership teacher, Jacqueline Olson, provided an amazing opportunity for the Fulton family to have some fun and make some lasting friendships during this epic week long annual event.

We are looking forward to our next outdoor school wide spirit day where we enjoy some fun in the sun!





Kalamalka Family of Schools



Coldstream Elementary



Award winners, sun spinners, and cross country runners!

Coldstream students have been reveling in a series of happy spring moments: from the triumph of ad contest winners showcased in the pages of the Vernon Morning Star (top), to joyous moments spent dancing under the warm embrace of favorable weather (middle), and the spirited competition of cross-country running races (bottom).





Kidston Elementary



At Kidston we have started a games club outside at lunch. The students have been having a great time hanging with their friends playing uno, cards, and other games.



Retro day and having good friends makes school a great place to be on a Friday!





Kidston has had over 100 students participate in cross country. We have had lots of parents come out to cheer our school on and a lot of staff helping make the events a success!





Lavington Elementary

Students at Lavington have been enjoying the warmer weather, getting outside to train for the Elementary Cross-Country meets, and getting out to learn on the land.





Kalamalka Secondary

KAL's Senior Girls Soccer Team placed 3rd out of 16 teams from around the province in the annual OKGN classic tournament hosted by KAL and Seaton. Congrats to the team on a fine result!



KAL's gr.8 science students have been busy getting our spring gardens up and running. Looking forward to all the produce they produce. :-D

Kal staff showcased their fine BBall skills at the annual Staff VS Grads basketball game. Here, Mr. Britton ***nearly*** makes a swish!





KAL staff and students enjoyed the finale of the Manie Musicale competition, a bracket where students vote for their favourite French songs. Notre département de langues était au point avec leur tenue!

KAL's art and textiles programs had a great time visiting the Vancouver Art Gallery and enjoyed a fashion show in Vancouver.



Bloom Family of Schools



Charles Bloom Secondary



Our Bloom Indigenous Leadership Students presented to the school board of trustees and district staff at the April board meeting. This group is doing some incredible work in our school, the Lumby community, and with the ministry of education and childcare! We are so proud of our students!



Cherryville Elementary

Cherryville School participated in Earth Day activities at Hanson Park on April 22. We had guests from the community leading stations and serving us lunch.



Guests from Tolko helped us plant 20 trees in Hanson Park and talked to us about reforestation. They also served us lunch.



Mr. Cullum – teaching us about tree species in our area.



Mrs. Kneller ISW – plant identification and creating a forest in a jar.



Mrs. Larson and daughter Karly – scavenger hunt and compass work.





J.W. Inglis Elementary



It has been an incredibly BUSY time out here at J.W. Inglis Elementary! Some of the things we have been up to include: a school trip to the ESSO Cup, class visits to the Outpost, Inglis Cup, Cross Country (hosting the Monashee Run at our school!), drumming with Bobby B., a Chess Tournament, a visit from the Science World experts, and Marble season!

The fun and learning never stops out here at J.W. Inglis! Our students and staff have been superstars through it all. Can't wait to share what we do in May!



Indigenous Programs



“Lunch and Bead” hosted by Sheryl Newton at the School Board has been a very popular event.

Kenthen Thomas, a storyteller from the Secwepemc Nation, shared traditional stories to students at Vernon Secondary.



Human Resources

In April, Lance Johnson, principal of BX Elementary was recognized for Leadership Excellence and Amy Thiessen grade 6/7 teacher at OKL was recognized for Student Success.

Congratulations!



In April, Greg Keber was recognized for Leadership Excellence for putting out a grass fire at Fulton.

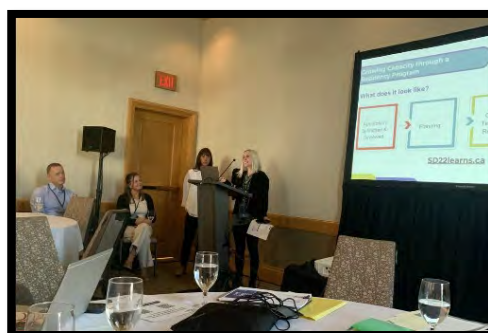
Congratulations!



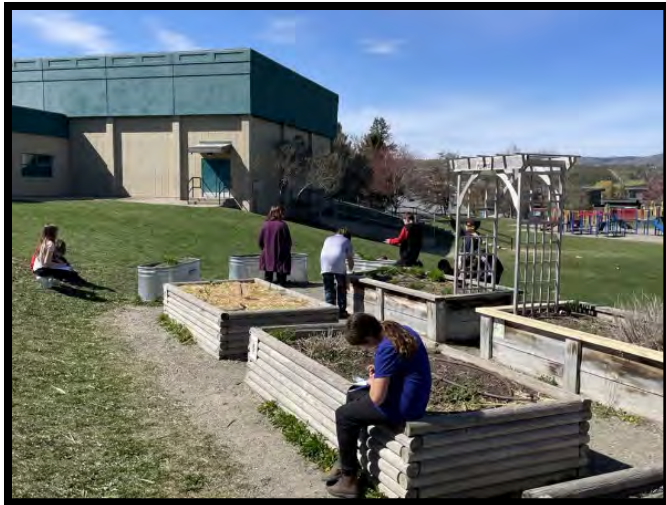


Rob Bacon was a presenter at the Board meeting on April 24, 2024. Rob did an overview of the impact of his newly created role and presented an overall summary of the new safety program that is being tested including the reduction in claims, savings to the District with the reduced number of claims, and safety training he is doing. Some of the new protocols, procedures and safety training Rob is leading for new and existing members directly correlates to the safe workplace practices he has in place which has resulted in lower claims for the District.

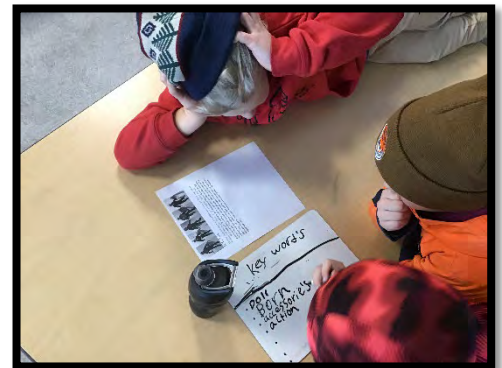
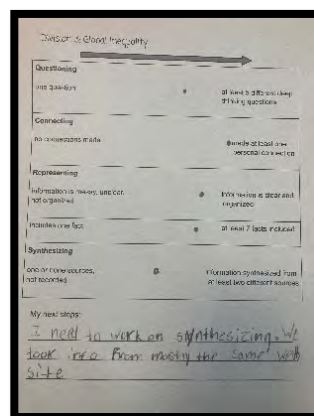
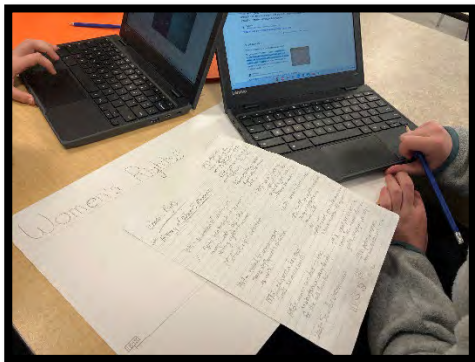
Learning



The Learning Coordinators attended and presented at the BCSSA conference on April 12th in Vancouver. The theme for the conference was, *'Their Voices Lead Us: System Transformation Through Student Agency'*. In the morning, we were excited to listen to Shane Safir, (co-author of Street Data) and hear ideas and stories around agency from a student panel. In the afternoon the team presented their work on the topic, *'Approaching Agency Through Responsive Pedagogy and Student-Centered Coaching'* sharing the stories and voices of teacher and student agency from SD22.



Generating a sense of wonder, empowerment, efficacy, and care for the earth, is at the heart of a residency with Charlene O'Brien's Grade 5/6 class at Kidston. Students are developing their competencies through the lens of a garden, with a multidisciplinary focus encompassing health, science, ADST, careers and their character strengths. They are experiencing the true nature of interconnectedness and sustainability through gardening, while developing their own personal and social responsibilities around caring for the earth and others.



In this residency, the grade 6/7 students at BX Elementary, were provided the opportunity to explore student agency in an inquiry unit about global inequalities. The teacher and learning coordinator provided provocations to ignite curiosity in the students. Students created their own questions to explore about one global inequality of their choice, and then were given opportunities to research their questions, using a variety of texts (books, websites, videos, and interviews). An integral piece to this inquiry unit, which fueled student engagement, was providing students with the opportunity to show their learning in any way that was meaningful to them. Some ways that students chose to show their learning were creating podcasts, news reports, skits, Canva posters, and online Gimkit games. The teacher and students co-created the criteria for assessment. The residency was an exciting opportunity to see what can happen when students are in charge of their learning.

Career Programs

FEMALE FIREFIGHTER FOR A DAY



Female Firefighter for a Day was hosted at the Vernon Fire Hall on April 24 by Lieutenant Reich and her colleagues. Eleven Grade 10 female students from SD22 participated in a variety of drills and hands-on activities throughout the day.

Inclusive Education Department



Family Cooking Lessons with Starfish. We have partnered with the Starfish Society to do Family Cooking Lessons. We made pepperoni pizza paninis. The families each received a panini grill to take home as well as a bag of groceries. Thank you to Megan Hans for teaching the lesson and for Rana Grace for organizing the families. We would also like to thank Seaton for providing the space to do the lesson.



Keenan Family Farms has been delivering eggs to our District. The eggs are in demand at our breakfast programs and our Summit Programs. Thank you to the Keenan Family for your wonderful service and product!

Early Learning & Child Care

Ready, Set, Learn is all about fostering positive connections between families, the school system and local community agencies. Our district Ready, Set, Learn events provide a fun, family-oriented atmosphere with the intent of supporting children's transitions into school.

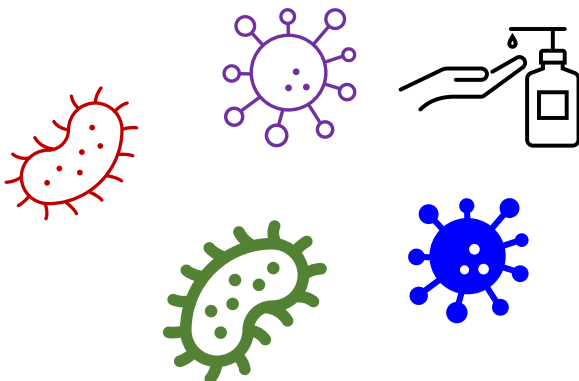
Families who attend an event at a local school take part in play-based activities while learning about early learning programs and services, their local elementary schools, and their communities.

We celebrated Earth Day at our April 22nd Ready, Set, Learn event and hosted a Bobs & Lolo concert at the Coldstream Community Hall – a beautiful venue! We are incredibly grateful to our community partners for their ongoing involvement in SD22 Ready, Set, Learn events.



Interior Health helped families learn about dental health with the “Lift the Lip” program.

As children and families arrived, Interior Health PHNs were on-site to teach about germs and the importance of hand washing.





It takes a team to host our district Ready, Set, Learn events! Early Learning Success Teachers Deborah Hay-Marion and Allison Jmayoff were instrumental in this event's success.

Inspiring ideas were shared with families by staff from the Okanagan Science Centre!



SD22 ECE Allie Landreville shared lots of information with families about supporting playful experiences on the road to Kindergarten! A variety of resources that honour families as a child's first and most important teacher, connection to culture and community, and early numeracy and literacy ideas were available for families to take home.



Children loved singing and dancing with Bobs & Lolo! They are a Vancouver-based musical duo that delighted children for an hour of interactive songs.

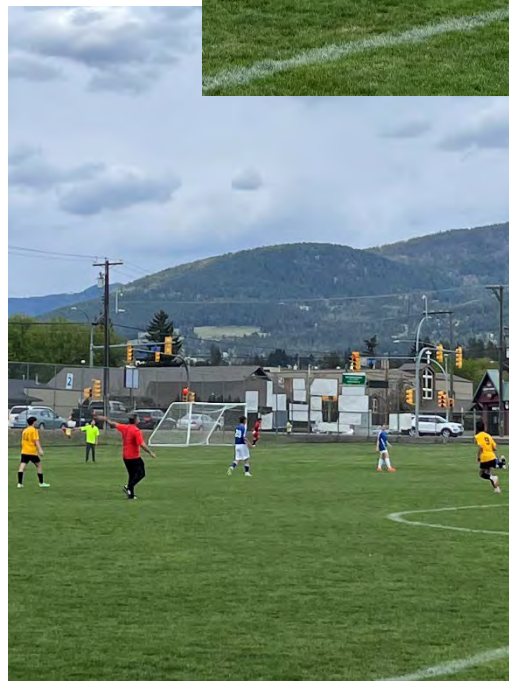
Superintendent, Dr. Christine Perkins,
with Bobs & Lolo!



International

Spring is in the air! This time of year is a terrific chance for SD22 International Program students to experience all that Vernon has to offer. With the nicer weather, some have already braved plunges into the lakes, many have begun to gather with friends and enjoy evenings and weekends at the beaches, and others are riding the mountain bike trails, hiking, paddling, climbing, etc. Many other international students are also taking advantage of the opportunities to join spring sports teams and activities at school and in the community. International students are involved with soccer, rugby, track and field, mountain biking, ultimate frisbee, drama productions, district project scholarships, fencing, and table tennis, just name a few of the many activities our students are immersed in. Others yet, have also been lucky enough to travel around BC and western Canada with their host families and the International Student Program. This is the time of year that international students truly enjoy their final months in our city, in the company of the friends and family they have created such strong bonds with.

To add to all of this, international students will also be taking part in several terrific activities in the coming weeks. Throughout the month of May, the international soccer league will take place, and this is always a highly competitive and skill-filled event. Further, students will have the opportunity to travel to Victoria, visit Oyama Aerial Park, and enjoy Kal Park's hiking and beaches. There are many exciting days ahead for SD22's international students.



Finance Department

Friendship + Fun + Food = Finance 😊

The Finance Team continues to have fun long after the workday is done – monthly weekend Game Nights are a fun filled evening...



Finance is busy preparing for our 'Year End' which includes working with the schools in preparation of the end of the school year as well as with the External Auditors. Communication will be going out in the next few weeks to help prepare you all for the end of the year.



Transportation



IT



SD 22 was well represented at the MyEducation BC Academy building capacity and presenting on our use of MyED in our district. We shared our learning and collaborated with the districts across BC exploring things to come with MyED.

Maintenance



Enjoy the splendor of spring with all the new beginnings and blossoms.

