

Superintendent Report
February 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.

February Superintendent Report 2024

Happy February!



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.

We wish all of you kindness and love this "heart" month.

Accessible Service Delivery: The province will be consulting around Accessibility Standards in coming months. Topics to be considered include:

- Assistive Devices
- Guide and Service Dogs
- Service Delivery Representatives
- Training and recording training.
- Documentation
- Physical Environment
- Location Selection
- Virtual Environment
- Accessibility Features and Functions
- Maintenance of accessibility features and functions
- Disruption of Services

Assessment & Reporting - K-12 Student Reporting Policy Information for Families

Secondary Report Cards should have been available since February 8th. If you need assistance seeing your child's Report on MyEdBC, please contact your school Principal.

The K-12 Student Reporting Policy Framework ("the framework") is the result of extensive consultation and engagement with the education sector, including rightsholders, partners, teachers, parents, caregivers, students, and the public. The framework provides an overview of the upcoming changes to the Student Reporting Policy, set to be implemented in the 2023/24 school year.

<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/reporting/resources-for-parents-and-caregivers>

What's new:

- Student reporting practices that align with B.C.'s curriculum and provincial assessment system
- Ensuring timely and responsive feedback on student learning that parents can understand.
- Provincial Proficiency Scale at Grades K-9
- Graduation status update at Grades 10-12
- Student self-assessment and goal setting in all grades in the 3 written reports
- Changing the "I" reporting symbol to "IE" to denote "insufficient evidence" of learning instead of "incomplete" learning.
- All learners, including students with a disability or diverse ability, will receive regular communications of student learning in the same way as their peers in any other program.

What's the same:

- 5 communications of student learning; 3 written and 2 of flexible format
- Written descriptive feedback to accompany scale or letter grade/percentage.
- Letter grades and percentages at Grades 10-12
- Learn more about the changes to student reporting by reading:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/legislation-policy/public-schools/student-reporting>
- SD22 info. on reporting: <https://www.sd22.bc.ca/csl>

Career Education

You are invited to the **Academy Showcase** at Fulton Secondary on Wednesday, February 28th at 6 pm.

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.

High Performing Systems for Tomorrow:

What is flourishing? Think of a time in your life when ...you were flourishing. A high point when you felt most alive, most engaged, and proud of yourself and your world. What were the conditions that contributed to your flourishing?

Themes from Day 1

- Assessments need to consider additional metrics to assess student outcomes beyond academics.
- Competencies development does not replace foundational skills (literacy and numeracy) but rather builds upon them and further supports them.
- “Making Meaning” is also important – not just problem solving and decision-making.
- (“Social Soil”) is important for student success.
- During change, how we communicate to the sector, parents and caregivers and the broader community matters.

Themes from Day 2

- Education leaders (including teacher) are both leaders of learning and learning themselves.
- A learning environment is not just a physical space but also social, emotional, psychological, virtual, and aesthetic spaces.
- AI will have an impact on education, but there is alignment in thinking across jurisdictions on how to navigate this evolution.
- System shift involves shifting the principles on which systems are based, not just how it operates.
- This is more work to be done in the High Performing Systems for Tomorrow

2022 Global PISA Trends

- Trends in academic outcomes have remained mostly stable with recent declines in math.
 - Socioeconomic gaps in education continue but poverty isn't destiny and \$ only matters to a point.
 - Social emotional outcomes are closely related to students' success.
 - Schools are being asked to do more to fill in gaps.
 - Parental engagement has declined but critical.
 - True critical thinking and a growth mindset are key.
 - Unstructured use of technology in schools (i.e., digital distractions) is negatively associated with learning and social outcomes.
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How Are We Doing Report?

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>

Superintendent Retirement

As many have heard, I have announced my retirement effective July of 2024. A recruitment process will begin shortly. However, we have lots of work to do in the next few months. We are well on the way with the Board of Education Strategic Plan and we all continue to help our students to Dream. Believe. Achieve.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February

Black History Month
Indigenous Storytelling month
28 Pink Shirt Day

March

3 National Grammar Day
7 International Women's Day
10 Daylight Savings
13 Regular Public Board Meeting
14 Pi Day
15 Last Day of School before Spring Break
17 St. Patrick's Day
17 Red Nose Day
19 National Let's Laugh Day
19 First Day of Spring
21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
21 International Mother Language Day
21 World Down Syndrome Day
21 World Poetry Day
22 World Water Day
23 Earth Hour (8:30pm-9:30)
29 Good Friday – no school in session
31 National Indigenous Language Day
31 Easter Sunday (no school in session on Monday April 1)
31 International Transgender Day of Visibility

Seaton Family of Schools:



Alexis Park Elementary

Our big buddies help and support their little buddies.



Our Grade 1 and Grade 1/2 classrooms recently received a technology upgrade. They're having fun learning with their new view boards!

Our Music teacher, Tobi Huggins, inspires a love of music through drumming on djembe drums.





Our PAC helps us build a sense of community and pride in our school. They've purchased a school t-shirt for every student and staff member!



Beairsto Elementary

Beairsto has been 'showing the love' in many ways this month! One of our grade 7 classes and their grade 1 buddy class brought food donations to the Vernon Food Bank.



One of our grade 5 teachers, M Richard, was shown some love by the Vernon Winter Carnival, he was arrested and held for donations.

To show some love for French Canadian culture, we celebrated Carnaval du Quebec with a lumberjack and crepe day.



Our intermediate students got a lesson on how to show love, Mrs. Tyssen from the Learning Department came to teach a lesson about how to be anti-racist.



Finally, we will be showing some multicultural love by having our annual Lunar New Year Dragon Parade through the halls of Beirsto.



Harwood Elementary



We keep “crankin’ up the heat” here at Harwood heading into February and maybe we cranked up the heat a little too much...we melted all the snow?! When we did have snow, our students took full advantage of playing and enjoying the creativity of the snow. Some even tried to have a snow bath!



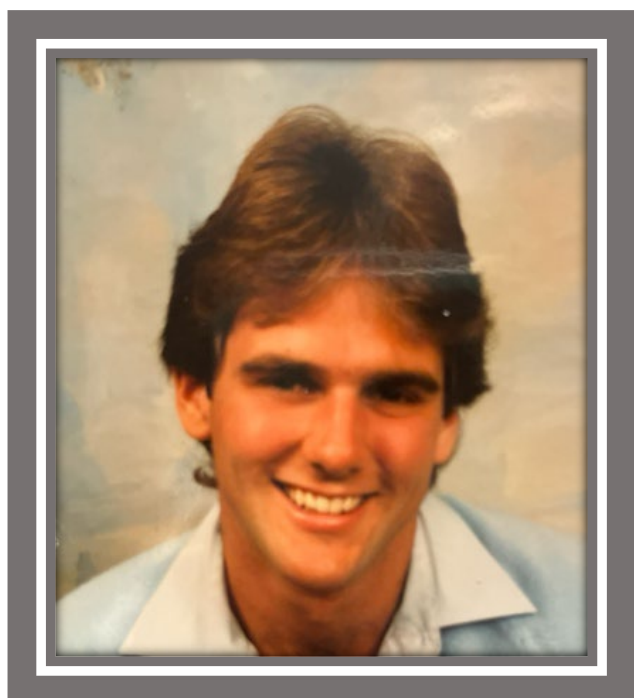
This month we have been focusing on learning, modeling, and understanding “Courage” as part of our 7 Grandfather teachings. Knowing that at times it takes courage to learn something new or to try a new activity, even if we aren’t good at it right away. In our classes you can see student’s learning literacy blends, new math card games, and new ways to be active on the land.





Additionally, we were very lucky to have a familiar face visit us for a day in our LFI grade 6 classroom.

So, we wanted to make sure that Mr. Nielsen knew how much he was missed and his impact on our school while he was there as soon as he walked through the front doors.



Lastly, we celebrated a milestone event with yours truly....MR. TAYLOR!!! Mr. Taylor has been a fixture at Harwood Elementary since the 1990's and he had the privilege to spend his 60th birthday with the Harwood community.



W.L. Seaton Secondary



Basketball season is coming to an end. Thanks to all involved in making the opportunities available...coaches, parents, athletes, transportation.



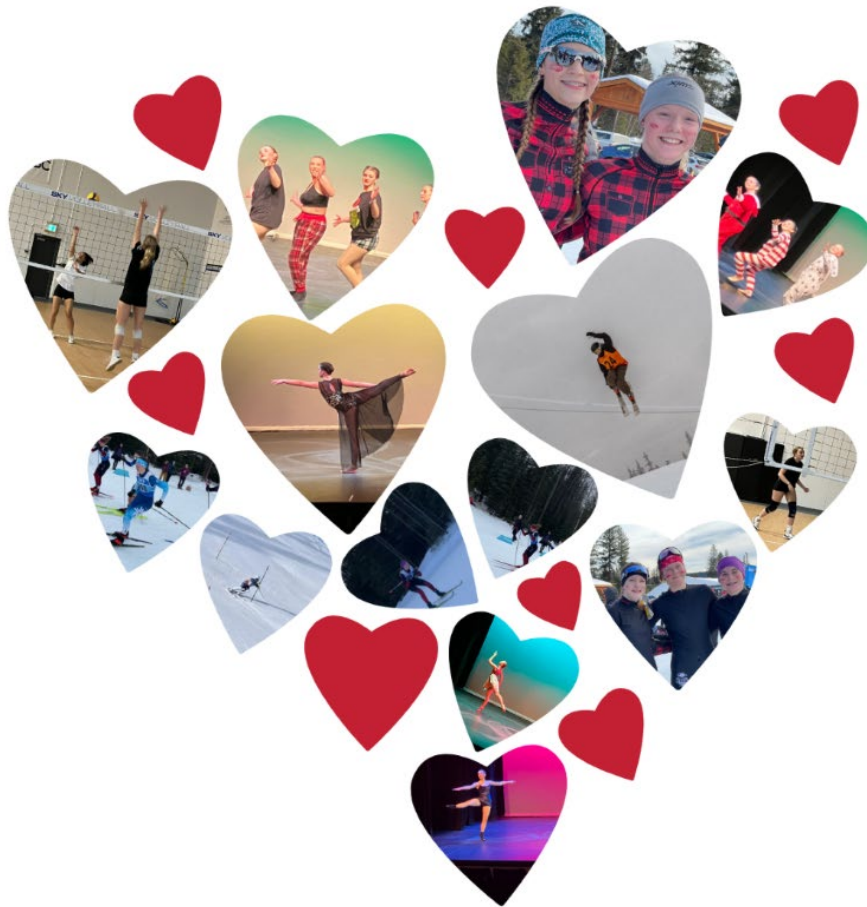
Vernon Family of Schools



VLearn



WE LOVE OUR STUDENTS!



SD22 ACADEMIES PROVIDES PERSONALIZED LEARNING IN
UNIQUE SETTINGS. OUR ANNUAL INFORMATION NIGHT IS
COMING UP ON FEBRUARY 28TH @ 6 PM!

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

ALP/Open Door/CrossRoads

Textiles, Knitters, and Chef Extraordinaires





BX Elementary

The amazing learners at BX Elementary are enjoying being active this month. Many of the classes have been exploring the numerous Sovereign Lake snowshoe trails. We want to thank the school staff and the transportation department staff who make these trips happen. Students are also enjoying building snow creations outside and have been competing to create the largest snowball.





BX is proud to have many students engaging in the basketball season. Our school has two grade 7 boys' teams, one grade 6 boys' team, one grade 7 girls' team, and one grade 6/7 girls' team. All The players are doing so well and learning new skills each day. We want to thank all our coaches for the time they put into the season.

BX also has excellent engagement in the chess club and Battle of the Books. Students are diligently working at reaching their personal goals. Well done, everyone!



Hillview Elementary



Happy February from the Hillview Heroes! At Hillview Elementary we believe in being helpful, engaged, respectful heroes with open hearts and open minds.

You can find the evidence of this everywhere! Whether it is kindness art hanging in our halls, staff connecting with students outside, on the basketball court, or through the joy of music (to name a few), everyone is welcome and everyone belongs.

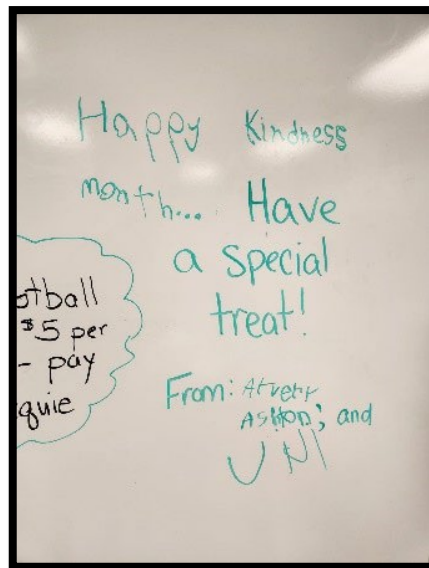


Our amazing community supports all students with the 'you matter' club, book clubs, sports teams, cooking groups, pen pals with local seniors...there is something for everyone at Hillview Elementary!

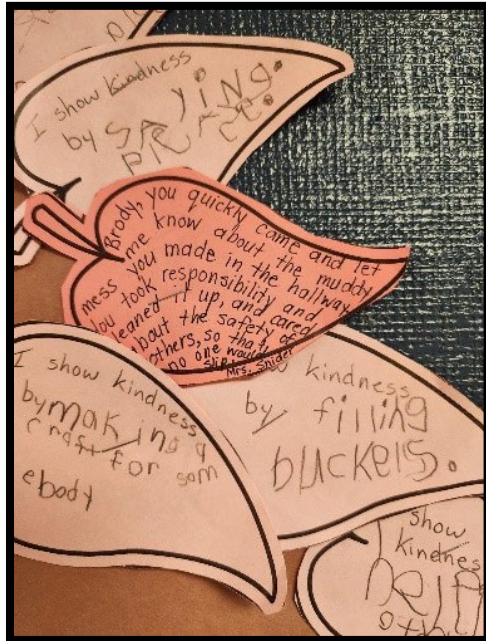


Silverstar Elementary

At Silver Star, we are bursting with **KINDNESS** and **LOVE** this February! We are working together – learning new games as a staff, watching students make new friendships across grades and supporting one another, reading together, and even making cupcakes and enjoying special treats!



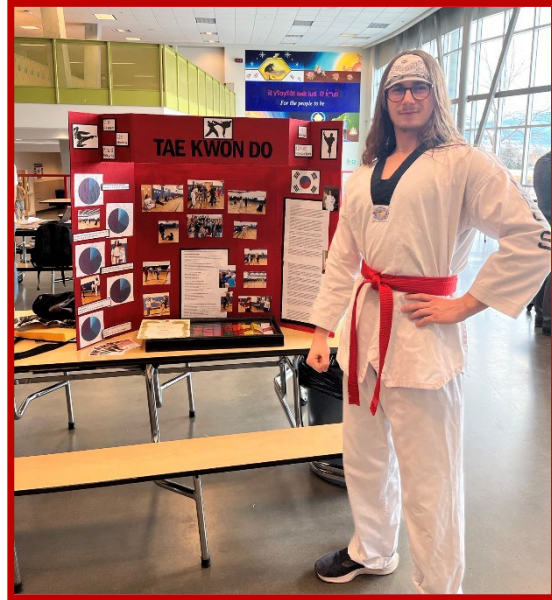
We are also watching our kindness tree “bloom”! A lot of leaves keep budding, filled with notes and messages of kind acts we see and feel each day! Keep up the great work Wolfpack!





Vernon Secondary School

Our grade 12's presented their capstone projects as part of their CLC course. Great work was displayed by all who participated.



Teachers doing a team building activity at our professional development day on January 26th.



VSS cafeteria ended the semester with a master chef competition. The food the students prepared was amazing.



Fulton Family of Schools



Ellison Elementary



We are proud of our school because our students treat each other with kindness! Here are two students helping each other build a snow sculpture!





We are proud of our school because our staff and students learn together about Indigenous ways of learning. Here our amazing ISW, Bobbi Cotter, is teaching our students some traditional games.



We are proud of our school because our teachers make learning fun! Here, Mr. Osborn and Mr. Peebles are doing a science demonstration with liquid nitrogen!



We are so very proud of our teacher, Mr. Chad Soon, who published a book!

So very proud of Hunter for putting together and managing our "Pride on the Hill" wall.





Okanagan Landing

February is a wonderful month at OKL. We are a School with Heart and there are signs of RAK's all over our school. For those that are not familiar with what a RAK is, it is Random Acts of Kindness. One class has a few reminders of what you can do for those acts:



Winter is a time for students at OKL to head out and enjoy what Vernon has to offer. Several classes have gone up the hill to ski, snowboard, cross country ski and snowshoe. With an amazing hill on our playground, we were able to pull out the crazy carpets and slide down the slope for some fun at lunch time too.



February is a month of celebrations. We are celebrating the Vernon Winter Carnival and the Lunar New Year.



Students at OKL are also celebrating Black History Month. One of our Grade 6/7 classes has completed research projects on Black Historical figures with a Who? What? When? Why? Structure. These are posted on a bulletin board in the hallway so we all can learn about these amazing people. There is also a bulletin board outside our library with Black Canadian musicians (QR coded too!) and Black authors posted for students to learn about.



Clarence Fulton Secondary



Some great North Okanagan basketball action at Fulton. The senior boys are having a fantastic year with legendary Coach Dale Olson.



We like to kick off each day with some great tunes and we are lucky to have our own DJ who is here every morning to help us start the day in a good way.

Fulton Leadership students getting ready for the month of love activities next week.



Kalamalka Family of Schools



Coldstream Elementary



THE FOUR FOOD CHIEFS MURAL



Coldstream Elementary celebrates the reveal of the long-awaited mural created by OKIB artist Quintessa Louis representing our Coldstream school and community values.



Kidston Elementary

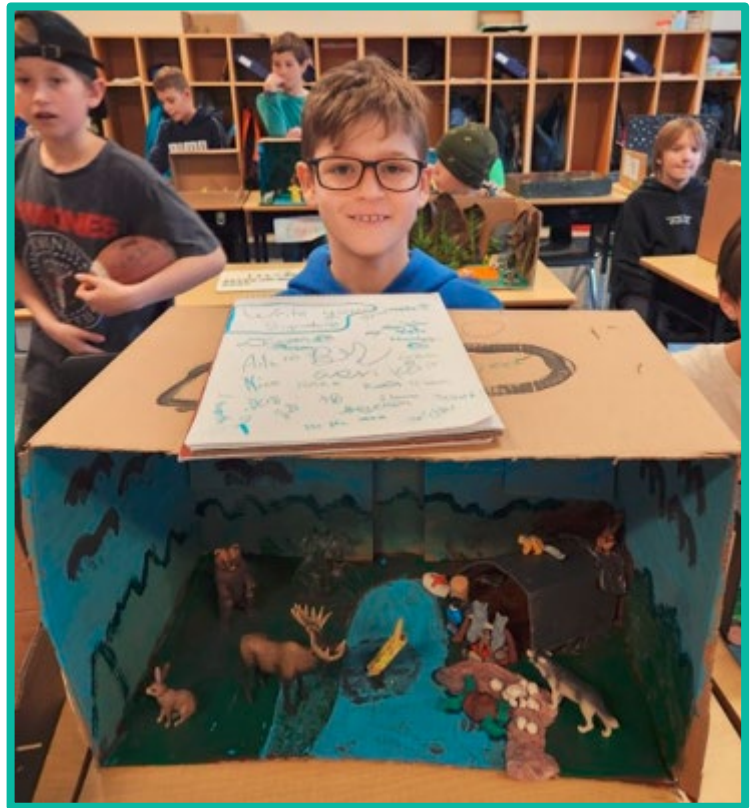


Our PAC hosted a school movie night. Students and parents brought lawn chairs and blankets and cozied up to watch the movie. Parents pre-ordered pizza for dinner and we had a small concession. We had a fantastic turn out and a lot of fun! It was a great community event.



Our primary students celebrated Chinese New Year and learned the history of what Chinese New Year is all about.

Students in our 5/6 class have been learning about biomes in science. They created dioramas to showcase some of their learning. They presented to fellow students as other classes came to tour through their classroom and hear about what they have learned.





Lavington Elementary

What is Great about Lavington School?

The Staff! Our staff is **collaborative** and **welcoming**. We work as a **team** and are *always willing to listen to one another*. Here in our school, we teach like we **collectively own** the kids; we teach within a village, and we know the names of every student. The way we work with kids allows us to make **deep connections** with our kids and our community. We feel well **supported** from one another, our **awesome EAs**, **amazing custodian**, **fantastic secretary**, **incredible SBRT** and our admin. If we ever need resources, we know we will find a way.

When we are in our classrooms, we feel thankful that we are able to *teach as we see fit*. People often ask, "How can I help?". We also feel welcome to go into another teacher's classroom at any time to observe, ask questions, or learn new things. Our team is **truly inclusive**, not just of one another, *but also of our students*.

We love **our community**, and the **programs** that are offered in our school. No other school has a **huge gym**, **rink**, **park** and **outdoor pool** nearby! We have a great **lunch program** *thanks to our amazing PAC*, and an amazing **music program**. We are also thankful that *teachers are willing to provide opportunities for our kids*, like **school sports teams**, and **drama club**.

We are excited about this year. We look forward to **upbeat assemblies** where we recognize student success, and that we are being *supported with clear expectations for students and restitution when needed*. Regardless of the choices our students make, we understand that *parents send us the best kids they have*, and we, as a team, wrap around our students to **support them as whole children**. *Not only is our team great, our kids are great too!* They are **respectful**, kind, and willing to help wherever needed, but like every child, *they need LOVE*. We hope that every child has a strong connection on our staff, and we work hard to make those connections. Our kids are **resilient**, **flexible**, and they **look out for one another**. **OUR KIDS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**



Kalamalka Secondary



The spirit of love and kindness is alive and well here at Kal!



Kal grad of 2005 Mike Shaw delivered a moving presentation on resilience, gratitude, and bouncing back from adversity to our students. What an honour it was to host one of our own back at Kal to share such inspiring and powerful lessons!



Oh – and he presented to our staff at Pro-D too! His book “Never Part of the Plan” is the next Kal Book Club selection.



Kal's Cheer Club has been training hard to spread school spirit, celebrate achievement, and share kindness to all. Catch them on the court at our sports games!



Kal's senior girls basketball team can't stop winning! They are the North zone champs, and hosting valleys soon! Let's go Lakers!

Our gr.8 boys basketball team had a great training session with the UBCO mens basketball team – the team has been working hard to up their skills!



Bloom Family of Schools



Charles Bloom Secondary

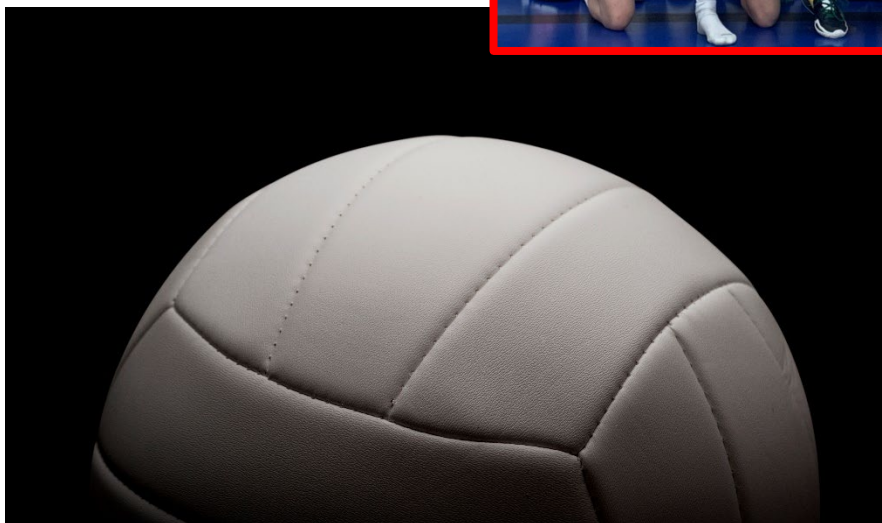
Our Bloom Gr. 9 French students “loved” bartering and practicing their marketing skills during a recent activity! Several students commented how much they enjoyed this lesson and the “life lessons” it taught them, including budgeting, basic economics, and the difference between “wants” and “needs”.



Our Gr. 7 English classes display their love of literacy, specifically poetry with their “cut and paste” poems.



Congratulations to our Senior Girls Basketball team. The girls were crowned the 1A North Zone Champions this past weekend after defeating Vernon Christian in the zone final. Our squad is now off to the Valley Championships in Kamloops.





Cherryville Elementary

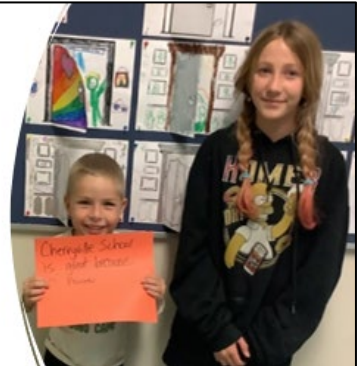
"Cherryville school is great because we share."

Olivia, Teaghan & Brealla



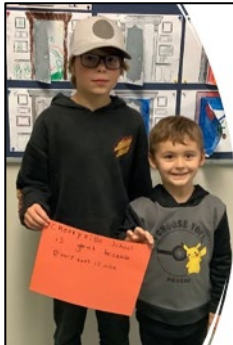
"Cherryville school is great because it's peaceful."

Charlie & Liam



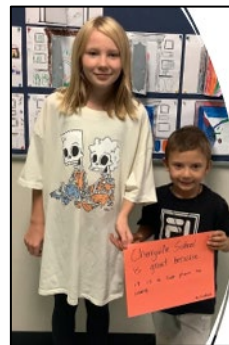
"Cherryville school is great because everybody is nice."

Dylan & Khit



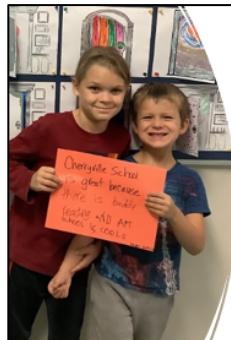
"Cherryville school is great because it is a fun place to learn."

Sophia & Callum



"Cherryville school is great because there is buddy reading and art school is cool!"

Gracin & Kade



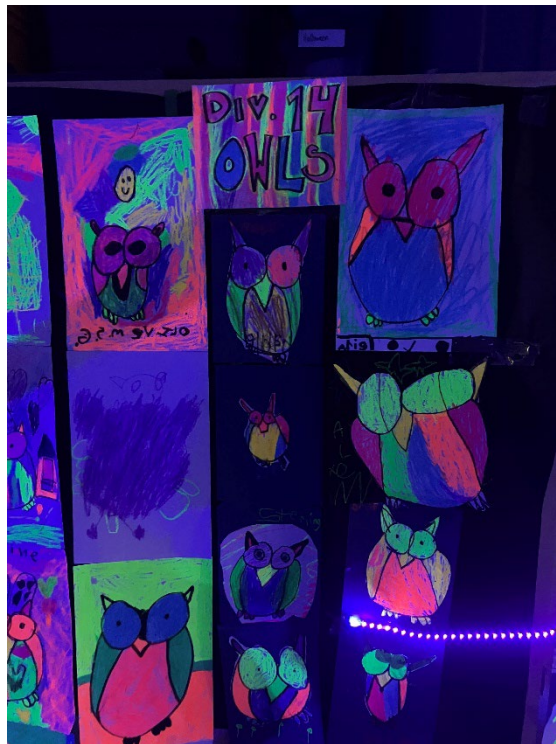
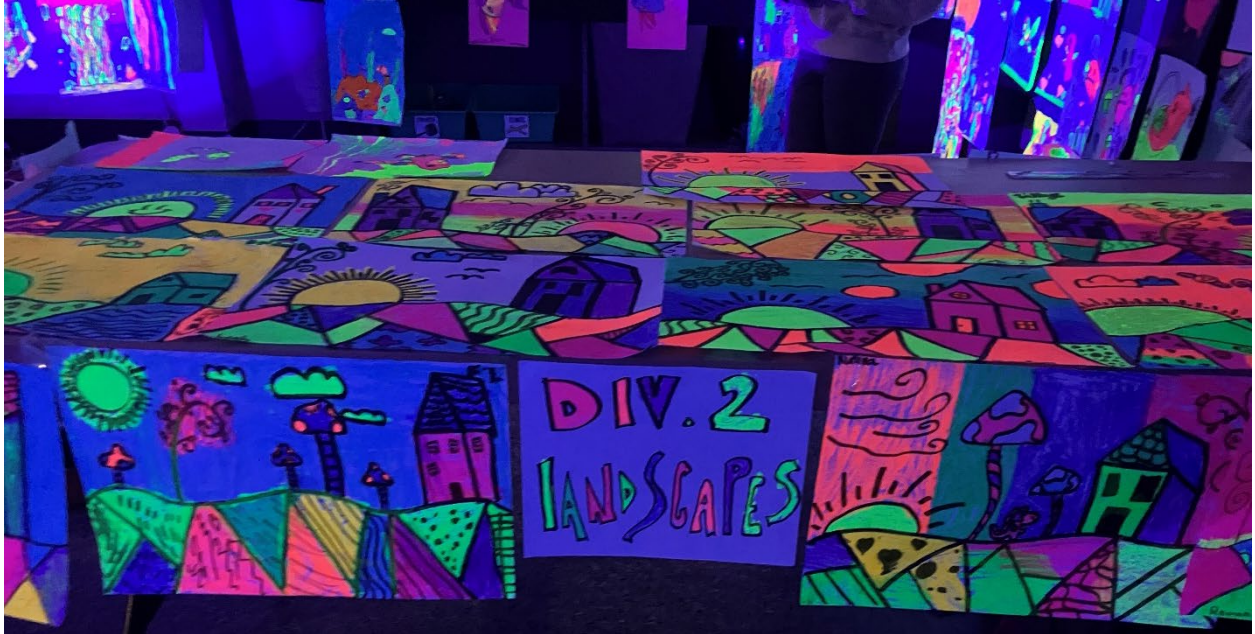


J.W. Inglis Elementary

At JWI, we are extremely proud and LOVE what all our students are able to accomplish. We have decided to celebrate all the accomplishments this year through the Seven Grandfather teachings. Throughout the month, teachers and staff highlight students who are exemplifying the grandfather teaching we are focusing on for that month. At the end of the month, teachers chose a student to be recognized at an assembly. For February, the grandfather teaching is LOVE.



Our fabulous Fine Arts teacher, Ms. Redden, set up an amazing GLOW gallery to showcase all of our students' hard work. Doesn't it look so cool?!



Indigenous Programs

Indigenous students from Alexis Park loved a day on the land learning how to cross-country ski with the support from Spirit North, Indigenous Support Workers, and Indigenous Wellness Workers.



Elizabeth's capstone project focused on Indigenous student mental health and the importance of community supports.

Human Resources

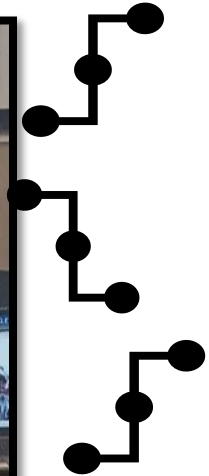
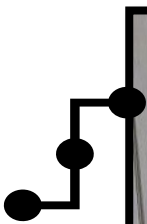
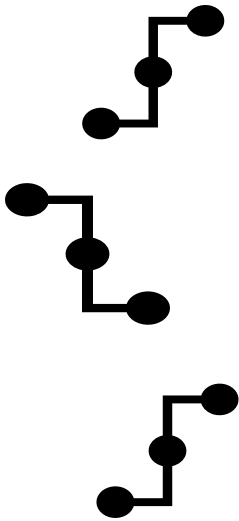
Human Resources is currently planning and preparing staffing for the 2024-25 school year. We are also looking forward Human Resources looks forward to hosting all newly hired employees since September at our February 8 new employee orientation.

Congratulations to District electrician Alex Hammill who was awarded an SD22 Yeti tumbler through the HR Employee Recognition program this month for outstanding Leadership Excellence.



Student Learning

We are proud that we are collaborating with such a wonderful team and with the tremendous professionals in this district. We are grateful for how enthusiastic our teachers are as they participate in what our department has to offer. It is exciting to experience all the amazing and engaging learning opportunities in classrooms for our students.





Career Programs

We are proud of our department because we help support students in a career path they are passionate about. There are many opportunities for students in trades, technology, health care, early childhood education, academics hairstyling, RCMP Academy, and BC Wildfire.



Inclusive Education Department

The Inclusion Department is very proud of the many different programs and opportunities that are running within our schools. We offer unique ways to incorporate learning and community connections while being flexible and meeting the students where they are at. We are grateful to have amazing individuals that help support these programs and help create environments that are welcoming to all.

Celebrating one of our District EA's retirement!



Connections Students helping at the Food Bank and playing in the snow!



Early Learning & Child Care

We have been loving the snow during outdoor play time in our afterschool childcare programs!



Children love to help out in our childcare programs and there was a lot of shovelling to the past few weeks. Thank-you for clearing the pathways to the entrances!



Exploring light and shadows at the is an activity that children at the Mission Hill preschool program love! The light table is calming to interact with and allows children to experience the properties of light.



This past month saw the ELCC department out at a variety of events connecting with the community. We love connecting with families and highlighting SD22 early learning programs and meeting parents, caregivers and children!



International

The Vernon International Student Program wishes to congratulate over sixty international students who successfully completed their International Program during the first semester. We would also like to welcome the sixty-five new international students who will be studying in our schools at some point during the second semester. Many more will stay with us for the entire school year, and some will continue through to graduation in future years. While it is always sad to sign the flags and say goodbye, we are hopeful that many will return for visits with their families or even post-secondary in the Okanagan!



Homestay families also treated our students to unique experiences over the winter holidays. Students joined in on the many different winter traditions celebrated by the diverse families that welcome them into their home. Our homestays help the students understand that Canada is a country made up of many cultures and ethnicities. The students were all grateful that the snow finally came. Our first semester students enjoyed many memorable days at Silver Star over the winter break and even the new arrivals woke up to a classic winter wonderland on several occasions since they came. They are learning the importance of good winter boots, mitts, and toques!

We are all looking forward to an excellent second semester. Students have settled into their new classes and are enjoying a wide selection of electives that they would never get to experience in their home countries. We are grateful to the teachers and support staff who make every school such a welcoming place. Our students have continued to impress on the basketball teams and in other school events like the recent chess tournament at Kal which was won by one of our Internationals! They are also finding new opportunities in the community. We have students racing with the ski academy, dancing at the dance schools, fighting with the fencing clubs, and playing at the highest levels of the local soccer leagues. Many came out to experience the Winter Carnival events like the "Balloon Glow" and the traditional parade. We are all looking forward to many new experiences as the weather warms and we transition into Spring!



Finance Department

There is a lot of LOVE going on in Finance.



The Finance department has celebrated one year employee anniversaries over the past year and will be celebrating our final 3 in February. We are all so proud of each other for the amazing teamwork and collaboration that occurs in our department. We are constantly improving processes and our goal is to provide the best customer service to all District employees!

We also LOVE to celebrate and decorate for special occasions of all kinds! In February, of course we will celebrate Valentines Day, however, we are also celebrating Chinese New Year!



Transportation



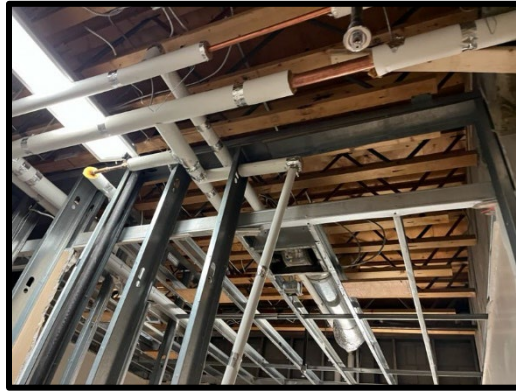
IT

We are proud of our department because we are often unsung heroes working behind the scenes. This dedicated team plays a crucial role in shaping the learning experience for students, teachers, staff, and guests. Our Technology Innovation Coordinators lead the charge with innovative technologies and build capacity across the district to meet technological advancements with a learning context. We are a team of problem solvers, innovators, and champions of education. We're proud to be the invisible force that powers the classroom, one byte at a time. ✨👩💻



Maintenance

Bathroom Renovations at Kal underway



First FIP kitchen installed at Harwood.



