

Superintendent's Report

June 2023

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.



JUNE 2023 Superintendent's Report

Congratulations and thank you to all our students, staff, and families for a terrific year! Thank you to the Secretary-Treasurer, Adrian Johnson, Assistant Superintendent, Katherine Oviatt, our Executive Assistants, Susan Bowen and Heide Roseberry, the Senior Leadership Team, and the Board of Education for their continued support. Thank you to all our retirees for your many years of service to School District 22. We made it through our first post-COVID-19 year, launched the new strategic plan, graduated over 664 graduates, and are ready to welcome lots of new Kindergarten students this Fall. Wishing you all a terrific summer.

Board of Education: The next public Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, September 20, 2023, at 5:30 pm at the School Board Office.

Congratulations to:

W.L. Seaton educator, **Lana O'Brien!**

Lana has been selected as an award recipient for the **2023 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education** in the category of Extracurricular Leadership. Being recognized as one of B.C.'s finest education professionals is a tremendous honour, and the entire district commends you on this significant achievement. The 2023 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education awards ceremony will be held in the fall in Victoria.

Director of Facilities - **Archie Stogianos!**

We are proud to announce that Archie Stogianos, our SD 22 Director of Facilities, Archie Stogianos, was re-elected as President of the Educational Facilities Managers Association (EFMA). Stogianos was elected at the annual general meeting held in Penticton BC.

Community Futures – A huge thank you to Community Futures for their support of our students and their learning over the course of the year. Community Futures has a tremendous hiring board featuring hundreds of local jobs so if your child is looking for summer work, they know where to go!

CUPE 5523 - A huge thank you to President, Gray Boisvert, for his leadership and continued support during the year.

District Parent Advisory Council and Parent Advisory Councils (DPAC and PACs) – Thank you to Sarah Hanson, Cory Knox, and all DPAC Executive, extended members, and PAC Presidents, for your incredible support this year. Thank you for supporting public education and sending your children to School District 22 to learn.

Elementary Tack and Field – Congratulations to Ken Wandeler and team for all their hard work, organization, and time in co-ordinating a hugely successful district track and field event. Thank you to the Elementary Athletics Association. Thank you, to all athletes, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, the volunteers, coaches, organizers, teachers, and event sponsors.

Education Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC): A huge thank you to: Adrian Johnson, Jacqueline Taylor, Sarah Hanson, Gareth Jones, Tanya Saddleman-Joe, Katherine Oviatt, Raelyn Bauer, Joshua Vance, Luke Friesen, Billie Jo Beaudoin, Charity Sakakibara, Teresa Bigsby, Gen Acton, Vanessa Mitchell, Christine Perkins, Kim Doucette, Gray Boisvert, and Cori Huizer, and finally, our consultant, Anne Cooper and Executive Assistants, Heide Roseberry and Susan Bowen. This group covered a lot of territory this year and have modernized and updated a lot of our district policies around students and learning. Thank you, all.

Graduations: Thank you to all who have organized and supported the celebrations and graduations that have passed, and to those who are organizing and supporting those yet to come. Congratulations to all our graduates.

- **Grade 12 Indigenous Celebration** – June 1 at 4:30 pm. at Seaton Secondary. (Trustee Mitchell, Elder Virginia Gregoire, and Chief and Council member, Allan Louis)
 - **Alternate Graduation** (vLearn and Open Door) – June 12 at 11 am at Paddlewheel Hall. (Elder Pauline Archachan)
 - **Kalamalka Graduation** – Friday, June 16 at 4 pm at Vernon Recreation Centre (Trustee Comazetto, Elder Pauline Archachan)
 - **Bloom Graduation** – Friday, June 16th at 6 pm at Bloom Secondary School (Trustee Mindnich and Elder Virginia Gregoire)
 - **VSS Graduation** – Thursday, June 22nd at 4 pm at Kal Tire Place (Chair Acton and Elder Pauline Archachan)
 - **Seaton Graduation** – Friday, June 23rd at 4 pm at Kal Tire Place (Trustee Olsen and Elder Pauline Archachan)
 - **Fulton Graduation** – Friday, June 24th at 3 pm at Kal Tire Place (Trustee Williamson and Elder Virginia Gregoire)
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Housekeeping Amendment - in the Superintendent's Budget Recommendations

The finance reports section of the SD22 website was updated to reflect the clarified Superintendent's recommendations on June 1. One change, and that is to refer to NOYFSS staff as workers, not counsellors. The amendment has been made and will be reflected in today's minutes.



Ministry of Education and Childcare – A huge thank you to the entire team at the Ministry of Education and Childcare including Minister Rachna Singh (who visited us at Alexis Park this year) and Deputy Minister Christina Zacharuk (who came to speak to our BCSSA Zone and consistently listens to our “voice” in the province).

National Indigenous Peoples Day – June 21 - This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1100100013718/1534874583157>

Okanagan College – A huge thank you to our Regional Dean from Okanagan College, Jane Lister, and her entire team, for their continued support and partnership. We had over 500 students attend the Experience OC event and many hundreds more attend the sold-out Indigenous Garden tours. We look forward to our health-based dual-credit programs planned for Fall 2023.

Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB) – We would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners in learning at OKIB. We have an updated *Local Education Agreement* that takes us through July 2025. Thank you to Chief and Council, and to Gareth Jones, Tanya Saddleman-Joe, Kevin Smeltzer and Lacey Gregoire. Your support, guidance, and collaboration are greatly appreciated. We also thank Ida Scott the **North Okanagan Friendship Centre** and **Vernon & District Metis Association** for collaborating with SD 22, and OKIB, on our updated *Enhancement Agreement* to be presented Fall 2023. Thank you to all who helped with the surveys. We have an absolutely terrific Indigenous Education Department and we thank you all.



Professional Learning - Thank you to all staff for participating in various professional learning opportunities that were offered this past year. Below is data related to the various topics and offerings provided in 2022-23. Thank you to Luke Friesen, Director of Instruction, Learning, and his team for the many offerings.

Professional Learning Data Summary 2022-2023	
Session Category	# of Registrants
Literacy	114
Numeracy	53
Assessment	22
Capturing & Communicating student learning	397
Technology	36
Middle Years - 6 Part Series	394
French	16
Total number of registrants	1032
Total number of sessions offered	101
Total number of approved residencies	41
Total number of teachers participating in residencies	50

RCMP – A huge thank you to our School Liaison Officers, Neal Horne (first half of the year) and Joel Kooger (second half of year). We could not do it without your support especially with our vulnerable students and families.

Vernon and District Immigrant and Community Services Society - Thank you for supporting new SD22 immigrant and refugee students through S.W.I.S. (Settlement Workers in Schools) and the Rural and Northern Immigration Project (RNIP). It is wonderful to welcome all these new families to our district.

Scholarship Donations – Thank you to our community members who continue to support over 381 students in their post-secondary transitions by providing over \$292,503 in scholarships. You are changing lives and we thank you whole-heartedly.

Strategic Plan and the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) – Thank you to all who helped us fulfill our mission to inspire and nurture students to thrive in their learning, relationships, and community. Thank you to all who helped reach the Board of Education goals to improve Student Success, achieve Leadership Excellence and make more Community Connections throughout this, our first year of re-opening post-pandemic. It has been great to see you all again face to face. An updated report is included in the June agenda and on the website.

Vernon Teachers' Association – A huge thank you to President, Cori Huizer for her leadership and support during the year. Congratulations on completing your leadership tenure at VTA and we wish you well as you return to the classroom at Bloom Secondary, in Lumby, next Fall. We welcome Dave Mackenzie as President, in Fall of 2023, and we thank and recognize Billie Jo Beaudoin in her continuing role as Vice President. To all VTA members, thank you, thank you, thank you.

Welcome to Kindergarten – Thank you to the Early Learning team, our Elementary Principals and Vice-Principals and all our Kindergarten teachers. You are amazing. Our second year of *Welcome to Kindergarten* has gone extremely well. Thank you for welcoming all new learners with warm hearts, big smiles, and packages filled with great information for parents and guardians.

Year-end: The final day of school is Thursday, June 29th. Administrative Day is Friday, June 30th at all schools.

See you on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, for the first day of school.



Bonus info:

Highlights of the Student Trip to Québec: La Belle Province

The trip to Québec and Montréal this year was a huge success! Not only did these WL Seaton, grade 9-10 French Immersion students have the opportunity to put their French skills to the test this month in francophone surroundings, they also had a blast discovering the Québécois culture and history. Some of the highlights were exploring the cobbled streets of Quebec City, participating in a re-enactment of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, learning about the past and present of the Huron-Wendat people, having pizza with students from la Cité-des-Jeunes high school in Montréal, and an evening dance cruise on the St-Lawrence River. Quels souvenirs mémorables !



The VSS canoes are here and ready to go.

The VSS Peak program would like to thank Dr. Perkins, Adrian, Laure-Lee and Sandra (in purchasing), Ken and Charmaine for all of their leadership and help in getting these canoes. It took a lot of work by everyone mentioned to get them ordered and delivered.



Kalamalka Fleet

Kalamalka Outdoor Ed and PE8 students recently initiated their fleet of canoes. A huge thank you to Sheldon Louis for designing the logo for the canoes.





Also from Kal...

"Just took possession of 9 new Norco Fluids today. We have 3 more coming next week. Also have 12 new helmets. We're getting there. Now to label and document all the serial #s."





Some stunning beauties of SD22 – Prom Gown Thursday!



Seaton Family of Schools:



Alexis Park Elementary



Hands-on math



Popcorn party



Playing with the Minister of Education and Childcare.



“
We have a
ton of fun
at school!
”



Shark Week!



Drumming circle



Beairsto Elementary



Many fun moments in the last few months – Mme Champion and Mme Manthorne took a quick trip to Paris during the **SPRINGTIME IN PARIS** family picnic!

The kindies released butterflies in the garden. They were full of wonder. it was very magical in the garden.

A grade one student reading “The Whole Trois Petits Cochons” with expression and enthusiasm!

Great safety presentation with our students - thank you to Hydro and a few of our parents who work for hydro for organising and presenting such great information at our assemblies!!







Harwood Elementary

Here are a few photos from some of our recent activities. One of our 5/6 classes visited the BC Hydro dam to learn about one of the ways that electricity can be generated sustainably.



We had a fantastic performance of “Beauty and the Beast”, the musical, by a dedicated group of intermediate students.



GoByBike Week closed out the month of May. We had a lot of extra bikes, scooters and skateboards in our bike rack. We also hosted an event where students had the chance to learn some basic bike skills and maintenance and share why we love to ride (or roll).





W.L. Seaton Secondary

Band Awards from Nationals...



...Amazing Race. Grade 12 retreat

Band concert. Grade 8 band...



**Choir with the Premier's
Award teacher...
Lana O'Brien!!**



Vernon Family of Schools



VLearn

What happens to children when they encounter trees and greenery?

When they go for a brief nature walk, learn lessons outdoors, observe wildlife, or simply relax in front of a nature scene?

Inspiration! Exhilaration! Fun!



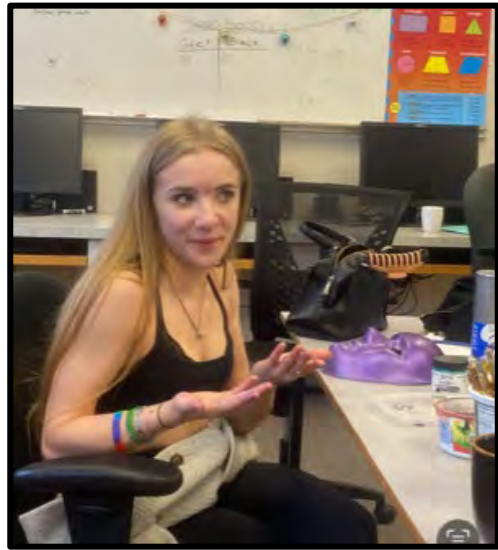


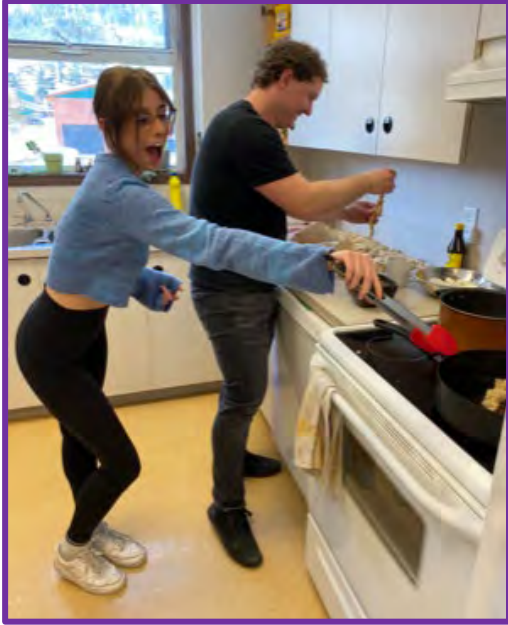
ALP/Open Door/CrossRoads

Alp kids making scrap book pages for the year in review.



So many end of the year projects and activities....



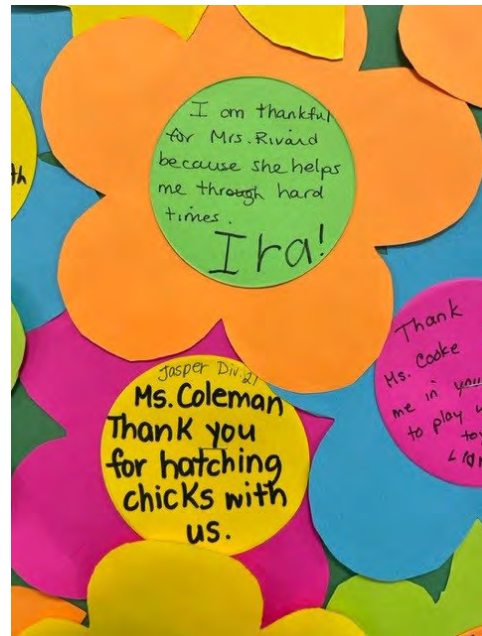
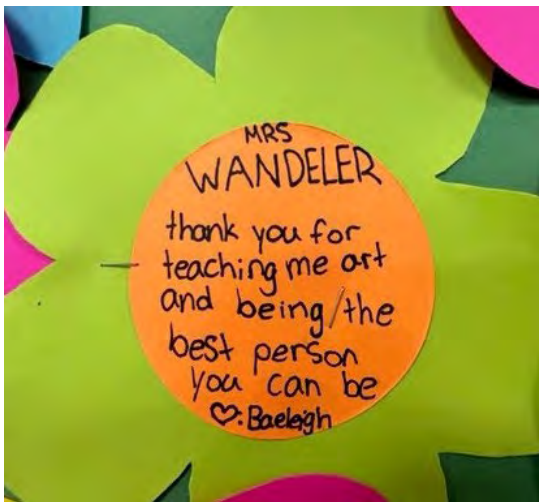
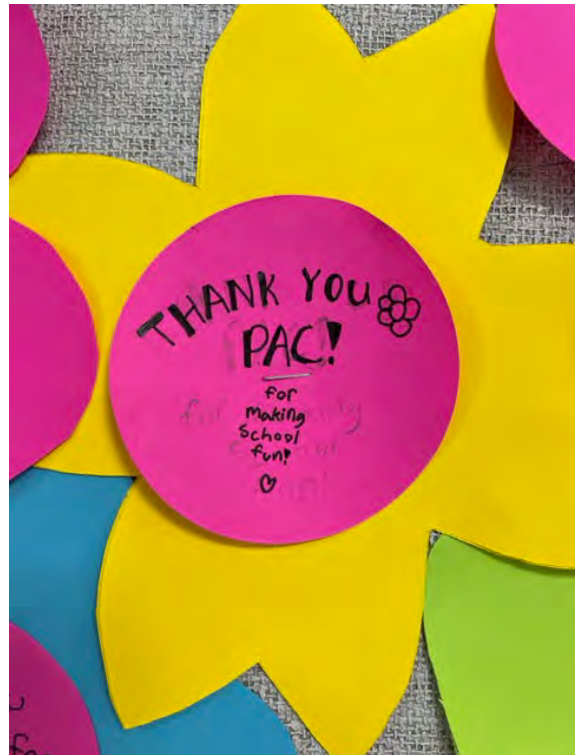
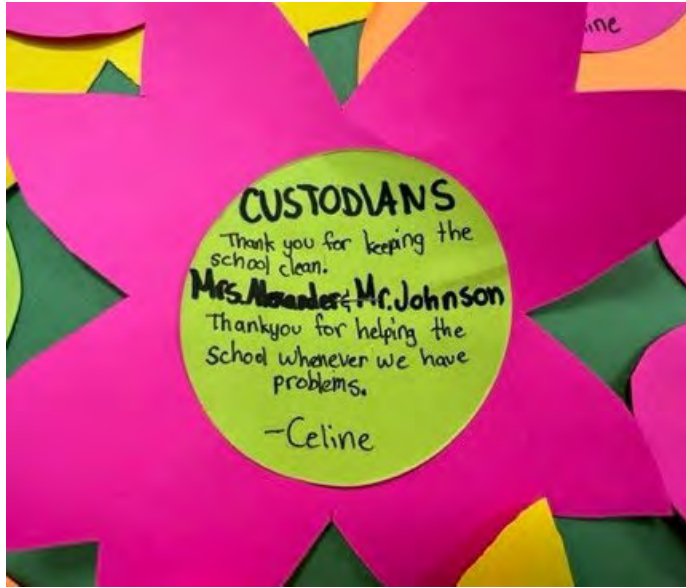


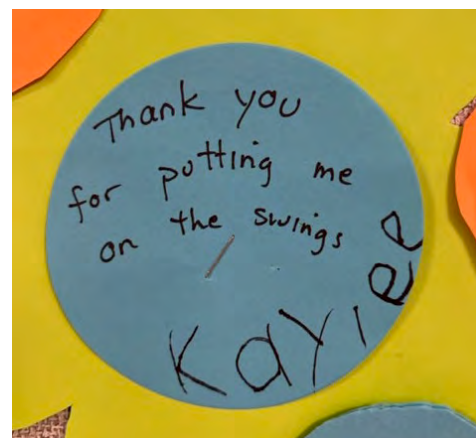
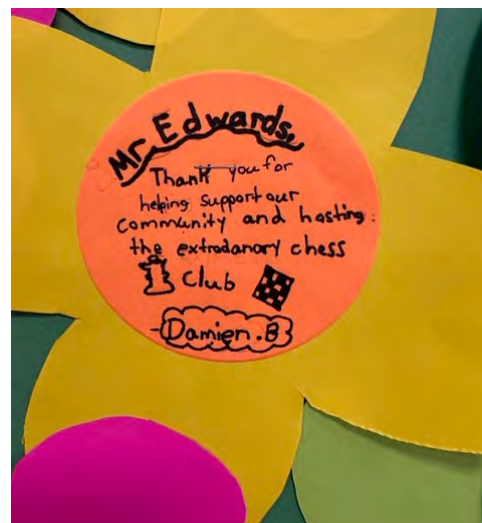
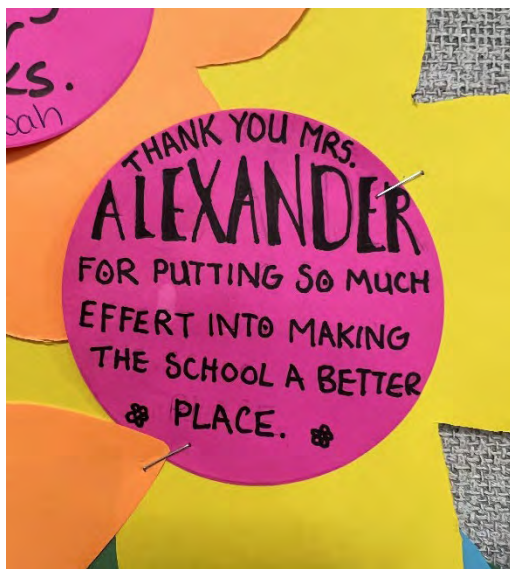
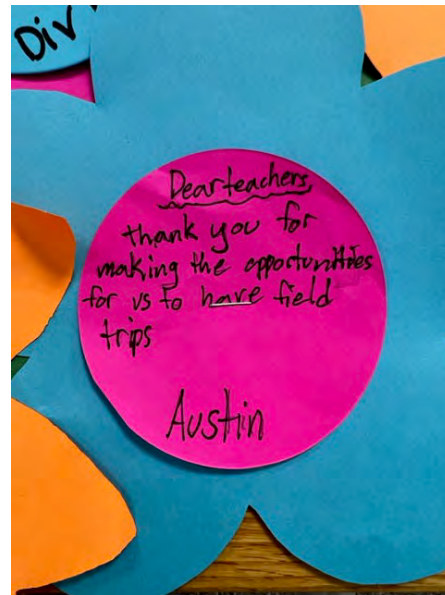
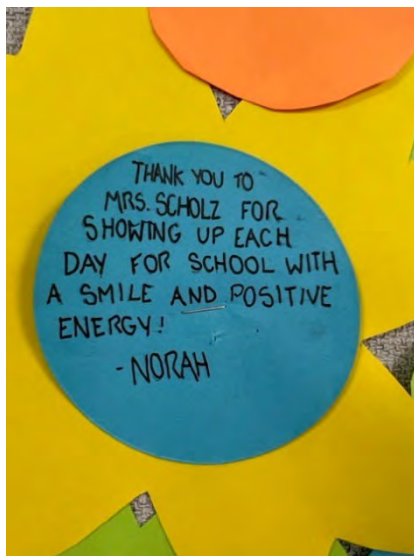
BX Elementary

This month students took time to thank the adults in our building who inspired, encouraged, and helped them to grow.

What a wonderful way to end our year!







Another successful Apple Blossom Fair was put on by our fabulous PAC. Our cake walk is always the highlight!





Hillview Elementary



At Hillview we have been enjoying May and June by venturing outside to enjoy the sunshine! We have had field trips to O'Keefe Ranch, Kekuli Bay, neighbourhood walks, and the recreation centre. Classes have been engaging in various buddy activities, such as "Reading Coaches", and joint crafts and games. We look forward to celebrating our Grade 7s as they move on to secondary school in a few weeks!





Silverstar Elementary



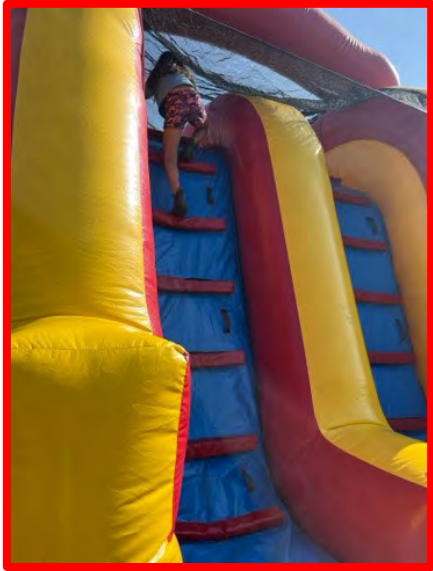
Silver Star Grade 7s leave their mark.

Students enjoying mini donuts. Thanks to Dwayne for his dedication to our students.



Silver Star carnival night. Building community and sharing kindness. Parents giving their time and sharing their talents.







Bring the learning outdoors. And track and field...





Vernon Secondary School

The mathletes of VSS showcased their remarkable problem-solving prowess and strategic thinking as they clinched a resounding victory in the highly anticipated team math contest held at Fulton Secondary. The event witnessed an intense battle of numerical dominance, with VSS's very own "Algebros" emerging as the ultimate victors, while the second VSS team secured a close and commendable second-place finish.



The Foods 10 class have been busy gardening this term with the generous support from “BC Agriculture in the Classroom”. Students have the chance to grow, care for, harvest, and cook potatoes through the hands-on “Spuds in Tubs” program.



PIC • COLLAGE

Our contemporary Indigenous Studies Classes have been busy this past month. They visited the Sncewips Heritage Museum and the community core grounds in West Kelowna. They also engaged in a lesson about treaties on the big floor map at VSS as well as spent time doing an Audio walk where they listened to Secwepemc legends told by an elder.



Fulton Family of Schools



Ellison Elementary

Mr. Craik's Grade 6/7 class had a fantastic year-end trip to Silver Lake. Students had the opportunity to go canoeing, participate in archery, and build campfires. It was an amazing way to finish the school year!



Ellison's new playground is nearing completion! The crew is currently installing the artificial turf flooring (a first of its kind in Vernon). This will allow our playground to be accessible to all! We are excited to open this playground before the end of the school year!



Many of our Grade 4-7 athletes participated in the Zone and District Final Track Meets.



Our kindergarten students were excited to try some of these events, and they participated in their own track meet at our school as well!



Mission Hill Elementary

Celebrating our diverse talents during an assembly.



To help with mental health, we are spending more time outdoors being active. Here some students are working on their biking skills with the "HopOn" program.





Students welcomed guest drummers into their music class.



Okanagan Landing

The calendar has been FULL as we head into the final few weeks of school!

We have had many activities occurring here at OKL and we have been creating some positive memories along the way.

To start our days, we have students share the duties of the morning, greeting through various different languages.

Our ELL teacher Mrs. Elmslie has been working with our students across many grades to showcase their language skills and share all these languages with the entire school community.





We were treated to a great performance at our last assembly from one of our kindergarten classes. They highlighted their superhero skills while singing and dancing for the whole school!

Next, we have been focusing on building our numeracy skills by making meaningful connections. Mrs. Rogers has been leading the way by using student's artistic skills to produce symmetry through art and math in a grade 3 classroom.



Our grade 7 girls also put on a good volleyball skills clinic for the teachers this month, beating the teachers in front of the entire school!

Next, Mr. Petersen's grade 4 class has been diligently raising salmon that they plan to release in the coming weeks. It is amazing how much they have grown!



We also had the opportunity to have a grade 5-7 **Indigenous Cultural Day** at the school where the students learned more about hoop dancing, tule mast weaving, inuksuk building, and Indigenous plant identification.

It was a great learning experience for all our students.

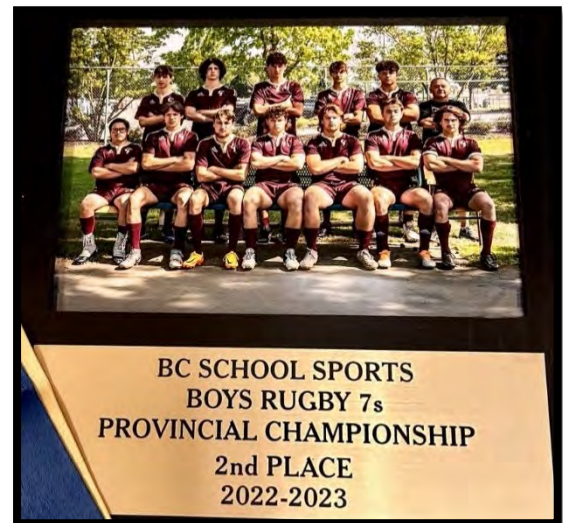
Lastly, OKL competed in the zone and district track and field events at the oval. Hard work, sweat, and fun was had by all the competitors!





Fulton's own Trailor Frogs kicked off the fun at our infamous 'Free Burger Day'. The fun continued as we finished the day off with 'Fun in the Sun' outdoor games and a special musical appearance from two different teacher bands.

Fulton's senior boys rugby team capped off an excellent season with a 2nd place finish at the Provincial Championships.



Fulton's drama production of "Clue" was a huge success.

Kalamalka Family of Schools



Coldstream Elementary

Year-end at Coldstream is all about recognizing our grade 7 students heading off to high school. They will be missed! Having said that, there is still plenty of time for fun and learning left for everyone else!





Kidston Elementary

The Kidston community raised \$3,127.75 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation during our Jump Rope for Heart event.



Intermediate Track and Field

Districts June 1, 2023



Zones May 24, 2023



Grade 2/3 and Grade 4 trip to Kingfisher to release the salmon they hatched from eggs.





Lavington Elementary

Lavington Elementary would like to say 'thank-you' to all invested members of our school community for their support throughout the year. We have had an extremely successful year filled with growth, success, and learning. We have had one of the best attendance rates throughout the entire district which is a direct reflection of the safe, inclusive and welcoming environment here at Lavington.

I would like to thank the families, the P.A.C., all SD22 departments, Lavington staff, Lavington Fire Dept, District of Coldstream, Lavington Community Association, Boys and Girls Club, Literacy Society, all presenters, donations, volunteers and of course, our amazing students for contributing to our success. Lavington Elementary is a special place because of all the great people that support it daily.

You are needed, respected and greatly appreciated! GO LYNX!!









Kalamalka Secondary



Kal's golf team is the AA North Okanagan Champions! They're off to Provincial Championships in Victoria – good luck golfers!



Kal's Gr.9/10 Robotics class made amazing submarines and went on a great field trip to UBCO and the



Kelowna Flightcraft Centre for Aerospace Excellence.



Kal's math department hosted a fun Connect 4 tournament to demonstrate pattern recognition, problem-solving, and logical thinking. Props to the finalists from each class who participated in our school finals!

Kal's Law Studies 12 class hosted their annual mock trial in late May. The students played their roles incredibly well, and showcased strong critical thinking and cross-examination skills.



Kal and VSS music programs put on a great show at their Concerto Juno in early June at the Performing Arts Centre. They rocked out some space-themed classics and great Disney renditions. Great work to both Kal and VSS music programs!

Kal's Skills Exploration class showcased their range in trades skills by putting together some framing and electrical. Some real bright students!!



Bloom Family of Schools



Charles Bloom Secondary

One of the many beautiful cutting boards created in Wood Class.



Our Indigenous Graduates!

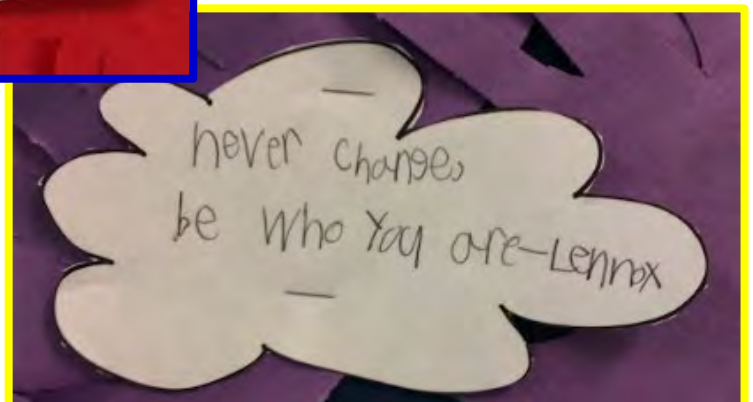
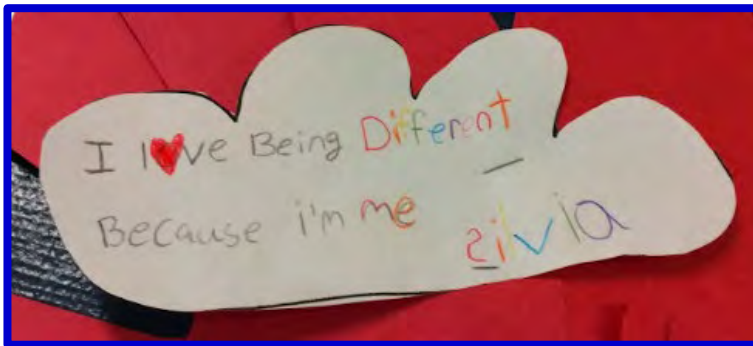




Cherryville Elementary



To celebrate PRIDE month our grade 5/6 class did a hand/heart rainbow bulletin board. Students in the school put up messages of encouragement for others and loving who you are.



The Cherryville Watershed Society and the Cherryridge Management Committee have generously donated the funds and helped set up Elements Adventure Company to teach our students canoeing on Sugar Lake.



Our grade 6 graduates of Cherryville Elementary School!





J.W. Inglis Elementary

ISW Michelle Kneller reads an indigenous book to the Kindergarten / Grade 1 students around a 'campfire'.



At the Lumby Oval, JW Inglis Grade 4 students stretching to do their best all the way to the finish line!





Grade 4 and 5 students get a sense of what school was like for children living at the O'Keefe Ranch @1912.

Students from across the grades visit the newly hatched 'chicks' in Ms. Blankley's Grade 2 classroom. Ms. Hoy's Kindergarten students also learned about the life cycle of a chicken and hatched eggs as well in their classroom! Lots of beeping when the students left, and the chicks felt lonely!



Indigenous Education Department



Indigenous Education's ISTEAM day at UBCO with Grade 6&7 Indigenous students from throughout the district was an amazing day of STEAM learning!



The district Indigenous student leaders' team proudly represented SD22 in Kamloops at the Indigenous Student Summit sharing ideas about anti-racism, culture, and well-being.

Human Resources



In May, Erica Schmidt, HR Assistant Director, and Nichole Cooke, HR Executive Assistant attended the CPHR 60th Annual HR Conference and Expo focused on *Working Meaningfully*. In June we said farewell to Nichole who returned home to Alberta to pursue new opportunities.

On June 20th we welcomed our new HR Executive Assistant, Lisa Leslie. Lisa is a Human Resources Management professional with CPHR designation and experience in full cycle HR processes. She has worked as a legal assistant, paralegal, and HR Office Manager for various law firms over the past 20 years in Vancouver. Lisa has recently returned to Vernon where she grew up.

On May 31 Director of Human Resources Malcolm Reid hosted an information session for all teachers below the layoff line to explain the teacher staffing process.



On June 5 Human Resources hosted the annual retirement dinner at the Prestige Hotel where the Board of Education formally recognized and thanked all retiring employees for their many years of service.



June has been a busy month for HR with our teacher and support staff post and fill processes. We have had hundreds of postings go out this month and hope to have all staffing settled by September for the next school year.

Student Learning

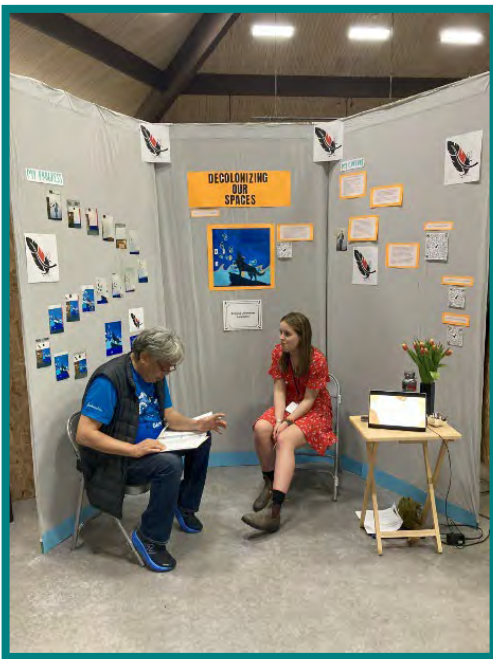


On May 4th and 5th seventy-nine Grade 12 students from across the district participated in the District Project Scholarship Showcase held at the Vernon Rec Centre.



These projects displayed students' talents and skills and were a demonstration of Core Competency development and personalized learning. The showcase provided an opportunity for members of the Vernon community to engage with students and learn about their many interests and future career aspirations.

Students were supported throughout the process by a sponsor teacher and their principal. At the showcase each project was judged by both a community expert judge and district judges.



Career Programs

SD22 students graduated on May 10, 2023 from the Indigenous Early Childhood Education Certificate Program through Nicola Valley Institute of Technology in partnership with SD22 and OKIB. Students completed courses in Child Health and Wellness, Guiding Through Gifts in Indigenous Early Years and Stories, Ideas and Pathways of Child Development.



SD22 students in grades 9 to 12 completed the 12 week Gateway to Building Trades Program at Okanagan College Vernon on May 12, 2023 and were able to take part in a small graduation ceremony to celebrate their successes. The Trade Sampler Program gave students both practical and theoretical experience in a wide variety of trades including carpentry, electrical and plumbing.





RCMP Academy students graduated on May 13, 2023 at the Army Camp.
Jean Minguy Memorial RCMP Academy took place at the Vernon Army Camp May 7 to 13, 2023.
Students from across the Okanagan took part in role play scenarios, physical training, and lectures.



Inclusive Education Department



Mrs. Drinkwater's grade 2 class at Mission Hill participated in the Roots of Empathy program, learning from their little teacher, Baby Devoreo. Baby Devoreo had 9 class visits throughout the year where students could watch, learn and ask questions to Mom (Tiffany).



Connections students working alongside community businesses to construct beds for those in need.



Early Learning & Child Care

For the first year ever, SD22 is a part of the Ministry of Education and Child Care's Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transitions "SEY2KT" initiative. SEY2KT provides opportunities for school districts and communities to work together in support of young children and their families. The program supports smooth transitions from home to school and in the 2022/23 school year our focus has been the Alexis Park Elementary community.

Alexis Park kindergarten students have connected with buddies from BGC Okanagan programs, visited the Snc'ca'mala?tn Early Childhood Centre at OKIB to play and learn together, and hosted the children from the Snc'ca'mala?tn daycare at the school.





Through the SEY2KT initiative, we have been working with our community partners to provide experiences to families about the importance of nutrition and sleep for transitions to school.





A big thank-you to all our community partners and School District 22 staff that have supported the SEY2KT initiative this year! We look forward to expanding the SEY2KT initiative within the Fulton Family of Schools and including Harwood Elementary next school year.



International

This time of year is always a bittersweet time for International Program Students. Some are busy trying to squeeze the most out of the last days of their experience in Canada, before returning home for school next year, while others are finishing up classes and working on plans for their return to Vernon for September. Many students are preparing to say goodbye to their friends, host families, and teachers, while reflecting on their incredible time in Vernon.

This is also a very busy time of year for the International Student Program. Spring is always the busiest time for school-based and International Program activities. Last month, many students participated in the popular International Program Soccer League. Weekly games led to finals at Okanagan College, with Kal going undefeated for the coveted "golden cleat" trophy. June is also busy with trips to Oyama Aerial Park and Kal Park for hiking, and time at the beach. These are always enjoyable activities for students and a great way for students to enjoy the final weeks of their time in our program.

International Program staff will miss our 2022/23 students and wish everyone the best in their future endeavors.







Finance Department

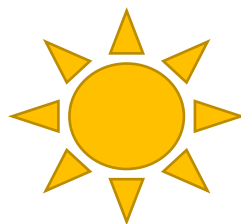
The exciting news - we welcomed the sweetest addition to our Finance team! On May 28th Jaxx was born and lives with his Mom Lexi and our Purchasing Clerk, Sandra.



The less exciting news - we are ramping up for Year End so please review the Year-End Memo that Kayla sent out and use this as a guide to complete any year-end processes at your school or department. We will be finalizing and closing the books shortly after June 30th so if you have any transactions after this date that are for the current school year, please contact Chelsea, Kayla or Raelyn and we will assist.

We wish you all a safe and fun summer!

The Finance Team



IT

IT had a busy month getting projects ready for the district. On the left you can see Drew working with the electricians to replace our UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) for our district servers. On the right Dado and Glen are using a tool that helps them upgrade the WIFI coverage at our schools by scanning the current areas and providing some planning tools for our next wireless upgrade. On the top right you can see the support the IT department has for the Red Dress Day on May 5th.



Maintenance

New Staff Additions:

We are excited to announce the addition of two new employees to our team who will play crucial roles in ensuring the smooth functioning and safety of our school district.

Brad Olsen - Facilities Manager:

We are pleased to welcome Brad as our new Facilities Manager. Brad brings a wealth of experience in facility management, having previously worked in various organizations overseeing maintenance, repairs, and infrastructure projects. His expertise will be instrumental in optimizing our facilities and ensuring they are well-maintained and in excellent condition. Brad's strong leadership skills and attention to detail will contribute to the overall efficiency of our operations.

Rob Bacon- Health and Safety Manager:

Joining our team as the Health and Safety Manager is Rob. Rob has a deep understanding of health and safety regulations and a proven track record of implementing effective safety programs. His primary focus will be on maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our students, staff, and visitors. Rob will be responsible for developing and implementing safety protocols, conducting regular inspections, and providing training to our staff to ensure compliance with safety standards. His dedication to promoting a culture of safety will be invaluable in safeguarding the well-being of our school community.

New Portable Classrooms:

One of the significant accomplishments this year was the completion of new portable classrooms. We also plan to Install 4 new portables and relocate onto our growing DAC site. These classrooms have expanded our capacity, providing more space for our students and teachers, and enhancing their learning experience.

Gaga Pit at Alexis Park and Mission Hill:

To promote recreational activities and engage students during their free time, we introduced a new gaga pit at Alexis Park. The picture highlights this fun and safe activity area, where students can enjoy themselves while fostering teamwork, coordination, and physical fitness.

Playground at Ellison:

We are thrilled to announce the progress of the playground at Ellison, which will be complete next week. This will be our first large playground that has 100% accessible ground cover. The construction of this accessible and safe playground will create an engaging environment for our students to play and learn. We expect it to be ready for use by all students before the summer break.

Ongoing Projects:

As we continue to prioritize the development of optimal learning environments, we are already working on our next set of projects scheduled for completion by September. These initiatives will further enhance our schools and contribute to the growth and well-being of our students.

Recognition of Retiring Staff:

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mike Powell, retired in April 2023 after 14 years of dedicated service to the District. Mike started as an HVAC technician and diligently ensured the comfort of our staff and students.

Professional Development and Training:

In our commitment to excellence, our skilled tradespeople regularly upgrade their skills and knowledge. From safety updates to project management and forklift training, we continually invest in our staff's professional growth. Furthermore, our custodial department has benefited from our new in-house Building Service Worker training program, which has enhanced their skills and expertise.

Preserving History:

We take pride in preserving the history of our school district. One notable example is the basement of Beirsto, which once served as a coal storage area for the original boiler system. Today, it functions as a mechanical and irrigation control room, featuring an original door over 110 years old. These historical elements connect us to the past while serving practical purposes in the present.

Infrastructure Improvements:

Significant improvements have been made to our facilities throughout the year. At Bloom, classrooms underwent a complete renovation, including new LED lights, cabinets, plumbing, and sprinklers. Additionally, outdated shower rooms were replaced with modern fiberglass stalls, improving functionality and aesthetics. These upgrades reflect our commitment to providing a comfortable and efficient learning environment.

Maintenance and Groundskeeping:

Our dedicated maintenance team and grounds crew have been diligently working to ensure the smooth operation and cleanliness of our schools. Electricians successfully completed lighting upgrades at Hillview and Inglis and will soon commence similar improvements at Kalamalka Secondary. Meanwhile, our painters have been hard at work, transforming the exterior at Hillview Elementary. Additionally, the grounds crew has been working hard to keep up on the quick growing grass.

Conclusion:

The year 2023 has been filled with remarkable progress and achievements in our school district. We remain dedicated to providing the best learning environment for our students, and the projects completed and underway reflect this commitment. We express our gratitude to everyone involved.





Have an amazing summer!!

