



Superintendent's Report

April 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.

April Superintendent Report 2023

Accessible British Columbia Act – School District 22, under the leadership of Director of Instruction - Inclusion, Christine Love, is currently creating an Accessibility Committee who will assist the district in identifying barriers and advise on how to remove and prevent barriers to those individuals in the district and to those who interact with the district. The committee may include members from inside or outside of the district. Committee membership should ideally reflect the diversity of persons in BC and have at least one Indigenous person, and half of the members should ideally:

- be persons with disabilities; or,
- represent an organization that supports persons with disabilities.

Strong consideration will be given to persons who are best suited to advise on how to enhance meaningful participation by the community. Our accessibility plan will state how the school district will identify, remove, and prevent barriers to those in our district and those who interact with it. In developing or updating our district's plan, we will consult with the accessibility committee and consider specific principles:

- Inclusion
- Adaptability
- Diversity
- Collaboration
- Self-determination
- Universal design

Anti-Racism Action Plan - Our district is currently working on a roll out of Anti-racism education across the district for the 2023-2024 school year. The Learning Team, under the leadership of Director of Instruction – Learning, Luke Friesen, will lead this critical work.

B.C. launches anti-racism action plan for K-12 students:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023ECC0003-000066>

Communicating Student Learning (CSL) - Assessment & Reporting - K-12 Student Reporting Policy Information for Families

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://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/legislation-policy/public-schools/student-reporting-for-families>

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 the [Student Reporting Policy Framework](#).

Early Learning & Child Care – We are delighted to announce SD 22 has been selected as part of the *Integration Inquiry Project* with the Ministry of Education and Child Care. The Integration Inquiry Project will explore the role of school districts in expanding child care on school grounds, discover the complexities of blending child care and education cultures through a single service delivery location, and emphasize quality early childhood education experiences. This project brings \$880,000 per year (2.64 million over three years) into the district and will be under the leadership of Assistant Superintendent, Katherine Oviatt and District Principal of Early Learning, Jennifer Friesen. SD 22 joins Peace River North and West Vancouver in this project.

Expanding K-12 Career Development and Dual Credit - [Budget 2023](#) confirmed over \$1.4B in investments in Future Ready and B.C.'s [Health Human Resources Strategy](#), which commits to implementing new career development initiatives and expanding dual credit programming. This work will complement and build on the [Early Childhood Education Dual Credit project](#), under the ChildCareBC plan, which currently includes 30 participating school districts and will continue to expand over the next two years. More information on these initiatives, as well as further clarification from the Ministry on dual credit funding eligibility, will follow in the coming weeks.

Feeding Futures School Food Programs Funding

The BC government has committed \$214.5 million in operating funding over three years to make sure all students are fed and ready to learn, by expanding existing school food programs in districts and schools that already have them and creating new ones in districts and schools without. School District 22 will receive approximately 1 million dollars. More information will be provided at the May public meeting.

Mental Health in Schools Conference – School District 22 is sending a team to the Mental Health in Schools Conference which continues the work of the *Mental Health in Schools Strategy* with K-12 sector partners, health authorities, Indigenous organizations, public and independent school representatives, and cross-ministry partners. This year's theme is *Connections* with a focus on how connections promote mental health and well-being (connection to self, connection to others, connection to the land). School District 22 is working on expanding Mental Health services to both staff and students in the 2023-2024 school year.

Sexual Health (Consent) education requirements - On March 6, the B.C. government introduced legislation to protect people whose intimate images are shared online without their consent. To support this legislation and to reflect feedback from educators, students, and the broader community, the Ministry of Education and Childcare, in consultation with BCTF teachers and partner Ministries, has updated the [PHE curriculum](#) and the *Supporting Student Health Guide*. This guide is available for both [elementary](#) and [secondary](#) schools.

We are pleased to say that School District 22 successfully rolled out *Consent Education* to all Grade 11 and 12 students this year and an Elementary version to all Elementary schools. Consent includes knowing and respecting a person's own boundaries as well as the boundaries of others. Thank you to Assistant Superintendent, Katherine Oviatt, for her leadership in this work.

TRC & Indigenous Graduation Requirements – coming this Fall

The new Indigenous-focused graduation requirement, which will ensure that all secondary school students graduate with knowledge of Indigenous cultures and perspectives, will be mandatory in September. To support understanding of students, parents and staff about the Indigenous Focused Course Graduation Requirement, please review the attached links in this [brochure](#) and [video](#) in advance of course selection.

Wellness – Did you know? School District 22 supports staff wellness with \$21,000 (approximately \$1000 to each site) for use on wellness and mental health activities and hope to nearly double those funds in 2023-2024.

April

- 19 Regular Public Board Meeting
- 22 Earth Day
- 26 Administrative Professionals Day
- 27/28 Conferences – early dismissal
- 28 National Day of Mourning

May

- 4/5 District Project Showcase
- 5 Red Dress Day
- 7 Moose Hide Campaign 11th
- 12 National Child Care Provider check dates
- 14 Mother's Day
- 15 **ProD – no school in session**
- 17 International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia
- 17 **Regular Public Board Meeting**
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity
- 22 **Victoria Day - no school in session**
- 23 Red Nose Day
- 24 National Scavenger Hunt Day
- 28 World Hunger Day

June

- National Indigenous History Month
- 1 Indigenous Grade 12 Student Celebration
- 1 District Track and Field
- 1 Red Shirt Day
- 1 Global Parent Day
- 1 International Children's Day
- 4 National Doughnut Day
- 6 Higher Education Day
- 8 World Oceans Day
- 21 First Day of Summer
- 21 National Indigenous People's Day
- 21 **Regular Public Board Meeting**
- 29 Last Day of School
- 30 Administrative Day – no school in session

Seaton Family of Schools:



Alexis Park Elementary

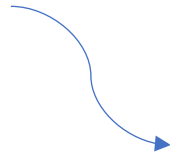


Alexis Park students found “joy” from music as they attended the Okanagan Symphony on March 7th. The guest artist was Adrian Anantawan, violin, an amazing artist. In addition to his musical skills, his positive message of resiliency, positive mindset and accessing adaptations to do anything. Following that, the school community was able to embrace music, one outlet that brings many joy and well-being.



In our grade 2/3 classroom students are recognizing that they can manage their emotions. The classroom has its very own “calm corner” where they can explore what strategies work for them to bring them back to the “green zone”. In addition, many of the teachers attended a lunch and learn with the

school occupational therapist about Move-Work- Breath and are starting to implement this into their classroom.



Students in Alexis Park Elementary's Pride Club worked on making bracelets based off pride flags. Wearing the bracelets shows they are allies to the LGBTQ2S+ community who are committed to being kind and inclusive; or that they are members of the community themselves. At Pride Club we talk about how signifiers such as stickers, posters, and bracelets can make LGBTQ2S+ people feel safe and welcome. We all know how safety and belonging affect our mental health! It's the small things that can brighten someone's day.



Beairsto Elementary

Students listened and encouraged our finalists in gr 6-7 who shared the speeches they had written and memorized for our yearly speech contest. Pretty amazing!





We had some Beairsto alumni staying in the school for the BCWG – One of the curlers reconnected with me and shared how they won gold and how it was fun to reminisce while at the school.

Mme Mongerson's class has begun to clean up the garden and get it ready for planting.

Mme Wilkin's grade 2 class is collecting bottles to purchase a bee house for the garden.

Mots Gentils – kind words are being written and delivered throughout the school on a regular basis.

A grade 7 group is planning a family dance for all to have fun – the theme is all that glitters is gold and at Beairsto we shine!



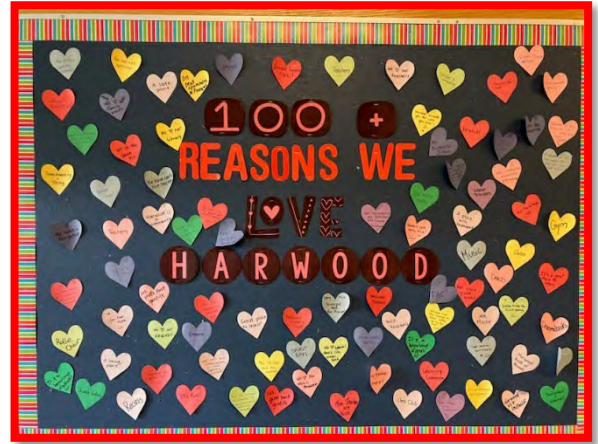
The cross country running team has begun 😊 merci to Mme Hairowonsky, Mme Bujold, Mme Labrie and M Mitchell. The rest of the school is learning some of the joys of running and how that can help us with our mental health as well ... the school runs at least 3 times a weeks for 15 minutes after recess.





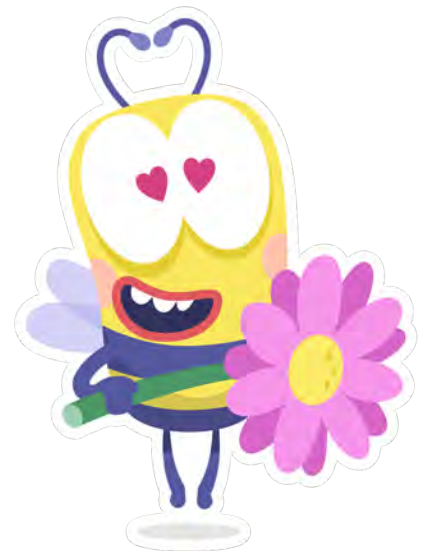
Harwood Elementary

Last month we had a focus on looking at the positives of our school and ourselves. We have a bulletin board in the entrance to the school with 100 reasons we love Harwood, it is filled with all kinds of positive things about our school.



We also have a couple of classes who have been focusing on seeing the positive in themselves. They created some writing describing the best parts of themselves. It is so interesting to see and hear what students like about themselves.

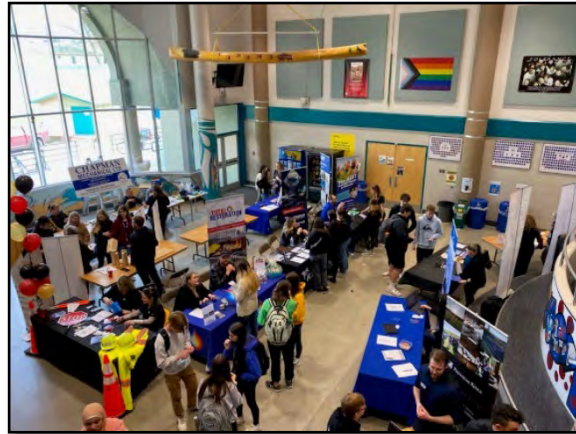
On a more personal note, there was a student who brought their teacher a bouquet of flowers to thank her for being awesome.





W.L. Seaton Secondary

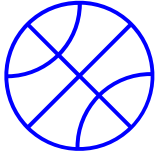
Job fair at Seaton



Leadership sharing Seaton Spirit as we move to Spring Break.

More Seaton Spirit





Grad vs RCMP

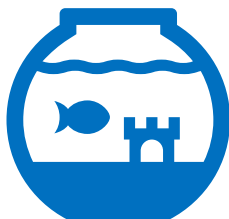


Vernon Family of Schools

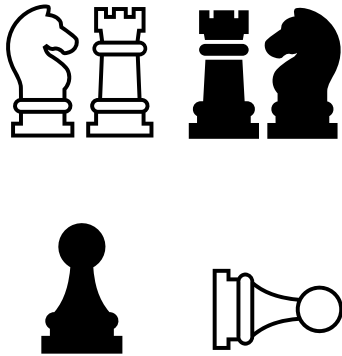


VLearn

Learning about the Water Cycle,
and the environmental impacts of
various pollutants, with Allan
Brooke's Nature Center.

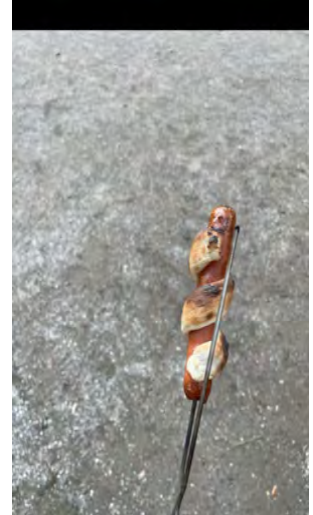


VLearn Chess club in action, preparing for the District Chess Tournament.



ALP/Open Door/CrossRoads

Spring outing Easter art and canoe carving





BX Elementary

At BX involving the community is a positive way to boost our mental well-being. We enjoy spending time with and learning from members of our community.

Vanessa Tso came 6 times to teach primary classes the syilx language. They enjoyed learning songs, numbers, and greetings.



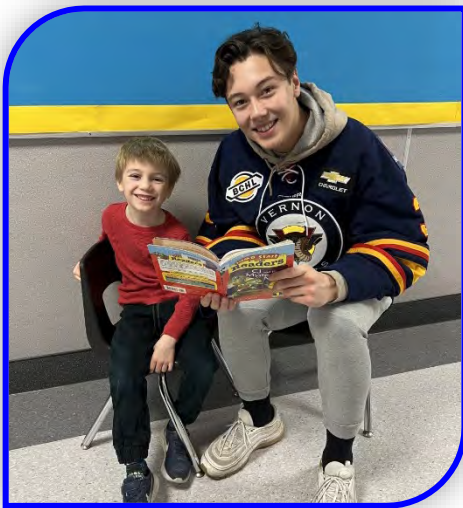
The kindergarten students had 6 visits from Mrs. Cameron and learned American Sign Language.



We love having visits from our liaison officer Constable Kooger. He was here this week playing Gaga Ball and Dodgeball with the students. Also, our visit from RCMP Service Dog Team was wonderful. Smiles were all around!



Our Vernon Vipers come to read with our primary students weekly. This brings such excitement and joy to the students. They look forward to it!





Hillview Elementary



Collaboration and team work were the focus of recent events at Hillview Elementary! Our older grades worked together in teams to participate in a Battle of Books in the library. Students had a great time coming up with creative costumes, making team signs and discussing answers to the questions posed.



We had three teacher candidates from UBC Okanagan who joined the Hillview community for a few weeks before Spring Break. Together they organized a really fun and exciting dance, complete with strobe lights, videos, and an awesome playlist, for our grade 4 and 5 students. Students had a fantastic time sharing their best moves!



Silverstar Elementary



Ladies at the table - Silver Star Primary teachers learning from each other. Shifting the Balance Lunch and Learn. – Excellent sharing of recommitting of phonic aware instructions.

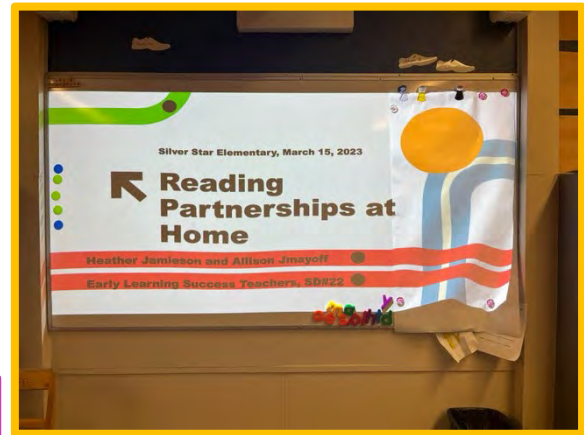


Students celebrating 100 days.

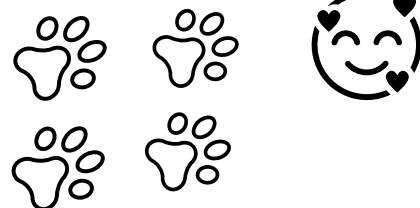
A day of experiencing what 100 looks like and celebrating the accomplishment of 100 days of learning.



Parent as partners – Literacy learning from our student success teachers – Silver Star parents enjoy an evening with appetizers while they learn Literacy learning strategies.



This is Cedar our Silver Star support dog. You will see him in the Learning centre helping students who need a friendly face while learning.





Vernon Secondary School

Fulton Family of Schools



Ellison Elementary



Ellison school is proud to unveil our new Ellison Eagle Mural. The talented Csetkwe Fortier designed and painted our mural. Incorporating the Four Food Chiefs, student handprints, and the colours of both our school and new logo, the finished product was unveiled during a special school assembly. It hangs proudly above our library and can be viewed when walking through our main school entrance.



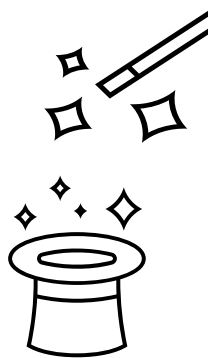
Mission Hill Elementary

Our intermediate students participated in a Heritage Fair. We had a number of community members come through to ask the students questions about their projects. Thank you to Mr. Soon for organizing. It was great to have parents in the building to celebrate student learning.



Thank you to Mr. DeLeenheer and Ms. Drinkwater for organizing our cross-country running team. We have many kids excited to participate!

We welcomed Magician Steve to our school to entertain us and teach us about kindness and gratitude! It was a fantastic show.



Okanagan Landing

OKL has rolled into the spring with energy and spirit, ready to welcome the change in our seasons! In the past month we have cheered our grade 7 boys to a district championship for basketball that was graciously hosted by Kidston Elementary and followed up with our annual teachers VS student's basketball game.



Our school was filled with an abundant of positive energy as our students cheered on both students and teachers as we showcased our skills on the court.

Also, we continued to learn from the land by having our grades 5-7 participate in cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and downhill skiing/snowboarding.



Within the school, our classrooms have been busy showing our dynamic thinking by creating marble runs and taking on challenges such as, “not just a box.”



To continue with the spirit theme, we celebrated retro day and green day as a school community.



Some of our primary classes also tried catching leprechauns, unfortunately, they tricked us again! They took all the gold from the traps! This time they left their footprints behind to us to see!



Socials 11 and
CLE classes co-
creating
sustainable
projects.



Life Science 11 students practicing wetland stewardship.



Grade 12's enjoying Spirit Games in the gym



Kalamalka Family of Schools



Coldstream Elementary

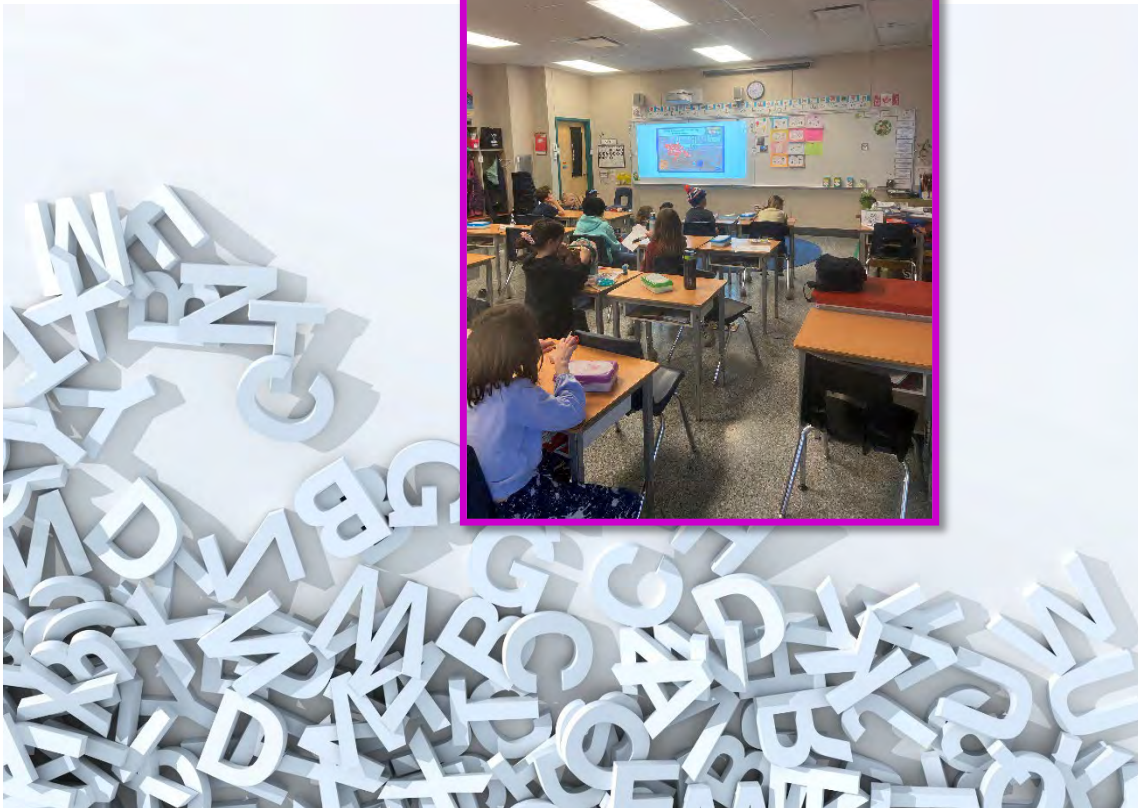
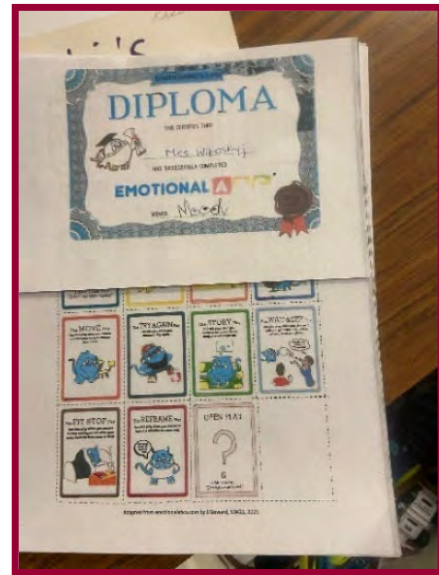
At Coldstream, we brought awareness to World Down Syndrome Day by Rocking Our Socks!



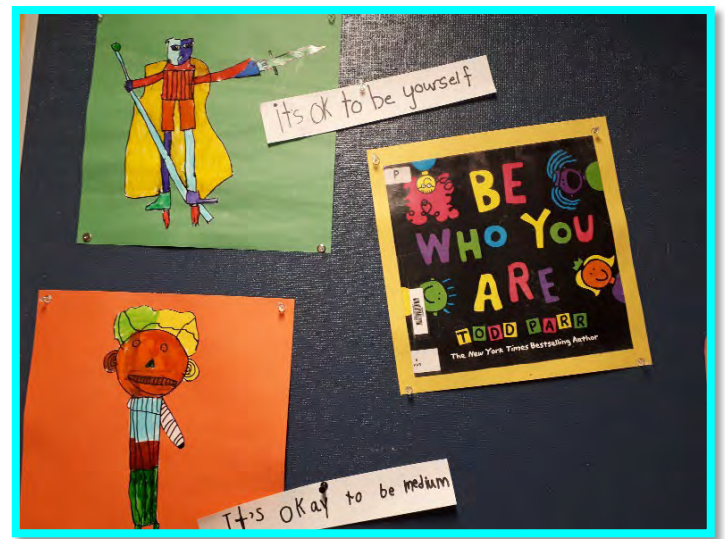


Kidston Elementary

Grade 3's working with the school counsellor on the "Emotional ABC's" program



Grade 2/3 class using picture books and art to share "It's Okay to...."

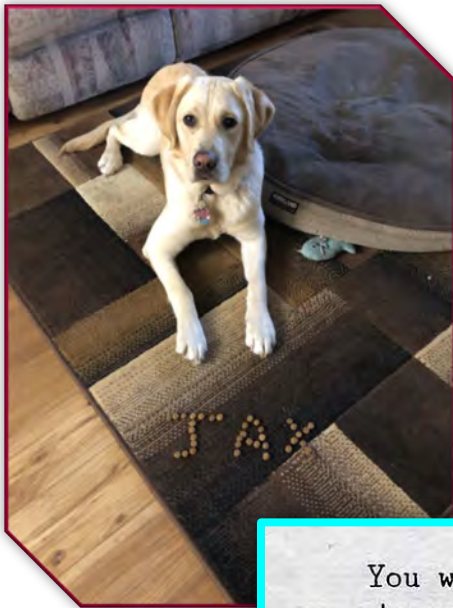




Lavington Elementary

Lavington Elementary has made mental health the number one goal over the past two years. We have implemented many initiatives that support the well-being of our staff and students which include E.A.S.E (Everyday Anxiety Strategies for Educators), Open Parachute, Emotional A,B,C's, 24 Character Strengths, Zones of Regulation, P.A.D.S Program and Social Thinking. As mental well-being is our priority and focus, the staff models behaviours and self-care to our student population. Not many schools can say they have an 80's style aerobic instructor on staff that leads the way!





You will never speak
to anyone more than
you speak to yourself
in your head, be kind
to yourself.





Kalamalka Secondary



Kal's outdoor ed classes have been spending lots of time exploring and learning from our local land. Place-based learning has shown to be highly correlated to increased mental health and positive attitudes towards learning.



Kal's French classes participated in the ManieMusicale bracket competition, which culminated with a final reveal of the "top French music video" of the year, as voted on by over 100,000 students from around the world. The grand reveal was fun, engaging, and full of great energy.



Kal has recently hosted several wonderful food-related events: Kal Café hosted by our Safe Schools club, and the e-Fair hosted by our CLE10 classes. Both provided students with an array of healthy food options and plenty of smiles!

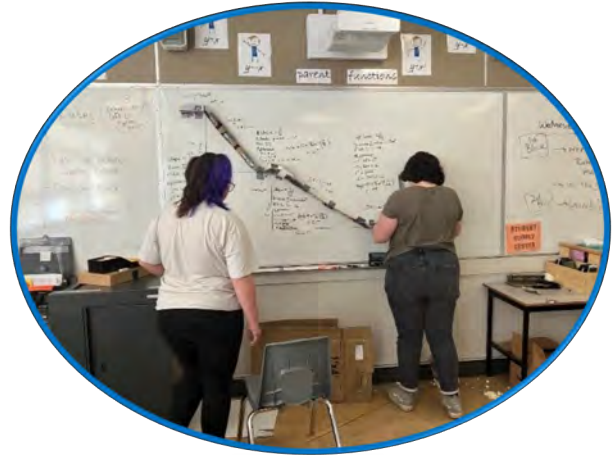
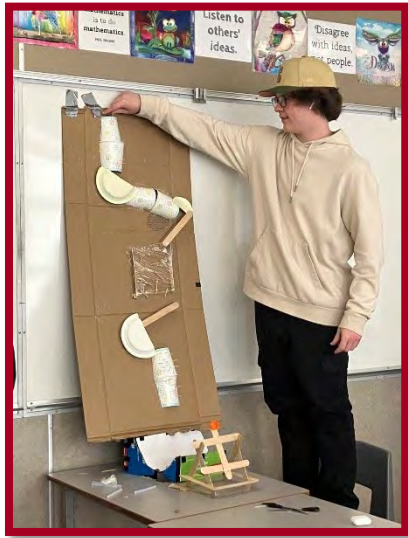


Bloom Family of Schools



Charles Bloom Secondary

Students in Workplace Math 11 learning about slope using Rube Goldberg Perpetual Motion Machines.





Cherryville Elementary



Our grade 3/4 students are learning about Forest Biomes with hands on place-based learning and through activities in the classroom.



Our grade 5/6 class is working on a design activity creating a model ferris wheel.

Our K/1 class helped pick up garbage around our school and in the park of our community. They collected almost a full bag of garbage!

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J.W. Inglis Elementary

These Grade 4 students from Mrs. Currie's class talked to me about the 'coping strategies' they are learning in class. They told me that when someone feels anxious or stressed, they can 'bubble breath', take a walk with a friend or a pet, meditate, take a nap, read a good book, listen to favourite music, or do yoga!



Mrs. Blundell's Grade 2/3 students did a bulletin board display about:

"Love Helps Me Grow"

The student in the photo wrote about the friendships and support that she feels in the class that have gotten her through 'down' times. She thanked her classmates for 'holding me up'.



Ms. Hoy's Kindergarten students had a lesson and are now continuing to have conversations about thinking before they speak because if you say something that isn't nice to someone, you wrinkle their heart!

Since reading these bulletin board displays, I have walked with students who have made their way to the office for a variety of reasons to these displays and read them and discussed the ideas with them! Powerful messages that have given many some thoughts to ponder.



Indigenous Programs



Fifty-one students, grades 9-11, attended Experience UBCO recently. This was an excellent opportunity to experience the university firsthand and learn about the many programs and resources that are available to Indigenous students.

OKIB flag raising at W.L. Seaton High School was a very special event witnessed by OKIB Elder Pauline Gregorie- Archachan, OKIB Chief and Council Representative Councilor Rochelle Saddleman, school staff and students.

1. Traditional Welcome and Blessing

2. Student Welcome

Introduction by Cruz Louis

Emmarie Louis

3. Importance of the OKIB Flag

Introduction by Cruz Louis

Eva Williams

4. Principal Opening Comments

Mike Grace

5. 6. Rising of the OKIB Flag

Joseph Michelle and Taylor Louis raise the flag while students sing Okanagan song

7. Closing

Dr. Christine Perkins

8. Presentations of Gifts

Elizabeth Kootenay



Human Resources

Human Resources is busy preparing the spring staffing process for the next school year for support staff and teachers.

On April 19 and 25 we will host the second round of OH&S training for all site based OH&S members.

way̓ ǵast sǵlǵǵalt. Members of the HR department were nsyilxcn language learners and participated in a District lunch and learn session focused on Indigenous language, culture, and history.

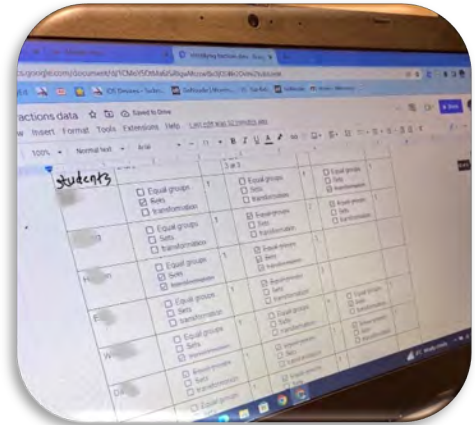


Student Learning

Learning Dept - April Superintendent's Report

In a residency with Lindsay Forrest, students in grade 4/5 at Coldstream Elementary began Literature Circles by choosing books that interested them and getting to know their new thinking partners. Later on, they engaged in some of their own metacognition, thinking about the ways they are choosing to generate ideas on characters, events and author's intention.





Responsive teaching is informal, organic and happens in the moment. In this activity, Jen Carter is supporting formative assessment during a cuisinaire rod activity where students are exploring equivalent fractions. A simple note-taking strategy that helps to inform next steps.

Community of Practice: Eight French Immersion teachers from Beairsto and Harwood schools are examining the inquiry question: *How can levelled books in French Immersion be used to teach with intention, increase reciprocal gains between oral language, reading, and writing, and support literacy outcomes for all students?* Each school is using what they discover to inform teaching, learning, and assessment in the context of their early or late immersion programming.





Early Immersion Residency: Two grade 3 early French immersion teachers and their classes are involved in a residency with Darcy Leblanc (French Immersion Learning Coordinator) exploring the question: *How can student interest and agency be connected to creative and playful use of language?* Students have had the chance to read and learn about different genres of text (Fairy Tales, Trickster Tales, Narratives) and will choose one of interest to develop their voice, creativity, and personalize how they share their story (audio, digital, print).

Late French Immersion Residency: The two late immersion teachers and their classes are exploring the question: *How can flipping the pedagogy of Guided Reading to Guided Talk be a responsive practice to support literacy development in Late French Immersion?* Teachers noticed that students in Late French Immersion generally arrive to the program with very good literacy skills in their first language that transfer quickly to learning a second language; however, a lagging skill is students' ability to respond to text and to communicate their ideas, feelings and questions about text.



Career Programs



RCMP Academy Applicants headed to the Oval at Okanagan College Vernon Campus on April 4, 2023 to take part in the Fitness Test. Students worked hard throughout the evening.



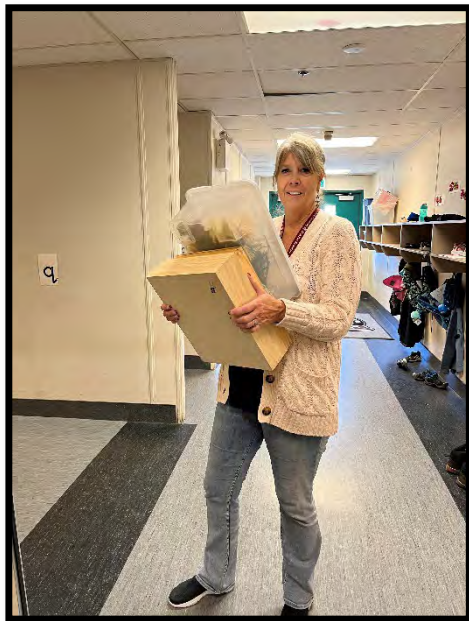
Inclusive Education Department

Just prior to Spring Break the Inclusive Education Department had a meeting with Inclusion Staff to discuss the existing strategies and next steps forward.



Early Learning & Child Care

StrongStart Programs are on the move! This month, the StrongStartBC Early Learning Program hosted at Alexis Park Elementary is moving into the new childcare space on school grounds.



Early Childhood Educator, Cori Novakowski, has been busy setting up the new program space in anticipation of welcoming families into this bright and beautiful setting.



International

International Program Students have recently returned from some time resting and recovering during spring break. Many students travelled home or to other locations with their natural and host families. Other students stayed in Vernon to enjoy some late season time at Silver Star, and others also had the opportunity to travel as a group to the Rocky Mountains. This was a great experience for students.



Looking ahead, students are working hard as we near term 3 reports and are also very excited about the warmer weather and spring activities.

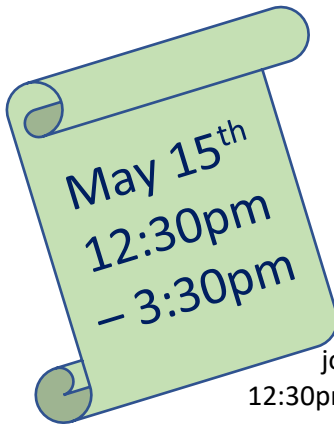
The International Program soccer league starts soon, and other terrific experiences like hiking and aerial park/ziplining are also upcoming. This time of year is always busy and exciting and International Program students are looking forward to what's ahead.



Finance Department

FINANCE is FULL!

The finance team is very excited to announce that we are no longer onboarding – our team is FULL 😊



A reminder for those Clerical interested, please mark your calendars, and join us for Edsembli Training Plus More; to be held on May 15th from 12:30pm – 3:30pm. Details will follow in an email later in April.

As we start to see signs of spring and the sun begins to shine, our team is looking to have some FUN! We are motivated to work with our Districts Wellness Committee to find fun and engaging ways to promote emotional, mental, and physical health in our department. We look forward to sharing our experience!

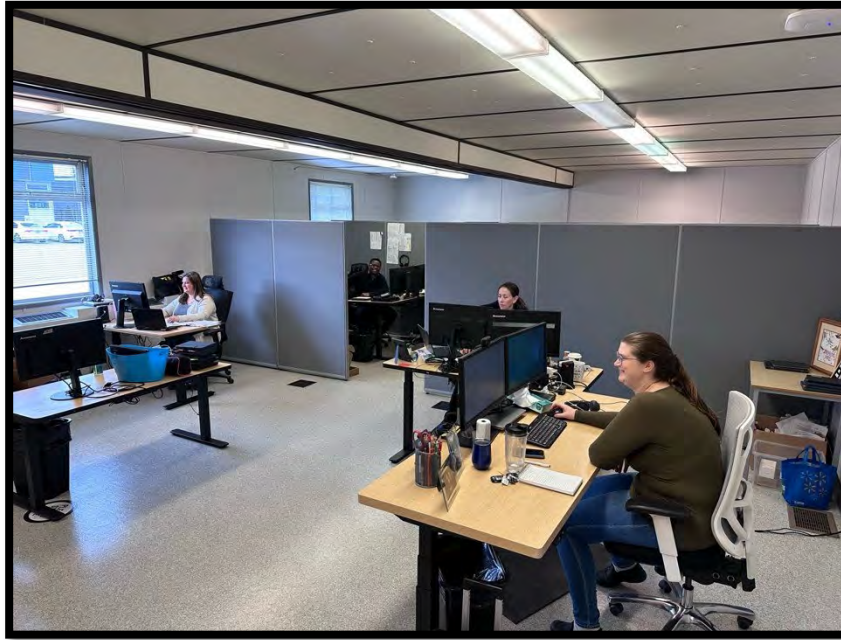


Transportation

A little luck of the Irish in Transportation with these drivers!



Innovation & Technology



The Technology Innovation Coordinators are back in the Information Technology Department working closely with our IT Technicians to support learning across the district. Welcome home TICs.

Maintenance

Projects to follow



Enjoy this beautiful spring we are having!

