



## **School District #8 (Kootenay Lake)**

### **PRESS RELEASE:** **FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN (FDK)**

School District #8 has just received notice from the Ministry of Education that they will be provided funding for 204 spaces to implement Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) in September, 2010. It is estimated we would have, based on our history, approximately 325 Kindergarten registrations next year. In September of 2011, the Ministry of Education predicts all schools will provide a FDK program.

Kindergarten has been and will continue to be an optional program. Students enrolled in schools with FDK will be expected to attend school all day for five days per week.

The Board of Education has decided that FDK will be implemented on a zone-by-zone basis. There are currently five zones in our district: Creston Valley (including Yahk), Nelson, North Kootenay Lake (does not include Crawford Bay or Redfish), Slocan Valley, and Salmo. Zones will be given priority based on results of the Early Developmental Index (EDI).

In the FDK program Kindergarten students will attend school on the same schedule as all other elementary students. It will follow the framework of the Primary Program. No new curriculum will be added, and there will be an emphasis on play-based learning.

Further details regarding the FDK program will be circulated as they become available.

It is anticipated that FDK will be implemented in the following zones in Sept 2010:

- Creston
- Slocan Valley
- Salmo
- North Kootenay Lake

The FDK Press Release can also be found on the School District #8 website ([www.sd8.bc.ca](http://www.sd8.bc.ca)).