



KOOTENAY LAKE UPD8

Volume 1, Issue 19

January 21, 2009

WEDNESDAY MORNING MEMO

From the Desk of the Superintendent, Patricia Dooley . . .

Presidential Inauguration—Barack Obama

Many of us have watched with fascination the events leading up to the election and inauguration of **President-elect Barack Obama**, the nation's first African-American President.

It is a time of incredible hope in the U.S.A. — in his words **"YES WE CAN!"**

"No, No. . . . we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

. . . . *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Family Literacy Week—January 22-27

Family Literacy is defined as the ways parents, children, and extended family members use literacy at home and in their community.. (International Reading Association, n.d.)

Friday, January 23

Canyon Lister has challenged schools to participate in an ABC Canada Literacy Foundations attempt to break the Guinness World Record™ for "Most Children Reading with an Adult, Multiple Locations". The prescribed reading materials are Robert Munsch books.

Adam Robertson, Jewett JVH, and Redfish were fast responders to the Challenge. If your class or family want to get involved in this event, it's easy to download registration forms on the website.

http://www.abc-canada.org/en/family_literacy/family_literacy_day

This link will bet you to the world record sign up sheet for the challenge as well as games and information.

Nelson Public Library 3:30 – 5:00

All ages can join together to try and break the record. They will be reading Robert Munsch books, playing games, having refreshments and winning prizes!

Rosemont Elementary 9:30 – 11:30

Rosemont Elementary, in conjunction with the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy and Kootenay Kids Society, is hosting a Grand Opening event for their new Community Room. Rosemont Rainbows, Love 2 Learn, Power to Parent, Parent/Child Mother Goose and Art Therapy will have a place to meet. Come and see – there will be refreshments.

South Nelson is celebrating "super books" they have read all year with events and prizes.

Hume Elementary is inviting parents to participate in Hume School's multi-aged literacy event. Parents and children will be reading a favourite story and illustrating their connections, based on Adrienne Gear Reading Power.

Check with your school to see what they have planned.

More info:

http://www.literacybc.ca/Info/family_literacy.pdf

The District Calendar: Looking 10 Days Forward . . .

This part of the Wednesday morning bulletin will be used to share key district happenings for the 10 days following that edition of the bulletin.

- **Adrienne Gear Study Session**, Tuesday, January 20 (4-6), Board Office; (5-7, Creston Education Centre)
- **New WNCB B.C. Math Curriculum**, Wednesday, January 21 (1-3:15), Board Office (video-conference to Creston Education Centre)
- **AFL Webcast, Going Deeper With Descriptive Feedback** (Caren Cameron/Catheline Gregory), Wednesday, January 21, Board Office (3:30-6 PST), CEC (4:30-7 MST)
- **DPAC**, Thursday, January 22 (6-8), Board Office
- **Safety Training**, Thursday, January 22 (9-3), Creston Education Centre
- **Safety Training**, Friday, January 23 (9-3), Best Western
- **Labour Management**, Monday, January 26, Board Office
- **Special Ed Review**, Friday, January 30 (9-3), Board Office
- **Policy Meeting**, Monday, February 2 (1-4), Board Office
- **Board Meeting**, Tuesday, February 3, Board Office

Differentiation of Instruction in S.D. 8

The Board goal for 2009-2009 is **to enhance the life chances of students through a strong public education system.**

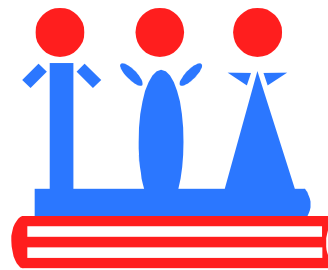
As a district, we are committed to supporting the celebrating and sharing instructional approaches which meet the need of a range of learners.

In our province, educators such as Susan Close, Faye Brownlie, Leyton Schnellert, and Dawn Reithaug have written and presented on differentiation. In the U.S., Carol Ann Tomlinson's work is well known.

In S.D. #8, a group of 20 teachers and T.A.'s are involved with Leyton Schnellert in a staff development project focusing on differentiating

instruction for struggling learners.

In Creston, a group of educators are considering a focus on differentiation through action research as part of the program for Quality Teaching facilitated by **Nancy Hinds**, of the B.C.T.F.; and **Brenda Brucker**, of the C.V.T.A.



Draft Guidelines: Dealing With Bus Accidents

We transport approximately 2500 students by bus each day. Fortunately, accidents are rare!

The bus accident which occurred on January 8, 2009 has led to the development of draft guidelines for how to deal with situations in the future.

These were shared with parents of affected students on January 20th, and will be communicated throughout the district.