



June 14, 2019

Aimee Watson  
RDCK Board Chair/Director of Electoral Area D  
Box 902, Kaslo, BC  
VOG 1M0  
Cell: (250) 304-5842

Dear Director Watson:

**RE: JEWETT**

In response to your letter, dated June 10, 2019, there is **no current discussion of the Board of Education to close the remote school of Jewett Elementary**. We are well aware of the concerns the community and continue to discuss various options moving forward. There are currently four children registered for the 2019-2020 school year and Principal Rude is working hard to look after their individual educational needs.

We are unable to fit you into our already packed year-end agenda but look forward to continued discussion with Kaslo Family of Schools in the Fall. All Families of Schools have an opportunity to come out and discuss, with the Board, any future changes during our upcoming Fall Facilities meetings. **The Kaslo Family of Schools meeting is scheduled for October 23 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm at Jewett School.**

Principal Rude has been up to the area twice in recent weeks to discuss educational concerns with parents. Both meetings have been extremely positive. In addition, Principal Rude and staff have been in communication with the parents regarding innovative learning strategies. In being operational, we need to give full consideration to the staff and providing improved learning opportunities for children. Staffing is the full purview of the school Principal. The Board of Education is fully aware of our role in governance and oversight of the District. We thank you for your suggestions.

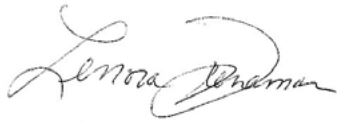
Principal Rude has clear communication with the Executive Director of North Kootenay Lake Community Services. Their needs will also be taken into consideration. School District 8 Board of Education continues to reach out to the community members who have been working hard to find alternative methods for securing educational services for their children.

There were significant criteria connected to the Community Works program offered in 2016. While we appreciated the offer of \$50,000 to upgrade Jewett to geothermal, it would not have facilitated the amount of improvements needed at Jewett School. We were able to move forward in keeping the school open due to the REEF funding (Rural Education Enhancement Fund). This continues to this day. The Lardeau Valley Educational Committee is more than

welcome to invite Principal Rude and Trustee Lang to any upcoming meetings for further discussion,

We thank you for sharing your concerns and look forward to seeing you at our facilities discussion this Fall. Please feel free to connect with Trustee Lang at any time. [dlang@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:dlang@sd8.bc.ca)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lenora Trenaman".

Lenora Trenaman, Board Chair  
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