



School District 8
Kootenay Lake

Superintendent's Report

June 25, 2019

Submitted by: Dr. Christine Perkins, Superintendent/CEO

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LEARNING

CRESTON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

ADAM ROBERTS ELEMENTARY

- N/A

CANYON LISTER ELEMENTARY

- All Grade 7 students in Creston were invited to the Grade 7 Palooza BBQ Kickball event on June 11th, hosted by Canyon-Lister Elementary at Canyon Park. The intent is to provide a fun opportunity for Grade 7 students to meet each other prior to their transition to PCSS.
- Students continued to work towards Reconciliation through regular Indigenous Education opportunities including last week's trip to St. Eugene's to learn about the history of residential schools, and the Reconciliation Run (Taking Great Strides) in Salmo.
- The work all staff have done to improve reading performance across the school has made an impact, with great improvement seen in all grades this year. Implementation of PD learning from Adrienne Gear and Faye Brownley has had a very positive effect.

ERICKSON ELEMENTARY

- One of our students, Oliver Beaucher, is going to be in Victoria this summer to attend the International Schools Debates and Awards for the Trust for Sustainable Living. Through genius hour and encouragement from teacher he entered his idea into the competition. He has been chosen to attend because of his work and ideas around Tiny Houses and sustainable land living.
- The Creston Valley grade 4-7 track meet was well attended and enjoyed by the approximately 400 students staff and volunteers.
- Staff and students are looking forward to the annual year end picnic in the park on June 27. The waterpark and games at centennial park is a great way to wrap up the year.

PRINCE CHARLES SECONDARY

- N/A

WILDFLOWER CRESTON

- Both Creston Wildflower classes recently completed their year end trip to Drumheller, AB. Grades K-7 attended the trip with almost all of the students attending along with parent support. The trip included several opportunities for learning and coming together as a group. Including a trip to the Drumheller museum along with an overnight stay.
- Wildflower Creston just finished their school wide camping trip on the dates of June 14th to 16th at Dutch Harbour. A chance for families to build community and celebrate the growth of every child in the program.

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CRAWFORD BAY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

CRAWFORD BAY ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- Giant mural was unveiled on National Indigenous Day to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the new school. Dedicated staff member Alana Strom has been the guiding vision behind this incredible artwork. All school members have contributed their time and creativity to the mural:



- The six week Mentorship program for CBESS secondary students finished up with Mentee presentations on June 20th. Mentorships were in Felting, Golf, Cooking, Carpentry, Timber framing, 3D Rendering, Horse Therapy, Videography and Drivers Licences.
- Crawford Bay's Grade 12 students celebrated their graduation on June 21st in an evening catered by local chef Terri Fiddick of the Black Salt Cafe. This outstanding ceremony was attended by families, community members, local dignitaries and a Kootenay Lake School District representative. Thank you to parents, staff and the Cafe for making this such a lovely occasion.

SALMO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

SALMO ELEMENTARY

- Cole's Books in Nelson entered into a contest called the Amazing Race which took place across Canada. Based on their fundraising efforts for our school, whereby we received \$1500 in books earlier this year, they won the competition and were awarded a \$1000 gift card to give to the school of their choice. They chose Salmo Elementary and we are thrilled to be able to use those funds to add more exciting

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text to our growing library. What a wonderful gift and gesture from this local business!



- Salmo Elementary staff committed to improving literacy rates in our school through the Joyful Literacy and Faye Brownlie frameworks. As such, our literacy scores have significantly improved, particularly in grade 3/4 where 80% of students were not yet meeting expectations in the fall. That number has now decreased to 20% thanks to the dedication of staff to work 120 minutes per day on literacy activities. We are so proud of our students and staff. We are thrilled to see these achievement gaps beginning to close.
- Salmo Elementary continues to work on indigenizing our school code of conduct. Our code of conduct will focus will now be centred around the Seven Sacred Teachings of the Anishinaabe Nation. These fundamental teachings became widely known as the “Seven Grandfathers” when the Anishinaabe slowly began to control their own education during and after the American Indian Movement.
- On June 21st, Salmo Elementary will be hosting an Indigenous Sports Day! Students will be participating in traditional sporting games from First Peoples’ cultures.

SALMO SECONDARY

- Mr. Shunter’s Music 8 class entered a competition hosted by DigiBC and WON!!! They created a soundtrack for a video game trailer and have won a trip to Vancouver.



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- On June 8th, Salmo Secondary celebrated the Graduating class of 2019. The ceremony was attended by families, community members, local dignitaries and Kootenay Lake School District representatives. It was a beautiful event put on by staff and parents. Thank you to all those that made the day so special.
- On June 14th, Salmo Secondary hosted 500 athletes for the wuqanqankimik Indigenous Run. We had beautiful weather for this great sporting opportunity. Thanks to Danica and Gail for supporting this day.

KASLO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

JEWETT ELEMENTARY

- We are combining Outdoor Ed and Mindfulness Yoga for 4 sessions. The students and staff have a 45 minute yoga session outdoors followed by learning about Animal Adaptations, How to light a survival fire, Trees and Photosynthesis and tree rings.
- We had our end of the year trip to Castlegar where we stayed at the Super 8, went for pizza and a movie.
- Our Participaction Challenge with the JVH Grade 2/3 class clocked 3045 minutes of activity that we put towards the Community Better Challenge, trying to win \$150,000 for our community.

J.V. HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- This year's Kootenay Boundary winner of the BC School Superintendents Association (BCSSA) Scholarship is Bry Daniels from JVH.
- Secondary Teacher, Grace Broadfoot is a finalist for a Premier's Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Outstanding New Teacher category.
- On National Indigenous Peoples Day this Friday, June 21, Grade 12's will be doing a rite of passage walk throughout the school. The Kindergartens will offer feathers to the GRADS, share bannock and send the grads off with the travelling song and drumming with the drums the K's made this spring.
- JVH's School-Based Team meetings this year have run mostly weekly and have included our Principal, Counsellor, Case Manager, and Youth & Family workers. We start each meeting going through the entire list of students and noting which students we need to share more about. Next year, with our alternate program moving up to the school, the SBT meetings will also include our alternate teacher.

SLOCAN VALLEY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BRENT KENNEDY ELEMENTARY

- N/A

MT. SENTINEL SECONDARY

- N/A

W.E. GRAHAM ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- VWP Canoeing Slocan Lake June 10-14. OELP Canoeing Slocan from Silverton to Rosebery June 12-14. WILD - Pine's Camp June 12-14.

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- New Playground
- OELP students raised money to purchase 6 bikes for those in need in Africa.

WINLAW ELEMENTARY

- Teacher H. Kennedy was selected to participate in Project Overseas through the BCTF and the Canadian Teachers' Federation. She will be joining a team of teachers from Ontario to provide instruction in best teaching practices for teachers in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the Caribbean.

NELSON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BLEWETT ELEMENTARY

- Blewett Grade 4 and 5 students are taking part in the Redfish Track and Field event today June 13th. On June 4th the entire school went to Winlaw for a Track and Field event and had a great time!! Thanks to Staff and students at both Redfish and Winlaw for hosting!!
- Blewett School Community Barbeque was on June 13th. Parents, students, new Kindies and parents, staff, as well as extended family members and community were welcome to attend. We are grateful to our PAC for organizing this great event every year!
- Grade Five students are leaving for Blue Lake on June 19th and returning June 21st. A chance for them to have some fun with friends, their teacher Eli Geddis and Principal Lindsay MacKay before they leave Blewett School.

HUME ELEMENTARY

- Colour Wars! Sounds exciting, right? Our annual fun day activities where we play in our multi-age groups will happen on June 25th. This year, the championship will be determined by who can defeat the "Dark Blue" team who have won the event for the past couple of years!
- Shout out to the Nelson Legion who has donated \$1500 toward the cost of a fish tank and chiller for our new salmonid tank. They will be volunteering to serve food to the children at our Colour Wars Fun Day Event!

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L.V. ROGERS SECONDARY



- LV Rogers celebrated Tim Bullen's final band concert, "Bullen's Celebration of Music" with guests Trafalgar Grade 7/8 Band and Nelson's Community Band. It was a wonderful community celebration of music and Tim Bullen's 25 year career. We wish him all the best in his retirement!

- LV Rogers Dance Program presented "Movement," a year-end culminating celebration of dance at the

Capitol Theatre. It was an amazing, talented evening of performances--thank you Ms. Jen MacMillan for her continued commitment to developing talent and skill in her students.



- REACH Alternate celebrated their graduation dinner on Wednesday, June 12th. It was a lovely and heartfelt celebration: congratulations Ella and Holden! LV Rogers will host their Cap and Gown Ceremony on Friday June 14th at 7 pm. It will be a true community celebration. Weekend graduation events include Grand March, Cavalcade, and Prom on June 15th. Best of luck, graduates of 2019!
- ATLAS outdoor education students rescued a lone kayaker from drowning on their recent canoeing expedition. The students and teacher Graeme Marshall worked to provide immediate assistance, including first aid, food, and warm clothing. They are truly heroes of the day, and we are proud of them!



REDFISH ELEMENTARY

- We hosted 250 grade 4s and 5s for a Track and Field Event on June 13th. We were amazed by the focus, skill and great sportsmanship displayed by these young athletes! And we couldn't have done it without many community volunteers.



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- Our grade 4s and 5s are heading to Fort Steele next week to celebrate a year of hard work with some great exploration of the history of our area
- Our PAC is hosting a volunteer and staff appreciation dinner. Over 30 volunteers and the whole staff are invited. To be invited, you have to have volunteered more than 5 times throughout the year, which means that at the minimum, this group represents 150 volunteer sessions. And we have about 20 more on our list who didn't make the list for this year. We really wouldn't be the vibrant school we are without such extraordinary parent and community support.

ROSEMONT ELEMENTARY

- Rosemont will officially open our outdoor classroom on June 24 during our annual sports day. Three shade trees are being planted for the rock circle.
- Students are completing their marble towers and will enjoy an afternoon of free play on each other's creations. Cardboard is everywhere in our school!
- Grade 4 and 5 students have been practicing an enormous amount for the Nelson-area track and field meet at Redfish School. We can't wait to see their smiles on their faces when they return!

SOUTH NELSON ELEMENTARY

- On June 4th we hosted a Bike Safety Rodeo at South Nelson! A big shout out and thanks to our community partners- Charles Arnold Manager of Gericks Cycle and Ski/parent, Dr. Courtney Collins Physician/parent and Sargent Dan Markevich, Nelson City Police for donating their time and expertise to teach our students about the importance of bike safety. We are very grateful to Nelson and District Credit Union, Nelson City Police, ICBC, NRG Enterprises, and BCAA for donating 6 helmets and a variety of other draw prizes for our students.



- South Nelson is running our first ever Survivor Fun Day on June 25th! Our Spring Student Council team has been hard at work designing the stations. Students, staff, and parent volunteers will be in for a day of fun culminating in a gigantic tug of war!
- South Nelson staff and students are hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Tea on June 19th for our wonderful volunteers who support us consistently through a variety of PAC events and fundraisers, PAC Hot Lunch Program, our one to one Kindergarten Reading Program, field trips, and special activities in our classes.

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TRAFALGAR MIDDLE

- The Sino-Canada Chinese program was a great success. Forty-eight students from China attended special programming at Trafalgar from April 6 to June 4, which included language studies, project based learning, and local cultural experiences. The entrepreneur fair on Baker St. was a highlight to wrap up their stay.
- The Trafalgar band was very successful at the recent Sunfest Music Festival. The Gr. 7/8 Band received a Gold award, and the Gr. 7/8 Jazz Band came away with a Silver award. The bands wrapped up their year with a successful performance at Mr. Bullen's final celebration and a lovely outdoor concert at Trafalgar.
- On June 18 Trafalgar hosted "Trafalgar's Got Talent" talent show. The drama club students worked hard to host the event. There were many entries and all students did a wonderful job showing off their various talents! The school community enjoyed celebrating the diversity of acts and accomplishments of students.

WILDFLOWER NELSON

- All of the classes at Wildflower School are busy with end of year celebrations of learning and community potlucks. An exciting time for students to reflect back and present their learning from the past term and year. Topics of exploration include:
 - The human body - circulatory, digestive, respiratory systems etc.
 - The origin story of day and night, Inuit mythology, shadow puppet play
 - An exploration of Canada's geography, First Nations territories and patterns of movement both pre and post European contact. This included a dive into First Nations teachings, a study of the human mind, and the science behind geological land formations.
- Heather Vardy's Grade 2-6 class recently participated in a whole class traditional drum making ceremony held by four nations at Crescent Valley beach. 18 students made drums, learned about the art and symbolism of drum making.
- Podcast Project - Wildflower Middle School: As part of the year-long Building Community Through Connections theme in the WFMS, students were challenged with exploring connections in their own community this spring. Students would select and interview another person in their community as a means of sharing stories of others. Students were mentored by two community members to help them prepare, interview, record, and edit the final product which was shared out as a podcast. This project was led by the Big Idea: People understand stories differently depending on their worldviews and perspectives. We also asked students to use a few guiding questions in their project: Why are stories important to learn and share? How does engaging in persuasive writing help us to better understand our world and connection to it? How will learning others' stories help us to make connections to myself and to the story?

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

- June 19th: Final Year End Aboriginal Team meeting sharing Elder Chris Luke's beautiful new book on Yaqan Nukiy history and culture, year end honouring of ABED team, and a Drum Awakening Ceremony led by community Elders Donna Wright, Debbie Bird and Anne Marie Smith.
- PCSS Yaqan Nukiy Flag Raising Ceremony with honoured community guests, Chief Jason Louie, Creston Mayor Ron Toyota, and Superintendent Dr. Perkins.

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- District ABED team visits to traditional territory partners: Okanagan Nation Alliance (with the creation of a draft MOU) and Secwepemc Nations bands: Splotsin, Adams Lake, Little Shuswap, and Neskonlith. MOU conversations ongoing.
- June 24: attended release of SD8 ABED and ONA Fisheries “home-grown-and-loved-by-students” salmon at the traditional Salmon Ceremony, Millenium Park, Castlegar. A celebration of salmon returning to our local waterways!
- Stories from Here Celebration: honouring the Set BC Stories from Here projects at both Redfish Elementary and Wildflower Nelson with student debuts of their very own digital stories! Parents, families and community attended.

DISTRIBUTED LEARNING

- N/A

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

- We have just received communication from BCCIE that 6 of our students won scholarships from them. The students are from Japan, Mexico, and South Korea. Each scholarship is a cash award for \$1250.00. A big shout out to Michele Le Lievre and Tanis Bouchier for their support with students to complete the applications.
- We had 9 students graduate from LVR this week. Parents have come from Japan, China, and South Korea to share the weekend with their sons and daughters.
- Our year end banquet will be held at the Prestige Lakeside Hotel June 20, 2019. We are expecting over 240 homestay members with their students. This is a special event in which students are presented with certificates for their academic achievements in a language that is not their first language. Graduates will be acknowledged for their achievements and a highlight of their chosen universities and paths for next year. Some will go to the university of Toronto, UBC, University of Victoria, McGill, and some will return home.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- N/A

INNOVATIVE LEARNING SERVICES

- June 6, 2019 SD8 Curriculum Project Sharing Day. Teachers spent the day learning together as 20 school teams shared their collaborative inquiry projects. These projects all entailed collaborative inquiry as school teams delved deeper into exploring BC K-12 curriculum.
- June 12, 2019: Faye Brownlie spent the day meeting with a focus group of intermediate teachers in the morning and primary teachers in the afternoon. Time was spent discussing literacy K-12 and next steps for literacy initiatives in SD8 for the 2019-20 school year.

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- June 20, 2019: Aspiring Leaders and their PVP mentors wrapped up their last session for the 2018-19 school year. From this year's ALP program 6 of the participants had the opportunity to serve in a term PVP role during the school year. In addition, 5 of these Aspiring Leaders have been hired into PVP roles for the 2019-20 school year.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

SECRETARY-TREASURER

- 2019-2020 Board, Committees, Facilities and Budget Scheduled.
- 2018-2019 Audit planning complete.
- Baragar Data review commenced.

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

- Postings for approximately 30 CUPE positions for 2019/20 were activated on June 13, 2019.
- There are approximately 15 postings for teachers that closed on June 14. At this point, almost all postings for teachers for September have closed and principals are in the process of interviewing and hiring.
- Another successful safety training was held in Creston by Russell Warwick on June 11. More to follow in the Fall!

OPERATIONS

- 2019/2020 online school bus registration up and running on district website
- Projects are scheduled for July/Aug at all sites to support program delivery in 2019/20

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



Help Desk Tickets

The SD8 IT Team has closed 4713 help desk tickets during the 2018/2019 school year.

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Network Upgrade

The SD8 IT Team continues with the district wide network upgrade. Recently wiring has been completed at Rosemont Elementary School and South Nelson Elementary. Currently wiring is in progress at Brent Kennedy and Blewett. Trafalgar and ARES will be started in the summer, and PCSS will be completed at the beginning of summer break.

The following schools have been completed: Hume, J.V. Humphries, Redfish, W.E. Graham, Central Education Centre, and L.V. Rogers.



Chromebook Carts

W. E. Graham, Winlaw, Redfish and Salmo Elementary were each set up with a new Chromebook cart in June! Wildflower will be getting 30 new Chromebooks, and an addition 61 Chromebooks will be delivered to various schools over the summer.



iPad Roll Out

The IT team is working hard on getting district iPads into a new management system. 200 are in the new system now and over the summer work will continue on all district iPads. This solution gives the ability for the IT team to push apps to the iPads remotely, as well as the ability to log into the iPads to solve issues which may arise.



Hyper-converged Server - Super Server!

The SD8 IT Team has completed an RFP process for a Hyper-converged server, and a contract with a vendor has been signed. The new server is being installed during June at the Nelson Colocation Facility. This new server installed at the location will provide SD8 with improved redundancy, resiliency and centralization of services.

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ENGAGEMENT & RELATIONSHIPS

BCSSA - Superintendent represented Kootenay Boundary BCSSA at Career Summit 2019 - a meeting of K-12 system partners, post-secondary sector, and employer organizations.

DIRECTORS & SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM - review of year and plans for moving forward. Role changes: Director Holitski will be in charge of Inclusion; Director Eaton will be in charge of Innovative Learning.

GRAD - This year the Superintendent has attended Homelinks, REACH, LVR and Mount Sentinel graduations. The Superintendent thanks REACH for the invite to the fabulous grad dinner in Railtown.

LEADERSHIP TEAM (PVPs) - wrapped up 2018-2019 and celebrated highlights for self, school, and throughout the District. This was the first year of the Strategic Plan and all sorts of targets were surpassed. PVP shared info on School Plans and gathered as Families of Schools to review successes. A presentation and update from Eden DuPont on District websites was also received.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - Superintendent served on Financial Management Committee of the new Funding Model. A final report is expected in the Fall of 2019.

DPAC and PACs - met with ARES PAC and informed all PACs of application deadlines for funds for 2019-2020.

SELKIRK COLLEGE - met with President Angus Graeme for annual review. Bid farewell to Pat Bidart (moving to St. Lucis) and thanked her for her work in helping SD 8 move forward with Trades dual credit programs. we have gone from five students to 35 for next year!

STUDENTS TRUSTEES - Congratulations to the following new, and returning, Student Trustees for SD 8 - Kootenay Lake.

From Crawford Bay Secondary Elementary school - **Liam Borhaven** (2nd term)

From J.V. Humphries - **Jace Lamoureux** (2nd term)

From L.V. Rogers - **Avie Waterfall** and **Harlan Hofmann** (both new)

From Mount Sentinel Secondary - **Adriana Wilson** and **Calla DeRosa** (both new)

From Prince Charles Secondary in Creston - **Aurora Jarvis** (new)

From Salmo Secondary - **Kyla Jones** and **Brook Jessup** (both new)

A huge thank you to out-going Student Trustees Eden Solarik (L.V. Rogers), Olivia Kettle (Prince Charles Secondary), and Rowan Medhurst (Crawford Bay). All three have graduated. The Board of Education wishes them the very best in their future education and careers and thanks them for the service to School District 8 - Kootenay Lake.

WKTEP (West Kootenay Teacher Education Program) - Thank you to WKTEP for presenting at our year-end PVP Leadership meeting. It was great to catch up on all things WKTEP and learn about new aspects of the program.