

Superintendent's Report

January 22, 2019

Submitted by: Dr. Christine Perkins, Superintendent/CEO

LEARNING

CRESTON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

ADAM ROBERTS ELEMENTARY

- Amazing Winter performances completed by ARES students! Thanks to staff for making these happen so well!
- Coming up:
 - grade 7's attending The Lion King in Spokane (Jan 24th)
 - Skiing for students as part of the winter PE program
 - PAC supported Swim program for Mrs. Hayes' class
 - student presentations at each weekly assembly continue on virtues theme

CANYON LISTER ELEMENTARY

- MakerSpace- our orders have been placed for our new MakerSpace, and we will be focusing our February school-based PD day on building capacity in the different tools and resources.
- UNESCO focus- each classroom is continuing to work on their UNESCO project for the year:
 - K/1- fundraising for an Aboriginal school up north in need
 - Gr 2/3/4- litterless lunches: getting rid of juice boxes and using reusable drink containers
 - Gr 4/5- signed up for the Classroom Energy Challenge through CanGeography
 - Gr 5/6- litterless lunches: wax wraps/ eliminating plastic wrap in the classroom
 - Gr 7- Greenhouse/food security

CRESTON HOMELINKS

- N/A

ERICKSON ELEMENTARY

- The winter concert went very well with most students participating
- We are preparing for reading month in February, where students will be encouraged to read even more than they usually do
- Our intermediate students have the opportunity to participate in skiing or swimming/bowling/skating on three separate occasions in February

PRINCE CHARLES SECONDARY

- N/A

WILDFLOWER CRESTON

- N/A

CRAWFORD BAY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

CRAWFORD BAY ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- This week CBESS students began their first of 4 ski days at Whitewater for grades 4 - 12, and 6 days of swim for K - 3.
- CBESS was awarded a \$6000 grant to implement the Ready Bodies Learning Minds program, a research based program that addresses social skills, sensory integration, motor planning/learning, self-regulation, and, consequently, academic success. The program addresses the developmental level of individuals as opposed to their chronological age. It can identify students with immature developmental skills which often affects their behaviour at school.
- CBESS Secondary students will be going on an exchange program to Toronto this Spring. Their twin counterparts will be coming to Crawford Bay in May when the weather will best highlight our beautiful surroundings.

SALMO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

SALMO ELEMENTARY

- SES is working with Salmo Community Resource Society to provide students 8 lessons focused on problem solving social issues in a positive way
- Primary team and students presented their new literacy games that they have been creating to all SD8s PVPs.
- The use of Buddy classes has allowed for leadership opportunities for older students who may require a movement break to their day.

SALMO SECONDARY

- We will be hosting our "Inquiry Celebration of Learning" on Friday Feb 1 at 12:30. All community, parents and guests are welcome to come see what our kids have been working on during their guided inquiry time
- We currently have 4 basketball teams practicing and playing, we are grateful for the community coaches and the great sportsmanship and effort put forward by the student athletes. Approximately 25% of our entire school population is participating on these teams

KASLO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

J.V. HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- Running Avalanche Skills 1 & FoodSafe trainings for secondary students
- Developing a full-day Mental Health & Wellness day for gr. 8-12 in February
- Four-day per week Youth & Family Worker position prioritized & hired for remainder of this school year
- Intermediate ski days & primary skating coming up

- Amazing progress in communicating with physically dependent student this school year - has started making popcorn and giving it to classmates using a device that allows him to press a button to run electric devices

JEWETT

- This year we are focussing some of our Ready Set Learn funds on an introduction to Aboriginal Education. We are holding 5 sessions where the pre-schoolers will do some drumming; aboriginal story telling, songs and some artifacts.
- We dedicated January as Nutrition month at Jewett. The students are meal planning, shopping, reading labels, bringing zero waste lunch and making affordable healthy snacks according to the Canada Food Guide.
- Our winter Take Me Outside days started with cross country skiing and snow-shoeing. We will travel to Kaslo to skate at the Kaslo Arena 3 more times and we are also learning indoor curling.

SLOCAN VALLEY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BRENT KENNEDY ELEMENTARY

- Grade 5/6 students from Mrs. Johnson's class attended the unveiling of the new stop of interest sign at Crescent Valley beach, commemorating the Patrick family at the site of their former lumber mill which operated over 100 years ago. Our students had an opportunity to hear the fascinating story of the Patrick family and its role in BC and NHL history! Teacher candidate, Jessica McIntyre, saw this as a great opportunity to connect with our community and to learn more about the role and function of our MLA's.
- Winter Activities are underway. Students have the opportunity to experience skating and bowling in Castlegar, snowshoeing at Nancy Green Lake, and outdoor Indigenous experiential learning on our school property, lead by Kathryn McCooney from the Four Nations Coalition. The District Transportation fund enables us to participate in these excursions outside of our school. Thank you to our transportation department and drivers for their coordination and support.
- The launch of the new Brent Kennedy website has been received well by parents and our community. The refreshed and modernized website enables everyone to stay up to date with news and events happening at the school, district and community. The initial focus has been the development of the news hub area of the site with additional resources and information being added as they are updated.

MT. SENTINEL SECONDARY

- Learning Rounds with Leyton Schnellert & our Intermediate Teachers (grade 7/8) along with other teachers from the Slocan Valley Family of Schools
- Our Grade 12 Law Class will be involved in their Mock Trial all day at the Nelson Courthouse on Wed. Jan.23rd
- Capstone presentations will be held at MSSS on Tuesday Jan. 22nd for this year's Grade 12 class.

W.E. GRAHAM ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- Start up at WEG went well
- Started into our Ski Program at Whitewater. VWP class is doing their Avalanche Training next week.

- OELP will be doing a Cross-Country Ski excursion next week.

WINLAW ELEMENTARY

- Winlaw Hockey League - 6 multi-age hockey teams rotating play twice per week during lunch hour
- Singing lessons - individual classes and whole school - Every Thursday
- Celebrating Literacy week with a storytelling and theatre performance as well as a two month at home reading challenge.
- Winlaw Student Council news/information channel & Bulletin

NELSON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BLEWETT ELEMENTARY

- Two curriculum grant applications have been approved for Blewett School. Teachers are part of exciting learning opportunities - either with a focus on Inclusion using Applied Design and Skills Technology pedagogies and tools, or focusing on Primary Inquiry in the Classroom.
- Outdoor Winter learning is in full swing at Blewett School. Classes are learning in nature and snowshoeing on our own grounds and x-country skiing at Apex.
- Blewett School students are starting to plan their projects for our upcoming Blewett School Science Fair, which will be held at the beginning of March 2019.

HUME ELEMENTARY

- Winter Activities have begun at Hume School with students participating in yoga, dance and soon skating, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, and curling lessons will take place. We are so fortunate to have received a grant from the CBT to pay for the majority of the costs for these lessons.
- For our Fine Arts celebration in February, the students have signed up to participate in a talent show. We will have auditions soon and expect to see a wide range of activities at the show.
- The kindergarten classes have been participating in "Winter Wonder" activities outside with community teachers. This excellent program brings awareness and understanding to the children about the beauty and diversity of living things outside in our beautiful region.

L.V. ROGERS SECONDARY

- LV Rogers piloted our first Capstone Fair as part of the Grad Transitions 12 program. Our amazing students presented a variety of projects to demonstrate their passions, interests, and explorations. Thank you to Jen Kidd for coordinating the effort! Please visit <https://youtu.be/KBbdOWoJDhk?t=35> and view until 5:03.
- LV Rogers student Brayden Marken-Helleckson was cleared to start boxing just 3 months ago after a shoulder injury, but won the BC Provincial Boxing Championship. As a result, Brayden has won the honor of attending the Canada Winter Games as BC's Representative being held February 15th to March 2nd in Red Deer, Alberta.
- Art student Bethany Pardoe's introspective "Experience of Nelson" multi-media art series is displayed outside the LVR office. Bethany is one of our exemplary art students, and attached is her artist's

statement as well as two exemplars of the multiple pieces of work. Thank you teacher Jason Peil for submitting. We'll look forward to making this a semi-permanent installation in the LVR foyer.

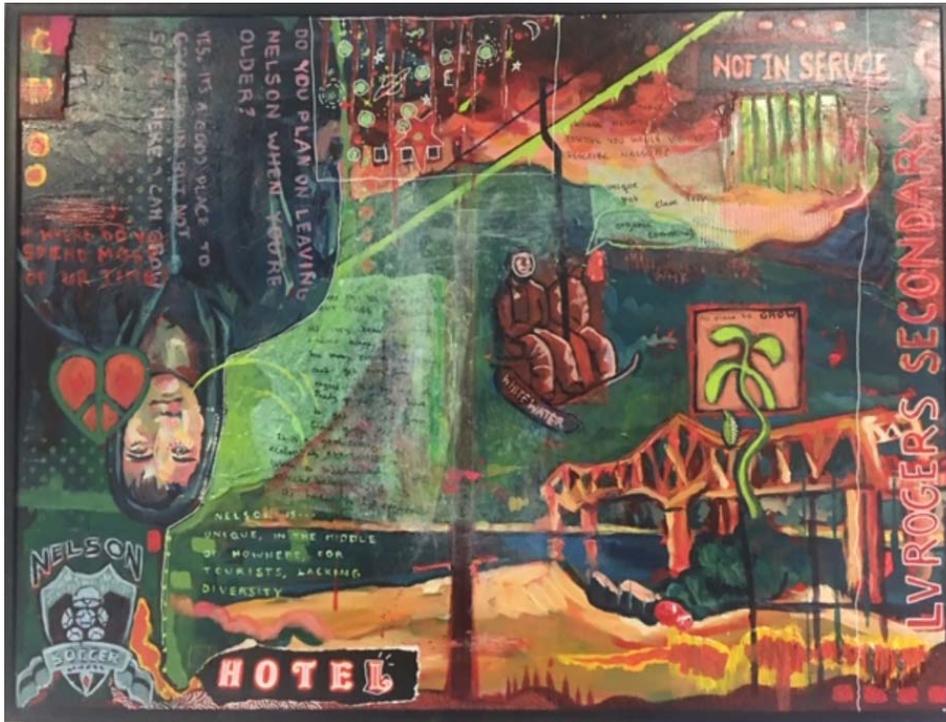


What Is Your Experience of Nelson

This is a five part multi media art series about Nelson. This series depicts what living in Nelson is like. It explores the question "What is your experience of Nelson" across different demographics. Each piece has a theme that influenced the way they were created. The five themes are: History of Nelson, Young People of Nelson, Newcomers to Nelson, Nelsons LGBTQ2+ community of Nelson, and my personal experience of Nelson.

I created this art series as a way to connect with the community and learn more about how Nelson is viewed from a different perspective. This project incorporates materials from around Nelson as well as written word. I have spent three months researching, collecting collage material and interviewing the people of Nelson. I was inspired by Art Journaling and how it combines multiple art mediums and styles with writing. Art journaling is a varied art form and can be very minimal or crowded with images and information. I chose to use the latter method which best fit with my concept. For reference I used photos of Nelson taken by myself, or in some cases sketches I did on location, as well as several images of Nelson found online landmarks. Most of the images in these pieces are representative except for the final piece which is more personal and depicts my family.

I have experienced the process of creating a series from start to finish and these skills will help me in the future. I learned how to plan out a project, including thumbnail sketches and writing out interview questions. I also learned about how to finish a project, write an artist statement, seal the art, and apply to places to display art. I wish to continue exploring multimedia and expand my knowledge and technical skills around creating art.



REDFISH ELEMENTARY

- Early Childhood programming and Ready Set Learn - Since programs have been running out of Redfish School rather than community buildings, the number of child contact hours went from 96 last year to 216 this year. The collaboration we have with our StrongStart, CBAL, Kootenay Lake Family Network, PAC and Rec10 supports children and families in a myriad of ways, including with the transition to kindergarten.
- Our students have been out cross-country skiing for weeks now, in our field and at Apex. The smiles as students master this tricky skill and show resilience when it is cold, wet, icy and exhausting is inspiring. This is growth mindset in action.
- Our Redfish PAC accounting club is up and running. Six students from grades 3-5 meet regularly with our PAC treasurer to learn general accounting practices and also provide input to our PAC in prioritizing spending decisions. Over time the students will be keeping the PAC books and reporting monthly at PAC meetings.

ROSEMONT ELEMENTARY

- Starting winter activities for the entire school: skating, curling, cross-country and downhill skiing
- Rosemont staff are participating in the Coldest Night of the Year fundraiser in Nelson
- Grade 5 students have been implementing school spirit days, the first one was pajama and crazy hair day back in December
- Staff and students are working on a fifth C for Rosemont: calm to go along with caring, common sense, commitment to learning and creativity

SOUTH NELSON ELEMENTARY

- Two of our primary classes participated in the GLOWS (Growing and Learning Opportunities with STEAM) Kootenay Contraption Contest. Students in each class created “contraptions” to turn something of waste from their homes into something that is useful in their lives. We were excited when it was announced that Grade 1 student Reegan Killen from Christina Long’s class won first prize! Also, we give a big shout out to Ms Denise Currie Grade 2/3 for being selected in the teacher category. Both classes combined on January 18th to enjoy a pizza party generously sponsored by Fortis BC and Selkirk College.
- South Nelson students are participating in a number of physical literacy and place based learning opportunities over the winter term. Students K-5 have a choice of skating, snowshoeing, downhill skiing, snowboarding, cross country skiing, boxing and soccer for our winter activities this year. Several of our classes have also taken part in Wildsight’s Winter Wonder programs and two of our classes are heading out to the Nelson Nordic Ski School program for three cross country ski lessons.
- On January 30th the elementary teacher candidates from the UBC West Kootenay Teacher Education Program will join our South Nelson primary team to learn about and observe our grades 1-3 guided reading model. Our Learning Support and Special Education teacher, Leanne Douglas, will provide an overview of the guided reading principles and how we organize for learning. The WKTEP teacher candidates will observe both early and later primary groups then meet again with Leanne to discuss their observations and ask questions. In February, Jen Kooznetsoff, primary teacher from Salmo Elementary, will visit Leanne to shadow during our guided reading group time. Leanne will also do a presentation on our guided reading model to Salmo Elementary teachers later that same day.

TRAFALGAR MIDDLE

- The Trafalgar community collected items for 6 families for Christmas hampers. Each family received food, clothing, and a nice selection of presents for the children which were brought in by staff, parents, and donated from our fantastic community partners here in Nelson.
- Grade 8 students applied their Math and construction skills by building a horse shed for Austin the horse at the Ci Ci Life Animal Sanctuary, led by Mme. Bryn-McLeod, Mr. Piro, and Ernest from the sanctuary.
- Kurt Sorge, a world-class freeride mountain biker from here in Nelson, visited Trafalgar and gave an inspiring message about hard work, perseverance, and determination in following your goals in a school-wide assembly.
- The Trafalgar Middle School Band hosted a joint concert with the Playmor Junction Big Band to promote music, and then delivered a fantastic Christmas Concert!
- The grade 8 girls’ Trafalgar Thunder volleyball team took home the West Kootenay Championship!
- Trafalgar has welcomed international students from Brazil and Korea at the start of the New Year.
- Trafalgar received a \$16,000 donation from a private individual who has a niece attending the school.

WILDFLOWER NELSON

- N/A

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

- The Aboriginal Education department in partnership with International Education, is pleased to announce the 3 chaperones for the Spring Break trip, New Zealand 2020. These chaperones were shortlisted after a broad email of interest offered to all staff within the Aboriginal team of 2019-2020. Interviews were

conducted and the following staff were selected: Ki Louie (PCSS), Janet Zarchukoff (Erickson Elementary) and Toni Appleby (LVR). This is a step in Reconciliation, honouring Indigenous students, while providing a platform to understand Indigenous peoples of New Zealand. We are thrilled about this project and we encourage everyone to ask questions and promote this exciting Aboriginal Education/International Education initiative!

- Fit Nation: Mondays from 4:00-5:00, Trafalgar Middle School, January 21-March 11. We are excited to offer the FitNation program this year for students, families, staff, community members, Elders, and anyone else interested! This program is an initiative of ISPARC - the Indigenous Sports, Physical Activity, and Recreation Council of BC. Danica Weager, District Indigenization Coordinator, attended a facilitator training in December 2018 and is now spearheading this 8-week program. Sessions will be both integrated into PE classes and after school to ensure maximum access for all interested (estimated 200 participants across all offerings). We have applied for a \$500 grant to run this program. The program is for anyone, anywhere, any time - movement is the medicine!
- Celebration of Indigenous Culture - An SD8 collaboration with the Capitol Theatre, Ktunaxa Nation and Yaqan Nukiy, Sinixt and Colville Confederated Tribes, and the Nelson and Area Metis: Saturday January 26th at the Capitol Theatre. This will be a sharing of teachings, songs, and traditional dance. Contact the Box Office to book by dropping by Tuesday-Friday noon-4:30pm or phone 250-352-6363.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

- Team India returns to the district and so excited to hear about their stories and stretched as they will be presenting at the next Board Meeting.
- To date: we have had 10 students extend from their previous plans of one semester and most of the students extending are from Germany and Japan.
- Our winter program is doing well and a big shout out to Trafalgar School for accommodating most of our short term program students 30 in total from Brazil and South Korea.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- N/A

INNOVATIVE LEARNING SERVICES

- Leyton Schnellert facilitated a Learning Round at BK for teachers in the Slocan Valley on Jan 15th. It was an excellent day of learning. Teachers from MSSS, BK, Winlaw and WEG participated. There will be a follow up session with Leyton on Feb 4th for these teachers.
- 2 of our students from SD8, Micevory Sluz and Garrett Weintz both received a \$1000 bursary for completing 900+ hours in their trade (Millwright and Meat Cutter respectively) as youth Apprentices, and maintaining a C+ average in their Gr 12 courses.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

SECRETARY-TREASURER

- Concluded the Creston Properties sale.

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

- A very successful Winter Celebration was held in Creston on January 11, with CUPE, PVP and teaching staff in attendance. A big thank you to all who attended!!! Mark your calendars for NEXT January - the celebration will be held on January 10, 2020!
- SD8 is co-planning with the Kootenay Career Society, a Mini-Job Fair for support staff:

What: Mini Job Fair for SD8

- Clerical/Secretarial (Office Admin Certificate)
- Finance clerks
- Educational Assistants (CCSW)
- Bus Drivers (Class 2 w/air brakes)
- Dispatchers
- Custodial (Building Service Workers)

When: February 5, 2019

Time: 12:00 - 3:00 pm

Where: Adventure Hotel

- Our 9 Aspiring Leaders had their latest meeting on January 17, 2019. We are working on several leadership avenues, including an Inquiry Project following Kaser & Halbert's Spirals of Inquiry, the book Mindset by Carol Dweck, mini-presentations from various departments and leaders, mentorship by current SD8 PVP, and involvement in various activities and professional learning around the District.

OPERATIONS

- Transportation department is developing procedures handbooks for all drivers.
- Operations department being kept busy transporting students to the ski hills and other venues for outdoor activity programs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Network wiring upgrade started at WEG.
- Upgrade to iPads management software started at Erickson, Salmo Elementary and Redfish.
- Remote installation of software for labs, and teacher and student laptops has been successfully implemented.

ENGAGEMENT

AUDITS - SD 8 - Kootenay Lake has received notice it will not be completing enrollment Audits this year. We are, however, involved in the aboriginal Education Equity Audit.

BAA - Board Authorized Courses are being reviewed as we speak and will be presented to the Board of Education at the upcoming February and March meetings. This year, the updating is for Grade 11 and Grade 12 programs. New BAA courses will be limited as there is much more flexibility within the new curriculum.

BCCPAC - Those interested in attending the annual AGM and conference for the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils, May 4-5 at the Pacific Gateway Hotel in Richmond, BC, can find our more information through their website and please be in contact with your PAC Chairs. <https://bccpac.bc.ca/index.php/conferences1/conferences/agm>

BCSSA - The Superintendent will be attending the upcoming MoE "All Superintendents" meeting and MoE Liaison Meeting. Chair Trenaman and ST McLellan will be at the Liaison meeting.

BCSTA - Senior Management and Board of Education Trustees will be attending the joint BCPSEA and BCSTA Trustee Orientation at the end of January in Vancouver. The training is regarding new Boards (46% of all Trustees in the province are new) and upcoming Collective Bargaining. <http://bcsta.org/event-info/bcsta-bcpsea-trustee-orientation-2019/>

BCPSEA - Board of Education Trustee, Dawn Lang, is running at the upcoming BCPSEA AGM for Regional Director. We wish her well.

CAPSLE - The Canadian Association for the Practical Study of Law in Education will host their [2019 Conference](https://capsle.ca), May 5-7, 2019 at the Marriott Vancouver Pinnacle Downtown, Vancouver, British Columbia, will focus on "Coastal Waves: Stories in Law & Education." <https://capsle.ca>

COTR - College of the Rockies (COTR) and SD 8 - Kootenay Lake have signed a new MoU for the Carpentry Program for 2019.

DIRECTORS & SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM - The Senior Leadership team is collaborating with the Board of Education in preparation for upcoming TF and CUPE Bargaining process. In addition, we are preparation for Family of Schools Facilities Review meetings, Alignment meetings, the 2019-2020 Budget process, the Student Education Symposium, and all things SD 8 on a daily basis.

DPAC and PACs - DPAC is featuring Bruce McLean - Director of Operations at their upcoming meeting on Wednesday, January 23rd. Next month - on Wednesday, February 27th, our Director of Human Resources - Deanna Holitzki will be speaking. We invite all PAC parent reps to attend in person at the Nelson Board Office at 570 Johnstone Road. DPAC is trialing a new way to video in from the comfort of your home using Zoom software. Please email us to get directions sd8dpac@gmail.com

FNESC - The new BC Tripartite Education Agreement (BCTEA) is intended to promote systemic shifts and collective efforts that will support improved educational outcomes of all First Nation students in BC, regardless of where they live or are enrolled in school. <http://www.fnesc.ca/bctea>

LEADERSHIP TEAM (PVPs) - Our leadership team just held a wonderful meeting in Salmo. Leadership received presentations from both Salmo Elementary and Salmo Secondary School students ranging from Kindergarten Literacy Circles to high school presentations on Spheros/Coding and Truth and Reconciliation at the local Library. Thank you to Principals Sherman and Schmidt for hosting.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - Superintendent will be attending second annual *Superintendents Meeting* with MoE. Currently, making places with school and rolling out new Grad program and Student Success Policy. Work is also underway on the new Graduation Assessments.

SELKIRK COLLEGE - Selkirk College and SD 8 - Kootenay Lake are pleased to have signed a new MoU.

STUDENT VOICE/ Student Education Symposium - Students from around the District have been invited to the upcoming Student Education Symposium on Tuesday, February 5th at the Prestige Hotel in Nelson. PVP,

teachers, parents and Trustees will also be in attendance. This is an excellent opportunity to find out all about the new Curriculum, who we are, where we have been, and where we are going in SD 8. We look forward to hearing from our students. Please be in touch with your Principal for more information. We are pleased to have leadership from our Student Trustees.

WKTEP (West Kootenay Teacher Education Program) - WKTEP is offering several programs for teachers this summer.

July 5-6. SOGI Summer Institute for Educators in the Kootenays at Trafalgar Middle facilitated by Dr. Lori MacIntosh.

July 15-19 EPSE 390K: Special Topics - Frameworks for Understanding, Teaching and Supporting Diverse Learners. - WKTEP w/ Shelley Moore