



Strategic Education Plan 2020-2025

GOAL #1 HONOUR DIVERSITY

Respect the strength of all diversities within our communities.
Support the transformation of an education system that recognizes, celebrates, and includes Indigenous history, worldviews and perspectives.

Honouring People, Land and History



WE'RE PROUD OF YOU BRIANNA!

This is **BRIANNA TOM**. Last week, there was a moment of silence in memory of the 215 children found at the Kamloops Residential School, but not everyone at Fraser Lake Elementary-Secondary School (FLESS) had heard about it. Brianna came and asked her principal, Mr. Cross, why they hadn't had a moment of recognition. When he explained what had happened, she asked if she could organize another one. This is a picture of a very nervous Brianna six minutes prior to going on the announcements. As per Mr. Cross, "All of us at FLESS are very proud of her and her inner drive & initiative."

INDIGENOUS RATTLES AT SINKUT VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



MRS. OTTESEN'S Grade 3/4 class had the opportunity to build rattles with **MRS. NIKKI ARNOLD**. First, the hide was soaked overnight to make it flexible. Next, students sewed together the edges of two pieces of hide. WOW- the Grade 3/4s can sure sew well! The X stitch and seams were amazing. Once their sewing was complete, students filled the hide pouch with rice and placed a stick into the rattle. Students left the rice filled rattle overnight to dry. The following day, students emptied out the rice, added pebbles, and a stick for a handle, and then tied up the opening. Students created beautiful replicas of Indigenous rattles. This experience has helped develop an understanding of the traditional ways that hide was prepared for clothing, rattles, drums and other uses.

SHARE THE LOVE DAY

A very special thank you to our staff, students, parents and community partners who helped us in sharing our love and support for people of all identities and expressions. This was an excellent day of learning for many of us, and I want to thank all those that helped to organize this day for us. I look forward to continuing my learning journey and working to ensure that each of our schools and workplaces is inclusive and welcoming. Please have a look at some of the events and commitments captured on the '[Share the Love SD 91](#)' website.



A thank you and a congratulations to the District of Vanderhoof, the first of the SD91 communities, to commit to a '[rainbow crosswalk](#)'!



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GOAL #2 ENGAGE OUR WORKFORCE

Foster school and district cultures that inspire and support passion-based teaching, learning, and leading.
Create opportunities for every member of our organization to contribute to student success.

Honouring People, Land and History



"EGG"AGING OUR WORKFORCE BECOMES A RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIP

"Grassy Plains School has many employees who go the extra mile for our students. This week we were able to celebrate an employee by "egging" one of them. **MRS. BOHMER** gets to the school early each day to prepare hot breakfast for our learners, some of which have reported that they can "smell the French toast when they got off the bus in the morning." Students secretly prepared egg art and notes which we used to decorate the breakfast room and surprise our beloved breakfast maker. Their egg notes of love showed the far-reaching effects that kindness, time and a hot meal made with love have on our learners. Most of the cards expressed gratitude and humour, but most importantly, an acknowledgement that they see Mrs. Bohmer's amazing example of love, service, sacrifice and perseverance. These are all things which cannot be easily taught without a role model. "Thank you, Mrs. Bohmer for your EGG-CELLENT Breakfasts!!!" submitted by Ginger Moyah, Principal of Grassy Plains School



CONGRATULATIONS GRETCHEN!

Congratulations to **GRETCHEN VOGELSANG**, a well loved and recognized Fort St. James Secondary School (FSJSS) teacher who for the past few years has been working part-time with UNBC's School of Education. We have always known what a gifted educator Gretchen is, and we are so proud of her for being recognized by UNBC for the 'Excellence in Teaching' award. Standing ovation from all of us Gretchen!.

MUSSI NIKKI ARNOLD

NIKKI ARNOLD supports EBUS Academy, Sinkut View and Mapes schools and has been an excellent support for staff and students as they have searched for ways to communicate their feelings about past practices at residential schools. Students in **MRS. WRUTH'S** Grade 1/2 class carefully coloured t-shirts while listening to traditional drumming music. The t-shirts are proudly displayed in windows, sharing the student's feelings and concerns to our community.



WILLIAM KONKIN TEAM FEATURED IN BCPVPA'S PRINCIPLE(ED) MAGAZINE

I have shared stories and pictures from WKE's 'Build-Share-Grow Kindness' project throughout this year and was delighted to see this learning featured in the June issue of the British Columbia Principal and Vice Principal's magazine, Principle(ed). The entire WKE staff should be proud of this project and looking at those outstanding glossy photographs of your students proudly sharing their kindness work. Please click [HERE](#) and go to p. 62 to read this great story. Way to go WKE team!





Strategic Education Plan 2020-2025

GOAL #3 CREATE STUDENT SUCCESS

A continued focus on the essential skills of Literacy / Numeracy.
Ensure Social Emotional Learning is embedded within all of our classrooms.
Support the use of promising and effective teaching strategies.

Honouring People, Land and History



LEARNING THROUGH FLY TYING



"MRS. JENSEN'S grade 5/6 class at Sinkut View Elementary School. took the opportunity to do some outdoor learning, enjoy the rich lands of our area, and play and learn on the land of our first nations friends. Several weeks prior to our trip to the Borel and Anzus lakes, **MR. DON HOLLOWAY** taught the students how to tie flies. Each student made 2-3 flies and used them to learn to fly fish and catch their fill of fish on the trip. We used flint and steel and magnifying glasses to learn to build a survival fire and had a fun competition to perfect our skills. Students learned to cook over a fire by preparing their own tin foil dinners and using the same technique to prepare the fish they caught. Outdoor learning has been proven to stimulate the brain, motivate students to work together and enhance connections to the land and we all experienced each of those benefits on our outing." *submitted by Sinkut View Elementary School*

CREATING STUDENT SUCCESS IN SCIENCE AT GRASSY

"In our year long journey navigating through Covid-19, we have worked to create opportunities for our learners to connect with each other while participating in hands-on learning experiences. With much planning and co-ordination to pull it off, we were able to host a school-wide celebration of Science for our learners. The students took part in various activities from building the tallest tower challenges to dissecting owl pellets and making "elephant toothpaste" come to life. Classrooms rotated to different stations throughout the

day to try their hand at biology, chemistry, engineering, etc. As a result, we saw our learners fully engaged and thoroughly enjoying themselves. They were creating, thinking, exploring, reasoning, and sharing without being directed to do so. Our families reported that their children came home with exciting news to share about their day. Their children "couldn't stop talking about all the fun they had at Science Day." Every opportunity that we can find to get our learners engaged, excited and thriving is well worth our time and efforts." *submitted by Ginger Moyah, Principal of Grassy Plains School*





SD91 LAUNCHES JOYFUL JOURNEY WITH DR. JANET MORT

SD91 and SD91 District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) partnered with reading specialist Dr. Janet Mort to create fun activities to support year-round learning. Dr. Mort created a series of 10 videos full of fun ways to learn and practice the skills for reading at home. The research tells us play is the best way for children to learn. So, let us help you find a fun game to help your child learn about the alphabet, sounds or sight words. Our team at SD91 took those videos and created shorter videos so you can quickly find games or information. Click [HERE](#) to find videos, handouts and ideas of games to play at home that support early literacy.



FAYE BROWNLIE & PETER LILJEDAHL SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS IN SD91 IN 2021 – 2022 SCHOOL YEAR



[Faye Brownlie](#), one of BC's most sought after literacy & learning experts, will be working with SD 91 Middle Year and Secondary teacher teams next year to support the district's student success goals. Faye works with students and teachers from K-12 and especially enjoys co-planning, co-teaching and reflecting on the lessons with teams of teachers. Together we are better!

[Dr. Peter Liljedahl](#), author of Thinking Classrooms, will be working with K – 12 teachers next year to review the 14 optimal thinking practices for deep learning to occur. Peter is a professor of

mathematics education in the Faculty of Education at SFU and is working internationally to support schools and districts.



CONGRATULATIONS NVSS ENTREPRENEURSHIP TEAM



After winning the Northern iCubed Summit Pitch Competition in March 2021, the Nechako Valley Secondary School Entrepreneurship 12 team - The Shepherd - competed in early June in the provincial YELL Canada Venture Challenge and came in 2nd in the province! The Shepherd is a business concept for a driving alert product.

YELL Canada and SD91 would like to congratulate the team of students, **IARA PAVON**, **FABIO WALTHER**, and **ASPEN KRYZANOWSKI**, along with their teacher **MR. ALEX CHAN** and their mentors, **SARAH FITZMAURICE** and **NATALIE MACLAREN** from Community Futures.



Strategic Education Plan 2020-2025

GOAL #4 ENHANCE CONNECTIONS

Promote collaboration and partnership with all facets of community.
Encourage our schools to participate in opportunities that strengthen our communities.

Honouring People, Land and History



BABINE ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY SCHOOL (BESS) WELCOME GRANISLE MEDICAL CLINIC



"It's been a good spring, up here at BESS. Thanks to **MR. MORRY'S** dedication and all the support from Fisheries Canada, 40 coho salmon fry were released into the lake at Red Bluff Park. Our garden remains our strong focus as we've been planting and weeding, making everything ready for its summer of growing. At the same time, students are working hard to maintain progress in their classes throughout the aftermath of COVID.

Excitement is mounting as Northern Health puts the finishing touches on the new Granisle Health clinic, located within the building. The current opening date is slated to be June 16th. Since construction began in September,

we've had some noise and smells in our part of the building, but, overall, it's been a very seamless integration. The new staff room was completed in early December and is a very welcome addition with its bright, open exposure. When it's occupied, the clinic will be a great resource for the school and students with health care and health education resources available, literally, next door." *submitted by Dylan Watt, Principal of BESS*



W.L. MCLEOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (WLM) STUDENTS CONTRIBUTE NEW BEDS TO VANDERHOOF'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

We have had some very hardworking students over the past few weeks. With the support of SD91 Career Programs, we now have new garden beds in the greenhouse at the community garden. **MR. MEADS'** grade 5/6 class worked extremely hard to dismantle all the old garden beds and dirt, and **MR. REIMER'S** grade 5/6 class has built all new beds. Other WLM classes are visiting the garden many times a week to plant." *submitted by Libby Hart, Principal of WLM*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LDSS ARCHERY TEAM FOR THEIR PROVINCIAL SWEEP

The results for the Virtual High School Provincial Archery Tournament saw Lakes District Secondary School (LDSS) sweep the competition and own the podium in all categories. The tournament was organized by the National Archery in Schools Program and was hosted by the BC Wildlife Federation. Students practiced for just over a month prior to the tournament in their cohorts and had to follow all health & safety protocols. Congratulations TEAM!

GRADE 8 GIRLS



1st place: Abby Gray
2nd place: Emma MacWilliam
3rd place: Carys Griffin

GRADE 8 BOYS



1st place: Walker Green
2nd place: Emmitt Lambert
3rd place: Justin Derksen

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS (grades 9-12)



1st place: Aly Shively
(best shooter in province with score of 286/300)
2nd place: Lela Thiessen
3rd place: Laurie Wilson

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS (grades 9-12)



1st place: Avery Donnelly
2nd place: Trent Baldwin
3rd place: Kyle Nealis



LDSS CELEBRATES 9TH YEAR OF PROJECT TRAILS

24 students – 5 days – rain, snow, freezing cold, mud and FUN! Hand built trail, bridges, boardwalk, time in a mini-excavator and finishing with a muddy ride. LDSS celebrated year 9 of Project Trails at the Boer Mountain Recreation Site and would like to thank the following sponsors & volunteers for their support this year:



- BULKLEY VALLEY CREDIT UNION
- COASTAL GAS LINK
- BURNS LAKE COMMUNITY FOREST
- BURNT BIKES
- HAMPTON LUMBER
- BABINE FOREST PRODUCTS
- DECKER LAKE FOREST PRODUCTS
- BL AUTO
- SHAWN O'MEARA
- RANDY & GABRIELLE HAMP
- KEVIN DERKSEN
- MIKE & JENNY PHILIP
- JEREMY GOODING
- PAT DUBE
- STEVE WILEJTO
- DIRK HOFER
- KELLY LUCY

Here are some of the things we heard from the students:

"So much fun! Really great experience to get outside, get work experience and learn new skills while working with other people."

"I love Project Trails. It is the BEST!"

"Getting to be out of school. Free food and biking"

"It was fun. Loved working outdoors. Very good experience and I learned a lot of new skills"

"It was nice being outdoors"

"I liked working at Kager and being on the mini-ex. It was a lot of fun"

"It was super fun and an amazing opportunity to learn new skills."





SD91 IN THE NEWS AND QUICK FACTS:

- [SD91 Receives \\$1.9 Million for Minor Capital Projects, New Buses](#)
- [SD91 Celebrates First Ever Share the Love Day](#)
- [LDSS Students Volunteer at BL Dog Park](#)
- [WKE Students Build Birdhouses for the Link Garden](#)
- [WKE Students Get Hands Dirty at Link Garden](#)
- [Decker Lake Students Building Bat Houses](#)
- [Burns Lake Schools' Successful Run at Central Interior Science Fair](#)
- [BCNET Partners with SD91 to Bring Eduroam – Equitable Wi-Fi Access for Higher Ed Students in Northern BC](#)
- [French Play at Decker Lake](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics Coming for Vanderhoof & Fort St. James Youth](#)

INTERESTING READ FOR JUNE:

Read about the original Decker Lake Elementary School [HERE](#).

