



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of Jan. 20th, 2020

MY STORY OF THE MONTH

EBUS Celebrates 25 Years of Serving Students Across British Columbia

[EBUS Academy](#), SD 91's virtual school, has earned the respect of 1000s of students and parents across British Columbia, and most recently the Yukon. From their beginning 25 years ago serving primarily home schooling families in northern BC, they have grown to be one of the largest distributed learning schools in British Columbia, enrolling over 3000 learners annually. This is captured in EBUS's tag line, 'Learn in Our Community, Live in Yours.'



I recently had the opportunity to watch some Prince George EBUS students, many of them adults who had joined EBUS to upgrade course requirements to enter CNC or UNBC programs, [speak about their experiences](#). Consistently they spoke about the personalized, respectful approach of EBUS and how satisfied they were with their experiences. [Collective Efficacy](#) is the research validated practice that can lead to a significant positive difference in student achievement. Essentially it means that when a group of people believe that they can make a

difference in the learning experience of a student, they typically do! EBUS is an excellent example of a group of faculty, administrators, teachers, and support staff, believing that what they do can make a difference for students. It is clear that this belief has made and is making a difference for student learning across the province.

" Lots of nice things to say about EBUS! Teachers flexible with the needs of both student and parents. Having access to a long list of prepaid subscriptions online is a great resource to enjoy. Fast responses whenever parents need to contact school. Keep up the great work! ~ Annie (mother of 7)

Congratulations to all current and former EBUS staff on helping to create this very special school that has impacted many, many British Columbia learners and families.

 *I like to take this time to applaud the team at EBUS Academy for all they great support this past year. This was my first year as a home learner. EBUS made this transition for me simple. It was really appreciated that I felt no question I asked wasn't important. The site was easy to get around after I understood it, thanks again for all your help. Looking forward to next year with EBUS on my team. ~ Judee*



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of Jan. 20th, 2020

WKE's sELFless Christmas Concert



Our very own, very creative WKE Vice Principal, Cordell Ware, wrote the Christmas Concert play, sELFless, for the WKE Christmas concert. In addition to the choir performing through the night, the play followed the following story line:

A young girl from Burns Lakes writes a letter to the elves of the North Pole saying thank you and asking them what the true meaning of Christmas is. Meanwhile, in the North Pole the elves are tired of how Santa and the reindeer get all the credit when in fact they are mean and do no work to make the toys for the kids of the world. Stamp, an elf in charge of all the mail that comes to the North Pole, starts an elf rebellion against the mean Santa. The rebellion is stopped by Stamp herself when she realizes that this will ruin Christmas for all the children of the world. She and the other elves make the selfless decision to not go against Santa, and they will make Christmas happen even if they do not get credit for the work from the world. The elves then receive the letter from the young girl in Burns Lake and their spirits are lifted.



Pictures Tell the Story of WL McLeod's Annual Turkey Dinner / Christmas Concert





Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of Jan. 20th, 2020

Congratulations WL McLeod – Winners of Spirit of the North / PG Cougars Healthy Kids Challenge



WL McLeod students are the winners of the PG Cougars Healthy Kids Challenge in partnership with Northern Health. WL McLeod will receive \$5,000 to support their Back Pack program which helps to bring food to families. Libby shared, "It was a true school effort as we won based on the highest percentage of kids that tracked physical activity, reading and giving back. SO proud of our school!"

FLESS Moves Career Life Connections 12 to a Classroom – shared by Brian Cross, FLESS Principal

This year, at FLESS, we changed our approach to Career Life Connections 12. In the past, this course was completed independently by students in preparation for their Grade 12 Transitions Presentation. Because we'd noticed an increase in stress and anxiety in our 12s over the years, we had started running workshops for our grade 11s in the second semester of grade 11 in order to lay the foundation for a successful grade 12.

This year, with the implantation of the new curriculum, we placed CLC in the timetable and students attended class three hours per week. The difference has been staggering. We have noted an increase in confidence levels, an increase in students with a very solid plan for their post-grad time, and the presentations this past week were spectacular.

On Wednesday, despite the -41 degree weather, each and every one of our grade 12s showed up for school and presented to a panel of staff and community members. 100% of the presentations were successful and demonstrated the time & effort the kids put into their work and their planning for the future.

We also need to recognize the work that our CLC teacher, **Barbara Zang**, and **Loretta Scarr**, one of our Learning Support Workers put into supporting this class. Barb is our school counsellor and for every hour she put into the actual scheduled class, she put in at least that much again outside of class helping the kids get ready. Loretta is a key piece of our intervention team at FLESS & was mentioned as a critical part of their support team by a number of our students.



Sinkut View LEADS Group Sponsors Local Family

The Sinkut View Student LEADS group sponsored a local family this holiday season, raising nearly \$500 through bake sales. They also put a float in the parade of lights and our school once again participated in the annual toy and food drive.



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of Jan. 20th, 2020



Thank you to Cynthia and Eugene

Thank you to Lake Babine Hereditary Chiefs Cynthia Lowley and her husband, Eugene Patrick, for visiting Vanderhoof schools in December to share stories and lessons with our students. I've received numerous emails from principals telling me how much students and teachers enjoyed your visit.

LDSS Hosts Annual Turkey Lunch for All Students



DPAC / SD 91 Partner to Host 'Parent Advocacy' Workshops

JANUARY 27 & 28, 2020
BECOMING AN EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE FOR YOUR CHILD

Join us to better understand how the School Act provides parents/guardians with the right to appeal any decision they feel significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student. Parents and guardians are their child's natural advocate, making sure their child's rights, needs and opinions are respected. Advocacy is about working to achieve a successful solution for the benefit of the child. This workshop will provide you with knowledge and tools to successfully handle situations that negatively impact your child's education and to navigate the school district Appeals Process (Section 11 of the School Act).

SCHOOL DISTRICT 91 NECHAKO LAKES

School District No. 91
District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils

SD91 DPAC Presents:
'Becoming an Effective Advocate for your Child'

By: John Gaipman,
Chief Executive Officer -
BC Confederation of
Parent Advisory
Councils (BCCPAC)

Two Locations:
Monday, January 27th
Burns Lake
LDSS
6:30 pm

Tuesday, January 28th
Vanderhoof
***Change in Location:
NVSS - Integris
Community Theatre
6:30 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Cheryl Work,
SD91 DPAC President
Email:
info@sd91.bc.ca

We are pleased to be working with our DPAC to host John Gaipman, CEO of the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils, on Jan. 27th (Burns Lake) & 28th (Vanderhoof) to present on 'Becoming an Effective Advocate for Your Child.'



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of Jan. 20th, 2020

SD 91 IN THE NEWS AND QUICK FACTS:

- [SD 91 Board of Education Elect New Chair](#)
 - [SD 91 Completes Menstrual Dispensers Installation](#)
 - [Fort St James Secondary Students Build Portable Sawmill](#)
-

Shout Out

I had an opportunity to drop by the FSJSS Basketball tournament on Saturday, Jan. 11th and enjoy a game between NVSS and Valemount. Just spending a few hours in the gym allowed me to notice the referees, the scheduling, the food and the welcoming atmosphere for athletes, coaches and parents. I know that these types of tournaments don't happen without Athletic Directors and so wanted to give a shout out to **James Waddell**, the FSJSS Athletic Director, and also to all of the Athletic Directors at our high schools. Creating these types of extra-curricular opportunities for our students is what high school experiences are meant to be about. So thank you!

