Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2025

We are grateful to live, work, and play on the unceded, ancestral territories of fourteen First Nations representing the Dakelh, Nedut'en and Wet'suwet'en peoples. We are working diligently towards creating equity for our learners through conscious Acts of Reconciliation.

Hadih/Hadi/Hadeeh and welcome to Lhooh Ooza!

November has been an active and engaging month across our district. A key focus has been supporting the Board with the Strategic Plan in-person engagement sessions and online surveys. These opportunities allow us to gather valuable input from staff, families, Rightsholders, stakeholders and community members. Ensuring that the voices of our students remain central to the planning process is a key priority for this process. Student perspectives are critical, and we continue to create spaces for them to share their ideas and experiences as we shape the future of learning together.

This month, our work also reflects priorities outlined in our Strategic Workplan, available on our website. Highlights include:

- Engage Our Workforce – Staff Development
  Professional learning opportunities are underway, supporting growth and collaboration among staff to strengthen instructional practices.
- Create Student Success – Strengthen Learner Success
  Initiatives focused on well-being and improving student achievement, such as our expanded structured literacy pilot, remain at the forefront, ensuring every learner has the tools and support needed to thrive.
- Engage Our Workforce – Supporting Employee Well-Being
  We continue to prioritize wellness initiatives for staff, recognizing that a healthy and supported workforce is essential for student success. This remains an additional challenge as we navigate ongoing staff shortages, but we are committed to finding ways to support our employees during this demanding time.

Finally, November has brought exciting experiences for students beyond the classroom. Field trips for land- and place-based learning are well underway, deepening connections to local culture and environment. In addition, our sports teams are traveling and competing, providing opportunities for teamwork, skill development, and school spirit.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing commitment to our shared goals. Together, we are building a strong foundation for success—one that reflects the voices of our students and the dedication of our staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita McClinton

(she/her)
Superintendent

Strategic Plan Updates: GOAL 1: Honour Diversity

HONOUR DIVERSITY

Respect the strength of all diversities within our communities.

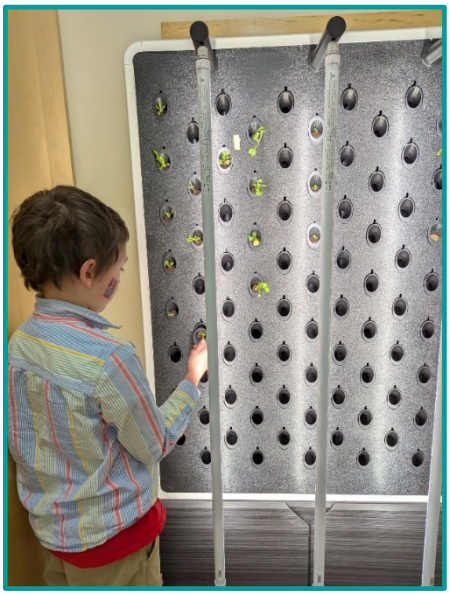
Support the transformation of an education system that recognizes, celebrates, and includes Indigenous history, worldviews and perspectives.

Orange Shirt Day at FLESS

Strategic Plan Updates: GOAL 2: Engage our Workforce

Staff Engagement on Display at DLES

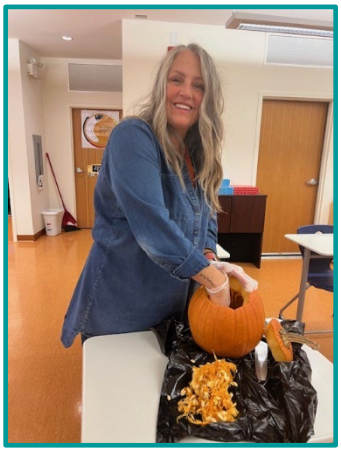
Miss England and her class planted our new growing wall with lettuce, kale, and basil this week. The class helped set up by adding water, nutrients, and plants. DLES looks forward to growing many things in our new growing wall during the school year.



The Guardians visited DLES in early November and brought with them several pelts for classes and staff to explore. The Guardians spoke about ways they are protecting the moose population. Huskies enjoyed asking questions about animals that live around Babine Lake.

Ms. Shelford – Schneider's grade K/1 class enjoyed a walk through the DLES trails with Spirit North last week. Huskies learned about the trail system while Ms. Alec (NITEP practicum student) taught the class the Indigenous name for Old Man's Beard.

Mrs. Trottier hosted a D.E.A.R. event (drop everything and read) at DLES last week. The entire school dropped everything and read their favourite books for twenty minutes in the afternoon.



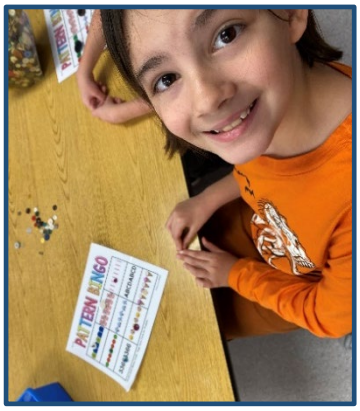
The Wet'suwet'en First Nation invited staff to a Parent Engagement party. Mrs. Trottier and Mrs. Watts carved pumpkins while other staff members enjoyed pizza.

Mrs. Stevenson delivers breakfast to DLES huskies each morning as part of our breakfast program. Huskies enjoy such things as toast, bagels, waffles, English muffins, yogurt and cereal.

Numeracy Skills Intervention at WL McLeod

Our NOIIE focus is: "Developing a deeper and broader understanding of number sense from K-6 with a focus on improving numeracy outcomes for Indigenous learners" with the aim to build a culture of students who trust and love numbers. It has been a true example of collaboration over many years.

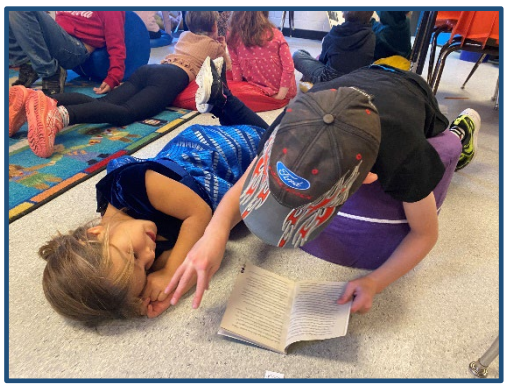
We are very excited that we have started our grade 1 to 3 primary-wide skills-based approach to numeracy intervention in 2025-2026. We are in the middle of our patterns unit which includes three weeks of targeted skill intervention after which our students will return to their home classrooms to use their new skills. Next up is our Number Sense work.



Celebrating with new staff at EBUS

This is our newest EBUS teacher, Xiaorou Fan. She just graduated from her B.Ed. over the summer and moved from Ontario to BC to join Nechako Lakes. We are happy to share photos from her grad ceremony. We are proud of all of our staff in Nechako Lakes, and we appreciate when new people are excited to join our amazing team! Welcome Xiaorou.

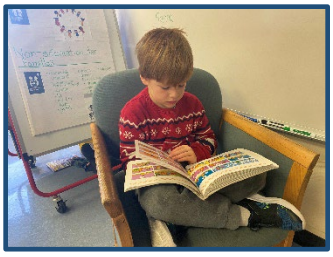
DEAR WL McLeod



CREATE STUDENT SUCCESS

A continued focus on the essential skills of literacy, numeracy and social emotional well-being.

Support effective teaching and learning strategies.



Students at WL McLeod dropped everything to read Oct. 27 as part of their DEAR to celebrate Canadian School Library Day.

Project Trails

On October 10, seventeen LDSS students spent the day at Kager Lake and the Waterloo Trail working alongside community partners Dave Sandsmark, Pat Dube, Patti Dube, and Sarah King. Students learned hands-on skills in trail maintenance, rebuilding sections of boardwalk foundations, stringers, and decking.
The group demonstrated great teamwork, problem-solving, and perseverance throughout the day. After a well-earned pizza lunch at Kager Lake, students returned to the site to complete their projects and help restore a popular section of the local trail system.

It was a fantastic day of learning, teamwork, and community contribution—well done to all the students involved! Tracey Brown and Danny Dell also joined in on the trail work and helped organize the day's activities.

WLM acknowledged by Earth Rangers at Assembly

McLeod is so happy to announce that we won the BC Battery Blitz 2024! We collected the most batteries of any school in BC – 523.96 kg. We couldn't have done this without the incredible support of our community. Thank you to everyone who donated batteries to the school to help our effort to promote the importance of recycling batteries to look after our animals and our earth.

On October 17 WL McLeod had an Earth Rangers assembly and it was a chance for Earth Rangers and call2recycle to officially present us with a $3,000 cheque for our First-place win.

K/1 Class Builds Community Connections at Elders' Tea

Grassy Plains Kindergarten and Grade 1 students had a special opportunity to strengthen community ties when they were invited to attend an Elder's Tea hosted at the Southside Health and Wellness Centre. The event was filled with joy and surprise, as many grandparents, aunties, and uncles did not know they would be seeing their little ones. Their delight and gratitude filled the room, creating a truly heartwarming experience for everyone present.

The children proudly shared a song and poem, bringing smiles to faces and families beaming with pride. After their performance, they spent time visiting with the guests, sharing stories and more laughter. The students also explored the historical photos displayed in the rotunda, sparking meaningful conversations about family, history, and community.

This special visit beautifully demonstrated the power of intergenerational connection and the importance of belonging. It was a memorable experience that brought together school, family, and community—truly embodying our goal to *Enhance Connections*.

Northern Harvest Conference Participation

This week, I had the privilege of attending the *Northern Harvest: Seeding Sustainable Futures Through Food and Collaboration* conference alongside Darren Carpenter, Careers Program Lead Teacher. Our participation was a reflection of Nechako Lakes School District's ongoing commitment to food system innovation and sustainability.

Given our district's successful engagement with multiple PHABC grants—including Rapid Stimulus, Ideas Lab, and the FLESS Farm—we were invited to present and showcase our work through a series of posters. The conference featured dynamic keynote speakers, a hands-on workshop titled *Wild, Moose and Mushrooms* with live

foraging demonstrations, and numerous opportunities to connect with others leading food system transformation initiatives across northern BC.

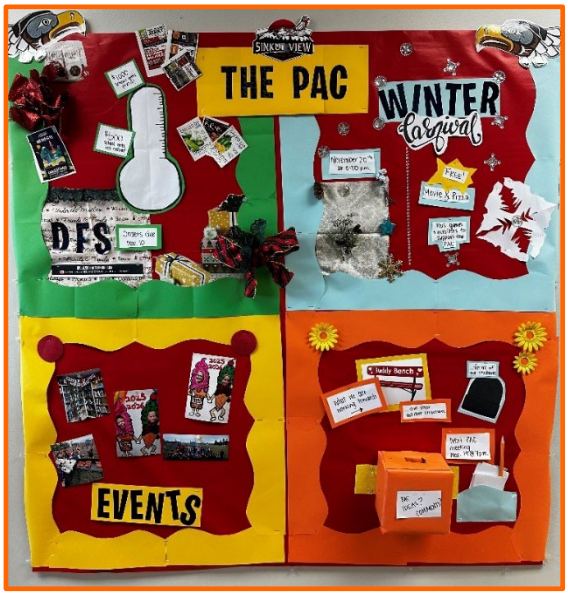
The included photos highlight the strong representation from the Nechako Lakes School District and its partners as well as the food items I gathered.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Turner-Klopper,
Food Program Manager, Nechako Lakes School District

Sinkut View PAC

Sinkut View's PAC has been hard at work developing many ways to support their school! Way to go SV PAC!



Remembrance Day

Photo: EBUS students laying a wreath or a poppy at their Remembrance Day assembly.

DLES hosted a Remembrance Day Ceremony on Monday, November 10th. Mrs. Benoit and her class presented a well know poem called In Flanders Fields by Canadian soldier Lieutenant Corporal John McCrae.

WL McLeod Remembrance Day Ceremony. The school is very lucky that one of our Support Staff is a veteran. He plans the entire ceremony and practices with kids for weeks ahead of time.

NVSS students visit war memorials in France

The Vimy Foundation
October 16 at 8:12 AM ·

Yesterday, Pierre represented the Foundation as he joined students from Nechako Valley Secondary School and Lycée Robespierre Arras (@unssrobesarras) in the program "De Bulkley-Nechako à l'Artois : un croisement des identités, des mémoires et de l'ouverture interculturelle vers des pratiques durables."

Together, the students from Canada and France visited Arras, the Neuville-Saint-Vaast German Cemetery, Lichfield Crater Cemetery, and the Canadian National Vimy Memorial by bike.

Thank you to Veterans Affairs Canada for hosting this initiative.

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Hier, Pierre a représenté la Fondation en se joignant aux élèves de la @Nechako Valley Secondary School et du @Lycée Robespierre Arras dans le cadre du programme « De Bulkley-Nechako à l'Artois : un croisement des identités, des mémoires et de l'ouverture interculturelle vers des pratiques durables ».

Ensemble, les élèves du Canada et de la France ont visité Arras, le cimetière allemand de Neuville-Saint-Vaast, le cimetière Lichfield Crater ainsi que le Mémorial national du Canada à Vimy.

Merci à Anciens Combattants Canada (@lecanadasesouvient) d'avoir organisé cette initiative.

Employee Recognition

This month, I want to recognize our school support staff–LSWs, PAAs, Food Worker's and Administrative Assistants–for their hard work and dedication. Despite ongoing staffing shortages and few casual backups, they continue to make our schools welcoming for students. Their tireless efforts and positive attitudes bring comfort and stability to our community. We are deeply grateful for everything they do each day to ensure our students feel supported and engaged.

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@SD91BC

You can also find us on Twitter!
@sd91bc