

REMEMBERING BARB HILMAN



The community of Fraser Lake, including Mouse Mountain Elementary and Fraser Lake Elem-Sec. schools, were extremely saddened by the sudden loss of Barb Hilman in mid-November. Barb joined the Mouse Mountain staff ten years ago and was a dedicated, beloved member of the school family. Barb cared greatly for the students she worked with, and her smile and sense of humour brightened the school.

Barb, you be missed and remembered by so many.

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



JO CHRONA CONTINUES HER WORK WITH SD91 STAFF

On November 25th, Jo Chrona again presented online to SD91 staff as part of our Professional Learning Series. This session continued to support our learning on anti-racism, equity and Truth and Reconciliation.



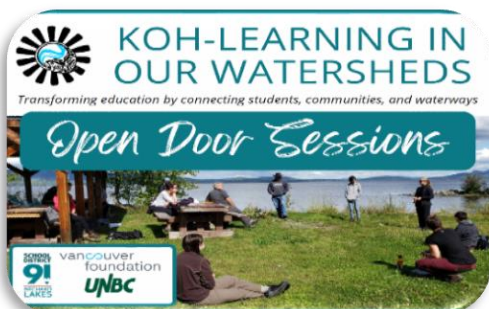
Our collective efforts will eliminate the equity gap that exists in our schools and communities. We look forward to our next session with Jo, and a heartfelt thanks to our dedicated team of educators.

For more information about Jo and her work, please see <https://luudisk.com/>

- Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future
- 94 **Calls to Action** - recommendations to all levels of government, organizations, and individuals, to make concrete changes in society
- Concerted efforts and proactive measures are required to eliminate this gap and contribute to Reconciliation in education
- The gap in educational outcomes between First Nations and non-First Nation students is a persisting legacy of colonialism
- Strong, effective educational systems provide fundamental opportunity for advancing Reconciliation, as expressed in the TRC's **Calls to Action** and the UN Declaration



KOH-LEARNING "OPEN DOOR SESSIONS"



Koh-Learning recently hosted three **"Open Door" drop-in sessions** over Zoom on November 29, 30 & December 2.

These "Open Door" sessions were an opportunity to meet some of our Koh-Learning team members, share thoughts on past Koh-Learning events, and chat about future ways for Koh-Learning to continue connecting students, communities, and waterways throughout SD91. Learn more at: [KOH-Learning Information and Resources](#).

CLASSROOMS OF TOMORROW – RICOH & SD91 TECH DEPT



Last week, SD91 Tech Department Assistant Manager, Tyrell Miller, was invited to present, on behalf of his department, with Ricoh at the *BC Association of School Business Officials* conference regarding the **Classroom of Tomorrow**. The presentation was intended to cover technology usage in the classroom from a high-level perspective, seek to engage secretary treasurers and management to understand why/how this technology is relevant and push the teaching pedagogy.

Our part in this conversation was to discuss SD91's acquisition of 50 ViewSonic Viewboards which continue to push the envelope on technology in the classroom, as well as to participate in any Q&A of how we have evolved over the years.

Ricoh is still thought of as a print company, but they continue to support education in a myriad of ways and seek to find best-in-class solutions to our unique requests.

Seeing what this technology can do, we felt engaged to share with peers from other districts. We are only at the beginning of our journey with these new boards, yet it is clear they are the next evolution of our previous SmartBoards.



W.L. MCLEOD THANKS THE SD91 FACILITIES DEPT



W.L. McLeod Elementary had the honour of hosting a lunch to say **thank you** to our incredible SD91 **Facilities Department** for all their hard work over the summer and beyond, especially for our renovations to the kitchen and library. We treated them to a delicious Filipino meal made by Mrs. Campbell-Stewart and Mrs. Santos who work in our Farm-to-School Program. Mr. Meads' grade 6 class decorated and served.

Everyone at WLM is so grateful to all the Maintenance and Tech staff for all their handwork!



RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEER FIRST RESPONDERS IN SD91 COMMUNITIES



The School District would like to acknowledge the many staff volunteers who contribute to our communities through involvement with Search and Rescue, Fire Departments, and other First Responder programs. SD91 supports our many employees with leave during the school day to ensure they can “make the call” to help others.

ANNUAL SCIENCE FAIR PREPARATION BEGINS!

SCHOOL
DISTRICT
91
NECHAKO
LAKES

**VIRTUAL
DISTRICT
SCIENCE FAIR
2022**



For students in Grades 4 – 12

Strategic Education Plan
2020-2025

GOAL #3 CREATE STUDENT SUCCESS

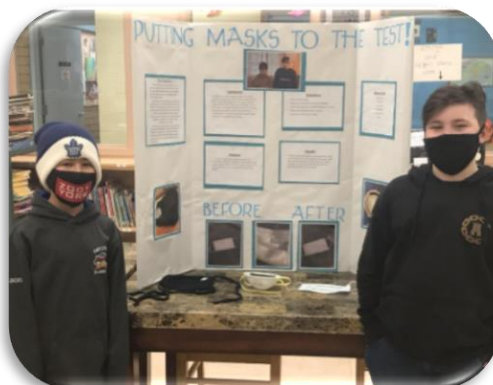
A continued focus on the essential skills of Literacy / Numeracy.
Ensure Social Emotional Learning is embedded within all of our classrooms.
Support the use of promising and effective teaching strategies.

Honouring People, Land and History



Nechako Lakes School District has been hosting a District Science Fair for over 10 years. With the majority of our elementary schools participating and an increasing number of secondary students, we have seen an increase in the number of local students moving on to regional, national, and international Science Fairs.

There will also be a virtual regional fair (Central Interior Regional Science Fair) in April 2022. For more information, click: [SD91 District Science Fair 2022](#).



DECKER LAKE ELEMENTARY – CELEBRATION PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Mrs. Hiebert's Grade 4/5 class at Decker Lake Elementary celebrated the completion of all the provincial and district assessments with a pancake breakfast on November 5.

Parent volunteer, Karla Matson, arrived at the school at 8 a.m. to begin helping with the preparations. In this photo, the students are giving a toast to the class for all their hard work.



WILLIAM KONKIN ELEMENTARY COLLABORATION LEARNING UPDATE

At William Konkin Elementary this month, teachers met on December 1 & 15 in small collaborative groups, known as Professional Learning Communities. While they met, staff and administrators hosted the students in cross-grade



Phys Ed centres. Each centre was winter themed and required different skills. The intermediate students spread out and mentored and taught the primary students a variety of skills including basketball, hockey, wall climbing, throwing, skipping, and stretching while also participating and modelling great social emotional skills. Students had a choice in the centres they rotated to and had a wonderful afternoon of physical literacy and socialization while their teachers met together to engage in professional inquiry.



TRADES TRAILER IN ACTION AT GRASSY PLAINS SCHOOL

Students and staff at Grassy Plains school have been busy using the SD91 Trades Trailer and equipment this fall. As the weather is cooler now, the Trades Trailer tools and equipment have been brought inside to support ADST learning. Bikes stands, pet beds and decorative wall shelving were on display this month. **Thanks to Mrs. Moyah and Mr. Hanningan** for sharing!

The goals of the Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies (ADST) curriculum is to build on students' natural curiosity, inventiveness, and desire to create and work in practical ways. "Learn by doing" is at the heart of this experiential work.



DAVID HOY STUDENTS LEARNING ON THE LAND

David Hoy Elementary teacher Eileen Bennison starts each day on the land. Beneath a large old spruce tree, the students gather to learn letters and sounds, hear their morning story, and start their gradual transition into the school.

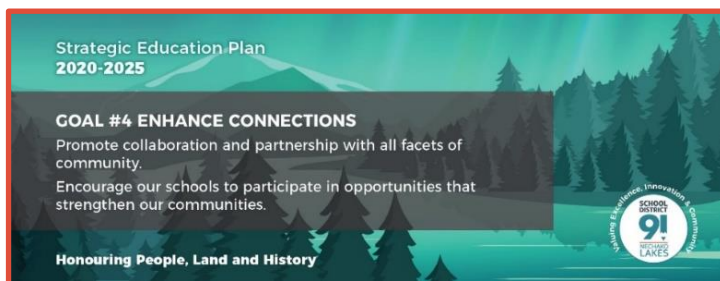
Learning outside is an important everyday occurrence that helps our littlest learners regulate their emotions and focus on the learning opportunities presented.



SCHOOLS HONOUR REMEMBRANCE DAY

All SD91 schools took time to reflect, honour, and remember the past sacrifices from our veterans and others who have served and are still serving to help others.

Thank you to our **staff** and **community members** who help plan and organize these important ceremonies.



VACCINE2You MOBILE COVID-19 CLINIC AT SD91 SCHOOLS

Northern Health's COVID-19 vaccine clinics have gone mobile, and they could show up in your area of the North! The Vaccine2You Mobile COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic is offering drop-in first and second doses for anyone 12 and up, no appointment necessary. High schools in Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, and Fraser Lake hosted clinics at their sites twice in the last two months, thanks to the partnership with Pacific Destinations Services, the Canadian Red Cross, and Northern Health.

We encourage parents to register their children ages 5-11 to receive their COVID vaccine approved in BC recently. Vaccination is the best way to protect everyone in our communities.



RCMP/MCFD - LIAISON MEETING

In mid November, SD91 hosted a community services liaison meeting with RCMP detachments and MCFD in Fraser Lake to discuss:

- School bus and road safety
- Emergency services for remote locations
- Enhancing communication and information sharing

Thanks to our community partners for taking the time to meet with our Board Chair and District staff.



DECKER LAKE AND FRANCOIS LAKE – ENGAGE SPORT NORTH VISIT



Rob Stiles, Manager of Physical Literacy & Adapted Sports Programs from Engage Sports North, visited Decker Lake Elementary and Francois Lake Elementary schools in November. During his visit, three classes from each school participated in adapted basketball games. Using wheelchairs, students learned the importance of grit as they had to maneuver across the gym using only the wheelchair.



53 YEARS OF SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM

On December 3rd, Fraser Lake Elem-Secondary honoured one of their own for a remarkable record. The school celebrated the volunteerism of **John Stafford**. As interviewed by CKPG news, he stated, “My whole career has been at Fraser Lake School,” said John. “I taught here for 37 years and really have a belief that sports are good. Every student should be in a club or sports.” John spent 53 years officiating the game of basketball at the high school level. In honour of this legacy, the school retired an officiating jersey to the rafters at their home tournament.

Not only was John a teacher, coach and official, but he also found time in retirement to serve as a SD91 Trustee. **Congratulations and thank you for over a half century of service...and counting!**



SD 91 IN THE NEWS AND QUICK FACTS:

- ❖ [WKE Honour Tree- LD NEWS](#)
- ❖ [NVSS Begins Management of Thrift Store](#)
- ❖ [Decker Lake Pancake Breakfast](#)
- ❖ [SD91 Superintendent Announces Retirement](#)
- ❖ [Tandoori Grill Serves Lunch to Students](#)
- ❖ [Luminaries Scholarships Opportunities](#)

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES WORKPLAN UPDATE

As per the [Strategic Workplan](#) for 2021 – 22, the following objectives were to be updated at our December Board of Education Meeting. The following are a summary of updates that will be added to by comments from the school district's leadership team.



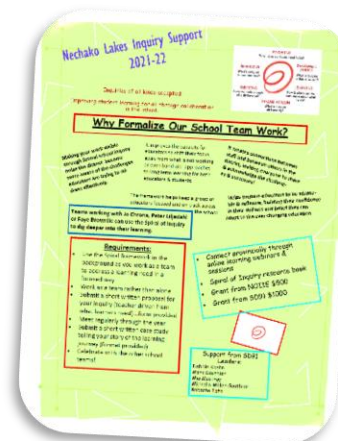
ENGAGE OUR WORKFORCE

❖ EXPAND AND SUPPORT CULTURE OF INQUIRY

The Curriculum Services team has welcomed staff to join them as they look at how structured collaboration supports improving student learning. Teams working with Jo Chrona, Peter Liljedahl, or Faye Brownlie can use the Spiral of Inquiry to dig deeper into their learning and be supported by the Curriculum Services team.

Why formalize a school team's work?

- Making a school team's work visible through formal school inquiry helps the district become more aware of the challenges educators are trying to address effectively.
- It improves the capacity for educators to shift their focus away from what is not working or even band-aid approaches to long term learning for both educators & students.
- It creates connections between staff and between others in the district.
- It helps prepare educators to be adaptable and reflexive, to build their confidence in their skillsets and belief they can adapt to ever changing educational landscapes.
- Financial support from the school district and NOIE to purchase supplies/resources or cover other costs associated with the projects.



Currently, there are six inquiry teams interested in having the Curriculum Services team support their learning journey, and a number of others planning on submitting proposals soon.

CREATE STUDENT SUCCESS

❖ STRENGTHEN DISTRICT PLANNING ON STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

Numeracy

- Pro Development on new Problem -Solving Assessment during the Pro D day to further build capacity (November 26 – Curriculum Services).
- Practice problem solving sheets given to classrooms for further educator/learner feedback.
- January – District-Wide Pilot Problem-Solving Assessment for Grades 3, 6, 9.

Literacy

- Exemplars for each grade will be stored on TEAMS for teachers/schools to download and use. We do not have district wide exemplars for grades 7, 8, 9 and will be open to receiving school created exemplars, and we will embark on compiling them as marking sessions take place this school year.
- Given that the text selections for RAD were published some years ago, many of the readings need to be replaced. We are searching for more contemporary texts and are open to suggestions from teachers.

❖ ALIGN SCHOOL/DISTRICT PLANNING AND COMMUNICATION

Data Dashboard Pilot

- SD91 is one of six districts piloting the new provincial information dashboard. This new system using Microsoft Power BI contains enrollment, demographic, attendance, and assessment information at a school and district level. This new system will allow school and district staff to analyze data in a user-friendly interface to support student interventions, communication, and growth planning.
- The district is part of a pilot program to provide feedback to enhance the functionality prior to the full implementation. The Ministry data team has made several improvements to our SD91 dashboard this fall, including intervention tracking and more detailed bi-weekly attendance charting.



School Growth Planning

- District staff have met with principals informally to support the development and alignment of school planning. After growth plans are submitted following the holiday break, district staff will complete an initial review for each school by mid January to provide written feedback to allow any additional changes before the final submission in early February.