



School District 8
Kootenay Lake

Superintendent's Report

January 28, 2020

Submitted by: Dr. Christine Perkins, Superintendent/CEO

Superintendent's Report

LEARNING

CRESTON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

ADAM ROBERTS ELEMENTARY

- Grade 7 transitions have started. PCSS Grade 10 Leadership Class came to ARES for a Presentation titled: "What we wish we knew..." Thanks to Mr. Marzke and his students. ARES students will be at PCSS to attend a Grade 11-12 Drama Performance and meeting with PCSS Counsellors on January 20th. Many more transition activities and times to come.
- ARES Students performed Multicultural Songs for a two day Winter Concert Series. Primary students performed 9 songs on December 18th including Grade 3/4's playing the xylophone. Intermediate students performed 9 songs on December 19th, which included Grade 6/7's playing the recorder.
- Winter Activities are in full swing. Many classes have already enjoyed curling and skating, and many more classes will be participating in skiing at Kimberley and Whitewater.

CANYON LISTER ELEMENTARY

- Our "Breakfasts with Community Helpers" has been well received, with community guests such as first responders, the town librarian and mayor, and the local Thundercat hockey players eating breakfast with our students once weekly. The students are loving getting to know the people in the community and the role they play.
- Noon hour floor hockey with the Thundercats has started and is a roaring success. Thundercat players are coming once weekly to share some hockey tips and then scrimmage with our students. We have lots of students getting physical activity and also cheering each other on. We alternate primary sessions with intermediate sessions. Skiing also starts soon, with three days planned, and basketball season has begun. Additionally, with receipt of a new grant, we will offering additional after school activities for students to broaden perspectives and have fun.
- Canyon-Lister Elementary will join in the East Kootenay Great Big Buddy Read on January 30th. This event is in partnership with CBAL (Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy) and is to celebrate Family Literacy Week.

ERICKSON ELEMENTARY

- Our holiday concert in December was well attended. It was a celebration of winter holidays from around the world, enabling everyone to learn about various traditions and cultures.
- Planned intermediate winter activities are starting soon. Skiing, skating, swimming and bowling are all starting soon.
- Our PAS has started to make hot lunches two times a week for students. Parents and students are grateful for this change to their regular lunch routines.

PRINCE CHARLES SECONDARY

- Student led leadership activities continue to be a success. As a result, community connections continue to grow as well does the sense of school pride.

Superintendent's Report

- Ski trips beginning: In January, Ski Red Mountain on the 16th & Whitewater on the 23rd.
- 6 Basketball team in full swing. PCSS hosts tournaments 5 weekends in a row starting Jan. 10th.
- Upcoming Yeti trips:
 - 1) International students snowshoe trip to Ripple Ridge on Kootenay Pass Saturday Jan. 11th.
 - 2) Revelstoke Ski Trip Fri. Jan. 17th through Sunday Jan. 19th.
 - 3) Rossland climbing wall and Winter Carnival on Jan. 25th.

WILDFLOWER CRESTON

- Wildflower Creston has successfully secured some building materials for its outdoor natural play area (tires, large rocks, trees etc... This is an ongoing project that is hoped to be completed in the Spring/Summer of 2020. The PAC and school have successfully secured \$14 000 for the project.
- Our primary students had a lot of fun creating mazes, which they then used coding language to show their pathways. We are also working with seniors from TAPS to put together stories from their lives which will be presented at our heritage fair in March. We are also excited about our new teacher, Kristina Leidums who will be spending Wednesday mornings in our class. She is beginning with some mapping/community learning.



Superintendent's Report

HOMELINKS CRESTON

- Friday, January 10th activity day saw 37 students head to Red Mountain in Rossland for a day of skiing.
- Basketball season has started up for our elementary students.
- Ms. Adam's Grade 10 project-based learning cohort is back in full swing, after the Christmas break. Their primary focus now is the grade 10 Provincial Numeracy Assessment taking place at the end of the month.

CRAWFORD BAY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

CRAWFORD BAY ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- Crawford Bay Elementary has a Winter Wonderland all day presentation on Jan 27th.
- We have a whole school vertical teams task scheduled for 22nd where students from all grades are placed in a team for team building, social development, and to provide opportunities for students to shine outside of the classroom. The objective will be centered around a students designed and built outdoor winter shelter.
- We have two students about to take part in the Selkirk trades program.
- Recently, our high school students grade 7 through 9 met to list and create clubs that they are interested in being a part of. The topics ranged from Archery and Football through to movie appreciation and yearbook. These clubs will be run outside of school hours. We have sought experts from the community to help sponsor some of them.
- Staff are currently engaged in the January Point of progress as part of the Pilot project.
- Some interest has been shown by staff in the Inclusion Project.

SALMO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

SALMO ELEMENTARY

- Our school continues to embed the Seven Sacred Teachings into our school culture. Students learn through monthly assemblies, multi-age activities and in-class instruction and activities with our AB ED teacher, Ms. Hatt.
- Many of our students are taking advantage of our Makerspace room. As such, several props were created and integrated into our Christmas concert last month. It was a very entertaining show and the feedback from Salmo families was so positive! It was truly a community event! Thanks to Mr. Dando and Ms. Finnie for getting this set up. It is great to see our students so engaged!
- Winter activities will begin this month. This includes cross-country skiing in primary, skating on the outdoor rink in Salmo, skating at the Fruitvale arena, and downhill skiing at the Salmo Ski Hill for our intermediate students.
- With our successful bid for the CBAL Physical Literacy Grant, we will be purchasing equipment to facilitate our Run to Read Program as well as track and field equipment.

Superintendent's Report

SALMO SECONDARY

- Semester 1 is wrapping up and there are many great inquiry projects students are pursuing. One of particular note is a humanities project documenting the stories of local Doukhobor families. Students have been interviewing local people and are collaborating with the museum. Copies of the final projects will be donated to the museum.
- Indigenization continues at our school. There was a drumming activity in December that combined both elementary and secondary students.
- A Try Rugby event was held that was open to any students interested in the sport. It was geared to players of all levels. Further options to begin a rugby team are being explored.
- A group of students involved in a climate change project have been working to raise money for the Australia fires. They have been raising awareness in the community and shoveling driveways by donation. They look forward to holding a pancake brunch for the cause.

KASLO FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

JEWETT ELEMENTARY

- N/A

J.V. HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- 11 staff members reading 'The Boy Who Was Raised as a Dog', by Dr. Bruce Perry, as recommended by Javier. Planning to run intro course for Neurosequential Model of Education - <https://www.neurosequential.com/product-page/introduction-to-the-nme-training-series>
- Drama/Musical production of "Annie" was a big hit for the students participating, school community and the community at large.
- Grade 8 class on Radio Free Kaslo featuring interviews of community members as part of Life Skills project - January 24 at 11:00.

SLOCAN VALLEY FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BRENT KENNEDY ELEMENTARY

- Winter Activities started just in time with all the deep, dry snow! Kindergarten to Grade 4 classes are snowshoeing at Nancy Green, cross country skiing at Apex, skating at the Nelson complex, and exploring winter habitats with CBEEN at the South Slocan Pools. Grade 5/6's will be heading to Red Mountain to ski, snowboard or snowshoe.
- Mr. McRann and his volleyball team have had a busy and fun season. Our young athletes were also inspired by the sportsmanship and athleticism they saw in their older peers when Mt. Sentinel hosted the provincial volleyball tournaments. We hosted a Volleyball Jamboree for the Slocan Valley Family of schools with the help of some of the Mt. Sentinel team members. The final event was an opportunity for all the teams to meet and play at the high school.
- We are thrilled to be launching our "Breakfast for Learning" program this January utilizing the school LINKS funding. Parent volunteer, Susan Zukowski; Education Assistant, Kyla Hurst; teacher, Andrea Vanderkruyk; and program teacher leader, Holly McRann have been busy researching healthy

Superintendent's Report

breakfast options, shopping, baking and cooking, and serving healthy breakfast choices. The response from kids and parents has been so positive and families appreciate knowing that if their child is hungry, they will be fed. The programs provides us with another opportunity to create a sense of belonging, connection and an affirmation that every child in our care is noticed and matters.

MT. SENTINEL SECONDARY

- Our Grads of 2020 successfully hosted our 3rd Annual Holiday Craft Fair & Photos with Santa to raise funds for their Dry Grad activities in June.
- We raised funds, collected non-perishables and raised awareness around our local Food Bank in Slocan and we donated to Playmor Junction Church to help put together 9 Food Hampers for our local families in need.
- We are doing all of our Grade 12 Capstone Presentations as part of their CLC course this coming Jan.22nd from 8:30-1:00pm ... all community members are invited to attend & participate in the evaluation process if interested contact the school.



W.E. GRAHAM ELEMENTARY-SECONDARY

- Starting 5 sessions of skiing at Whitewater. VWP students have finished their First Aid Training, now starting Avalanche Awareness Training. OELP students planning and fund-raising for a trip to Vancouver in May. They'd love it if the board would sponsor them!!! WILD students completed an awesome Circle of Courage art project that was on display in Nelson for Restorative Justice Week. Website up and getting some traction. Getting a new sign for the front of school with new logo!

WINLAW ELEMENTARY

- Grade 4/5 Volleyball tournament at Mt. Sent was a hit. This year we've seen a huge increase in athletics in the Valley. Several cross country and volleyball days with WEG, Winlaw and BK.
- One of our biggest turn outs for Winter Concert. Standing room only. Kids put on a wonderful show.
- Just got approval from the ABED department to run small group drumming circles for some of our student who struggle with regulation. We will be bringing in Liam Fitzpatrick to host the workshops.

NELSON FAMILY OF SCHOOLS

BLEWETT ELEMENTARY

- Blewett Primary classes (K/1, K/1 & 1/2) are in full swimming lesson swing! The students are receiving 8 Red Cross lessons at the Nelson & District Community Complex. Many thanks to the Blewett PAC for generously subsidizing this important life skill opportunity!
- Blewett students continue to meet regularly as K-5 multi-age groups for social and emotional learning opportunities. These multi-age lessons align with our School Growth Plan Goal, focusing on social and emotional readiness.

Superintendent's Report

- Blewett students continue to take their learning outdoors in this winter season. Students have been busy snowshoeing on our amazing school grounds, as well as taking part in cross-country skiing lessons at Apex. Winter activities will continue into next month where students will participate in skiing/snowboarding, indoor climbing, indoor soccer, gymnastics or snowshoeing.

HUME ELEMENTARY

- Winter activities are in full swing: yoga, dance for the K - 1 bunch and in February, skiing, curling, Nordic skiing and sledding will take place on Tuesdays with each grade group participating. Thanks to a grant from the CBT and money from Hume PAC and money from the district transportation budget, we are able to offer this program at low- or no- cost to the children.
- Snowshoes for Hume! We successfully received grants from the local Lion's Club and Legion to purchase a set of snowshoes for the students. We've received over half the funds due to these grants. Thanks Lion's Club and Nelson Legion!

L.V. ROGERS SECONDARY

- LV Rogers Capstone Fair took place Wednesday, January 15th in the Gymnasium. In attendance were Trustees, SD8 Staff, and other schools including JVH. Students presented their Capstone projects in a science fair exhibition style. This is our second year presenting Capstone Projects successfully. Please [click here](#) for an LV Rogers Capstone Fair Video.
- Art teacher Laurryn Asbell coordinated "The Memory Project," a social justice art project involving Art 11/12 students painting portraits from photos of orphans in a Pakistani orphanage. An exhibition was held at the West Kootenay Teacher Education Program building, with community and WKTEP teacher candidates invited. Students received feedback from WKTEP candidates. The portraits were of incredible quality; as one student said, "I began to see myself in the portrait of the young boy I was painting."
- LVR Winter Holiday Variety Show was a tremendous success. Last block prior to the holiday, it was a full house as LVR students anticipated the LVR Teacher Band, staff "Dancing Through the Decades" retrospective, and several amazing student performances, including the LVR Jazz Band. An amazing afternoon filled with school and holiday spirit!
- Please see link to LVR Winter School Newsletter ([click here](#)) for more information about the excellent things going on at LV Rogers.

REDFISH ELEMENTARY

- Our Winter Concert was standing room only. Our Makerspace and music teacher Mr. Nugent-Smith wrote and directed his first play, including every one of our students, and it was fantastic.
- Our students have been back out Cross-Country Skiing in preparation for bigger excursions.
- In early February we are having an Intermediate Fine Arts Week, with community and parent artists coming in each day to teach small groups of grades 4-6 students their art, craft or dance, with a Celebration of Student Learning as the culminating event.

Superintendent's Report

ROSEMONT ELEMENTARY

- All Rosemont students are participating in winter activities. Grades K, 1 and 2 are learning to skate, grade 3s are curling, grade 4s are cross-country skiing and grade 5s are down-hill skiing. The skiing fees have been covered for all students by a grant from the CBT
- Rosemont is working on manners under our PBIS system. Our students are making great progress on creating a calm and welcoming environment
- Students will be learning about ADST in upcoming multi-age activities around our school yard.

SOUTH NELSON ELEMENTARY

- We had two winter concerts on December 17th which were very well attended. Our students performed a medley of winter and holiday songs showcasing musicians on the ukuleles, Marimbas, and drums as they sang. Our school also entered the CBC Elementary Music Competition again this year and performed a beautiful rendition of the song Human by Twin Flames.
- Our Winter Activities are taking place throughout January. We have K-5 students participating in the Whitewater Ski and Snowboarding programs, Nordic Skiing at Apex, Skating at the Nelson and District Complex along with Indoor Soccer and Gymnastics. We are grateful to have received a grant from CBT to enhance our Physical Literacy. We have purchased a class set of PickleBall equipment and classes will be receiving instruction. In addition, Intermediate classes will receive instruction in Archery in the spring.
- In late November, students in grades 2/3 and 4/5 learned about Restorative Justice with Lisa Heisler through the Nelson Police Department. To celebrate RJ Week, an art show was hosted by the Kutenai Art Therapy Institute and students submitted creative and inspirational art work on social justice themes. An evening exhibit saw many community members and students attend and enjoy a great sense of community and purpose.



Superintendent's Report

TRAFALGAR MIDDLE

- At Trafalgar, we believe in an inclusive setting where everyone is a welcomed part of our community. Our newest school members, the grade 6s, have not only embraced inclusion, but have taken a lead. One of our grade 6 classes realized they needed to change their outdoor survival skills trip to accommodate the needs of one of their peers, who is in a wheelchair. The students led the drive to design, source, build, test, redesign, and finish a sled and harness system so their classmate could participate in the epic skill-building, place-based learning. These students got sponsorship and donations, and really demonstrated that we are here to build each other up!
- We had a fantastic first band concert of the year leading up to the Christmas break, featuring the "Mega" grade 6 band, and the grade 7/8 Concert and Jazz Bands, with guest appearances by the LVR Concert and Jazz Bands. It was well-attended by over 350 people (plus the band students)! Mr. Ratzburg and the band students were phenomenal. Our new drama program was asked to fill a last minute opening at the Capitol Theatre before the break and Mrs. McKay and her drama students put together a wonderful selection of scenes and songs... we are looking forward to their first big performance in late spring!
- As the school ski season approaches, we are also welcoming our first group of Chinese students on January 21! Our students are looking forward to learning with the Chinese children and some of the grade 5 students from our elementary school partners. We look forward to updating you all soon!

WILDFLOWER NELSON

- Several classes at Wildflower Nelson are working alongside Myra Rasmusan in preparing for the Polka Dot Dragon Lantern Festival, which will be held on February 8th, 2020. The Polka Dot Dragon Festival, started in 2014, is an outdoor experiential arts festival showcasing local artists and performers. Held at Taghum Beach, the festival focuses on the intersection of nature, art, winter, light, and community. The theme of this year's festival is coral reefs.
- Wildflower just completed its strategic planning session where they continued some valuable work with all staff and parent reps on building the Wildflower creation story, defining core values, building dialogue around indigenizing the classroom and school experience for students, and illuminating key competencies for students in their trajectory K-9.
- Wildflower successful in receiving a \$2500 farms to school grant for revitalization of its school garden area.
- Wildflower PAC, just finished hosting their 2019-2020 PAC Salmo Ski Hill Community Building event on January 18th, 2020. The aim of the event is to bring all families (Nelson/Creston) together for a fun community building event at the Salmo Ski Hill.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

- Check out these recent blog posts on topics such as Indigenous resource highlights and the Tuition Waver for Children in Care. ABED continues to share aspects of Aboriginal Education here with families, students, and staff! Find our blog posts here for further reading: <https://aboriginal.sd8.bc.ca/blog>.
- Winter Staff Honouring Ceremony: The District Aboriginal Education team made visits to schools across the district in December (we missed a couple due to poor driving roads), to honour the

Superintendent's Report

Aboriginal Education staff for the heart-felt work they do throughout the year supporting students! This annual ceremony was initiated from the District Advisory Council in 2019-2020 and is a traditional way to connect to schools and staff before winter break.

- Aboriginal Education Winter Newsletter: The ABED newsletters are an opportunity to shine a light on the wonderful learning happening in schools across SD8 to support all self-identified Aboriginal youth. This newsletter is collated by the district team, as an opportunity to make the ABED supports visible across the district. There is such great work going on in all schools! Check out our district winter ABED newsletter here: <https://aboriginal.sd8.bc.ca/aboriginal-voice>

DISTRIBUTED LEARNING

- N/A

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

- Recruiting has been very successful with a number of new, and potential new partnerships, including a new short term group from China being hosted by Trafalgar! Trafalgar staff and administration have done an outstanding job developing the Intercultural Learning for our local students and welcoming our visiting school.
- Continued development of partnership with Selkirk College in several areas. Joint marketing by both the Kootenay Lake School District and Selkirk College highlights the area, as well as being a cost effective way to spread the word about the amazing educational opportunities in the Kootenays. Further development for providing a short term summer program to host international students is moving forward.
- Meetings with the City of Nelson and partner International School Agency FSS to look at opportunities to develop English Language and Educational tutoring support for the Nelson area, with a possible dorm to be built to increase our international student enrollment.



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

- Inclusive Education staff have been very busy in schools and throughout the District. Some of the highlights are:
 - Project Adventure preparation and fundraising - **Sofeya Devji**, Vision Teacher for the District, organizes and takes students to Project Adventure, a non-profit organization was founded in 1971 by educators in Hamilton, Massachusetts who wanted to bring the tenets of Outward Bound into an educational setting. The teachers began inventing cooperative games, developing team-building initiatives, and constructing the first-ever ropes course built in a school environment to make a positive difference in the lives of their students. Through their challenging adventure activities and focused reflection, they found that they could motivate their community of learners to achieve both academic and social growth. (Check out their website at: pa.org)

This year, a student from Creston has initiated fundraising activities for the students who wish to participate in Project Adventure, and so far has raised almost all the funds required

Superintendent's Report

- for these students to attend!! Thanks so much to the student for her leadership and initiative!
- Creston elementary schools have ALL signed up for Google Read&Write training with **Steve Pierson, one of our District's Speech Language Pathologists**. Google Read&Write is a platform through Google, offers a range of powerful support tools to help ALL students gain confidence with reading, writing, studying and research, including:
 - Text-to-speech to hear words, passages, or whole documents read aloud with dual colour highlighting
 - Text and picture dictionaries to see the meaning of words explained
 - With speech-to-text, ability to dictate words to assist with writing, proofreading & studying
 - Word prediction for the current or next word as the students type
 - Collection of highlights from text in documents or the web for summarizing and research
 - Creation of voice notes directly inside Google Docs
 - Simplification of text on web pages to remove ads and other copy that can be distracting
 - **Case Managers' Meeting Days - occurring on January 23 in Creston (PCSS, Room 104) and in Nelson on January 30 (School Board Office meeting room)** - Organized and hosted by the District's Inclusion Support Teachers and various staff in the Inclusive Education Department, this full day workshop is an opportunity for Case Managers throughout the District to learn more about their role and how best to support students, as well as an opportunity for teachers to review resources, learn successful strategies, and ask questions.
 - Upcoming dates of note:
 - March 31 - training in SD8 with Alyson Oshust - Competency based IEPs
 - April 6 - Shelley Moore - Day 3 in our District for 2019/20 school teams

INNOVATIVE LEARNING SERVICES

- During the week of January 6-10, Vanessa Finnie, Innovative Learning District Teacher, visited School District 23 (Kelowna), 41 (Burnaby), 37 (Delta) and 38 (Richmond). She met with district teachers to share ideas and initiatives in Innovative learning, with a focus on literacy, numeracy, French and early learning.
- SD8 has purchased AIM resources (Accelerative Integrated Methodology) for elementary schools that have an intermediate Core French program. AIM is a method of teaching that transforms the experience of teaching and learning a second language. Vanessa Finnie, district teacher, will be assisting elementary schools with incorporating AIM into their French teaching. <https://www.aimlanguagelearning.com/>
- Javier Gonzalez, Coordinator of School Mental Health and Addictions has been coordinating EASE to provide training across the district. EASE is a collection of evidence-informed anxiety prevention and resilience-building resources for use with students in grade K through 7. These stand-alone

Superintendent's Report

resources align with BC curriculum and are designed to benefit all children by fitting into existing classroom routines and practices.

- Javier Gonzalez, Coordinator of School Mental Health and Addictions has also been working with the Canyon/Lister school community in an effort to support the mental health needs within the community of Bountiful:
 - o Julie Miller has been contracted by School District 8 to provide counselling services to the Canyon/Lister school community.
 - The role provides a flexible combination of individual/group counselling for students, facilitation of parent groups/workshops, and facilitation of student groups
 - o ASIST Suicide Intervention training provided to parents of the Bountiful community on Nov 15 and 16, 2019
 - Two full days with 27 participants.
 - o SafeTalk Suicide Prevention training provided to youth and parents of the Bountiful community on Dec 13, 2019
 - Two four hour sessions with participation of 26 youth and 6 adults.
 - o Mormon Hills and SD8 will increase mental Health Literacy as well as Social Emotional Learning events; Mormon Hills would also open their school so we can do some Mental Health workshops through their Professional Development days. This will help prepare the transition of students from Mormon Hills to Public School
- Scott Rothermel, Safe Schools Manager has been working on a behavior reporting system. Scott is also currently updating workplace incident forms, flowcharts, and school field trip forms.
- On January 21 and 22 Innovative Learning hosted EDI training workshops for Kindergarten teachers. This year Kindergarten teachers will be collecting EDI (Early Development Instrument) data. This data provides important information about our Kindergarten learners and how we can best meet their needs.
- On January 22, SD8 hosted a workshop in collaboration with Nelson Childcare Resource and Referral and Kootenay Kids Society. The workshop, entitled "Co-regulation: Supporting Children in our Care" was attended by Kindergarten teachers, early childhood educators, and childcare providers.
- Brent Firkser, District Curriculum Support Teacher is working on the Skills BC competition which will take place in Nelson and Cranbrook. This competition connects our students with technical skills in a competition setting with other students around the country. Brent is also launching the Trades Sampler in collaboration with Selkirk College. The Trades Sampler is a program to introduce students to a variety of skilled trades career paths in a hands on college based setting.

Superintendent's Report

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

SECRETARY-TREASURER

- 2019-2030 Long-Range Facilities Plan adopted by the Board
- 2019-2020 Amended Budget Draft completed
- Continuous control and accounting improvements

HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

- On-going education and training to leadership group on CBA and HR
- Building multi-year people plan

OPERATIONS

- Boiler installation at Trafalgar completed - control work to be completed mid January
- New rooftop units(2) installed at South Nelson Elementary
- New hoist for PCSS automotive program installed and in service

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Network upgrades in progress for Salmo Elementary and Secondary, ARES, Canyon Lister Elementary
- Completion of Ministry lead ECS (Enhanced Cybersecurity Services) upgrade district wide
- Over 400 new student devices rolled out since the beginning of the school year
- Pilot project for Microsoft Office 365 underway

ENGAGEMENT & RELATIONSHIPS

BAA - All Board Authorized Courses are posted online on the *Innovative Learning* site.

BCCPAC - Those interested in attending the annual AGM and conference for the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils, May 1-3 at the Westin Wall Centre 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 & SD 8 - The Superintendent is now on the Board of Directors with the BC School Superintendent's Association. In addition, the Superintendent, along with Superintendent Hoffman of Vancouver, have been invited to represent the BCSSA/Ministry of Education on this year's WE Organization's Educational Partnership *Thought Leaders* professional learning opportunity and experience in the Maasai Mara in Kenya during the summer.

BCSTA - Board of Education Members will be attending the Leadership Training Series in Cranbrook, April 7 with S/T McLellan and Director of Instruction, Deanna Holitski. This year's focus will be on strategic planning for student success and the *Framework for Enhancing Student Learning*.

Superintendent's Report

BCPSEA - Director of Human Resources, Chandra Singh, Superintendent Perkins and Trustees Chew and Lang will be attending the 26th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) January 30-31, 2020 at the Coast Coal Harbour Hotel, Vancouver, BC.

CAPSLE - The Canadian Association for the Practical Study of Law in Education will host their 2020 Conference, April 26-28, 2020 in Ottawa. The focus is on focus on "Innovation in Education: Capital Ideas. <https://capsle.ca/conference/>

DIRECTORS & SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM - The Senior Leadership team is currently working on Spring staffing for Fall 2020-2021; Budget plans, Capital plans, and Facility plans. Alignment meetings with Principals re: their school needs for next year will be held in February. Contact your Principal if you have ideas.

DPAC and PACs - DPAC will be held on Thursday, February 27 at 6 pm at the Nelson Board office: 811 Stanley St., Nelson, BC. The theme is: **Feedback Budget 2020-21**. Guest will be **Secretary-Treasurer, Michael McLellan**. Parents may also attend by phone: 1-647-558-0588 Mtg ID# 206902688 or via Web: zoom.us/j/206902688.

DPAC Summit - **SAVE the DATE - Mark your Calendars for your 2020 Summit** on November 19-20 at the Westin Wall Center in Richmond BC!

GRADs - a letter re: Grad Protocols has gone out to all high school Principals for distribution.

LEADERSHIP TEAM (PVPs) - Our leadership team are working on their upcoming presentations as part of the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) and our District Strategic Plan. All schools will be hosting the Board of Education and Education Committee of the Whole members in April and May.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - Update on Ministry of Education Capital Projects for SD 8 - Kootenay Lake including:

- A "green light" to look at and develop plans for an expansion for Blewett Elementary School - underway
- LVR Dust Collector Upgrade \$300,000 - completed
- HUME Window Upgrade \$750,000 - completed
- Flooring Upgrades Bunch of Schools CEC - completed, Rosemont, Al Collison, WE Graham, South Nelson \$425,000 - rest are underway
- Winlaw Playground \$105,000 - will be underway this Spring 2020 w/ concrete rim

STUDENTS TRUSTEES - will be hosting our annual Student Symposium at the Prestige on Wednesday, February 12, 2020. The theme this year is: *Leadership - Governance and Policy*.