



## November 15, 2022, Superintendent's Report

### 1. New SD10 Board of Education Begins Strategic Planning Process:

The district is pleased to welcome back returning trustees, Danyea Simon, Rhonda Farrell, Chris Dixon, and Steve Gascon, and welcome our new trustee, Amanda Murphy, to the School District 10 (Arrow Lakes) Board of Education. The SD10 Board will immediately begin working on a five-year strategic plan and will be spending the next several months, engaging students, staff, parents, and community in important conversations as we create a strategic plan for the future of SD10.

To help facilitate our work the board has landed on these guiding principles:

- Focus will be on our children (and families) and their learnings
- Engage as many individuals as possible - especially with those who do not tend to be heard (or participate)
- Consider a diverse inter-generational approach - consider those who are new to the area and those who have lived here for a long time
- Engage our key partners in education and in community
- Build on the District and Community Assets so they are highlighted and enhanced
- Be future oriented
- Provide opportunities for sharing knowledge and experiences and learning from other excellent resources (internally/externally)
- Commitment to an inspiring and proactive plan that prepares the District for the future
- Commitment to an implementation plan with resources and regular reporting on progress
- Commitment to ongoing learning and engagement as the plan is implemented

The Board's leadership and governance will continue to move our district forward in a good way through the next four years.

### 2. Provincial Professional Development Day Offered a Variety of Learning Opportunities:

On the October 21<sup>st</sup> Provincial Professional Development Day, teachers took part in a variety of learning opportunities around the region and across the province. SD10 sent a delegation of teachers to attend Compassionate Systems Leadership training in Nelson with five other neighbouring districts. This training focusses on looking at school structures and systems and how we can better address those with a more compassionate lens. Another delegation of teachers joined educators from around the region at the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network symposium in Revelstoke. The symposium had several speakers and sessions focusing on outdoor and environmental education, as well as developing a network of educators.

Education Assistants in the district spent the day at Nakusp Secondary School learning about behaviour intervention strategies. It was a great day of learning and staff brought back strategies, understanding, and new learning to better meet the needs of our students.

### 3. Arrow Lakes Teachers Attend Regional Working Session on Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirements:

To support the new English First People's courses for grades 10-12 as part of the Indigenous-focused course graduation requirement in BC, SD10 sent a delegation of three teachers to attend the regional working session in Kimberly. Information and resources were shared with teachers from the Kootenay-Boundary districts, and attendees were able to ask questions and seek clarification on next steps in preparation for implementation in the 2023-2024 school year. Highlights of the session included:

- The primary topic covered was English First Peoples 10-12 and using the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) Guide/Indigenous texts responsibly
- Graduation requirement does not *add* extra credit requirements, so the credits "can count twice" (i.e. English First Peoples 12 = English 12 *and* the Indigenous content credits)
- There will be a streamlined "locally-developed-course" application/approval process, though it is not yet formalized and may not be ready for Fall 2023
- The BC First People's Social Studies guide should be available by the new year
- The current science and math guides are their only vetted recommendations of materials for senior-level classes

### 4. SD10 Music Program Will Recommence in January 2023:

The district is excited to announce that Ms. Dianne Perry, a highly experienced music specialist, will be joining SD10 in January 2023 to continue the music program that was initiated in the 2019-2020 school year. Ms. Perry hails from Alberta and comes to us with extensive experience in the arts and music education and has worked with children in musical theatre, drama, and choir. She plays and teaches a variety of instruments and is excited to join the district and continue the music program for all elementary schools. She will also be examining ways to provide learning opportunities to secondary students. Please join me in welcoming Ms. Perry.