



SDIO SCHOOL DISTRICT 10
ARROW LAKES

World Class Learning in a Rural Environment

**March 8, 2016
Education Partnership Committee Meeting
Superintendent/Secretary Treasurer Report**

1. Robo Games in Nelson – February 20th

- On February 20, members of LESS's newly formed Robotics Club took part in the RoboGames at Sekirk College in Nelson
- **RoboGames** is a collaborative initiative between the Nelson Tech Club and GLOWS, with support from the Kootenay Association for Science and Technology and Selkirk College
- Members of the LESS Robotics club competed against 25 other teams from around the Kootenays
- Using robots they made based from Arduino kits, they competed in an obstacle course, and the most exciting event, Robo Battles
- Each team made it through one round of battles, and Braydon and Aleks's robot tied for first place
- Enthusiasm for this event and robotics and coding in general, have inspired students and teachers alike
- This was so much fun, that sponsoring teachers Scott Kipkie, Signy Fredrickson, and Michael Myhal are committed to continue the learning next year

2. Curriculum Support Planning Day – February 23rd, 2016

- A very successful Curriculum Support Planning Day was held on February 23rd
- Many thanks to Jan Unwin and Maureen Dockendorf for their support, expertise and commitment to the redesigned curriculum and SD 10
- The agenda was co-planned by a team of teachers and school and district leaders to involve lots of choice for exploration and curriculum planning time
- Teachers overwhelmingly reported high satisfaction

3. March 7th and 8th visit from Amelia Peterson, Harvard Ph.D student

- Amelia Peterson, from Harvard, has been in the district on March 7 and 8 with the aim of looking at innovative practices and pedagogy in the district
- She joined the *Collaborating to Engage All Learners* team along with Dr. Leyton Schnellert at the Learning Round in the Grade 3-7 class and was very impressed with the quality of teaching and learning at EES
- On Tuesday, March 8th, she visited Lucerne, NES and NSS talking to students and teachers and principals
- Amelia also joined the District Leadership team after school on March 7th and on March 8th, worked with the district Educational Transformation Committee

4. International Travel Grant

- Heather Dennill, Director of Learning, and Ryoko Kobayashi, Vice Principal of International Education, were successful in receiving \$7000 towards the upcoming Japan Cultural trip over spring break
- Eight students and Ryoko are planned to journey to Japan

- Ryoko will also participate in the annual Study in Canada recruiting fair in Tokyo

5. Skills Training Access grant \$5000

- We have been successful for the second year in a row in obtaining a \$5000 Skills Access Training grant <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2016EDUC0028-000304>.
- Thanks to Ken Barisoff, Shop teacher at NSS, and Michael Myhal, district Hands-on Learning teacher for their support in helping develop the criteria
- Funding for student work experience transportation, robotics equipment, CNC, Maker Bot 3D printer has been approved

6. Skills Training Tapper grant

- The district has just received a \$25,000 “shoulder tapper” grant
 - Connect our DL students to more work experience and skills training opportunities (currently there are 35 students in the Arrow Lakes DL School which is co-located in the Selkirk College ABE/Outreach centre in a blended learning model) – these are some of our most vulnerable learners
 - Liaise with the Selkirk College Outreach Centre in Nakusp and the Nakusp office of WorkBC Outreach to identify opportunities for partnership and skills training.
 - Pursue an ACE-IT program for 2016-17 through our ACE-IT/shop teacher champion at Nakusp Secondary, and also examine other potential ACE-IT partnerships through discussions with local and regional resources
 - Profile skills training Stories of Success on our district website, in local media, and to the Ministry – (Note, that I provided press release quotes and testimonials on the Skills Access grants to the Ministry in Feb 2016 both from an ACE-IT student and the Superintendent)
 - Produce by end of June 2016, an 8 minute film on student skills training as a result of the Solar Energy project
 - Student presentations on SD 10 Solar Energy Challenge – Grade 7- 9 students at Lucerne, and a Grade 12 student at NSS will learn to use data from the ICT interface with
 - Coordinate with KAST (Kootenay Association of Science and Technology <http://kast.com>) and GLOWS (Growing Learning Opportunities with Science - <http://kastglows.ca>) to increase student coding and electronics/robotics skills training
 - Partner with NACFOR – Nakusp Community Forests <http://nakuspcommunityforest.com> – and work towards student work experiences in career fields such forestry technician, professional forestry, and wildlife biology in our local community forest
 - Expand working relationships with a range of local and regional partners to increase opportunities for students in ICT, trades and technology skills
 - Use Twitter and school Facebook sites to celebrate and share stories of success
 - Present to the Arrow Lakes Aboriginal Education Council on skills training opportunities for students with indigenous ancestry

- Encourage and provide collaboration time for elementary student hands-on learning using hand tools and secondary school shops
- Submit to ArtStarts, a cross-district grant proposal centred around Design Thinking which incorporates over 350 students in the district working in 2-3 day to 2 week residencies with local welders, timber framers, graphic designers, website developers, sound technicians, architects, and artists
- Explore opportunities for Skype or webinar “visits” from skilled expertise outside the district. Share with our students what possibilities exist in solving authentic real world problems using the expertise of skilled workers from across BC and around the world.

7. Tuesday, March 29th, and Wednesday, March 30th - Social Media Safety

- Safe Schools from the Ministry is providing social media safety sessions for intermediate and secondary students (flyer attached to the March 8th agenda package)
- Social media safety - 9 - 3 pm March 30th for students from both intermediate and secondary schools across the district
- Parents are invited to a 7 pm session on how to keep your kids safe online

8. Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

- By March 31st, the district timeline for reporting will be posted on the website
- Revisions to the Ministry criteria have been updated at <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/enhancing-student-learning>

9. Flies and Silverfish Begone

- Pesticide for silverfish at NSS, flies at BAS and EES will be administered over spring break
- This will be done on a weekend by a local certified exterminator
- Safety precautions will be well communicated to all staff
- The Manager of Operations advises that after 6 hours there is no risk; nevertheless, we will exercise the utmost of caution and ensure safety