



World Class Learning in a Rural Environment

November 20, 2018

**Superintendent/Secretary Treasurer Report
Presented at the Education Partnership Committee,
and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**

1. Welcome to our New Board of Education!

- We are excited to welcome our new Board of Education who were sworn in this afternoon as trustees of the Board of Education for SD 10!
- We will be well served for the next four years by all five trustees who comprise the new Board:
 - Danyea Simon, Southern Zone trustee
 - Melissa Teindl, Central Zone trustee
 - Rhonda Farrell, Eastern Zone trustee
 - Christine Dixon-Grout, Trustee-at-large
 - Lora Lee Brekke, Trustee-at-large
- Sometimes the role of the Board is confusing to understand. Though Boards are central to our school districts, the Board's role is governance, rather than operational. One metaphor that the BCSTA has used is that the "Board sets the track, but does not play with the trains".
- The Board works as a corporate Board and their job is to set policy, monitor progress on the District Strategic Plan, provide financial oversight, ensure student success, and advocate for the school district and K-12 public education – a very big job, and a very important one!
- Trustees will attend a New Trustee Orientation session on Thursday this week, engage in the BC School Trustee's New Trustee Academy November 29 - December 1, attend BCPSEA New Trustee sessions January 24-25, and regional BCSTA Learning Forums April 11-12
- Many thanks to the previous Board of Education who has served the district and our learners so very well over the years! We wish you the very best, and are grateful for your leadership!

2. November Enrollment notes – Marginal Enrollment Increases!

- Current enrolment at our schools is up again slightly this month with five more students registering in our schools since October 2018 – growing rather than declining enrollment!
- We have also gathered Early Learning data from our Strong Start Centres which currently indicate that Kindergarten enrollment for next year is projected at 8 learners in New Denver, 21 at NES, 2 at EES and 7 at BES – solid enrollment stability and slight growth for the 2019-20 school year
- Below is the monthly enrolment chart by school and grade:

My Education BC: Student Enrollment Numbers

| Grade: | Gr.K | Gr.1 | Gr.2 | Gr.3 | Gr.4 | Gr.5 | Gr.6 | Gr.7 | Gr.8 | Gr.9 | Gr.10 | Gr.11 | Gr.12 | TOTALS | Oct | Dif |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-----|-----|
| ALDL | 2 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 40 | 37 | 3 |
| BES | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | 12 | 12 | 0 |
| EES | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 2 | | | | | | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| LESS | 8 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 11 | 6 | 12 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 91 | 88 | 3 |
| NES | 25 | 12 | 16 | 26 | 22 | 21 | 27 | 24 | | | | | | 173 | 174 | -1 |
| NSS | | | | | | | | | 21 | 32 | 28 | 20 | 23 | 124 | 124 | 0 |
| TOTAL Per Grade | 39 | 26 | 34 | 33 | 37 | 30 | 49 | 37 | 29 | 38 | 35 | 30 | 36 | | | |
| District Total | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 453 | 448 | 5 |
| Notes: | Grade not applicable to school | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3. Experiences Canada Exchange for Edgewood and Nakusp Elementary students

- Excellent news! Our intermediate Grade 6/7s at EES and Grade 7s at NES have been selected for an Experiences Canada exchange with a school in Rawdon, Quebec, north of Montreal
- Teachers Sean Johnston, Leslie Leitch, and WKTEP teacher candidate, Alison Bloom will be chaperoning the SD 10 students' visit to la belle province in February, with the Quebec students coming out west in late May; planning has already begun for this terrific exchange opportunity!
- All expenses are covered by the exchange program with the exception of \$100 in registration per student and local exchange costs; the district will help support and schools will fundraise
- Many thanks to Vice Principal, Brent Cook, for his tenacity and leadership in applying to the program and supporting our students in a wonderful exchange of culture, history and learning!

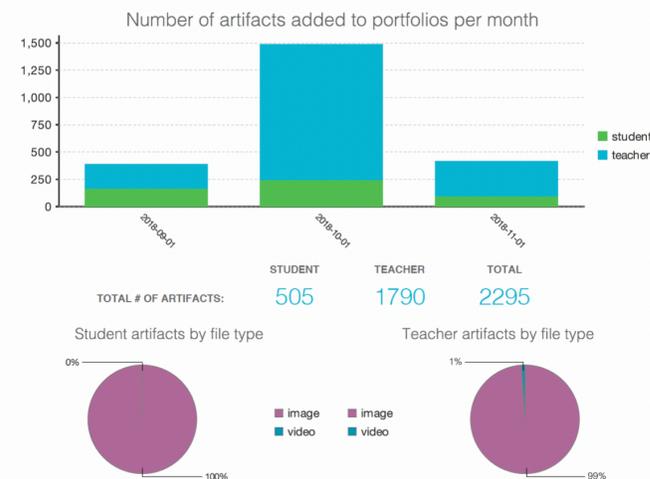
4. Further NGN Upgrade in Summer 2019

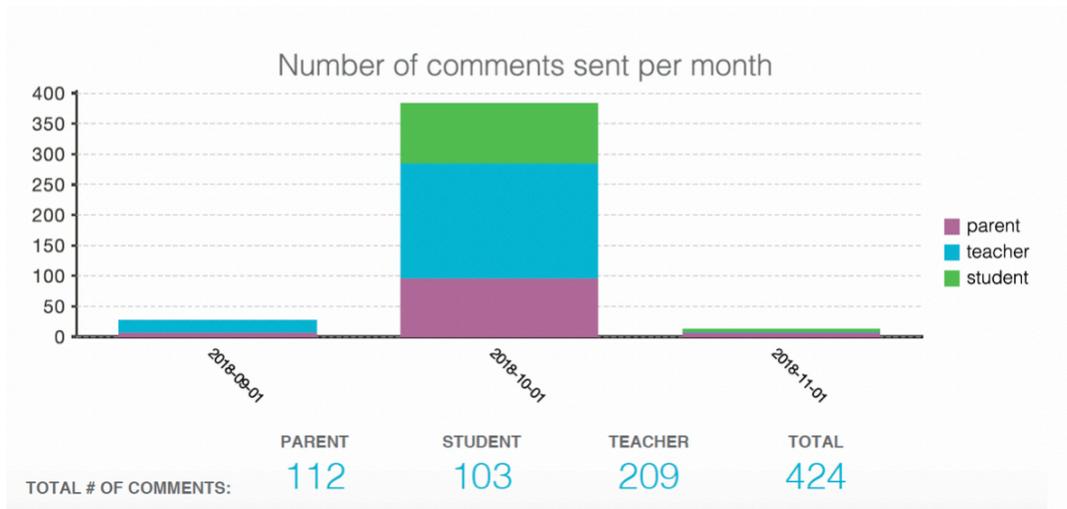
- Upgrades to the district's New Generation Network Internet infrastructure has been scheduled by the Ministry this summer
- This will result in improved security, better stability, and variable speeds (slower Internet when not in use and faster when in use)
- Most costs to upgrade the servers and other hardware will be covered by the Ministry – the last mandated upgrade three years ago was mostly at district cost, so we are happy for the support!

5. Ministry of Education K-9 Reporting Pilot Update

- As one of our four "Points of Progress" in the school year approaches, the traditional ways of communicating student learning are looking quite different in SD 10 and the 13 other pilot school districts than traditional report cards.
- These changes align with research that shows that student success increases when they are more deeply engaged in assessing their own learning and setting and monitoring their own goals for learning
- At Lucerne in Grade 7-12, students have been actively gathering evidence of their work, self-assessing and setting learning goals and then co-writing their own report cards along with their teachers. Principal Nick Graves is really pleased with the honesty, depth and quality of the students' communication and self-reflection.
- At NES and EES, Fresh Grade continues to be a solid foundation for regular, ongoing communication with parents about their children's learning. Teachers use this digital portfolio platform in ways customized to fit their class. They share student work, gather parent feedback about their child's learning, and have students self-assess their progress in learning.
- Below are some of the Engagement data from Nakusp Elementary since September:

Engagement





What is evident in our Fresh Grade engagement data in the schools using the platform across the district, is that the digital portfolio is allowing for regular, more frequent and ongoing feedback on students' learning. Seeing the high numbers of both parents and students commenting on student learning also shows that parents and students are engaged in learning along with teachers. Research shows that this kind of student and parent engagement in learning improves student success.

6. Graduation Literacy Assessment Pilot at NSS and Lucerne

- Students at both secondary schools in Grades 10 and 11 participated in a pilot of the new Graduation Literacy Assessment last week along with many other schools across BC
- The Ministry is piloting this new assessment of literacy, as come 2019, there will be new numeracy and literacy performance-based assessments for Grades 10-12 students required for graduation
- Specifications on the new GLA can be found on the Ministry of Education website: https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/pdf/Graduation_Literacy_Specs_Spring_2018.pdf
- Our teachers and principals report that generally students enjoyed participating in the assessment and that they received excellent feedback online on how to improve their literacy skills after completing the assessment.
- Both the literacy and numeracy assessments are not connected with specific courses (as the previous provincial exams) but rather assess these foundational skills across many disciplines as is common in the real world.

7. Regional Early Learning meeting – November 5th in Creston

- Director of Learning, Lorna Newman, along with preschool teachers, Strong Start Coordinators and Kindergarten teachers from across the district attended a regional session on Early Learning transitions
- The Ministry of Children and Family as well as the Ministry of Education are coordinating resources to better support transitions between child care and preschool, StrongStarts, and Kindergarten as research indicates that students are more successful in K-12 as a result
- A revised draft Early Learning Framework draft for 0-8 year olds has been developed and was shared at the regional conference: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/early-learning/teach/earlylearning/draft_early_learning_framework_2018.pdf
- Key elements in the new framework include the aims to “contribute toward reconciliation through implicitly and explicitly honouring indigenous authorities; connect with BC Curriculum and Core

competencies; articulate a vision of inclusion, use Pedagogical Narration as a process for reflecting on knowledge and understanding of childhood”

- The framework is also expanded to age 8 or Grade 3, whereas the 2008 framework was 0-5 years

8. Lucerne teacher honoured with CBEEN Environmental Education Award of Excellence

- Intermediate teacher Katrina Sumrall from New Denver’s Lucerne School was in the spotlight again on October 19th when she was presented with an Environmental Education Award for her relentless pursuit of environmental education for our school district’s children



Read more about Katrina’s award at <http://cbeen.ca/local-educators-take-home-awards-at-national-conference/>

Edgewood Elementary teacher, Erika Momeyer, 2016 recipient of the CBEEN EE Award of Excellence, presented her Lucerne School colleague, Katrina Sumrall, with the prestigious award

9. Kootenay Boundary Environmental Education initiative wins national award at EECOM

- On October 20th on the traditional territory of the Ktunaxa nation at St.Eugene’s, our six regional East and West Kootenay/Boundary school districts were honoured with the *Outstanding Organization for Environmental Education Award* by the Canadian Network for Environmental Education Network and Communication
- Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Directors of Learning from SD 5, 6, 8, 10, 20 and 51 collaborate as the KBEE or Kootenay Boundary Environmental Education Network to support environmental education across the region
- Coordinated by the amazing Duncan Whittick from CBEEN, and supported by the Columbia Basin Trust, the KBEE has worked for the past three years, and
 - Supported 7500 students (almost half of the classrooms in the region) in the Take Me Outside for Learning Challenge where students and their teachers go outside for learning at least once per week through the school year
 - Supported regional Environmental Education Leadership Clinics, and teacher-led EE Provincial Specialist Associations across all school districts in the Kootenay Boundary region
 - Created a website <http://kbee.ca> featuring short films, an online Inspiration Handbook, and other learning materials to inspire environmental learning
- Our KBEE network is now embarking on researching the impact of environmental education on student learning and well-being

10. Columbia Basin Plays \$20,000 grant funding awarded

- With many thanks to the efforts of Mike Hibberson, NES/BES/EES Principal and Lorna Newman Director of Learning, the district has successfully been approved for a \$20,000 Basin Plays grant
- Aimed to improve physical literacy, mental health and well-being through increasing opportunities for our learners to learn to walk, hike, dance, swim, ski, snowshoe, canoe, rock climb, boulder, and play golf, the funding will provide professional development for teachers and rich outdoor learning experiences for our learners!