

## ALELA Report to EPC – March 2021

### Lucerne

- Last week we finished our final ski days, we were so happy that our students got out to the ski hill this year. The benefits of the ski days can be felt throughout the school and is huge in supporting our students mental and physical health.
- February was a busy month at Lucerne with reading and writing assessments being completed in all grades, the grades 4 to 7 completing the MDI survey, and the grades 4 and 7 classes completing the FSA.
- This month, Matty Hillman, a child and youth mental health practitioner as well as a professor at Selkirk college, visited our school twice to present on wellness strategies to our high school students. The presentations were accompanied by amazing meals and students were very engaged by the presentations.
- The Grade 2/3 class and the Grade 4 to 7 class have partnered with Escape Rooms 4 kids and are making both virtual and physical escape rooms. They are engaged and learning deeply the importance of teamwork and communication.
- On Pink Shirt Day the student council created pink masks for grades 6 to 12 and the school was decked out in pink shirts.
- After the break we will be starting a fresh round of extra-curricular activities, students will have the option to participate in Ukulele, Art Club, Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Dance, Robotics, Metal Work and Cooking.
- In sad news our wonderful breakfast cook is unfortunately leaving us as she and her family relocate to a new city, Heather James has provided a nutritious meal for the students of Lucerne for the past two years and has become an invaluable member of the school community. We greatly thank her and wish her the best in her new journey.

### NSS

- With the help of Teacher Librarian Megan Martin, NSS hosted ‘Battle of the Books’ this past week, with students answering questions about five books they were tasked with reading
  - Congrats to Hannah Mackenzie and Livia Hibberson who each received an NSS hoodie for having successfully answered the most questions about the books
- Breakfast and snack program continues in earnest and is very well received.
  - Been notified that we will receive some additional grant monies from both The Breakfast Club of Canada as well as Vancouver Sun Adopt-A-School program so adding a few free meals during the week
- Students in Grade 10 and 11 are scheduled to write the Graduation Literacy Assessment in April
  - Grade 11’s will be writing now after missing last year due to the cancellation of the assessment due to COVID
- Several students participated in the online session: Women Leading Through Change in Canada with Hayley Wickenheiser. Hayley sat down with Tableau Community Vice President, Stephanie Richardson, for a virtual fireside chat exploring:

- Change as a path to greatness
- Dealing with criticism and pressure
- Crafting your own style of leadership
- The power of data to create change
- Julia Flesaker facilitated and supervised the Quantum Leaps: Girls in STEAM and Leadership Conference this past Monday via Zoom
  - Normally we travel to Castlegar to participate in this event
- Students Council members continue to support school spirit with weekly theme days
  - For Anti-bullying day, they prepared a pink-theme breakfast as well as the purchase and distribution of pink socks and laces this year (instead of t-shirts) from the funds they received from KSCU Anti-bullying bingo last year
  - Planning a scavenger hunt in the school
- Still planning on producing a yearbook but it's been slow going so far
- Climbing and Bouldering Walls continues to be incredibly popular, and the climbing club seems to get larger week by week
- Safety plan updates have been mostly a smooth transition with the updated guidelines
  - Masks are required at all times for staff unless they can be socially distant from students, and for students when they are not at their desks
    - PE has been a challenge so looking forward to nicer weather so we can go outside
- Sports continue to be popular despite not being able to travel
  - Volleyball and Basketball teams continue to practice several days a week
  - Ski and Snowboard held their last practice this past weekend
  - Soccer will start up after the break, with Track and Field and Golf to follow
  - Late bus will start on Tuesdays and Thursdays after Spring Break
    - Leaving from NES @ 4:30 with a run through town then down to Fauquier

## NES

- **The Kindergarten, Kindergarten/ Grade 1 and Grade 1 classes have been working with Ms. Tupper and Mr. Gehrels during PE to learn how to cross-country ski. On Friday March 5<sup>th</sup>, 28 of these students took part in a field trip to Valhalla Hills ski are to use these new found skills. It was a fantastic day where students tested themselves on hills, played games, and skied the trails!**
- **Grade 4 and 7 students have been busy completing their FSA assessments over the last few weeks. Students from Grade 4 to 7 also took part in the MDI assessment. These two assessments help us to inform our growth plan.**
- **Staff, students, and even parents can be seen around school and community sporting the new NES clothing. It is great to see the sense of community this brings to our school.**
- **Ms. Tupper and Ms. Robert's class continue to visit Minto house bi-weekly to sing songs and spread cheer to the folks there. This mix of good exercise and community service has been a source of much joy for all who take part.**

- Mrs. Martin hosted two Battle of the Books competitions here at NES. Cohort 3 and Cohort 4 both had good turnout and it was great to share in their love of reading.
- Coming up after Spring Break we have 4 different rounds of Artists in the classroom. Thanks go to Leslie Leitch for organising Betty Fahlman, Teresa Weatherhead, Aisha Mulhall, and Chris Dixon will all do several sessions with each class. This is a really exciting opportunity for our students!
- We will also have afterschool clubs available for the students after the break. These clubs will take place Tuesdays and Thursdays. Both Primary and Intermediate students will have opportunities and choice. We hope to have bus support on these two days to allow NES students living out of town or in the Southern zone to access these clubs.

### EES

- We are excited to welcome Education Assistant, Cat B to the team.
- The Aerie has been shifted into a sensory room. Special thanks to Laura Munoz for her help.
- We are working on inclusion through games. A few of our vulnerable learners are spending time learning a game, and they will then help teach it to the other students. This also levels the playing field when playing.
- We had a few Friday inquiry challenges this month which produced some excellent outcomes and excited learners.
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### BES

- BES has been creating cross-class groups for Learning. The intermediate students are mastering a board game and will teach/play with the primary class after Spring Break.
- The cross-class Friday inquiry challenge was a hit. The teams were a mix between primary and intermediate, with the winning team getting a pizza lunch with Mr. Cook.
- The intermediate class was able to ski in some of the most glorious conditions of the year at Summit. It was a great experience.
- The Bears student council will be starting up house teams after spring break. This student-driven activity will see teams earn points through intramurals and other activities.
- Our outdoor classroom is almost ready, and we think it is the best in the district.