



May 18, 2021
Superintendent/Secretary Treasurer Report
*Presented at the Education Partnership Committee,
 and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education*

1. Enrollment update

My Education BC: Student Enrollment Numbers																
As of:	14-May-21															
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	15-Apr	Dif
ALDL	1	8	8	6	8	7	9	8	11	8	6	4	9	93	90	3
BES	4	2	6	6	8	4	3							33	33	0
EES	2	3	4											9	9	0
LESS	12	8	9	9	3	6	7	8	9	7	9	6	7	100	98	2
NES	23	23	20	13	15	23	22	19						158	159	-1
NSS									29	28	20	31	26	134	134	0
TOTAL	42	44	47	34	34	40	41	35	49	43	35	41	42			
District Total														527	523	4
Notes:	Grade not applicable to school															

2. Grad in a Pandemic – 2021 Redux?

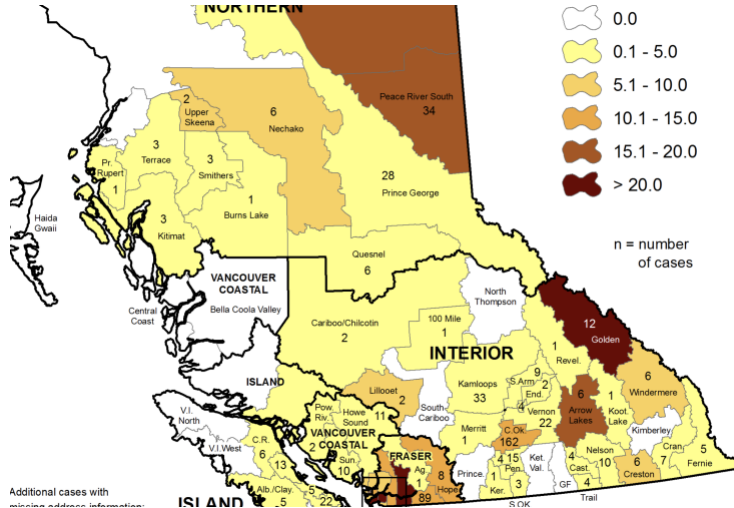
- Graduation at NSS, Lucerne and ALDL will allow some of the much-deserved celebrations that this important milestone for our Grade 12s merits and both Lucerne and NSS and yet are constrained by [Ministry and Provincial Health Graduation Ceremony guidelines](#) released on May 14th
- Four ways to celebrate graduation are allowed: 1) Drive Through Ceremony, 2) Learning Group Ceremony, 3) Individual Ceremonies and 4) Travelling Road Show Ceremonies

3. Nakusp Elementary School Re-opens - Hurrah!

- It's been quiet in the halls of the school district's largest school (159 students) since May 3 when a two-week functional school closure was put in place
 - At that time over 75% of staff and students were required by IHA to self-isolate, eight positive COVID cases had been identified in the school community, and by Monday, May 3rd, only a handful of students were attending with few staff remaining
- We are happy to announce that on Monday, May 17th, NES re-opened its doors and welcomed back all children and staff; everyone is excited to be back learning in the school environment!!!
- Giant thanks to our parents and students for their understanding and support in this difficult time and to our amazing teachers, CUPE support staff, and the school principal and vice principal for quickly pivoting to home-based support and online learning during the closure period
- Meanwhile, attendance at Nakusp Secondary School is slowly rebounding from a low of 50% of students attending to 70% in attendance by end of day Friday, May 14
- The Ministry/Public Health Rapid Response team has done a thorough review of all COVID safety plans and a virtual investigation of exposure control measures at the school

- The Rapid Response review indicates that NES has been compliant with all public health and Ministry of Education COVID protocols and that the school continues to be a safe environment for all learners and staff

➤ Public health data continue to show that COVID in schools is linked to COVID in the community



- As COVID cases begin to go down in the community, with the week of May 2-8 seeing a decline to only six cases in the Arrow Lakes health region, we anticipate schools will also see this

➤ It's important for all members of our school and local community to continue to follow public health guidelines as we kick COVID to the curb in the Arrow Lakes health region!

➤ **Parents and staff can rest assured that our schools are safe and will remain so!**

4. Goat Mountain Child Care Centre – Outdoor Play space now completed

- Final outdoor play area details have now been completed for the Goat Mountain Child Care Centre
- Imaginative play space designs were created and brought to life by local designer and artist, Petra Hekkenberg
- Once Public Health guidelines have lifted and the Ministry of Children and Family Development authorizes that celebrations and official openings of child care centres can resume, we will seek approval for a rather exciting gathering of all those involved in creating Goat Mountain Child Care Centre, a most astonishing and unique school and community early learning space



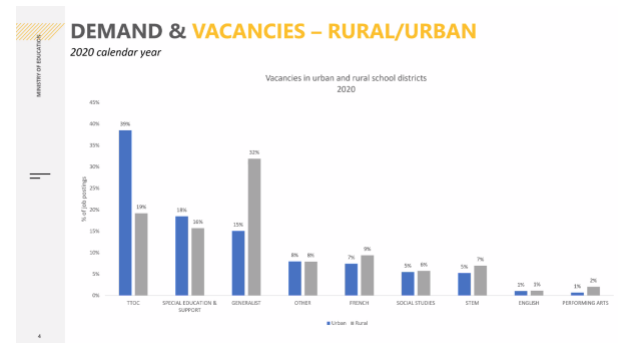
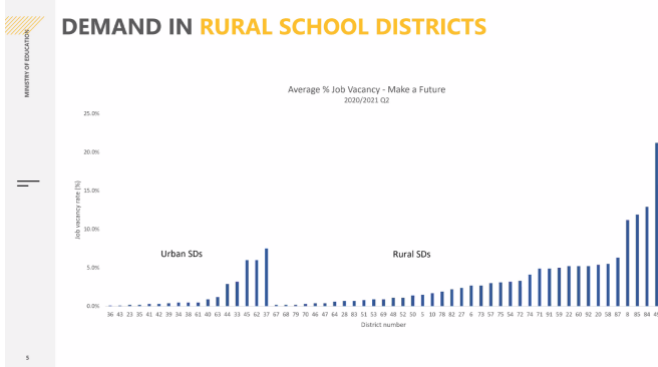
5. Nakusp Child Care Centre – Construction Update

- On May 3rd, Cormac Projects began construction at the Nakusp Child Care Centre HUB
- Local (SD 10 area) contractors include Arrow Lakes Ready Mix, Trilar Sprinklers from New Denver, and also construction supplies from Nakusp Home Hardware

- Local contractors and tradespeople are busy these days, yet are invited to submit competitive bids or put their names forward through Cormac Site Manager, Mark Faber as hiring local people while budget constraints remains a priority for this important project in the school district

6. Rural Recruitment and Retention Think Tank

- On May 5th, twenty rural districts under the umbrella of the Rural Education Advisory Committee, Ministry of Education and post-secondary teacher education partners gathered to examine data and explore teacher recruitment challenges for rural and remote school districts
- Recruitment pressures in rural AND remote schools and districts has intensified over the last number of years and both Ministry and district data bear this out



➤ Innovative recommendations were brought forward for rural recruitment and retention including:

- 1) Greater partnerships between school districts and rural teacher education programs (eg UBC-WKTEP)
- 2) Fund rural teacher practicum accommodation allowances so more student teachers can experience the joys of rural education and stay rural
- 3) Increased incentives for teachers to relocate to rural (eg: student loan forgiveness; redistribution of \$2400 R and R teacher allowance; housing assistance)
- 4) Continue or expand high quality professional learning opportunities within school districts
- 5) Support upgrading qualifications for current teachers in district as was done in 2015-16 through BCPSEA/Ministry special funding for specialist position

7. Three New School Busses for SD 10! Two electric and one diesel

- Ministry of Education Capital Approval for three new school busses has been received
- Two busses are replacements for old busses requiring greater servicing and repairs given mileage and age and one bus is to serve the growing number of students at Burton Elementary School
- Art Olson, Manager of Operations and Transportation, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Shelly Woolf and Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer Taylor are pleased that our bus replacement requests have been approved and are very excited at adding two new electric busses to our fleet!
- An electric bus charging station at the district's Nakusp bus garage is currently being installed
- BC's Ministry of Education has announced that by 2030, all school busses in the province will be electric and both provincial and federal grants will help support the increased capital costs of electric busses
 - Though less costly to operate and much better for the planet, initial purchase and infrastructure costs are higher for electric busses so this government support is much needed!
- With solar panels on the roofs of all schools by the end of 2021, the school district is well poised to continue reduction of electric energy costs
 - from May to September we are net metering with all our solar panel installations
- How exciting to begin the transition to green energy student transportation!