

April 16, 2024, Superintendent's Report

COMPETENCY:

Specialized Training Supports Student and Staff Safety.

During the past year, the district has begun training staff in Nonviolent Crisis Intervention. This certified training from the Crisis Prevention Institute provides staff with an effective framework for preventing, de-escalating, and safely responding to crisis behaviour. The program focuses on what's happening from two perspectives: the person in distress and the staff person involved. Staff gain a broad range of tools to help them manage their own emotional responses and identify escalating behaviours in others. They practice effective approaches to navigate stressful situations effectively. They also discover how having a plan before the behaviour escalates helps manage their fear and cultivate consistent practices.

Nakusp Elementary Learning Support Teacher Kim Hood is SD10's certified CPI instructor and is responsible for training staff. This year, she trained all educational assistants, learning support teachers, and administrators. Moving forward, she will begin offering training to teaching staff and incoming support staff and will also provide ongoing refresher sessions. The district is very thankful to Kim for taking on this role and building the capacity of our staff.

COLLABORATION:

2. Strategic Plan Being Implemented Across the District

Since the district's five-year strategic plan was finalized in the fall, efforts have been made to ensure its implementation. A working group has been developing focused inquiry questions and initiatives for schools and staff around the priority areas of competency, health, and the environment, and school administrators have been working on ways to use collaboration with staff, families, and the local community.

Schools will also align their school growth plans with the strategic plan priorities and spend the next year looking for emerging themes, gathering qualitative data, and engaging in conversation with all partner groups. Through our budget consultation process, we will gather more information on where we need to focus and hear how we can best meet students' needs to ensure they are prepared for the future.



COLLABORATION:

1. District Accessibility Plan

School District 10 (Arrow Lakes) is pleased to confirm that the District's Accessibility Plan has been finalized and is available on the SD10 website. The Plan, which identifies the District's commitments and goals for accessibility, is based on a continuous feedback loop of:

- planning and research,
- engagement and building awareness,
- goal setting and taking action, and
- evaluating and reporting.

In this way, our Plan aims to be responsive to our ever-changing world and the needs of our students, staff, and communities. The School District Accessibility Plan can be downloaded by clicking the following link: <u>Accessibility Plan - School District 10, Arrow Lakes (sd10.bc.ca)</u>.

In an effort to engage with stakeholders and build awareness about disability and accessibility, the district, with the support of the district accessibility committee, is looking at creative and interactive ways to build our capacity in this area. A recent "learning challenge" has been issued to schools, inviting classes or school groups to create and/or participate in a learning activity that engages staff and students and builds understanding and awareness about disability and accessibility. Participating classes will have the chance to win a prize for a school or class initiative.

District stakeholders are also reminded that accessibility barriers can be reported anonymously using the SD10 online reporting tool available at sd10.bc.ca/district.accessibility-plan/ or can be submitted by email to accessibility@sd10.bc.ca.