

January 21, 2025, Superintendent's Report



COMPETENCY and COLLABORATION:

1. Primary Literacy Initiatives:

SD10 primary teachers have invested a great deal of time in several literacy initiatives this year. The primary assessment team has continued to meet and add to the online database of resources, timelines, and best practices for a unified approach to formative and summative assessment across the district.

The district was awarded a residency with the Provincial Outreach Program for Early Years (POPEY). This nine-day residency with Dr. Jennifer Kelly provides all primary teachers and early childhood educators in the district time to collaborate and focus on literacy trends, early screening tools, writing continuums, oral language development, and exploring the Reggio Emilia approach to teaching. They also participate in Learning Rounds, where they spend time in classrooms observing lessons, working with students, and then debriefing with each other.

NES teacher Jenna Alstad has been a primary literacy mentor this year. She collaborates with other primary teachers, the learning support teacher, the Strong Start Coordinator, and parents to support literacy development. She models best practices and provides resources and support to students, teachers, support staff, and parents.

SD10's focus on early literacy learning and interventions creates a solid foundation for student success. Thanks go out to all the teachers for their ongoing collaboration and commitment. Special thanks to Principal Tim Van Brummelen for his leadership with the early years portfolio and for supporting these significant initiatives.

2. Nakusp Secondary Writers Workshop Club:

To provide extended learning opportunities, the Writers Workshop Club at NSS was formed this year by sponsors Naomi Smedbol, Ben Gehrels, and Jaime Sing.

The club has had an exciting few months to kick off the school year! Over 20 students have participated, and seven attended the Vancouver Writers Festival in October. The students said they came away with a greater awareness of complex social issues, a better understanding of diverse writing techniques, and a sense of gratitude for sharing the experience as a group.





Those who stayed back in Nakusp said they enjoyed experimenting with playful, magnetic poetry battles, crafting six-word autobiographies, and distilling poems from images.

The club meets regularly as a group during lunchtime to practice writing and discuss future plans. The next session later this month will focus on tracking down and applying for writing contests with deadlines over the coming months.

