

Superintendent's Report - April 2023

We recognize that we learn, teach and work on the ancestral, traditional territories of the Nte?kepmx and Syilx people and we acknowledge our Metis communities and their contributions to the Aboriginal ways of being and knowing.

THANK YOU!

We are very proud of all our Science Fair participants who worked hard on their projects. Congratulations to the students representing their schools and the district at the Regional Science Fair.



MERRITT CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Martindale Farm was a fun learning experience for kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, and even our grade 5/6 class. Connecting outdoors, learning about the running of a local ranch, and exploring the shore of Nicola Lake has become a yearly tradition that is very much an experience Central students look forward to.

John Allison Elementary



JA students have been focused on learning and having fun while doing so! Here kindergarteners are graphing jelly bean colours for Easter weekend and grade 1 students are writing and drawing about favourite foods.

Vermilion Forks Elementary



Our FNSW, Krista Szymczak, worked with students from Mrs. Shea's grade 6/7 class to prepare a taco treat before the Easter long weekend.



On March 16th, the VFE Thunderbirds headed North to compete in the District Handball Tournament!



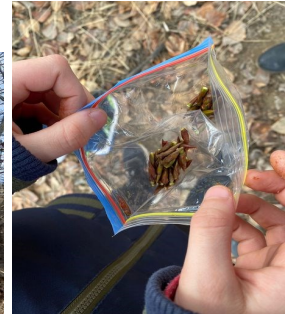
École Élémentaire Colletville • Colletville Elementary



The Maple Man came to visit!



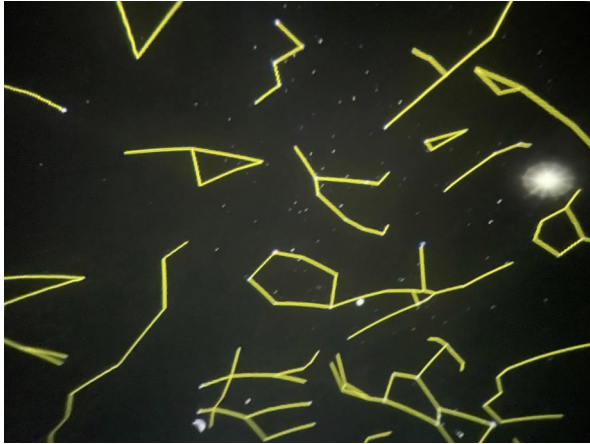
Students on a river walk.



Diamond Vale Elementary School



Our Division 4 class, which includes students in Grades 2/3 recently visited Nicola Meadows to participate in some crafts with the senior residents. This was the first of what we hope will become monthly visits. All intermediate students have been attending swimming lessons for ten weeks and completed their assessments just before the break. Many of our students have been participating in some fun design projects. Division 2 (Grade 5/6) took part in an egg drop and our Grade 2/3 classes buddied with the Grade 6/7 class to design watertight boats to participate in a boat race across a paddling pool. A fan provided the wind power.



The mobile Planetarium set up at Bench school for all grades to enjoy.



Students travelled to Kelowna for an Indigenous experience at UBC Okanagan.



Starfish dissection in Science class



Grade 8 Art Class





We had 74 kids participate in our Science Fair and we sent 8 kids to regionals.



The week leading up to Spring Break proved to be busy for Merritt Secondary. We had a group of Grade 10 and 11 students attend a two-day TRU Indigenous Service Visit in Kamloops, where they toured the facility, were introduced to the Indigenous advisors, and participated in other activities. Some of our graduating students spent a day tubing at Harper Mountain while a class of Grade 11 students played host to some of our elementary friends with Bake and Read activities. This provides the opportunity for elementary and high school students to build connections by coming together to bake (decorate) cookies and read books. The Spring Battle of the Grades was a huge success, as always. Over the Spring Break, we had 7 students participate in a Jr. Police Academy in the lower mainland. These students spent the week learning different policing elements and came back with many great stories to share.



Indigenous Education



In collaboration with the district and the Aboriginal Advisory Council (AAC) we have created a fabulous Student and Parent Handbook to improve communication with our Indigenous families.

Welcome
 Ȼe te skicetip (It is great you come to visit us) Nle?kepmxcin
 Ȼast pȻȻcyȻap (Welcome) Nsyilxcan
 Miyoonakishkatoohk (Welcome) Michif

Aboriginal Student & Parent Handbook

Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow

Funded by the Ministry of Education and Childcare SEY2KT Project

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

LITTLE BIG PEOPLE EVENT

Merritt Central Elementary School
 1501 Voght Street, Merritt, BC

Do you have a child age 3-5?

Are you looking for more information about community resources for young children?

JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST LITTLE BIG PEOPLE EVENTS
 APRIL 12TH
 MAY 10TH
 JUNE 14TH
 FROM 10-11:30AM

WHAT IS IT?

Booths by local Early Years Organizations and Service Providers
 An opportunity to see what services and activities are available for children and families in the early years
 Fun for 3-5 year olds
 Promoting health and wellness
 Snacks, prizes, fun and so much more!

The SEY2KT planning table is comprised of members from:
 School District 58, Nicola Valley Infant Development, Literacy Merritt & Nicola Valley, UNIB, Upper Nicola Headstart, Nzeeman Aboriginal Infant Development, Nicola Valley Food Bank

For additional information please contact:
 Daniella Bennie, District Vice Principal of Early Learning and Childcare at dbennie@365.sd58.bc.ca
 or
 Janet Verbeek, Nicola Valley Infant Development at janetverbeeknvidp@shaw.ca

Early Learning and Child Care

SCHOOL DISTRICT 58 READY, SET, LEARN MERRITT EVENTS!

COME JOIN US FOR
READY SET LEARN EVENTS!

YOU ARE INVITED TO:
 SEE THE SCHOOL
 MEET THE PRINCIPAL AND KINDERGARTEN TEACHER
 ENGAGE WITH GUEST SPEAKERS
 ENJOY ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS
 SNACKS PROVIDED

PLEASE JOIN US FROM 10:00-11:30
 AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:
 APRIL 11TH AT DIAMOND VALE ELEMENTARY
 APRIL 25TH AT MERRITT CENTRAL ELEMENTARY
 MAY 2ND AT NICOLA CANFORD ELEMENTARY
 MAY 9TH AT COLLETTVILLE ELEMENTARY
 MAY 16TH AT BENCH ELEMENTARY

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact:
 Daniella Bennie,
 District Vice-Principal of Early Learning and Childcare
 Email: dbennie@365.sd58.bc.ca
 Telephone: 250-378-5161

SCHOOL DISTRICT 58 READY, SET, LEARN PRINCETON EVENTS!

COME JOIN US FOR
READY SET LEARN EVENTS!

YOU ARE INVITED TO:
 SEE THE SCHOOL
 MEET THE PRINCIPAL AND KINDERGARTEN TEACHER
 ENGAGE WITH GUEST SPEAKERS
 ENJOY ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS
 SNACKS PROVIDED

PLEASE JOIN US FROM 9:30-11:00
 JOHN ALLISON ELEMENTARY
 APRIL 13TH, 2023
 MAY 11TH, 2023

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact:
 Daniella Bennie,
 District Vice-Principal of Early Learning and Childcare
 Email: dbennie@365.sd58.bc.ca
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Inclusive Education

Competency Based IEPs Match the Redesigned Curriculum

The Competency Based IEP parallels what is going on in classrooms all over BC. It supports flexible learning environments and allows for personalization so that students may pursue personal interests and passions.

Technology has changed the way students access their learning. Information is instantly accessed and there are new and innovative ways for students to share what they know.

Key Ways Competency Based IEPs are the Same

Regardless of format, all IEPs have certain aspects:

- they are written and managed by a school-based Case Manager;
- they are reviewed throughout the year;
- goals and objectives may target lagging skills.

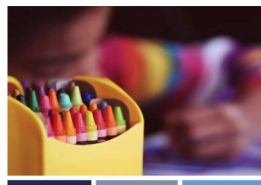
Key Ways Competency Based IEPs are Different

- Key changes to goals and objectives include:
- they are worded from the student's point of view;
 - they focus primarily on Core Competency facets and student self-agency;
 - Curricular Competency goals are secondary;
 - they look the same province wide



Competency Based Individual Education Plans

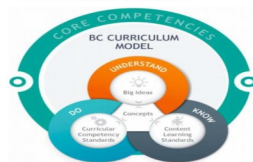
School District 58 will be moving to CBIEP (Competency Based Individual Education Plans) starting in the 2023 school year. Please take a look at the attached brochure to read more about CBIEPs. Family information sessions to follow, both on Zoom and in person for next month. More information on dates and times for these sessions will be determined in the near future and communication will be shared.



BC's Redesigned Curriculum

To prepare students for the future, the curriculum must be learning-centred, flexible, and maintain a focus on literacy and numeracy, while supporting deeper learning. BC's redesigned curriculum is made up of three main elements: Big Ideas, Curricular Competencies and Content.

Big Ideas: what students understand
Curricular Competencies: what students do
Content: what students know



Core Competencies

Core Competencies are at the centre of BC's redesigned curriculum and are at the centre of the Individual Education Plan (IEP). Core Competencies are the abilities students use to demonstrate their understanding of the content. They are intended to support academic learning and foundational skill building, as well as help students develop into well-rounded individuals. Core Competencies are developed in every area of the curriculum.

Curricular Competencies

The Curricular Competencies are the skills, strategies, and processes that students develop over time. They reflect the "Do" in the Know-Do-Understand model of learning. While Curricular Competencies are more subject-specific, they are connected to the Core Competencies. Curricular Competencies are explicit statements of what is expected at each grade level in each area of learning.



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 msheldon@365.sd58.bc.ca

"Learning ultimately supports the well-being of the self, the family, the community, and the land the spirits, and the ancestors."

~First Peoples Principles of Learning

Core Competency Key Facts

- Thinking**
 - Creative Thinking
 - Critical and Reflective Thinking
- Communication**
 - Communicating
 - Collaborating
- Personal and Social**
 - Positive Personal/Cultural Identity
 - Personal Awareness and Responsibility
 - Social Awareness and Responsibility

BC's redesigned curriculum brings together two features that most educators agree are essential for 21st century learning; a concept based approach to learning and a focus on the development of competencies, to foster deeper, more transferable learning. These approaches complement each other because of their common focus on active engagement of students. The Competency Based IEPs have both these components at their centre.



Spring has sprung! Here's to lots of warm and sunny days to come!

