

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN: SD 58 NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN

Our goals have us creating a learning community with
1. meaning and purpose
2. appreciation and respect
3. meaningful connections

OUR FIRST STEPS WILL BE:

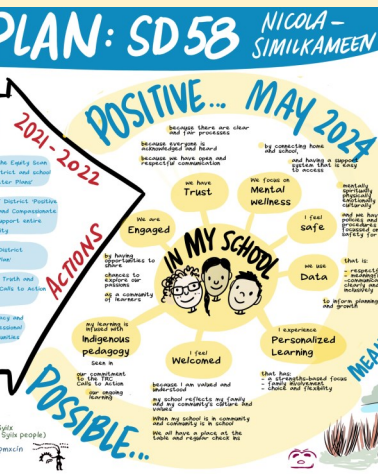
- 1. Establish a shared vision and purpose for the district.
- 2. Develop a strategic plan that aligns with the vision and purpose.
- 3. Implement the strategic plan through a series of initiatives.
- 4. Monitor and evaluate the progress of the strategic plan.
- 5. Report on the progress of the strategic plan to the community.

OUR NEEDS TO BE A PART OF THE PLAN:

- 1. A shared vision and purpose for the district.
- 2. A strategic plan that aligns with the vision and purpose.
- 3. A series of initiatives to implement the strategic plan.
- 4. A system to monitor and evaluate the progress of the strategic plan.
- 5. A way to report on the progress of the strategic plan to the community.

WE WILL BUILD STRATEGIES:

- 1. Establish a shared vision and purpose for the district.
- 2. Develop a strategic plan that aligns with the vision and purpose.
- 3. Implement the strategic plan through a series of initiatives.
- 4. Monitor and evaluate the progress of the strategic plan.
- 5. Report on the progress of the strategic plan to the community.



Superintendent's Report - October 2023

We recognize that we learn, teach and work on the ancestral, traditional territories of the Nl̓eʔkepmx̌ and Syilx people and we acknowledge our Metis communities and their contributions to the Aboriginal ways of

World Teachers' Day — October 5

The Board of Education would like to thank all teachers' and staff for the outstanding work that you do and your continued dedication to the students and families of the Nicola-Similkameen School district. Thank you!

Kʷukʷscemx̌ - Nl̓eʔkepmx̌cín Liml̓amt - Nsyilxčan Marsee - Michif



Merritt Central Elementary School

...Home of the @Central_Hawks!



CONNECTION

Central students are building purposeful relationships through opportunities like Lego Club and the Big Buddies initiative with MSS. These relationships are positively impacting our students' well being and promoting growth in the areas of personal and social awareness.



LEARNING ON THE LAND

Grade 4/5/6/7 students picked Labrador tea and learned about its medicinal benefits with the guidance of our First Nation Support Workers and Elder Ron Ned from UNIB. This was a fantastic way for students to engage in culturally relevant, land-based learning. A portion of the Labrador tea picked by students was offered as a gift to all those who attended the Merritt Welcome Dinner!



CROSS COUNTRY

Grade 2-7 students have participated in Cross-Country runs hosted at Central Park, MCE, MBE, and PSS. Practice is held weekly and we are so proud of the commitment and dedication shown by our students and coaches!

John Allison Elementary



Many ways of learning at John Allison:

Developmentally respectful learning about Truth & Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

Outdoor learning in the garden with our Harvest Festival.



Vermilion Forks Elementary



Drumming and connecting to the land and talking about Truth and Reconciliation at China Ridge in Princeton.



Terry Fox Run. We had six student speakers and a grade 6/7 class lead the warm-up exercises. The school raised over \$700 for the cause.



Early Learning and Child Care

Seamless Day has been up and running since September 11th. Little ones engage in a range of activities including baking, playing outside, arts and crafts and some science experiments. They are under the care of two fabulous early childhood educators (one before school the other after school), who bring innovation, care and passion to their work while creating a loving and caring space for our young learners. These educators also get to follow the students through the day into their classes. We gratefully acknowledge the financial contributions of the Ministry of Education and Childcare for the opportunity to help bring this program to fruition.



The After School Program is up and running. We have 1 after school coordinator and 2 after school assistants as well as some community partnerships that are supporting our program this year. We are currently based at Central where we have an intermediate program running on Mondays/ Wednesday where children have had the chance to explore some PE games and bowling. Our primary program runs Tuesdays and Thursdays where children are gaining exposure to fun games, cooperative play, dance, and activities with Literacy Merritt. Both programs offer healthy snacks and the time for children to enjoy time with their peers after school with caring program staff. The programs run from 3-5pm starting with a healthy snack and some outdoor play time, followed by the more structured activities.



Diamond Vale Elementary School



Our student numbers have risen significantly since June and we now have 159 students enrolled at Diamond Vale Elementary!

We held our Open House on Tuesday 19th September which was well attended. Families had an opportunity to meet the staff, participate in a fun activity while touring the school, and enjoy some chili and bannock, prepared by Christine Anderson. We were grateful to the Metis Society for their donation of bannock.

The annual Terry Fox Run was held this month.

Two classes participated in tea-picking at Sunset Main and all intermediate students acknowledged the significance of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation by taking part in the Every Child Matters walk from Central Park to Merritt Central.

Cross country running season is coming to a close. The photo attached is one of our runners near the end of the race held recently at Merritt Central.





Cross Country Run.



Merritt Bench Open House. Parents and kids playing.



Truth & Reconciliation Assembly.



Students collected signatures in the front foyer at PSS to acknowledge our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. The shirt will be displayed going forward as a reminder.

Support Services Teacher, Renee Hartwell, invited her advisory class to share how they should feel coming to school.

Our monthly birthday celebration potluck, fell on the same day. A great time to gather, share food and honour each other.

Drumming- Welcome and Woman's Warrior song with Oly. This was many of our staff's first opportunity to drum following a delicious lunch.



BLANKET EXERCISE



LNIB WALK



Activities at Merritt Secondary are back in full swing.

The MSS Link Leaders have been instrumental in helping our new Grade 8 students transition into high school.

Our fall Athletic program has nearly 100 athletes participating in field hockey, soccer, volleyball and cross country running. We are extra excited for our Senior Boys as this is the first time in 15 years that we have rostered a Senior Boys' volleyball team! We are very thankful for the number of volunteers that help this program run.

Over the last month MSS has hosted two lunches for all students. One in recognition of Orange Shirt Day, and the other in collaboration with our partnering agencies.

It has been great to bring students together and we look forward to the 2023 – 2024 school year.

Community Learning Centre



Students at CLC have been engaging in many hands-on learning opportunities both in the classroom and out on the land. Most recently students partook in tule picking with a local elder, who then taught them how to weave the pieces together to create beautiful mats.



Success for ALL Learners ~ Today and Tomorrow