

**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

# BOARD BUSINESS



*WELCOME • BIENVENUE • GILAKAS'LA*

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**Adoption of the Regular Public Board Meeting Minutes December 17, 2019**

**Adoption of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes January 14, 2020**

### **Board Chair's Report - Ian Hargreaves**

- Acknowledgement made to Operations and Maintenance Department for Snow Day efforts and to senior leadership team for work on Round 2 Catchment Consultation process.

**Strategic Direction** (read details inside, PAGE 2)

**Board Standing Committee Reports**

**Board Business & Correspondence**

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STAFF CAST



# STRATEGIC DIRECTION

## Senior Leadership Reports



### Superintendent Report

- Catchment Consultation Update
  - Round 2 complete. Feedback form on District website & PlaceSpeak. Submission deadline February 3.
- Vaping Presentation (January 8)
  - **Information products** on District website. Task Force held first meeting to address issue of vaping among youth.
- **Novel Coronavirus** update & information from the Ministry of Education in consultation with BC Health & Island Health Authority.

### Assistant Superintendent Report

- Youth Climate Action Conference
  - Taking place Feb 13. Agenda set. High calibre of guest speakers and community leaders participating.
- **Kindergarten Registration** (update by Allan Douglas, Dir. of Instruction K-12)
  - Opens in February. Neighbourhood schools also host Welcome to Kindergarten.
  - **Come Play with Us** – A Ready Set, Learn activity for pre-school children scheduled for February.



### Human Resources

- District staff retirements announced

VIDEO RECORDING OF MEETING ON YOUTUBE

# DISTRICT DEVELOPMENTS



## GRANT BRINGS FUNDING TO ENHANCE HEALTHY FEEDING PROGRAM

### *Mental Health & Wellness*

Courtenay Elementary Community School received a \$10,000 grant from the Comox Valley Community Foundation and the Rotary Club of Courtenay Foundation Fund January 21. CECSS was one of many recipients of the 2020 Community Enrichment and Professional Development grant for its work in supporting children and youth.

[➤ DETAILS](#)



## IMPORTANT RECYCLING PROJECT PUTS BOOKS IN THE HANDS OF EARLY READERS

### *Community Engagement*

Recycling children's books can improve access to more reading opportunities for young children and kick-start a lifetime love of reading stories and books. The Comox Valley 1000x5 Book Recycling Project needs help filling its shelves this time of year to keep a steady supply of books to donate to children throughout the community.

[➤ DETAILS](#)



## FOOD LITERACY GROWS WITH A NEW FARM TO SCHOOL COORDINATOR

### *Environmental Sustainability*

Farm to Cafeteria Canada and the Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia have enhanced the school district's food literacy program with a new position to help grow opportunities for good nutrition for Valley students. The Valley was chosen to have a coordinator because of the existing solid base of interest and activity in schools with partnering organizations.

[➤ DETAILS](#)



# SCHOOL & STAFF STORIES



## PINKBIKE SHARE THE RIDE COMES TO THE COMOX VALLEY

Fourteen very surprised & happy students from Arden Elementary school were presented with a brand new bike January 19 thanks to PinkBike Foundation Share The Ride program in partnership with Comox Bike Co., Gravity MTB and a community of supporters and riders that not only give the gift of riding.



**WATCH ON  
YOUTUBE**



## IBM STEM CAMP

An IBM sponsored event brought together Comox Valley and Campbell River female students in grades 6 and 7 for a day-long workshop that focuses on core competencies including collaboration, critical thinking and, most importantly, to encourage students to interact in a non-competitive environment.



**WATCH ON  
YOUTUBE**



## SNOW-DAY RIDE AROUND

Dan Dalglish, SD71 Manager of Operations, took viewers on a ride around to inspect school grounds and report back whether to close schools. Deciding to close SD71 schools is never taken lightly. The process is very involved and begins with an investigation of road conditions and bus commute routes. Read more about Emergency School Closure procedures online here.



**WATCH ON  
YOUTUBE**



## STAFF CAST: EPISODE 4

Andre Harmatiuk has been employed with Comox Valley Schools for a little more than one year yet in that short period of time, his job has encountered numerous tasks in a variety of locations. As he will tell you, no two days are alike. Have a listen to Andre, a valued member of our Maintenance and Operations Department, explain how he contributes to the success of students.



**TUNE IN**

# MORE SCHOOL & STAFF STORIES



## LIFE SIZE MURAL FOR FRONT FOYER AT QUENEESH

Queneesh Elementary unveiled a new school mural beautifully created by artist Jason Craft. This is Jason's second school mural in the District to be enhanced with artwork depicting the Comox Valley. Each element featured on the foyer walls were inspired by student drawings.

➤ **WATCH ON  
YOUTUBE**



## INDIGENOUS WAYS & KNOWING OPPORTUNITY AT VALLEY VIEW

Valley View's commitment to be a Legacy School involved a recent study unit for students called *First Peoples Principles of Learning*, a journey of understanding about how history, memory and storytelling is embedded in our learning practices. Read more about the learning principals [here](#).



## ACCLAIMED MATH PROF COMES TO ISFELD

Professor **Richard Hoshino** of Quest University spent two days with Isfeld's math faculty to teach the teachers innovative approaches to mathematical problem-solving by working with students. Richard is a prestigious award-winner and authored 34 articles in various subjects in numeracy. Most importantly he makes math *fun and engaging* while complimenting the core competencies in education.



Isfeld student might not be able to fudge math but they can fudge a good fundraiser. Tammy Williamson's Culinary Club partnered with Rocky Mt. Chocolate at Crown Isle Plaza to create fudge to raise money for their club. Half pound packages on sale in school & store. In time for **Valentine's Day**, or maybe they are all gone!



## ARTSTARTS GRANT AWARDED

Ecole Puntledge Park recently received a *Artstarts* grant of more than \$7000 for Earth Week activities. Grade 6/7 students will work with a cartoon artist, grades 4 & 5 students will do cedar weaving and grade 2/3 students will work with a felt felting artist, while the K/1 students will create rattles using hides.



# EVEN MORE DISTRICT STORIES



## FAe Showcase highlights the need to respect & protect nature

Navigate NIDES Fine Arts e-Academy students delivered an impactful message centred on the environment. "Connect with Nature" was the second of four annual showcases. Students wrote the production and designed the set with choreography support from TheatreWorks.

➤ [MORE IMAGES  
ON FLICKR](#)



## COOL IT! Climate Challenge

Climate concerns took centre stage at other District schools, as well. The [Cool It!](#) 2020 challenge began with four classes in three schools participating - Valley View, Lake Trail and Courtenay (pictured here). In the fall, three classes in two other schools participated including Ecole Puntledge Park and Robb Road. Learn more about the 4-week program created by the [BC Sustainable Energy Association, visit here.](#)



## SCIENCE FAIR AT G.P. VANIER - A TESTIMONY TO 21<sup>st</sup> C LEARNING

Science students showcased their innovative and inquisitive talents at the first of two fairs for Vanier Secondary. Many of the projects explore issues impacting communities today including health, social wellness climate, and the environment. Well done to science teacher Jason Arsenault and his team for another mind-blowing fair.



## PARENT PRESENTATIONS DRAW ATTENTION TO CRITICAL ISSUES FACING YOUTH

Three informative presentations were delivered in January - *Let's Clear The Air- Vaping and Youth* (Jan 8), *How to Talk to Your Kids About Pornography* (Jan 29) and *Drug Awareness* (Jan 8). Delivered by professionals in the respective fields including Kerri Isham, PowerUp, The John Howard Society, RCMP, and Island Health Authority, these events were made possible by our Parent Advisory Council community. Live streaming was offered for the vaping and drug awareness presentations and the videos can be accessed on the our Facebook page. Presenters' slides are available online at [www.comoxvalleyschool.ca/VapingInformation/](http://www.comoxvalleyschool.ca/VapingInformation/)