



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Regular Board Meeting of March 15th, 2021

STRATEGIC GOAL - HONOUR DIVERSITY

2021 HONOURING DIVERSITY SPEAKER SERIES

One of the lasting structures emerging from the COVID context is how quickly our students, staff and community members have adapted to using technologies like Zoom and Microsoft Teams to connect. With accessible connectivity throughout most of the school district, teachers have been able to connect with families and student for most of the last year.

With that in mind, we wanted to create a speaker series that focused on our strategic goal of 'Honouring Diversity' by inviting a variety of respected speakers to present to our communities. We put together a panel of students and parents to ask questions and provide comments to engage our speakers while representing their various viewpoints and communities.

Our first speaker, **KEVIN LAMOUREUX**, was outstanding in his message of invitation to join the journey towards truth and reconciliation, and we were collectively wowed by the questions asked by our panelists. This structure of providing learning opportunities to our parents and communities is here to stay, and we will work in collaboration with DPAC to begin organizing next year's Speaker Series.

Kevin Lamoureux - March 2 @ 5 pm
Kevin is a Faculty member at the University of Winnipeg and a well known public speaker. He has served as Associate Vice President for the University of Winnipeg, Education Lead for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and as Scholar in Residence for several school divisions.

Dr. Nancy Doda - March 16 @ 5 pm
Nancy is a globally recognized expert & advocate for Middle Years education. She has helped to coach Middle Year teachers globally and has been a critical friend to SD 91 middle year educators. Nancy will be speaking twice during this series to help provide concluding remarks to the series.

Dr. Dustin Louie - April 13 @ 5 pm
Dustin is from Nee Tahi Buhn and Nadleh Whut'en First Nations and is a member of the Beaver Clan. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Calgary's Werklund School of Education, teaching courses related to Indigenous education, social justice and educational philosophy.

Dr. Leyton Schnellert - April 20 @ 5 pm
Leyton is an Associate Professor at UBC's School of Education and the Eleanor Rix Professor of Rural Teacher Education. His scholarship attends to how teachers and teaching and learners and learning can mindfully embrace student diversity and inclusive education. Dr Schnellert is also the co-chair of BC's Rural Education Advisory.

Shelley Moore - May 6 @ 5 pm
Originally from Edmonton, Alberta, and now based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Shelley is a highly sought-after teacher, researcher, speaker, and storyteller and has worked with school districts and community organizations throughout both Canada and the United States.

SHOUT OUT TO NVSS'S QUEER ALLIANCE GROUP



Kudos to this group of young people from Nechako Valley Secondary School who distributed a letter and rainbow decal to local businesses asking them to participate in their 'Share the Love' campaign. **THANK YOU** to Vanderhoof businesses that have put up the decal in their window to help demonstrate "acceptance, tolerance, love, kindness, and support for all."



STRATEGIC GOAL – ENGAGE OUR WORKFORCE

JEWELRY 10 – 12 – LDSS – JEREMY GOODING



Lakes District Secondary School teacher **JEREMY GOODING** has been teaching a Jewelry 10 – 12 class this semester; and, according to principal, **HEIDI GRANT**, the course is going really well as shown by these beautiful pieces by students. Thanks Jeremy!



DRONE RACING CLUB AT NVSS



NVSS student, **RONAN BLATTNER**, had an idea and began the busy work of finding supporters and funding to get a drone racing club started at his school. With the support of **ANDY SUNDAHL**, NVSS's Media Arts and Aviation Teacher, and **KEN YOUNG**, NVSS principal, Ronan managed to successfully obtain funding from the NVSS PAC, NVSS, SD 91 Career & Trades Program, and Community Futures to purchase 12 drone racing kits which will be built and flown by the large number of students who have joined this club.

A very big **THANK YOU** to Andy, Ken and **DARREN CARPENTER**, SD 91 Career & Trades Coordinator, who have all supported this student-driven initiative that helped one of our students take a really good idea from a dream to a reality!

SD91 CAREER & TRADES SUPPORTING OUTDOOR LEARNING

As the Career & Trades Programs Coordinator serving our entire school district, it is part of **DARREN CARPENTER'S** job to listen closely to what schools are doing specific to hands-on, place-based learning activities, as they are fundamental to some of the Big Ideas within the [Career Education curriculum](#), "Everything we learn helps us to develop skills" and "New Experiences both within and outside of school expand our career skill set and options."

Darren has watched the rapid rise of outdoor learning occurring at all our schools and put together an 'Outdoor Kit' that has been sent to two schools with an additional kit being placed into our Mobile Skills Trailer. A Big THANK YOU to Darren for supporting our students!

Here are some some young David Hoy students putting these outdoor kits to the test.

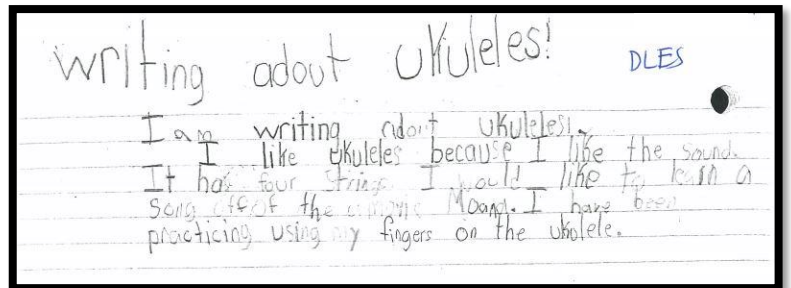
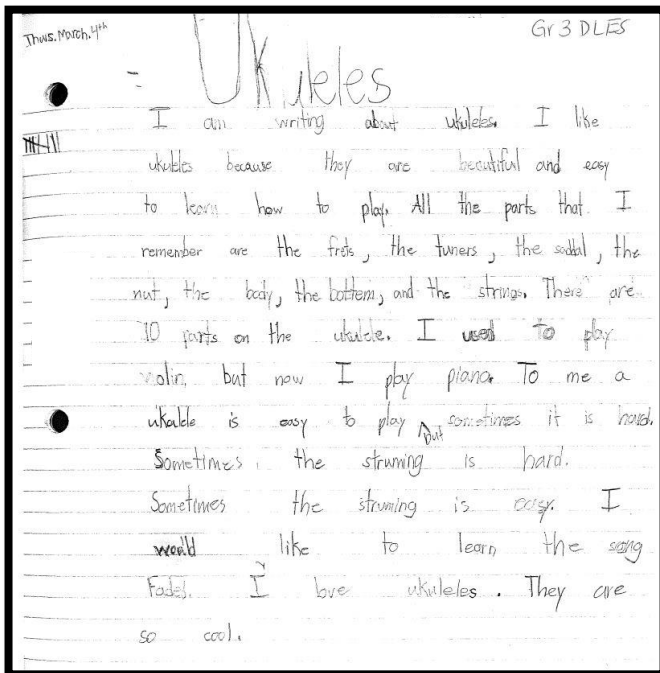




STRATEGIC GOAL — STUDENT LEARNING

ARRIVAL OF UKULELES SPUR STUDENT WRITING

Decker Lake Elementary principal, **WENDY KELEMEN**, shared some writing emerging from **Ms. ENGLAND'S** grade 3 / 4 class specific to the excitement that students were experiencing with the start of their ukulele lessons. In addition to making the topic of ukulele's cross-curricular, Ms. England has been teaching the students how to tune the ukuleles using a phone app.



SPRING LEARNING ASSESSMENTS

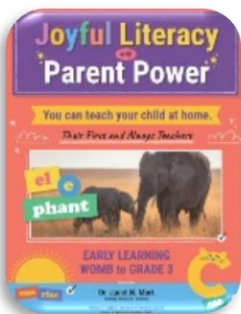
Each year, our district wants to ensure that all children make a year's gain in their learning. To help check on gains and plan for interventions where students may be struggling in the key areas of literacy and numeracy, we count on a variety of tools to help assess student learning. We use report card data, reading assessments like PM Benchmarks,



RAD, FSA and the provincial literacy assessments, and numeracy tools like SNAP, our District Numeracy Assessment (DNA), FSA, and provincial numeracy assessments.

We encourage are parents to discuss their child's learning and how they are doing on various assessments with their child's teacher and the school principal. Using reliable data helps us to ensure that our children are making the growth we expect and providing interventions as needed.

Although we are committed to the goal of ensuring student success, we count on parents as our partners in this journey. Sso please take some time next time you are at your child's school to find out more about the literacy and numeracy assessments we are using.



DPAC - SD91 PARTNER ON SUMMER READING BOOST WITH DR. JANET MORT

We are excited to announce that SD91 and DPAC have partnered with **DR. JANET MORT**, creator of Joyful Literacy, to create a set of videos specifically made for primary parents to support their child's literacy based on her latest book, Parent Power. Our small team of **LISA MITCHELL**, Speech Language Pathologist; **RHONDA TOGYI**, District Principal Learner Services; and **LAURETTA HUNTER**, Principal of Remote Learning; are working with DPAC members, **CHERYL WORK** and **CARRIE SMITH**, and Janet to roll out this initiative in the coming months.



STRATEGIC GOAL — STUDENT LEARNING

SD 91 DISTRICT SCIENCE FAIR GOES VIRTUAL!

A very big THANK YOU to **MEGAN BONIFACE** and her team of educators who helped to organize our very successful virtual District Science Fair. The 100+ students in grades 4 – 11 who participated from across our district were supported by teachers and principals who ensured that technology was working to allow the student to meet with their judges virtually to share their projects.

This year, ALL participating students in the District Fair, are eligible to participate in the BC / Yukon Virtual Science Fair scheduled from April 6 – 11th.

The quality of student projects combined with the genuine scientific curiosity shown by our students, is a highlight of student learning every year. A big thank you to the many judges who gave generously of their time to provide feedback and advice to our young scientists.



We wish all our students luck in the BC / Yukon fair and look forward to seeing you all at SD91 District Science Fair 2022!

STRATEGIC GOAL — COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FSJSS: IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH STUDENT PROJECTS

Last month we had mentioned Fort St James Secondary School Student Council applying for a number of grants to directly support their community. Their proposal to [Rising Youth](#) was successful and resulted in 1000 FSJSS Falcon reflective bands being provided to students at David Hoy, Nak'albun and Eugene Joseph schools.

Outstanding work by our students in directly supporting their community!





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SD 91 IN THE NEWS AND QUICK FACTS:

- [NVSS Queer Alliance Share the Love Campaign](#)
- [SD 91 District Science Fair Finalists](#)
- [WL McLeod Pink Shirt Day Musical](#)
- [Burns Lake Students Shine at District Science Fair](#)
- [DLES Huskies Don Pink](#)
- [Celebrate Kindness at WKE School](#)
- [School Attendance Improves](#)
- [Small Group of LDSS Students Protest Masks](#)