

Superintendent's Newsletter

May 29, 2020

To: Trustees, All Admin., COSBO, COTA, and CUPE:



Message from Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO

Dear Colleagues,

Hello everyone. On behalf of the School District, I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you as we move into the next part of our journey.

Thank you to staff across the District for your work on Stage 4 since the end of Spring Break. You showed adaptive expertise, courage, and most importantly, kindness, as you made sure our students could learn both remotely and in safe school spaces.

Thank you to our community for supporting the meals, learning opportunities, and connections that kept everyone learning together.

Thank you to our students and their families for your patience and hard work. We know it wasn't easy, but your contributions to the greater good helped us all move towards this restart for the province.

The Board of Education has asked me to express their gratitude to everyone who helped us meet these challenges with courage.

I would like to thank the Board of Education for their guidance during these difficult times.

As we move into Stage 3, ready to welcome students back into classrooms part-time, or continue with our remote learning, staff have once again stepped up to the challenge of delivering quality learning services.

I am excited for those students who are able to come to learn onsite and that they will get to connect with some of the most important people in their lives - their friends and educators.

Together, we're going to make sure that those who continue to learn at home will stay connected. Together, we're going to make sure that we are all ready for September. Together, we will keep learning.

Thank you to each and every one of you.

Be safe, be kind, and stay connected.

Kevin

(Please visit [http://www.sd23.bc.ca/Pages/COVID-19-Updates-.aspx#/=](http://www.sd23.bc.ca/Pages/COVID-19-Updates-.aspx#/) for the digital version of this message.)

Congratulations – COPVPA Executive 2020/2021

President:	Scott Sieben
Vice-President:	Desmond Sjoquist
Treasurer:	Mike Dornian
Secretary:	Tamalee Middleton
Contract Advisory Chair:	Derek Lea
BCPVPA Chapter Council Representative:	Barrie McLeod / Wendy Briggs
Elementary Representatives:	Jared Birkeland / Tim Vanbrummelen
Middle Representatives:	Ryan Ward / Kyla Babcock
Secondary Representative:	Darryl Smith
Pro-D Programs:	Jamie Robinson / Raelyn Larmet / Jim Laird / Brenda Kirsch
Pro-D Finance:	Wynter Oakes
Social:	Jill Voros / Violeta Malfair
Climate:	Michelle Kaupp / Laurie Fraser
Past President:	Raquel Steen

Access Awareness Day – June 6, 2020 (Reminder)

"Accessibility means knowing no limits."

Celebrated annually on the first Saturday in June, Access Awareness Day is a comprehensive campaign to raise awareness about disability, accessibility and inclusion. "Access Awareness Day is made possible because of the dedicated and inspired individuals across British Columbia who understand the importance of inclusion, the recognition that both the right and the opportunity to participate in all aspects of human life enable individuals and communities to celebrate their diversity and recognize their responsibilities." Access Awareness Day is a "call to respond creatively and purposefully to build a society where barriers to inclusion are removed, and to ensure the independence, self-esteem, dignity and security of all citizens" (Sparc BC). The theme for this year's Access Awareness Day is *"Accessibility means knowing no limits"*.

Mail Forwarding (Reminder)

Similar to last summer, schools can forward their mail to the Board Office for the period July 6th to August 21st. Each participating school is responsible for signing up for the service by visiting:

<https://www.canadapost.ca/cpc/en/personal/receiving/manage-mail/mail-forwarding.page>

and forwarding their mail to 1040 Hollywood Road South, Kelowna, BC, V1X 4N2. The cost for mail forwarding for temporary relocation is \$94.85 per month (approx. \$189.70 for the summer) and should be paid using your District VISA (please contact Val Dougans for an account code). Please ensure you select "BUSINESS" mail forward and not "RESIDENTIAL". If you are charged more than \$94.85, it is possible you requested a residential mail forward instead of a business mail forward. Once you have signed up, please **scan & email your confirmation** to Preet Bhandher, District Accounts Clerk. There have been issues in the past that we would like to avoid: (i) several schools did not sign up and Canada Post called us to register and pay, and (ii) some schools registered but Canada Post had no record so we had to re-register those schools. With the confirmation scan, we will be able to deal with Canada Post's inquiries directly for you. A bin for each participating school will be set up at the School Board office and the mail will be sorted. In the last week of August, your mail will be delivered to your school by the mail truck. If you would like to pick up your mail at the Board Office during the summer, you are welcome to come in and see Reception.

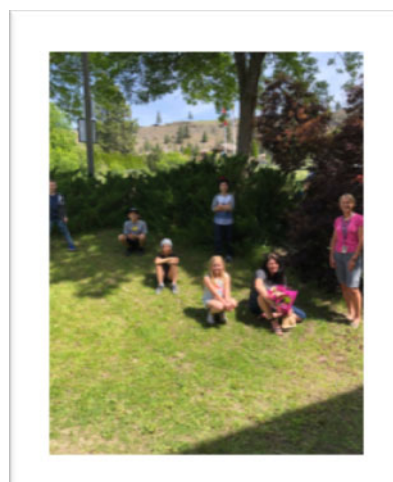
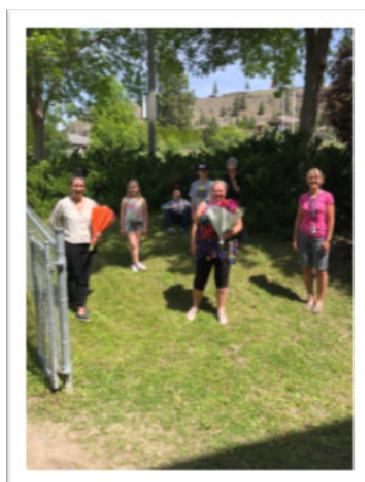
Important Dates – 2020

June 3, 2020	4:00 pm – Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting (by Zoom)
June 6, 2020	Access Awareness Day
June 10, 2020	6:00 pm – Public Board Meeting
June 17, 2020	4:00 pm – Finance and Audit Committee
	6:00 pm – Education and Student Services Committee
June 21, 2020	Indigenous Peoples Day
June 24, 2020	6:00 pm – Public Board Meeting
June 25, 2020	Last day of school for students
June 26, 2020	Administrative Day (students do not attend)

Important Dates – 2020/2021

September 8, 2020	Schools Open
October 9, 2020	Administrative Implementation Day
October 12, 2020	Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)
October 23, 2020	Teacher Professional Day
November 11, 2020	Remembrance Day (schools closed)
December 21, 2020 – January 1, 2021	Winter vacation period (schools closed)
January 1, 2021	Statutory Holiday (schools closed)
January 4, 2021	Schools reopen after Winter vacation
February 12, 2021	Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)
February 15, 2021	Family Day
March 15, 2021 – March 26, 2021	Spring vacation period (schools closed)
March 29, 2021	Schools reopen after Spring vacation
April 2, 2021	Good Friday (schools closed)
April 5, 2021	Easter Monday (schools closed)
May 24, 2021	Victoria Day (schools closed)
June 29, 2021	Last day of school for students
June 30, 2021	Administrative Day (students do not attend)

Chief Tomat Elementary ESW students thanking staff with flowers and cards for their work at the school since spring break.



Letter to Prime Minister Trudeau from
Rutland Elementary student Gia.

Thursday, May, 2020

Dear Pyminaster:

Do you think we will be going back to school soon? I rilly miss going. How long do you think this is to go on. It's hard doing school at home. I can't wait to go back and see all my friends and my teacher. What do you think is going to be the first thing to open? I hope it's the playgrounds. How did this all start? And how did it get here? It's good grocherys stors are still open. I wish I could see my friends. I hope this does not last to long. It is hard to play with my siblings evry day.

I can't wait for this to be over.

From Gia

*Spelling is as written in the letter.

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