



## November 2008 Report

Director of Instruction  
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### Aboriginal Education

- Nov 6,7 MOE Ab Ed mtg – Vancouver
- Visions Conference in Kamloops, October NID, attended by several Ab Ed Advisory members and members of the Boundary Aboriginal Community. Dr. Lee Brown was very inspiring – the Aboriginal community is looking to bring him to the Boundary for a day – possibly in Feb. 2009
- Rural Conference had Aboriginal Keynote speakers on both days Calvin Helin and Russell Bishop with very well received messages. (503 people attended from the 40 rural school districts)

### Early Years Programs

- StrongStart registration forms continue to be available at several locations in the community – A Greenwood opening is planned – Ellen will be sending out the invitations.
- MOE StrongStart Fall training sessions in Vancouver ECE Facilitators Brenda and Ardena attended along with Ellen who was a presenter at this provincial training.
- Ready Set Learn pre Kindergarten school programs being determined with Family Centres and host elementary schools. Looking at January/February to have school hosted events – Ellen is organizing with K teachers and I will be talking to principals regarding advertising etc.
- November 5, EDI (Early Development Instrument) meeting and train the Trainers session in Nelson – Jennifer MacDonald, Ellen Strelaef and I attended.

### Student Services/Special Education

- BC Council for Administrators of Special Education – regional mtg to be held on Nov 19 in Cranbrook – MOE and BC CASE determining a partnership with regional input on a strategic plan with goals and objectives
- November 20 – Children in Care/CYSN regional mtg with teams of ‘local’ partners session in Cranbrook. MCFD rep, BFISS rep and SD 51 will have a team of 5 or 6 attending.
- Kindergarten screening has begun for all Kindergarten students. Vision screening will be done by Public Health; fine and gross motor will be done through BFISS by the OT and PT’s. And SD 51 has contracted for the Hearing screening to be done.
- November has been busy with referrals for assessment, referrals for Elementary Behaviour supports and requests for school based support/ICM mtgs across the district.

## **Literacy and Learning**

- November 18 -Community Literacy Advisory mtg
- October 8 – Creston Regional mtg on the District/Community Literacy Plans and roles of School Districts, Act Now and Legacies Now. New one time funding to help in the co-ordination and implementation of the community plan – must be granted to a community agency to co-ordinate. A follow up meeting with Boundary community partners was held November 4. Two local organizations will be talking to their Boards regarding their desire to be contracted for this work. Next meeting December 1.
- Rural Districts provincial conference a great success in Vancouver October 22 to 24. We have participated in the first ‘illuminate’ on-line session on November 3. The steering committee is meeting in Victoria on November 26 – just before the BCSSA Conference. – To work on next year’s rural Districts Conference.
- Network of Performance Based Schools provincial meeting September 29 and November 7 (for the Aboriginal network) in Vancouver.

## **Partnership Projects**

- Violence Intervention and Prevention/Respectful Relationships program has had a team working on important revisions that includes strategies and methods to engage all students, accommodating differing learning styles and learning strengths – incorporating multi-media etc. I was successful in the application for a \$5,000 grant from The Ministry of Public Safety and the Solicitor General to have this curricular work done in the summer and September. A day long review of the enhanced curriculum was held on September 12 for all 15 adult facilitators. These revisions will be used in the programs for grades 7 to 9 students starting this fall.
- November update - Respectful Relationships – in its third year – has been very hectic due to timeline changes and the fact that the curriculum was overhauled this summer to insert multi-media to increase student engagement.
- Safer Boundary Initiative – steering committee/community partnership meetings in October and November.
- FRIENDS for LIFE grade 4/5 student program (anxiety reduction and depression prevention) will be presented in classrooms again this school year (SD 51 does it every two years) – November 24 a training session for teachers and Elementary Child and Youth Counselors new to this curriculum will be held in the Boundary. A parent session will be held in the East and West Boundary later in the New Year. (This is an MCFD – Child and Youth Mental Health, Public Health and MOE initiative)