



November 2011 Report

Director of Instruction
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Aboriginal Education

Drumming across the Boundary

- In the last week of November, Aboriginal culture presentations with Russell Podgurny (a Cree 'Drum Keeper') took place across the Boundary. The elementary aboriginal education teachers have worked very hard over the past several years to ensure that all schools have a consistent opportunity to experience teachings from elders and others with aboriginal ancestry. The content of presentations is targeted to a particular grade level, with specific intended learning outcomes for that grade level.
- Eight members of the Boundary Aboriginal Education Advisory Council attended the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) Provincial Conference which took place November 24 to 26 in Vancouver. I was honoured to be asked to represent School District No. 51, on a panel, which included representatives from two other districts and the Ministry of Education. We were asked to talk about what we are doing in our school district that has contributed to the measurable success that we have achieved with our aboriginal student learners in the past year(s).
- Congratulations to Dr. D.A. Perley Elementary and John A. Hutton Elementary schools, who have received letters and certificates of recognition and a \$400 grant each, for their work with the Aboriginal Enhancement Network of Inquiry and Innovation last year. Wanda Hecht led the teams in the development of their Inquiry Question and the work that was done throughout the year by the school teams.



Early Years & Partnerships

- November 7, I attended the first provincial steering committee meeting on the development of Kindergarten Performance Standards in Vancouver. Some initial work has been started, but the bulk of the work will happen when Kindergarten teachers are available to join in the further development of this very important work.
- HELP (Human Early Learning Partnership) has been working with the BCTF during the fall to determine an acceptable process for Kindergarten teachers to voluntarily complete the EDI this February.
- November 16, Essential Skills teleconference – preparing for the wrap up of this three year project that has included Community futures, Selkirk College, Trail Skills Centre, School Districts 20 and 51.
- Boundary Adult Literacy Advisory met in November to review the scope of services offered in the Boundary and to determine where there are gaps and what we still need to address collectively.

Special Education

- SD 51 Collaborative Partnership project with SD 6 until June 30, 2012 will have SD 51 school psychologist Jennifer Turner supervising the work of an education psychologist in training to help fill an emergent need in that district for someone to do their School Psych Assessments. Jennifer will be contracting with them to do this work outside of her regular time with SD 51, but SD 51 will be compensated for the use of our material resources.
- Linda Dolezsar is making great progress with her Rural Initiative grant "Community partnership, technology and functional curriculum – combined impact on rural secondary students with special needs."
- Below is a chart that indicates the incidence rate of student designations in various special education categories in the Boundary from 2006 to 2011. Every year, we receive the provincial rate compared to the School District rate. Districts are then required to report (to MoEd.) the reasons behind an increase in any category that is substantially above the provincial average. This year, I am required to report on our

percentage of students with Intensive Behaviour or Serious Mental Health classification. Please note, even though we are still higher than the provincial average, we have decreased the number of students in this category since the September 2010 report (2010 chart below).

District 51	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10P	10/11P	11/12P	Chng	11/12P	Distr	Prov
Boundary								Distr	Inc	Inc
Phys Dep/Deafblind	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	1406	0.00%	0.11
Mod-Prf Int Dis	7	7	4	4	4	5	1	1406	0.36%	0.36
Phys Dis/Chr Hlth	12	11	13	17	18	18	0	1406	1.28%	1.27
Vis Imp	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1406	0.07%	0.06
Deaf/HH	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1406	0.00%	0.19
Autism	8	7	10	15	13	13	0	1406	0.92%	1.07
IBI/SMI	30	23	21	24	29	25	-4	1406	1.78%	1.25
Mild Int Dis	9	4	4	5	9	5	-4	1406	0.36%	0.4
Gifted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1406	0.00%	1.21
LD	34	25	26	33	37	38	1	1406	2.70%	3.27
MBS/MI	32	29	18	16	12	15	3	1406	1.07%	1.09

District 51	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10P	10/11P	Chng	10/11P	Distr	Prov
Boundary									Distr	Inc	Inc
Phys Dep/Deafblind	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	-1	1423	0.00%	0.12%
Mod-Prf Int Dis	8	8	7	7	4	4	4	0	1423	0.28%	0.36%
Phys Dis/Chr Hlth	24	16	12	11	13	17	18	1	1423	1.26%	1.25%
Vis Imp	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1423	0.07%	0.06%
Deaf/HH	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1423	0.00%	0.20%
Autism	5	7	8	7	10	15	13	-2	1423	0.91%	0.98%
IBI/SMI	30	43	30	23	21	24	29	5	1423	2.04%	1.30%
Mild Int Dis	5	8	9	4	4	5	9	4	1423	0.63%	0.39%
Gifted	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	1423	0.00%	1.27%
LD	46	47	34	25	26	33	37	4	1423	2.60%	3.21%
MBS/MI	27	43	32	29	18	16	12	-4	1423	0.84%	1.11%

District Vice-Principal Student Services and District Psychologist Report – Jennifer Turner

- POPFASD Steering Committee (Jennifer represents Kootenay Boundary District) hosted District Partners
- Student or Program consultation with: - FASD Key Worker
 - Perley Special Ed Team
 - Hutton Special Ed Team
- Transition Skills / Basic Skills Pilot Program - 4 students at Perley, 6 students at GFSS
 - Preliminary introduction to pilot to BCSS, CLES, and WBES
- Moodle Project - Phase 1 resulted in 11 staff across WDC, BWCS, BCSS, GFSS introduction to online learning course options
- Psychology Assessments completed:
 - CLES - 1
 - WBES - 1
 - WDC - 2
 - GFSS – 2

Assessment plan built for 3 Hutton students to be completed in January/February