

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

BOARD OF EDUCATION
JANUARY 20, 2026



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Strategic Priorities

Intellectual Development	Human & Social Development
Career Development	Community Partnership Development
Organizational Development	Effective Governance & Leadership



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Aligning Our Work & Priorities

Effective Governance & Leadership



STRATEGIC FOCUS
Connecting Our Priorities

December 2025 Highlights

HOLIDAY MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

As we approach the holiday season and the end of another year, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to each of you.

This year has been marked by significant systemic changes to school configurations. It has also been a year filled with incredible celebration, collaboration, and partnership. To each of you, thank you for your ongoing trust, collaboration, and support. Your partnership strengthens our schools and enriches the learning experiences of our students. Together, we continue to build environments where children and youth are supported to grow, learn, and thrive.

I am always grateful for the commitment, professionalism, and compassion demonstrated by staff across the district who work tirelessly to ensure our schools remain places of learning, belonging, and safety. Their efforts make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families.

I humbly acknowledge that the holiday season can be a difficult time for some. For families and individuals who continue to heal from loss, illness, or other significant challenges, we hold each of you close in our thoughts and hearts. Our hope is that the holiday season will allow you time to be surrounded by the love of family and friends.

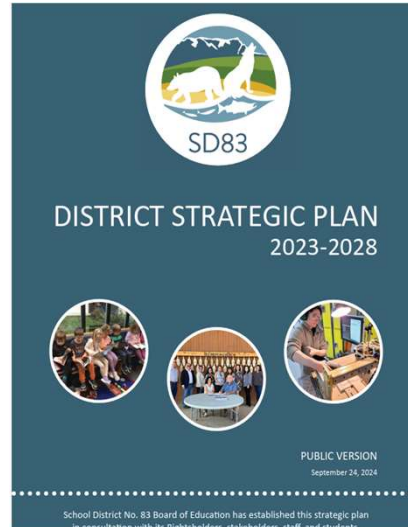
As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with hope. Hope grounded in the resilience of our students, the dedication of our staff, the strength of our partnership, and the shared commitment to nurturing a future filled with possibility, care, and opportunity for all learners.

On behalf of the Board of Education and the Senior Leadership Team, I wish you a holiday season filled with rest, reflection, and special moments with family and friends. May the coming year bring health, peace, and renewed hope. Warmest wishes for the holidays and the year ahead.

Doreen Kruger, Superintendent of Schools

Happy Holidays
Wishing you joy and peace this holiday season

OUR MISSION: Empowering students to become confident, curious, and caring individuals who thrive in their learning, relationships, and community.
OUR VISION: Preparing students to become educated citizens who contribute positively to a dynamic, sustainable, and diverse world.
OUR VALUES: Belonging, Respect, Reciprocity, Empathy, Equity, Persistence



SD83

DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN
2023-2028

PUBLIC VERSION
September 24, 2024

School District No. 83 Board of Education has established this strategic plan in consultation with its Board members, staff, and students.

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Our Vision:

Preparing students to become educated citizens who contribute to a dynamic, sustainable, and diverse world.



protect the earth!

SECOND ANNUAL K-12 Environmental Expo

WHO

- SD83 students K-12
- Educators K-12
- Community mentors
- Civic governments
- Community groups

WHAT

- Environmental inquiry project
- Share authentic learning in a variety of ways
- Luke Wallace Enviro Singer Song Writer
- Main Event April 30-2026 SASS**

WHY

- To build a sense of hope, agency, and optimism
- Help protect our planet for all species
- Address curricular goals, integrate subjects, and address sustainability in the District Strategic Plan

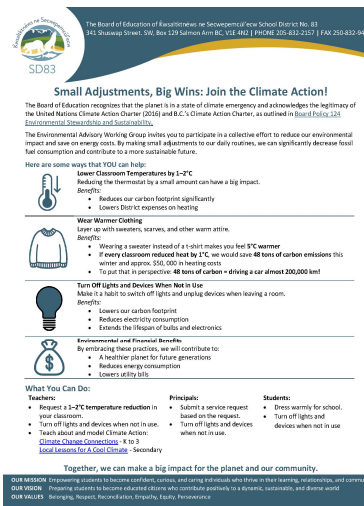
WHEN

- Dec. - Jan. 2026: Start planning, exploring sustainability and conservation
- Jan. - Mar. 2026: project development and team with a mentor
- April 20 - 24: Earth week - many classes and schools implement projects
- April 30: Display and share at Expo - SASS Atrium and Foyer

HOW

Contact Kim Kulton at [sd83.bc.ca](mailto:kimk@sd83.bc.ca) or Wayne.spenw4@gmail.com

Other sponsors: SDBS, KOSTA, HCTF, etc.



SD83

The Board of Education recognizes that the planet is in a state of climate emergency and acknowledges the legitimacy of the United Nations Climate Action Charter (2015) and B.C.'s Climate Action Charter, as outlined in [Board Policy 224: Environment \(Sustainability and Conservation\)](#).

The Environmental Advisory Working Group invites you to participate in a collective effort to reduce our environmental impact and save on energy costs. By making small adjustments to our daily routines, we can significantly reduce our carbon footprint and contribute to a more sustainable future.

Here are some ways that YOU can help:

Lower Classroom Temperatures by 1-2°C
Reducing the thermostat by a small amount can have a big impact.

Benefits:

- Reduces our carbon footprint significantly
- Lowers District expenses on heating

Wear Warmer Clothing
Layer up with sweaters, scarves, and other warm attire.

Benefits:

- Wearing a sweater instead of a t-shirt makes you feel 1°C warmer
- If every classroom reduced heat by 2°C, we would save **48 tons of carbon emissions** this winter and reduce \$56,000 in heating costs
- To put that in perspective: **48 tons of carbon = driving a car almost 200,000 km!**

Turn Off Lights and Devices When Not in Use
Make it a habit to switch off lights and plug devices when leaving a room.

Benefits:

- Lowers our carbon footprint
- Reduces electricity consumption
- Extends the lifespan of public and electronics

Environmental and Financial Benefits
By embracing these practices, we will contribute to:

- A healthier climate for future generations
- Reduced energy consumption
- Lowered utility bills

What You Can Do:

Teachers:	Principal:	Students:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request a 1-2°C temperature reduction in your classroom. Turn off lights and devices when not in use. Teach about and model Climate Action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit a service request based on the requests. Turn off lights and devices when not in use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dress warmly for school. Turn off lights and devices when not in use.

Climate Change Connections: K-9-3 Local Lessons for A Cool Climate - Secondary

Together, we can make a big impact for the planet and our community.

OUR MISSION: Empowering students to become confident, curious, and caring individuals who thrive in their learning, relationships, and community.
OUR VISION: Preparing students to become educated citizens who contribute positively to a dynamic, sustainable, and diverse world.
OUR VALUES: Belonging, Respect, Reciprocity, Empathy, Equity, Persistence


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Reconfiguration Timeline

Elementary Schools: Bastion, Hillcrest, North Canoe, Salmon Arm West, South Broadview, and Sorrento

January 14, 2026	Fall 2026	January 13, 2027	Fall 2027
2026-27 KINDERGARTEN AND PROGRAM OF CHOICE REGISTRATION BEGINS	TRANSITION TO K-6	2027-28 KINDERGARTEN AND PROGRAM OF CHOICE REGISTRATION BEGINS	TRANSITION TO K-7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration is based on existing catchment boundaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2025-26 Grade 5 students remain at their current elementary school Grade 6 French Immersion Program of Choice students will attend SMS Existing catchment boundaries remain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindergarten registration is based on new catchment boundaries (see note below) Program of Choice (French Immersion & Outdoor Learning) must declare their intention for the following year Current students impacted by catchment changes, who choose to continue attending their current school, must notify their current school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2026-27 Grade 6 students remain at their current elementary school All French Immersion Program of Choice students will attend Shuswap Middle School* New catchment boundaries take effect <p><small>*As a result of the location change for the French Immersion Program of Choice, Bastion and Shuswap Middle School will initiate the renaming process, following AP 501 Naming of School District Facilities, Rooms, or Property</small></p>

Organizational Development



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Reconfiguration Timeline

Elementary Schools: Carlin, North Shuswap, Rancho, Silver Creek, and South Canoe

January 14, 2026	Fall 2026	January 13, 2027	Fall 2027
2026-27 KINDERGARTEN AND PROGRAM OF CHOICE REGISTRATION BEGINS	TRANSITION TO K-6	2027-28 KINDERGARTEN AND PROGRAM OF CHOICE REGISTRATION BEGINS	TRANSITION TO K-7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration is based on existing catchment boundaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2025-26 Grade 5 students, residing in the Sorrento catchment, will attend Sorrento Elementary for Grade 6 Existing catchment boundaries remain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kindergarten registration is based on new catchment boundaries Program of Choice (French Immersion & Outdoor Learning) must declare their intention for the following year Current students impacted by catchment changes, who choose to continue attending their current school, must notify current school Carlin will expand to include Eagle Bay, Notch Hill, and east side of Balmoral North Shuswap, Rancho, and Silver Creek existing catchment boundaries remain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2026-27 Grade 8 students will attend the secondary school based on catchment (Refer to the chart on the left) New catchment boundaries take effect

*South Canoe families who live within the SAS catchment area and who are transitioning to secondary school, will have the option to attend either JLJ or SAS. This decision must be made by March 31, 2026. Once the decision is made, the student will remain at the chosen school for the remainder of their high school years.

Organizational Development



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Reconfiguration Timeline

Shuswap Middle School

Organizational Development

January 14, 2026 **Fall 2026** **January 13, 2027** **Fall 2027**

2026-27 PROGRAM OF CHOICE REGISTRATION BEGINS

TRANSITION GRADE 6 ENGLISH TO ELEMENTARY

2027-28 PROGRAM OF CHOICE REGISTRATION BEGINS

TRANSITION TO FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM


- Late French Immersion Program of Choice registration begins
- Grade 6 English programming will not be offered in fall of 2026

- Grade 6 English programming will not be offered in Fall of 2026
- Grade 7 & 8 English Program students will continue to attend SMS
- Grade 6, 7, & 8 French Immersion Program of Choice students will continue to attend SMS

- Program of Choice (French Immersion & Outdoor Learning) must declare their intention for the following year

- All French Immersion Program of Choice students will attend SMS*
- Grade 7 English Program students will attend the elementary school in the new catchment boundary area
- Grade 8 English Program students will attend the secondary school in the new catchment boundary (see table below)
- Grade 8 French Immersion students will attend JLJ

*As a result of the location change for the French Immersion Program of Choice, Bastion and Shuswap Middle School will initiate the renaming process, following AP 501 Naming of School District Facilities, Rooms, or Property)



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Reconfiguration Timeline

Secondary Schools: J.L. Jackson and Salmon Arm Secondary

Organizational Development

January 2026 **Fall 2026** **January 2027** **Fall 2027**

2026-27 REGISTRATION BEGINS

TRANSITION TO GRADES 9-12

2027-28 REGISTRATION BEGINS

TRANSITION TO GRADES 8-12


- Grade 9-12 registration is based on the secondary catchment boundaries that took effect in fall of 2025
- Students who reside in the SAS catchment, living in close proximity of JL Jackson, may choose to apply for cross-boundary to JL Jackson
- Due to enrolment pressures, cross-boundary and blended student applications will not be accepted at SAS
- IF the SAS catchment area school is at capacity, new secondary students MAY be required to register at JLJ

- Based on 2025 catchment areas, students will attend the secondary school in the catchment area of which they reside, pending any enrollment pressures/capacity issues

- Grade 8-12 registration is based on secondary catchment boundaries that took effect in fall of 2025

- Students will attend the secondary school based on the secondary catchment
- Any students who attend a Salmon Arm elementary school out of catchment, will attend the secondary school in the new catchment area where they reside

*South Canoe families who live within the SAS catchment area and who are transitioning to secondary school, will have the option to attend either JLJ or SAS. This decision must be made by March 31, 2026. Once the decision is made, the student will remain at the chosen school for the remainder of their high school years.



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K-3 And Grade 4-8 Family Math Games Night Shuswap Middle School

Come to Shuswap Middle School and spend an evening playing a variety of K-3 and Grade 4-8 math games using cards and dice! Each registered family will receive a packet of math games to play along with the presenter, and materials will be provided for use during the event. The sessions for both grade levels will be held simultaneously. Bring your best energy and get ready to PLAY!

Benefits for Kids: Games are a fun way to review and strengthen basic math skills at home!
Children who are secure in their math skills will grow in self-esteem and have greater success in school.

Benefits for Parents: Games are a motivating, simple and economical homework support that reinforce concepts taught in school.
Your presenter will provide you with strategies, tips and tricks to help your child with math fluency.

Games Reinforce:

- Counting
- Problem Solving
- Basic Facts: +, -, x, ÷
- Place Value

WHEN: Monday, January 12th, 2026 5:30-6:45 PM

WHERE: Shuswap Middle School

TO REGISTER: Please Scan the QR code

RSVP By: January 8th, 2026




Community Partnership Development

Intellectual Development

A huge shoutout to
Director Jen Findlay,
Principal Val Edgell,
and Vice Principal
Raegan Petch

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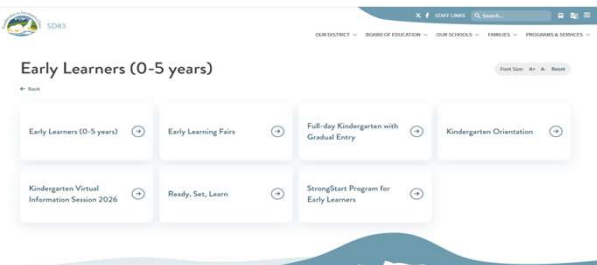
Parent & Caregiver Kindergarten Information Session

January 13, 2026
7:00pm - 8:00pm

Community Partnership Development

Jen Findlay
Director of Instruction - Early Years & Elementary

Allison de Boer
District Vice Principal - Early Learning & Child Care



- Visit www.sd83.bc.ca
- Under Programs/Services Tab choose "Early Learners"
- Kindergarten Virtual Information Session 2026

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Community Partnership Development



Kindergarten Registration Fair at Sorrento Elementary School (January 14, 2026)

- Opportunity to meet the Principal and a Kindergarten Teacher
- Community Partners included:
 - Okanagan Regional Library
 - North & South Shuswap Community Resources
 - Public Health
 - Shuswap Children’s Association
 - Child Care Resource and Referral



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Community Partnership Development

4 BAND PARENT CONFERENCE

Parents and guardians from Neskonlith, Adams Lake, Splatnin, and Skwalex to Secwepemculew are invited!

WORKSHOP BENEFIT

- ▷ Learn About Programs & Events
- ▷ Supports for Success
- ▷ Shaping Our Future
- ▷ Food & Lots of Door Prizes

REGISTER NOW

WORKSHOPS

- *Local Education Agreement
- *Post-Secondary
- *Okanagan College: Children in Care Grant Opportunities
- *Parents Club
- *SD 83- Indigenous Education
- *SD 83- Career Planning
- *ISETS & Work BC-Career, Education, Training
- *RCMP Liaison Officer
- *Indian Registration Administration
- *SD 83- Indigenous Education
- *Culture & Wellness

JANUARY 24TH 2026

8 AM – BREAKFAST
9 AM – 3 PM – CONFERENCE
PRESTICE, SALMON ARM

251 HARBOURFRONT DR., SALMON ARM, BC

BTomma@lsib.ca 250-679-3203

- In support of the 4 Bands who partner with SD83 to support all Indigenous students across the district.
- SD83 Representatives will be present.
- Excellent opportunity to learn about post secondary opportunities, career planning, etc.



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Professional Learning Opportunities

Organizational Development

Learning Series
MATHEMATICS TASKS FOR THE THINKING CLASSROOM: GRADES K-5

2025-2026 SESSION DATES

SESSION 1:
 Monday, September 29th (ProD)
 TIME: 12:30 PM-2:30 PM
 LOCATION: HILLCREST LIBRARY

SESSION 2:
 Monday, November 10th (ProD)
 TIME: 12:30 PM-2:30 PM
 LOCATION: DESC-SHUSWAP LAKE ROOM

SESSION 3:
 Wednesday, January 14th
 TIME: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM
 LOCATION: DESC-SHUSWAP LAKE ROOM

TO REGISTER GO TO THE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALENDAR ON THE HUB OR [CLICK HERE](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT JENNIFER FINDLAY VIA TEAMS.

ALL RIGHTS TO THE ACCLAIMED BOOK BELONG TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA. PETER LILJEDALH, AND HIS COLLEAGUES HAVE KINDLY AGREED TO PROVIDE A NEW EDITION SPECIFICALLY FOR OUR YOUNGER MATHEMATICS TEACHERS. IN THIS UP-COMING BOOK STUDY, WE WILL EXPLORE AND PRACTICE UNDERSTANDING, DESIGNING, IMPLEMENTING, AND EVALUATING TASKS WITHIN THE EDUCATIONAL SETTING.

Professional Learning Opportunities:

- Early Literacy Assessment PLC (1st session held on January 14th - a K to 3 teacher from each elementary school was invited to participate)
- Mathematics Tasks for the Thinking Classroom K to 5 (final learning series session held on January 14th)
- MathUP virtual sessions held on January 14th & 15th for participating teachers



13

Early & Late French Immersion

Intellectual Development

Bonjour

French For Your Child

Registration opens for regular kindergarten, Early French Immersion, and the South Lakes Outdoor Learning Program for X10s on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 9 a.m.

This early date allows for more equitable access and better planning. All registrations on this date are treated as equal so there is no need for lotteries!

There will be an information session for parents on January 13, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. at Boston Elementary School. This session will be an opportunity to learn more about the program, and to consider if this is a program you would be interested in for your child.

There are two options for registering a child:
 1. Families can come to Boston Elementary School to complete the registration paperwork. Families will need to bring the child's birth certificate and BC Services Card.
 2. Families can phone the school (250-832-3741) to request a link for online registration.

Out-of-catchment transportation to French immersion programs is the responsibility of the parents.

- Immersion programs (both Early and Late) are designed for students from any catchment area in SD83.
- Parents need NOT speak French.
- Students are encouraged to stay in the program through Grade 12 in order to attain a high level of bilingualism and to receive a bilingual Dogwood Graduate Certificate.
- Students in the French Immersion program will participate in regular school activities.

PROGRAM GOALS

- To develop language skills enabling students to participate easily in French conversation.
- To provide an insight into the French culture.
- To achieve skills in all subject areas equivalent to those in the English program.
- Ability to take post-secondary education with French as the language of instruction.
- Ability to gain employment using French as the work language.

Common Questions

What are the benefits of learning a second language?

- Learning a second language develops your child's learning and learning skills as well as their self-confidence.
- It provides more cognitive abilities by helping them to become more bilingual.
- It provides more knowledge of and their ability to communicate in their first language.
- It offers learning credit and foreign language credit.
- It can provide opportunities for future employment or career advancement.

What about the students' academic achievement?

- Research shows there are NO discernible effects on academic performance in any subject area despite learning in a new language.
- Students gain equal English vocabulary as French students and often score in English areas.

What will happen to my child's first language?

- The network of "Two-Plus-One" immersion and integration for French immersion parents" at Boston and Lake Cowichan have concluded that the result of 20 years of studies indicates that 1. There is French use at home and in school. Early immersion students tend to lag behind English program students in early school years of the English curriculum and catching up only in the last year of school (English language only). However, by Grade 5, a 3-point difference in standardized test grade 12, they graduate with an equal English program grade.
- In SD83 some students perform equal to the English students and/or sometimes outperform them with respect to English language communication and reading by Grade 12.

How does Late Immersion compare with Early French Immersion?

- Late French Immersion is a total immersion of 90% French immersion. It is a separate program, offered in addition to Early Immersion, which provides an alternative for areas where the English students who were in French Immersion.
- In Grade 6, the Early and Late Immersion students join together into one program. The two groups become academically cohesive during the immersion years.

More information is available at www.sd83.bc.ca

Interested in Early French Immersion?
Information Session
 Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 5 p.m. at Boston

Registration Begins
 Wednesday, January 14, 2026
 for September 2026

2026/2027 Late French Immersion Gr. 6 Commitment Form



14

Ready, Set, Learn



- Families and community partners gathered at Carlin Elementary/Middle for a warm and engaging Ready, Set, Learn (RSL) session that blended early learning activities with connection, creativity, and fun.
- The event welcomed young children along with supportive community partners, including a Public Health Nurse and a representative from Child Care Resource & Referral.
- Families interested in learning more about Ready, Set, Learn or finding upcoming sessions can visit:

Ready, Set, Learn Program Information:

<https://www.sd83.bc.ca/ready-set-learn>

Recent District News on Ready, Set, Learn:

<https://www.sd83.bc.ca/news/Ready-Set-Learn-2026>



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Student Art Fair



The Art Fair will run the week of February 6-13. Student artwork will be displayed in Picadilly mall throughout the week, and student workshops will be held at the mall on February 11.

Huge thanks to Laura Tomlinson, Allison de Boer, and Mishel Quaal for organizing this event!!



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New to Our District

- A.L. Fortune joins the district in welcoming Sean Kelly from SD57.
- Sean is known for the strong relationships he forms with students, parents, and community.
- Sean, his wife and young daughter will join us at the beginning of Semester II.



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New to Our District

- JL Jackson joins us in welcoming Matthew Laslo from Golden Hills School Division.
- Matthew comes highly recommended for his ability to lead and connect with students and community.
- Matthew's wife and two young sons will join us on February 17, 2026.



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