



Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory - We acknowledge, respect, and honor the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District No. 8.

District

1. Superintendent's Report [November 2023](#) Highlights:
 - *Sean Marechal, who is the recipient of a Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Sean has led the Valhalla Wilderness Program at W.E. Graham Community School in the Village of Slocan for the last 25 of its 27 years.*
 - *Our district received a 2023 Bravo! Award from the Canadian Association for Communicators in Education; for our leadership team's engagement with students, staff, families, educational partners and our school communities to develop our 2024-2029 Strategic Plan.*
2. Next Online Parent Engagement Session: Digital Trends November 23rd at 6pm ([link](#))
 - Snapchat, TikTok, Discord and Instagram are just a few of the social media platforms that are popular amongst our youth in 2023. What are the risks? What are the rewards? How do they differ from each other? How to help support our youth?

Engagement

3. Playground Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (November 16th)
 - Opportunity to highlight all the people who helped bring the Playground to light. Thank you again to all those parent volunteers: Ryan Syfchuck, Nigel Francis, Dean Bala, Andrew MacKinlay, Jesse Germann, Dustin Rogers, Mr. Mitchell, Daniel Poda, Brynn Fell, Rulon Blackmore, Foster Harris, Ivan Gonzalez, Trustee Ethridge and Allan Findlay.
4. Family Engagement Night & Book Fair (November 2nd)
 - Successful; lots of students and families visited their classroom, the book fair was a big hit.
5. Superintendent Smillie visited CLES on November 16th
 - Special guest at our playground grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony
 - Toured the school and grounds, lead by two of our intermediate students
 - Visited with PAC
 - Visited with Staff
 - presented service pins to staff (Kori 5-years and Laura-Lee 20-years)
6. Calendar:
 - Communicating Student Learning (ie. Report Cards) November 27th
 - CLES Holiday Concert Monday December 11th at 6pm
 - Last day of school before Winter Break is December 15th

Learning

7. Remembrance Day Assembly: Thank you to our guests who came to the Remembrance Day assembly today: Ktunaxa Elder and war veteran Robin Louie spoke of his experiences in the Marines, local musician Poul Christensen performed The Last Post/Rouse on the bugle and Army Cadets (and former CLES students) Sgt Gatto-Beebe and Sgt Ingram were colour-bearers. Several of our current CLES students spoke about the meaning of Remembrance and recited poems.
8. Be the Change group had a successful Food Drive; donated over 100 items of food to the Creston Valley Gleaners Foodbank.
9. Worry Monsters: What do you do when you have lots of worries? Feed them to your Worry Monster of course! Thanks to Ms. Danforth's intermediate class, Ms. King's K/1 class have a fun and cute way to get rid of their worries. Based on the book "The Very Hungry Worry Monsters" by Lara Ede and Rosie Greening, younger students are paired up with older students to design their own monster. After designing, the older students get to sewing and VOILA...anxiety digesting beasts! Such a great activity that has happened for several years. Ms. King's K/1 class is so grateful for Ms. Danforth's intermediate class!