



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

MAY 25, 2022



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I trust that the May Superintendent's Report finds you rested after a beautiful Victoria Day long weekend. There may be instances when students and families may perceive May as the beginning of the end of the school year. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage parents to maintain a focus on school attendance in the next five weeks. Students have missed enough school through the course of the pandemic. The learning agenda does not take the month of June off. Most students learn best when they are healthy (don't forget the daily health check) and physically present in school. This month's Superintendent's Report celebrates the importance of parent involvement in schools.

Janet Meyer, Superintendent of Schools

CMSD82 Strategic Plan 2022-2027

This past week saw the release of the Board of Education's Strategic Plan 2022-2027. Regardless of your experience with the strategic planning processes previously, it is a new world out there, as it relates to a clear path forward to ensure that we improve continuously and we are able to demonstrate in a measurable manner, that we are, in fact, moving forward.

The Board of Education has set the following goals:

1. We facilitate opportunities for all students to realize their full potential.
2. We honour and respect culture, diversity and inclusion.
3. We facilitate well-being across Coast Mountains School District 82.

It is expected by the Ministry of Education and Child Care that a school district aligns its resources with these goals. Schools are expected to consider these strategic goals when designing their continuous growth.



I would like to extend my appreciation to the Board of Education for their commitment to "students and learning". The students of CMSD82 are fortunate to have a group of student-focused Trustees making decisions and setting policy that best serves students.

School District 82 requires the support of students, communities, rightsholders, parents, and grandparents to continuously make progress toward these goals. *Learning Together, Realizing Success for All - Engage, Ignite, Empower!*

"Together We Are Better"

The pandemic has had an impact on individual's ability to regulate emotionally. At a recent meeting with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, it was shared that provincially there has been an increase in sexual assaults, in school/community conflict, and an increase in bullying and violence. We may be noticing an increase of worrisome behaviour in CMSD82 as well. Students may be having difficulty making sense of their new social reality. As an individual who did not parent during the pandemic, I am empathetic to those of you who are parenting during these difficult times. It must have been and may continue to be very difficult.



In the coming months and into the 2022-2023 school year, it will never be more important for the school, community and parents to rally together to support our youth in a trauma-informed manner. Schools do not and cannot do it alone.

As a parent, you can expect CMSD82 to help and we will request support from the wider community as available. The bottom line is the community, the parents, nor the school can do this work alone. We are at the beginning of a journey that we need to walk together. One of the ways parents can help is by becoming more involved in schools. For reference and support information, you may wish to access the following [trauma-related resources](#) link.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR QUESTIONS TO JANET.MEYER@CMSD.BC.CA (SUPERINTENDENT'S EMAIL INBOX)



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CMSD82 Has A Functioning DPAC!

As a parent, what can you do to support your child's education? You can become a member of your School's Parent Advisory Council (PAC).

The [School Act](#) gives parents the right, through Parent Advisory Councils, to provide feedback in their school. PAC is the officially recognized collective voice of parents of their school. A PAC, through its elected officers, may advise the school board, the principal and staff of the school respecting any matter relating to the education of the students and the school.

PACs are forums within each school community to discuss matters affecting your school and the education of your children. Parents' voices are a tremendous value to their school. They offer a wealth of ideas and support in the challenges that face all public schools. PACs strive to represent the diversity within their communities and contribute to the benefit of all students by:

- providing opportunities to educate and inform parents about the school;
- involving parents in volunteer activities; and
- openly discussing parents' concerns and aspirations for their schools.

Parents and school voice relates to the education of their children. As we enter the post-pandemic world, please know your voice is welcome in all CMSD82 schools.

Special thanks to those individuals who stepped up from Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) around the school district to operate the CMSD82 District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) in such a way that it does not become overwhelming for one/two people.

New Music & Composition Program at Hazelton Secondary School

- Story contribution by Richard Pesik, Hazelton Secondary School Teacher

At Hazelton Secondary School, we are always trying to find ways to attract our students to engage in meaningful learning opportunities that interest them and give them skills applicable to their endeavours they will pursue later on in life. During this semester, a new program was introduced entitled, "Music Production and Composition". This program is currently being offered to Grade 8 Mosaic students as well as Grade 10-12 students and focuses on the learning of basic music theory, the physics of sound, and waveforms by using various DAW software. DAW software is a digital audio workstation music production software that allows users to record audio on a personal computer. DAW software works on both the Mac and Windows operating

systems. It is used for audio recording, audio editing, MIDI editing, mixing, and mastering, among other functions. Additionally, this course focuses on various DJing techniques used by contemporary DJs that the students admire and know already. One of the students from this class applied their skills in a practical way already, having an extremely successful, first time DJing experience, running the latest high school dance at Hazelton Secondary School.

Where we are currently in the program is a good place, however, it has been hard work to get here! To start up this program, grants were secured from various organizations, including MusiCounts, Hazelton Secondary

School Parent Group, Gitksan Government Commission, Rotary Club Smithers and Hy-Tech Drilling. Thanks to these generous grants various DJ equipment and software was purchased. Currently, we are still working towards raising increased funds so that we can purchase additional Apple laptops and desktops that will allow students to fully enjoy this new course.



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