
Monthly Newsletter



SCHOOL DISTRICT 78
FRASER-CASCADE
EVERYONE PULLING TOGETHER

September/October 2025



A Message from the Superintendent

In the heart of the Fraser Cascade School District lies a commitment to Truth and Reconciliation that resonates deeply with its fourteen Indigenous communities. This commitment isn't just spoken; it's demonstrated through tangible actions and transformative initiatives.

From collaborative sessions to the implementation of innovative projects, School District 78 stands as a beacon of progress and inspiration. At the core of School District 78's ethos is a profound respect for Indigenous knowledge and culture. We are proud of all our schools and their deep commitment to Truth and Reconciliation Week and Orange Shirt Day. We hope you were able to mark the day in a meaningful way as well.

We are thankful to share our learning and unlearning with you and as always, welcome your feedback and ideas. Looking forward to a great school year ahead.

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SUPERINTENDENT, SD78 FRASER CASCADE

Summer School & Rec and Read A Major Success!

Once again, we had many students who moved up several reading levels during our Rec and Read Programs this Summer!

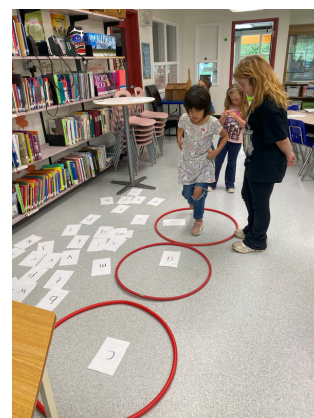
A big thanks to our Rec and Read Teachers Heather Douglas, Jennifer Wright, Taylor Lees, Kim Walker and Educational Assistants Zoe Kirk-Gushowaty, Laurel Luring, Athan Chaudhary, Bonnie Duncan

In Summer School, we also had more students doing academic course completion and many students completed entire courses. Thanks to Bruce Relland for his work as our Summer School Administrator/Teacher.

All programs were well supported.

Program Overview

Rec & Read is an early intervention, literacy program for children, who are currently in grades one to three, who will benefit from additional reading development over the summer. The program balances literacy instruction with recreational activities. The morning consists of literacy centres (including writing activities) and small group and individual instruction in guided reading. In the afternoon, participants engage in on-site recreational activities. Rec & Read was developed based on sound research using best practices. This is a 4-week program from June 30 – July 24, 2025. The Recreation Leader is responsible for the afternoon portion of the program, working approximately 2.5 hours per day, Monday through Thursday. They also participate in small group assisted reading assistance in the morning session.

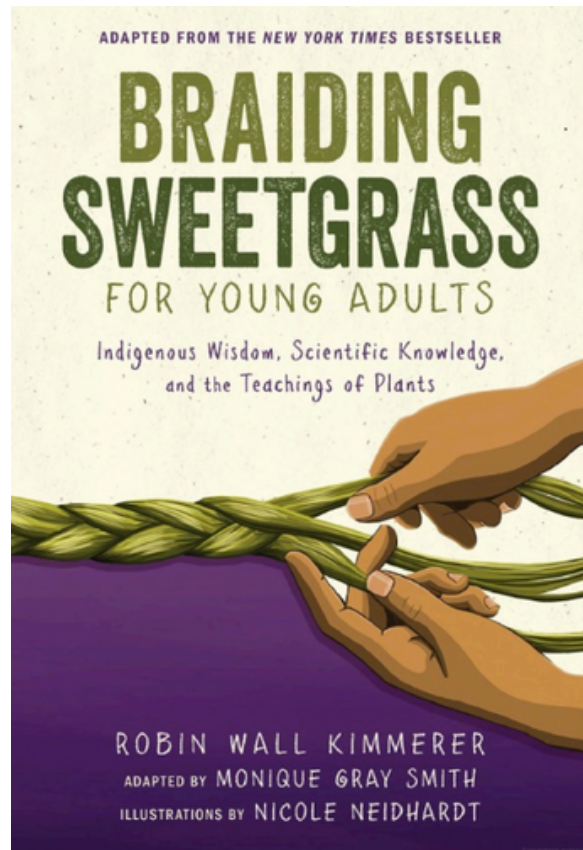


Indigenous Summer Studies Program: Braiding Sweetgrass

Update from teacher, Savannah
Bergenhengouwen:

Ey swayel

Every day has been a true delight. We have 16 students registered, and an average attendance of 12 a day. The majority of these students finished First Peoples 11, and some even completed another self-directed course.

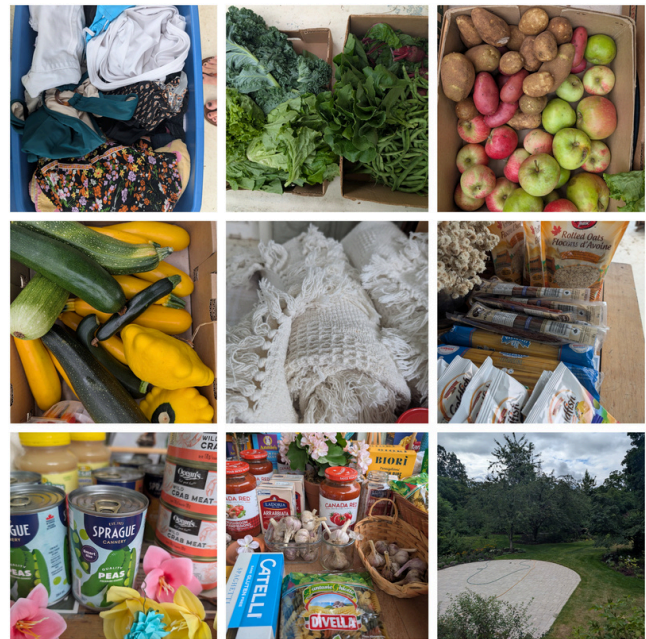


STUDENTS LEARNING ON THE LAND IN SPUZZUM



A LOOK BACK AT THE SUMMER PROGRAMMING THAT STARTED THE SCHOOL YEAR STRONG

All throughout the summer through our family workshops, pop-up events, and weekly programming with community partners, SD78 families enjoyed free programming such as Storytime in the Park (weekly in Agassiz-Harrison, Hope, and on several Fridays in Boston Bar); Library workshops, and community events with giveaways frequently included. Many of these giveaways were made possible by generous community benefactors, everyone from community gardeners and farmers, retailers, and local individuals as well as grants and program funding.



DISTRICT HIKE THIS FALL



DISTRICT HIKE UP FROSTY MOUNTAIN IN MANNING THE HIGHEST PEAK IN MANNING PROVINCIAL PARK AT OVER 2400 METERS. SEP 12, 2025
GRADES 7 AND UP.



DISTRICT HIKE TO TIKWALUS TRAIL BY SPUZZUM IN THE FRASER CANYON. STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF TRAIL WITH INDIGENOUS CEDAR BARK HARVESTING SITES AND OLD HUDSON BAY TRAIL. OCT 2, 2025



DISTRICT HIKE TO ELK THURSTON MOUNTAINS IN THE CHILLIWACK VALLEY. ABOVE THE CLOUDS, CHILLIWACK AND FRASER VALLEYS. SOME STUDENTS FIRST HIKE EVER, MANY STUDENTS FIRST TIME LOOKING DOWN ON A CLOUD. SEP 25, 2025

ORANGE SHIRT DAY ACROSS THE DISTRICT



ORANGE SHIRT DAY AT AESS. STUDENT LED DRUM GROUP LEADS A WALK AROUND THE SCHOOL FIELD.



COQUIHALLA



AESS

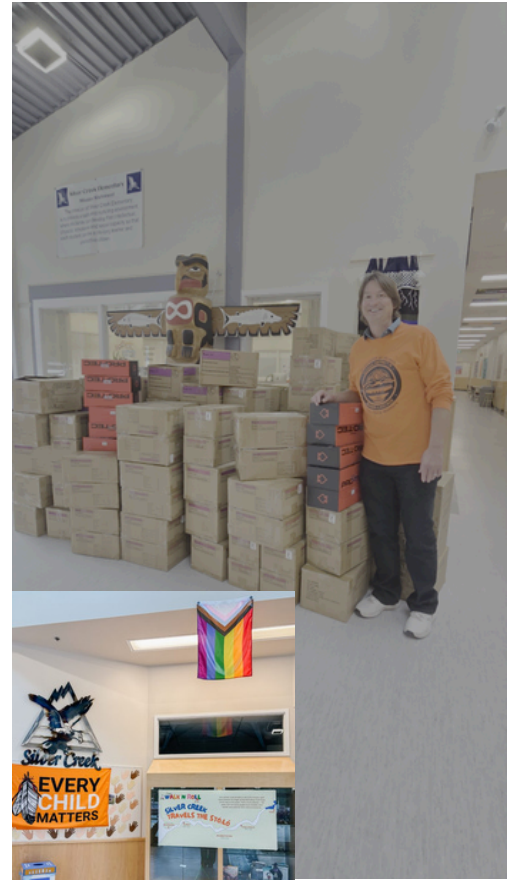
STUDENTS BEAD AT TREC



PHYLLIS WEBSTAD SHARES THE ORIGIN OF ORANGE SHIRT DAY WITH SOHSS STUDENTS



CHAWATHIL CHIEF AARON PETE TALKS WITH STUDENTS AT COQUIHALLA ELEMENTARY



THE FIRST HOPE WALK 'N' ROLL WEEK KICKED OFF OCTOBER 6. PRINCIPAL BRUCE BECKER LED A MORNING BIKE BUS TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK, AND SILVER CREEK STUDENTS WERE CHALLENGED TO TRAVEL THE LENGTH OF THE STO:LO RIVER! THIS ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL PROJECT IS BEING DONE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LIVING WITH FOUNDATION AND FRASER HEALTH.



ORANGE SHIRT DAY AT SOHSS

PIZZA LUNCH AT SOHSS



Shxwelís te Ts'qó:ls - The Spirit of Hope Secondary School

Our school district was recognized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food for our prioritizing of BC producer buying in our school food programs this past year. SD78 will be featured in a film on their website in 2026 with four other school districts across BC who were also recognized. In addition to the purchasing that we do, focusing on provincial and regional investment, we are fortunate to have many home growers in the community who pass on their tree fruit to ensure our students get additional healthy, locally grown snacks.



**Silver Creek
Elementary dries local
pears for healthy,
organic snacks**

Food Service Assistant Josie Tremblay dehydrates locally grown and donated pears for a snack that is popular with students.



**Boston Bar Elementary
School adds locally
grown plums to their
student fruit bowl &
breakfast bake menu.**

Food Service Assistant Jennifer John bakes a fruit crisp with local fruit.



Inclusion Fair
at
Kent
Elementary
Oct 2



Upcoming

This event is open to all community members, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous. Feel free to stop on by for part of the day and join in the celebrations that include dancing, vendors, food trucks and dinner.



3RD ANNUAL SD78 POWWOW

**MC Chris
Thomas Wells
Arena Director
Everette White
Host Drum
Bad Eagle
Specials TBD**

Join us for a powerful day of culture, connection and community at our third annual traditional powwow
October 25th, 2025
Hope Secondary School
444 Stuart St Hope BC
Admission by donation
1pm and 7pm grand entries
5pm Coastal Jam

Drum payout
for the first 6
drums





FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
SD78 3rd Annual powwow on Facebook
For sponsorships and vendor spots:
caitlin.demmitt@sd78.bc.ca
General inquiries:
christine.seymour@sd78.bc.ca



Thank you for reading!

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