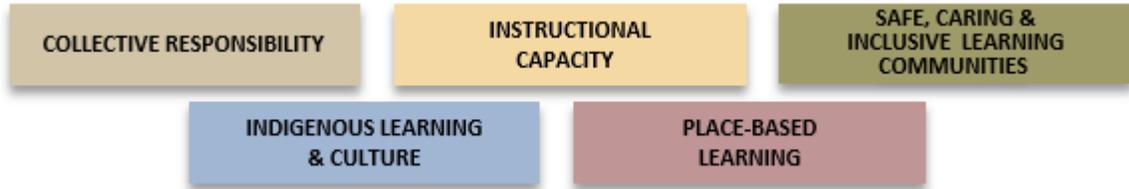




Walking Together in the 2025-2026 School Year
in Cariboo-Chilcotin School District No. 27

Being Good Ancestors For



District Key Focus Areas for Enhancing Learner Success 2024-2027

**Superintendent Report to Board of Education
February 23, 2026**

Mourning for Peace River South School District



In the days following the tragic events in Tumbler Ridge, the district has focused on supporting students, staff, and families while maintaining clear, compassionate communication. Initial notices were shared with parents and caregivers to acknowledge the impact of the tragedy, express condolences to Peace River South School District, and outline the immediate availability of counselling and school-based supports. Additional guidance was provided on helping children process distressing news, strategies for reducing media exposure, and access to community and virtual mental-health resources.

The district has maintained close collaboration with local partners, including increased RCMP and agency visibility around schools, which has offered reassurance to families and staff. We continue to fly district flags at half-mast in honour of the victims and in solidarity with the Tumbler Ridge community. School counsellors, administrators, and critical-incident staff remain available to respond to student and staff needs as they arise.

Alongside this immediate response, the district has also communicated its ongoing commitment to school safety. This includes highlighting the significant safety enhancements implemented over the past one to two years, as well as those underway or planned—such as improved access control, strengthened emergency communication systems, staff training on recognizing and reporting worrisome behaviour, and continued refinements to critical-incident response. The district remains actively engaged with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, provincial safety specialists, and peer districts to ensure alignment with current and emerging safety standards and will continue to share information responsibly and transparently.

Historic Gathering of Elected Leaders

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

INDIGENOUS LEARNING
& CULTURE



The first [Elected Leaders Gathering](#) between the Board of Education and Chiefs and Councils, an event of historic significance, was held on February 4, 2026. Trustees and community leaders shared a meal, listened to one another, and began meaningful conversations about the students we collectively support. This gathering marked an important step in strengthening relationships and creating space for shared hopes and concerns to be expressed openly.

Participants affirmed the value of continuing with this leadership-to-leadership structure as a key opportunity to work together at the governance level. This approach complements other important venues, such as the Indigenous Education Council and Local Education Agreements, where Nations hold ownership and leadership in educational decision-making.

In the weeks ahead, leaders will receive additional information outlining the work already underway to support continued dialogue about future directions. A second gathering is planned for May to continue building on the commitments and connections established at this inaugural meeting.

RCMP Appreciation Day

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

SAFE, CARING &
INCLUSIVE LEARNING
COMMUNITIES

As we recognize [RCMP Appreciation Day](#) on February 1, we are pleased to highlight the many positive and meaningful ways RCMP members contribute to the daily life of schools across our district. Their presence extends far beyond enforcement: officers regularly support learning, build relationships with students, and help foster the safe, caring, and inclusive school communities we are committed to. Our district website features a [success stories](#) section that showcase these partnerships in action, illustrating how RCMP members engage with students through classroom visits, safety initiatives, community events, and acts of mentorship. We are grateful for their ongoing collaboration and the important role they play in supporting the well-being of our learners.

A few examples:



100 Mile Elementary
[Building Belonging: RCMP Constables visit Our Wolf Pack](#)



Mile 108 Elementary
[Thank You to Our Local RCMP](#)



Lake City Secondary
[RCMP Partnership](#)

Family Literacy Week

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

SAFE, CARING &
INCLUSIVE LEARNING
COMMUNITIES

January 27- February 1, 2026 was [proclaimed](#) as [Family Literacy Week](#) in BC. Cariboo-Chilcotin schools celebrated Family Literacy Day through engaging activities, events, and resources shared with parents and caregivers. This this year's theme, "Make mealtime family learning time," encouraged families to use everyday moments around the table to build literacy skills through cooking, sharing stories, creating shopping lists, and learning together. Across the district, classrooms and schools embraced these opportunities to highlight the joy and importance of reading and learning as a family. We invite you to explore the [See Our Success Stories](#) posts on our district website, where you'll find stories showcasing how Family Literacy Day in our district.

A few examples include:



Cataline Elementary
[Family Reading Day for Literacy Week](#)



Marie Sharpe
[Literacy Week Day 4!](#)

On the Recruitment Trail

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

INSTRUCTIONAL
CAPACITY

Principals and vice-principals support recruitment efforts through participation in in-person and virtual career fairs and events. Recently PVP Yvonne Davis and Dancing Water Sandy represented the district at UBC, sharing with future educators why the Cariboo Chilcotin is such an incredible place to live, and teach.

"We showcased the unique strengths of our schools—close knit learning communities, innovative programs, and environments where relationships truly matter. We also highlighted the beauty and diversity of our geographical area, from lakes and trails to vibrant rural and urban school settings that offer something for every educator.

It was wonderful connecting with passionate new teachers and inviting them to begin their careers in a district where community, land, and learning come together. We're excited to welcome future educators to SD #27!" [Recruitment Efforts at UBC - Cariboo-Chilcotin School District](#)



Professional Development Day

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY	SAFE, CARING & INCLUSIVE LEARNING COMMUNITIES	INSTRUCTIONAL CAPACITY	INDIGENOUS LEARNING & CULTURE
PLACE-BASED LEARNING			

Cariboo-Chilcotin Teachers Association (CCTA) hosted another great day of professional learning for educators. Some school teams and cross-school teams also planned learning activities. [See Our Success Stories](#) on the district website for more examples of the learning staff were engaged in to enhance instructional capacity in our schools.



[Deepening Practice in Literacy Instruction](#)



[Bryan Gidinski Layered Literacy](#)



[WILD Schools](#)



[Building Instructional Capacity Through Representation and Reconciliation](#)



[Get Your Teach On - Teach with Energy](#)



*Learning How to Work with Leather



*Deepening Understanding Through Secwépemc Teachings



*Community-based Career Pro-d at West Fraser



*Skills Technology (ADST) Upcycling

**Posts available soon on district website*

Youth Discover the Trades Day

COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY

PLACE-BASED LEARNING

140 grade sevens from six Columneetza Jr Secondary classes joined 75 educators, tradespersons, apprentices, and business people at TRU to explore careers in trades. Facilitated by District Principal Kelvin Parent and supported by community partners, this hands-on experience engaged students with 5 different skilled trades. It was



YOUTH DISCOVER THE TRADES – SCHEDULE

Thursday, February 19, 2026

8:00 am to 3:30 pm at Thompson Rivers University - Trades Wing



Student Groups Activity Schedule

Times	Sessions
8:45 to 8:59	Morning Introduction
9:00 to 9:50	Morning Activity Session # 1
9:50 to 10:40	Morning Activity Session # 2
10:40 to 10:50	Morning Break - 10 minutes
10:50 to 11:40	Morning Activity Session # 3
11:40 to 12:20	Lunch
12:20 to 12:30	Afternoon Introduction
12:30 to 1:20	Afternoon Activity Session # 1
1:20 to 2:10	Afternoon Activity Session # 2
2:10 to 3:00	Afternoon Activity Session # 3



Morning Activity Rotation

Group #	Activity 1 9:00 to 9:50	Activity 2 9:50 to 10:40	Break 10:40 to 10:50	Activity 3 (10:50-11:40)
1	Electrical	Carpentry	Break	Millwright
2	Carpentry	Millwright	Break	Welding
3	Millwright	Welding	Break	Mechanical
4	Welding	Mechanical	Break	Electrical
5	Mechanical	Electrical	Break	Carpentry



Afternoon Activity Rotation

Group #	Activity 1 (12:30-1:20)	Activity 2 (1:20-2:10)	Activity 3 (2:10-3:00)
1	Electrical	Carpentry	Millwright
2	Carpentry	Millwright	Welding
3	Millwright	Welding	Mechanical
4	Welding	Mechanical	Electrical
5	Mechanical	Electrical	Carpentry



E.B. Horsman & Son
The Electrical Distributor of Choice!

Gavin Lake Winter Camp Tradition Continues

“Teacher leader Frances McCoubrey never misses an opportunity to get her class outside for learning. Gavin Lake Forest Education Center is a longtime SD27 Community Partner. The grade 7 outdoor camp has been an opportunity for our students and teachers to partake in over many years. This year, Ms. McCoubrey’s timing was just right, and our students enjoyed good weather and good snow. Always hit or miss in the Cariboo! Thanks Gavin Lake educators and parent volunteers for helping us continue to participate in this learning opportunity!” -Principal Holly Zurak



Lifesaving Learning



Gideon (background) and Wyatt (foreground) learning CPR at Tatla Lake School

A good news story was shared by a proud parent of a student who received CPR training last year as a student at Tatla Lake School:

“Today I was skiing with my kids at Big White. We lost Gideon at one point but I wasn’t worried because there was some confusion about what lift we were going to. Checked my phone when I went into the lodge and he had texted that he was going to catch up with us and had lost us because he had been administering CPR. Turns out a lone ski patroller attending to an unresponsive snowboarder had flagged him down and asked him if he knew first aid. She needed assistance with CPR so she could coordinate getting more help and also applying AED etc. I do know Gideon was thankful that in that moment he had the skills and knowledge to do his best to provide assistance thanks to the training you did at the school. Thank you so much”

We are incredibly impressed with Gideon's actions and thrilled to see the positive impact of learning done in Cariboo-Chilcotin Schools.

Principal Kimberley Ikebuchi says students at the school receive training from professionals. This CPR training was instructed by nurse practitioner and Red Cross worker Patrice Gordon. Tatla Lake has also done ‘Stop the Bleed’ training with a community paramedic.

Key Focus Areas of our District Plan for Learner Success

Schools continue to contribute powerful images and descriptions to help share the story of how the key focus areas of the District are coming to life across the Cariboo-Chilcotin. These examples may be viewed on the [district website](#) as [focus area posts](#).



This work is embedded in daily life in our schools and across departments. There is significant cross-over of the themes as all members of the school district community act for greater collective responsibility, instructional capacity, inclusive learning communities, Indigenous learning and culture, and place-based learning. Please take a few moments to explore our stories and celebrate our success with us.

<p>Collective Responsibility ></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common information• Professional conversations• Collaborative relationships• Intentional action	<p>Instructional Capacity ></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Literacy• Numeracy• Assessment• Collaborative Professional Development	<p>Inclusive Learning Communities ></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safe, welcome environments• Meaningful engagement in learning• Connection to caring adults• Student voice	<p>Indigenous Learning & Culture ></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local cultural learning• Language• Equity of outcomes• Belonging, Mastery, Independence, Generosity	<p>Place-Based Learning ></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Time outdoors• Time in nature• Learning on and from the land• Local learning
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See our stories on WLFN Recreation Team and Golf Canada Junior Development program at 150 Mile School ▪ Cataline Modernizes Logo and Mascot ▪ 100 Mile Library Adventures ▪ Grade 3/4 and Grade 10 Art Collaboration ▪ Mustang Reading program ▪ And many more examples of great teaching and learning in Cariboo-Chilcotin School District Schools . . .