

## Successes – April 24, 2024 Board Meeting

### Bayside

- Five Bayside students who advanced to Provincials for Jr Skills Canada at the Abbotsford Trade Ex Centre. Four Grade 8 students and one Grade 7 will compete in the Sumobot and Gravity Car competitions.

### North Saanich

- North Saanich held its first annual spelling bee.
- The NSMS Hip Hop Dancers represented North Saanich at the Saanich Showcase.

### Royal Oak

- The Royal Oak Grade 8 band and choir performed for the feeder schools last week as part of the Grade 5 transition process. This is always a highlight for students to visit their elementary schools and see former teachers. The elementary school students love to see the ROMS kiddos. This event also helps build the music program!

### Cordova Bay

- 20 students participated at the Dance Showcase at Parkland (one of only two elementary schools to partake).
- Lunchtime intergenerational programs with volunteers from 55+ are back up and running with board games, chess club, a knitting group, and cooking classes.
- Our entire school participated in Jump Rope for Heart outside raising money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.
- PAC has funded outdoor play resources for our entire school so we now have opportunities for inclusive play outside such as: giant chess and checkers boards; ramps, balls and natural building structures for primary grades; non-competitive games such as bocce, ladder ball and cornhole; and field games such as flag football and outdoor pickleball.
- PAC has provided funds for SENĆOŦEN signage, on cedar planks, for most rooms in our school. The signage has been created by Michael Ewan from Claremont (he has done this for a number of schools in our district). Installation of the signage will be happening soon.

### Deep Cove

- Deep Cove has 40% of the school - a record 140 dancers from Grades 1 to 5 - developing their artistic skills and a love of the performing arts during lunchtime practices. These students are heading to UVIC later in April for this year's Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival.

### Keating

- Keating has had a number of successful community events over the past couple of months. Among these was the first of our concert series before Spring Break. The eldest students performed for about 250 parents/guardians after having worked with music teacher, Ms. Donn. Currently the older primary students are preparing for a concert in a few weeks. Our youngest students will have their turn to perform at the start of June.
- We have also had a number of successful Family Read-In and Math-In events led by Ms. Windle and staff over the course of the year.

- The kids are reporting that their highlights included the recently completed swim and basketball seasons, and the cross-country season that is underway with approximately 180 runners from Grades 2 to 5.

### **KELSET**

- Dance Group, made up of over 20 Grade 4 and 5 students, performed at the Saanich Dance Showcase with secondary student performers!
- KELSET Swim Team competed in the SD63 Swim Meet just before Spring Break.
- Seven groups of Grade 4 and 5 students competed in the School Reading Link Challenge just before Spring Break, and the winning team just competed in the Regional Reading Link Challenge.

### **Sidney**

- On April 10th, our school celebrated serving our 5,000th breakfast for this school year. The first picture is of the Grade 3 student who was our 5,000th customer! The second picture is of the three adults who have been instrumental in the program's success: Emily Bland (EA), Loreen Wahlstrom (EA), and Heather Haynes (parent volunteer).



### **District**

- On Thursday, April 11th the Saanich Schools English Language Learners Potluck was held at Lochside Elementary School. It was a wonderful community event and a chance to visit with families, teachers, principals, vice-principals, and school district staff. This year's theme was "Celebrating Food: Our Cultures, Memories, and Identities" where students wrote about family dishes that are important to them and brought food to share with the community. Families also had the chance to connect with community organizations that can offer various supports. The event was well attended and lasting connections were made. A huge thank you to our district ELL staff!

### **Claremont**

- Cordova Bay Kindergarten class visited the Senior Woodshop class where the bigger kids were paired up with the little ones on a group project.
- Bear Horne has begun carving a Claremont Welcoming Pole in the Student Lounge, which is going to be a continuous project for the next two to three months.
- The girls and boys Rugby teams have greatly expanded to the tune of almost 90 players participating this spring season, the largest number of players in the last 15 years.