

NEWSLETTER

Kootenay Discovery School

Oct. 2024



Mike Kelly
Principal KDS

Hours: Monday to Friday
(basically anytime)

Email:
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Phone: 250-423-4912



PRINCIPALS MESSAGE:

Welcome to the 2024/2025 school year at Kootenay Discovery School (KDS). I look forward to seeing all the students take strides toward their educational goals.

Kootenay Discovery School staff are working hard to deliver an authentic, meaningful, and engaging educational experience. KDS is striving to meet two main goals this year, these goals are centred on improving student achievement.

10-12: Increase student engagement in senior level courses. 10 % reduction in school year withdrawals after activation. KDS educators are consistently improving our Brightspace course offerings, we want to make these the best online courses in British Columbia! Our counselling staff are also busy doing Grad Checks with all full time secondary and adult students.

K-9: Support student engagement so that students demonstrate a level of proficiency, on the B.C. Proficiency Scale, in at least 75% of competencies and content (what students need to learn) in all subjects. KDS educators are working hard to streamline Brightspace courses, ensure Brightspace Portfolio is easy to use and linked to course competencies, and ensuring in-person learning is collaborative, engaging, and linked to course competencies.

Kootenay Discovery Schools strength lies in its staff, please take the time to understand each staff's role at KDS and how to best contact them. Just as with our staff, the students and the parents who support them are key to student success at KDS. Students and parents are encouraged to reach out with exciting new ideas or for help with problem solving.

Mike Kelly - Principal Kootenay Discovery School
michael.kelly@sd5.bc.ca

Take a book, leave a book!



UPCOMING DATES:

Oct. 14 - STAT - No School
Oct. 15 - PAC Meeting 7pm
Oct. 25 - Pro-D - No School
Nov. 1 - No School
Nov. 13 - STAT - No School
Nov. 19 - PAC Meeting 7pm
Nov. 22 - Pro-D - No School
Dec. 12 - Report Cards
Dec. 17 - PAC Meeting
Dec. 21 - Jan. 5 - Winter Break



PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENTS

Oct. 28 - Fernie
Oct. 30 - Cranbrook

Jan. 13 - Cranbrook
Jan. 14 - Fernie

April 7 - Cranbrook
April 8 - Fernie

Please note that KDS will NOT be hosting Provincial Assessments in June.

OUTDOOR LEARNING AND EVENTS



Meet the Staff



Principal
Michael Kelly



Administrative Assistant
Jade Kuystermans
Mon-Fri 8:30-3:30



Senior Mathematics
Paula Evoy
Mon, Wed 8:30-3:30
Tues, Thurs 1:00-7:00
(Fernie)



Senior PHE and Humanities
Scott Bailey
Mon 8:30-3:30 (Cran)
Wed 8:30-3:30 (Fernie)
Tues, Thurs 12:30-3:30 (Fernie)



Senior Sciences
Deirdre Bailey
Tues, Thurs 8:30-3:30
(Fernie)



Grades K-6 Fernie
Kristen Lewis
Mon-Fri 8:30-3:30



Learning Services Fernie
Kelly MacKenzie
Mon-Wed, Fri 9:00-1:00
Thurs 10:00-2:00



Grades 7-9 Fernie
Shailah Gulyas
Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30
Fri 8:30-12:30



Educational Assistant Fernie
Lu Furber
Mon-Fri 8:30-3:30



School Counsellor Fernie
Lindsay Knight
Thurs 8:30-3:30

Meet the Staff



Senior Careers and Humanities
Shannon Johnson
Mon 12:00-6:00 (Cran)
Tues, Thurs 8:30-3:30 (Cran)



Grades K-9 Cranbrook
Angalea Penson
Tues, Wed 8:30-3:30
Thurs 12:30-3:30



School Counsellor Cranbrook
Barbara Kaufmann
Thurs 8:30-3:30



Learning Services Cranbrook
Krysten Tzakis
Wed 8:30-3:30



Youth Care Worker Cranbrook
Pearl Singer
Mon-Fri 8:30-3:30

Student Spotlight

Kaitlyn Gauthier, one of our PHED10 students in Cranbrook, shares her thoughts on the power of ambition in her assignment piece below.

Reflecting on Leadership Qualities: Ambition (Shoot for the Moon)

At the beginning of September 2023, I embarked on a work experience program with my sponsoring organization from my time as a candidate in the Cranbrook Youth Ambassador program. Although I lacked a clear direction at first, I was determined to use the public speaking skills I developed through the Toastmasters program to benefit my community. Working alongside former citizen of the year Dennis Walker as his morning show co-host once a week, I witnessed firsthand his unwavering ambition, which pushed me towards developing my own. Motivated by my newfound ambition, I mustered up the courage to ask my manager for the opportunity to conduct interviews independently as part of my work experience. He agreed, and so my weekly radio show began to develop. I began by interviewing students at my school and recording a short 3-minute radio segment promoting the weekly school news and student activities. As my confidence grew, I was soon entrusted with hosting the morning show solo, albeit under supervision. My ambition for a career in radio quickly grew stronger, which led me to explore post-secondary education opportunities within the field of news broadcasting. With my father's help, I spoke with a senior director at CBC, who gave me a tour of the studio and crucial advice on my future. Following the completion of my work experience, I took on the position of a summer cruiser reporter, where my skills improved significantly. Currently, I am driven by my ambition to work for Global News once I graduate from college. My journey in radio has demonstrated the power of ambition, as I continue to push myself to maintain high standards and raise the bar of what is expected of me in order to succeed in all aspects of my work.

Kaitlyn invites the KDS Community to tune into
2DayFM 107.5 on Thursday mornings from
8:00-9:40am to hear her program.
Way to go Kaitlyn!!

Students can take Work Experience
at KDS. To register, email:
kds.mailing@sd5.bc.ca