



Board Highlights for April 2026

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

Intermediate students at Tremblay Elementary made poetry cards and then sent them over to the local hospital. The patients really appreciated this kind gesture from the students.

Tremblay's Kindergarten and Just B4 students have been going on some field trips together. The students visited the Mile 0 Academy for gymnastics and Dawson Creek Dance Company for interpretive dance lessons.



Intermediate students at Tremblay are learning about astronomy.

Students made solar system models and then presented their learning to the school office staff.

Parkland Elementary students are studying about electricity in science by building circuits and learning how they work.

Schools celebrated Bus Driver Appreciation Day. Bus drivers were met with signs and posters as they arrived at the schools, and many were presented with flowers, plants, other small gifts and cards to celebrate their day! Thank-you to our bus driver team!

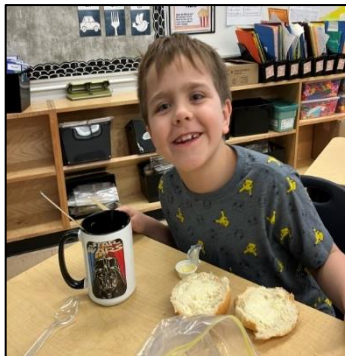
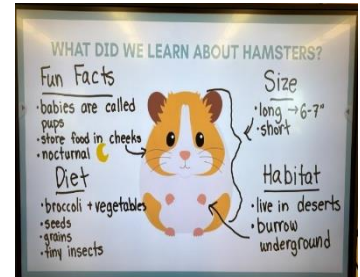


At Canalta Elementary, the Library Club is having fun learning how to play a variety of games.

Students are using strategies of Visible Learning, an evidence-based educational approach focusing on making student learning and teacher impact visible, transparent, and measurable. The students use a visible assessment strategy to help identify where they are at in their learning.



Students are also using the Jigsaw Model, a cooperative learning strategy where students become “experts” on a topic and then teach it to others. Students worked together to learn more about the topic, ‘What Did We Learn About Hamsters’. Students were grouped into home groups, then regrouped into expert groups where they became masters of a specific topic. The students then returned to their home group to share their learning.



Soup Day is a fun day where students and staff can bring a mug to school to enjoy some soup. Soup Day is in Collaboration with school PAC group.

Students are really excited when they have Flashlight Fridays – the lights are turned out, and students read their favourite books with flashlights. Flashlight Fridays build excitement for literacy and just makes reading fun!



At Devereaux Elementary, Mrs. Edwards class earned a classroom party, and they chose to have a bright colour party. The classroom was decorated with bright coloured streamers everywhere!

Future engineers in the making! Students are enjoying the melting snow and are pitching in to revert the water from the school playground areas by building streams and dams. And what a great opportunity to have boat races!



Don Titus students enjoyed a snowball fight in the school gym. The students used paper balls and socks as the snowballs and hid behind obstacles that were set up in the gym. Everyone had a blast without getting wet or cold!

DCSS – South Peace Campus Indigenous studies class is learning about Metis culture and art. The students' dot art is displayed on the bulletin board for everyone to enjoy.





With the cancellation of some of the Regional Skills Competition events, DCSS South Peace teacher, Mr. Chau held their own Skills Competition for digital media and photography since all the registrations were from SD59. This allowed five students to travel to Abbotsford to compete in the provincial competition where Johnny-Rose Pollitt placed 3rd in graphic design.

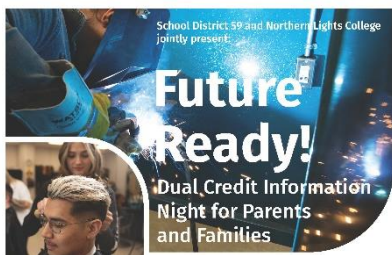
Windrem Elementary School has been hosting family nights which have been well attended. The families enjoy fun games while learning about sportsmanship, sharing, and spending time together.

The Early Years Health Fair had great attendance from families. The School District partnered with outside agencies to host the event. The event included booths and activities for families to participate in and learn more about the local services available to families with young children.

In partnership with Northern Health, UNBC, Northern Lights College and the Rotary Club, students from School District No. 59 and School District No. 60 attended a 3-day event to learn about health care services and career opportunities in the region. Students toured various sites including the new hospital build in Dawson Creek. Student had the opportunity for hands on activities and learned about the local post secondary options available to them.



The District is hosting Maria Walther in district from April 22-24, 2026. Ms. Walther is an educator, author, and literacy expert. The District is very excited to have her share her knowledge with our educators.



The Career Team will be holding their FutureReady! event in the evening of April 22, 2026. The event is co-hosted with Northern Lights College. Students and families are encouraged to attend to learn more about dual credit, the programs available, and the pathway to arrange student schedules. The information session also has an alumni panel of past dual credit students that share their experiences and opportunities that have led them to where they are now.

The Indigenous Department is excited to host the annual professional development Truth and Reconciliation Day on May 1, 2026. Madelaine McCallum and Kevin Lamoureux are guest speakers at this district wide event to lead us through our personal journey. The theme of the event is 'Reconciliation Within Myself.' Staff will learn about recognizing truth and identifying our own bias.

Spring is finally in the air! Student artwork is filling up school bulletin boards.



Field Trip Requests

The Board of Education granted final approval to Dawson Creek Secondary School – Central Campus to proceed with the French Immersion Trip to Quebec & Ontario from May 27, 2026- June 5, 2026.

The Board of Education granted approval, in principle, to Dawson Creek Secondary School – South Peace Campus to proceed with planning an international field trip to Greece in the spring of 2027.

Tumbler Ridge Update:

The Superintendent reported on the timeline for the Phase 2 project. Double-wide portables are in place to become classrooms in this phase. Work is continuing on the walkways, installation of phone, PA and alarm systems, power hook-ups and the installation of shelving, projectors, screens, and whiteboards.



The District will communicate to students and families once a final move in date is set. The move in will happen over three days. On the first day, teachers will set up their new classrooms (students do not attend classes), students and parents/guardians can visit the new campus on the second day, and the third day will be a full return to classes.

The District is working on getting the trades trailers up and running for classes to use. The District of Tumbler Ridge has provided temporary space at the lower parking lot of the recreation center so that students and teachers can start having classes in them. Once again, a big thank you to the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology for loaning these to us for the rest of this school year.



Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer:

2026-2027 Capital Response Bylaw

The Board of Education passed a minor capital bylaw for the following projects approved by the Ministry of Education and Child Care:

Facility:	Project:	Funding:
Don Titus Montessori	SEP – Roofing Upgrades	\$650,000
Tremblay Elementary	SEP – Roofing Upgrades	\$650,000
Tremblay Elementary	CNCP – HVAC Upgrades	\$575,000
Crescent Park Elementary	FIP – Kitchen Equipment and Infrastructure Upgrades	\$40,000

Bus Approval		
A-1591	Internal Combustion Engine – Type C (0 wheelchair space)	TBD
A-1593	Internal Combustion Engine – Type C (0 wheelchair space)	TBD

Capital Projects Update

Crescent Park Elementary School Expansion

The following project updates occurring since the last meeting:

- BC Hydro confirmed SD59 will have to give BC Hydro a right of way for the new service. BC Hydro has started the paperwork.
- Civil work was awarded to Northern Legendary.
- Work continued in the interior of the addition.
- Fence was installed on top of the retaining wall.
- Water and sewer work will begin as soon as the ground is thawed.

Costs to date are within budget and the Board’s capital bylaw, including contingency.

Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge Child Care Facilities

The Ministry of Education and Child Care approved the District’s submission for additional funding for both childcare applications. Planning will commence to move forward with both childcare facilities as awarded.

Tumbler Ridge Campus

Phase 1 Complex:

- The Ministry secured wildfire trailers to use as temporary spaces.
- The trailers began arriving on February 16, 2026 and trailer placement began on the Tumbler Ridge Elementary School site.
- The trailers were set up and running (with utilities) by February 25, 2026.
- First day of classes was February 27, 2026.

Phase 2 Complex:

- The site plan was confirmed on February 19, 2026 and planning for utility services and permits was initiated.
- Site prep work continued and trailers began arriving on February 23, 2026.
- Roof and floor joints were connected to secure the trailers together.
- Plans for the center complex were started which will be installed in July. The center complex will include office space, reception, bathrooms and a lunch area.
- Two trades trailers have arrived.
- Consultants continue to work on civil and utility planning.

Capital project updates are posted on the district website at [Capital Projects | School District 59 \(sd59.bc.ca\)](https://www.sd59.bc.ca/capital-projects).

Trustee Items:

BCSTA Update

Trustees attended the BCSTA AGM in Vancouver from April 9-11, 2026.

Committee Reports:

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee developed a new policy to implement formalized procedures for course withdrawal in accordance with the Ministry of Education and Child Care and the School Act.

Policy 4105 Student Withdrawal is being circulated for feedback. Feedback will be accepted until May 26, 2026. Please email feedback to cfennell@sd59.bc.ca.

All school district policies can be viewed on the school district website at [District Policies | School District 59](#).

Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
May 1, 2026	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school <i>Truth and Reconciliation focus pro-d.</i>
May 18, 2026	Victoria Day Stat – schools are closed
May 20, 2026	Public Board Meeting – Tumbler Ridge
June 1, 2026	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
June 17, 2026	Public Board Meeting – School Board Office – Dawson Creek
June 25, 2026	Last day of classes
June 26, 2026	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school

Always be willing to
lend a helping hand,
for small acts of
kindness can make a
big difference in
someone's life.

