



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS/CEO

YEAR IN REVIEW

June 25, 2025



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS STRATEGIC PLAN



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



- Serve over 235,000 citizens in 4 municipalities (Peachland, West Kelowna, Kelowna and Lake Country), Westbank First Nation and the Regional District of Central Okanagan
- 5th largest District in the province (4% of provincial enrollment)
- 48 Schools: 32 Elementary, 8 Middle, 5 Secondary, 2 Alternative Education and 1 K-12 Online Learning Program
- 14 schools offer Preschool Aged Childcare on school grounds
- 7 new Childcare Centres (6 fully operational/one opening in summer)
- 8 StrongStart Centres



Partners Include:

- Central Okanagan Teacher's Association (COTA)
- Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 3523 (CUPE)
- Central Okanagan Principals' & Vice Principals' Association (COPVPA)
- Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council (COPAC)
- District Student Council (DSC)

Management Team:

- Central Okanagan School Business Officials (COSBO)
- BC School Superintendents Association (BCSSA)



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OUR STUDENTS



Data as of September 30, 2025

	Head Count
Elementary	11,250
Middle	5,748
Secondary	7,414
Alternate Programs	802
	25,214
International Education	502
TOTAL:	25,716

WELCOME CENTRE NEWCOMER STUDENTS IN 2024/2025



Together We Learn



Central Okanagan
Public Schools
Welcome Centre



The Internationalization of local schools is accelerating with the growth of the community and in the 2024/2025 school year the Central Okanagan Public Schools:

- processed and supported new children and their parents through the District Welcome Centre resulting in the enrolment of **684** newcomer students
- had a total of **3043** new and returning immigrant children in our schools from **108** countries

The diversity coming into the community is also reflected in the data collected by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. During 2024/2025 we welcomed:

- **323 children** of economic class immigrants
- **123** permanent residents (**PR**)
- **94 refugee** children
- **62 children** whose families are here on a study permit
- **31 students** from Ukraine (CUAET)
- **18 refugee claimants** or asylum seekers
- **30 Canadian citizens** whose parents are PR or economic class immigrants
- **3** Other - not stated

WELCOME CENTRE NEWCOMER STUDENTS IN 2024/2025



Top six countries from where newcomers come from

Country	Count of FTE
Philippines	107
India	98
Syria	42
Ukraine	35
Jamaica	34
Mexico	34

684 students joined our schools K-12 as of September 2024. Here is the student enrollment per grade.

Grade	Count of FTE
1	53
2	55
3	51
4	37
5	48
6	32
7	41
8	41
9	38
10	42
11	35
12	23
K	188
Grand Total	684

WELCOME CENTRE SETTLEMENT WORKERS IN SCHOOLS (SWIS) IN 2024/2025

The Canadian Federal Government is currently funding:

- **16** Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)
- **1** Welcome Centre Manager
- **1** Welcome Centre Clerk

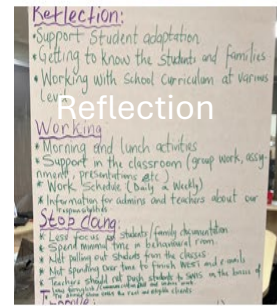
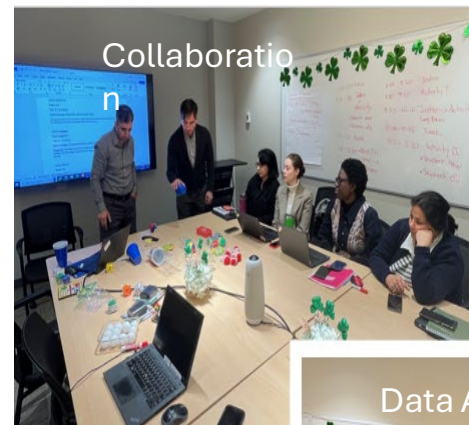
Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



Together We Learn



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

International Education



Further cultural diversity was introduced to local schools through the Central Okanagan Public Schools International Education Program in the 2024/2025 school year:

- **563** students totaling **418** FTE from **30** countries and jurisdictions enrolled in local schools.
- The countries sending the most students to the Central Okanagan by volume were: Germany, Japan, Mexico, Spain, Italy, Brazil, China, France, and Belgium.



EARLY YEARS PARTNERSHIP



Diverse Childcare Options to Serve Families

- 8 StrongStart Centres
- 1 Seamless Day Childcare Program at Bankhead Elementary School
- 14 schools offer Preschool Aged Childcare on school grounds
- 28 after school Childcare programs (have reached up to 78 children/site); 12 before school programs; 10 programs from birth to Kindergarten
- 7 new Childcare Centres - 6 are fully operational; one opening this summer
- Providing over 1900 Childcare spots
- 29 schools providing Childcare on school grounds



THEME FOR 2024/2025



Togetherness

k'w'u c̓ullus

camaraderie



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS TO BE PROUD OF.....



- The Six Year BC Resident **Completion Rate** is **96%** as compared to the provincial average of **91%**.
- The Indigenous Six Year BC Resident **Completion Rate** is **86%** as compared to the provincial average of **76%**.



MUCH TO BE PROUD OF.....



- **Many Fine Arts Performances**

- École OKM Triple Threat Theatre
Hadestown, Teen Edition
- École KSS Night Owl Theatre
The Laramie Project
- Mount Boucherie Theatre Company
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
- École George Elliot Secondary School Theatre
Puffs
- Rutland Senior Secondary Theatre
Tales from the Brothers Grimm



- **Arts**

- Unveiling of Syilx artwork installed in the Board Room
- Art in Action: Interwoven at Kelowna Art Gallery



MUCH TO BE PROUD OF.....



Bursaries/Scholarships

- **Central Okanagan Bursary and Scholarship Society (COBSS)** celebrated 54 years of financially assisting local grads in pursuit of post-secondary education. COBSS distributed **588** awards for a total donation of **\$587,274.59**.
- **+Millions of dollars in University Entrance and other Post-Secondary Scholarships**



MUCH TO BE PROUD OF..... SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



École Okanagan Mission Secondary School
held their 2025 Relay for Life and raised over
\$70,000.



Mount Boucherie Secondary School held
their Walk for Mental Health and raised over
\$15,000.



École Dr. Knox Middle School
held their Bald Falcon Day and
raised **\$33,319.65.**



MUCH TO BE PROUD OF..... SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



- Many schools took part in the **Jump Rope for Heart**.
- **Food and toy drives** took place at many schools prior to the winter break.
- Many schools participated in the **Annual Terry Fox Run** in commemoration of Terry Fox, and his Marathon of Hope, and raised **\$44,780.24** in support of cancer research.
- Over the past ten years, hundreds of thousands of dollars and goods have been donated to worthy causes by the staff and students of Central Okanagan Public Schools.



MUCH TO BE PROUD OF..... PROMOTING PUBLIC EDUCATION

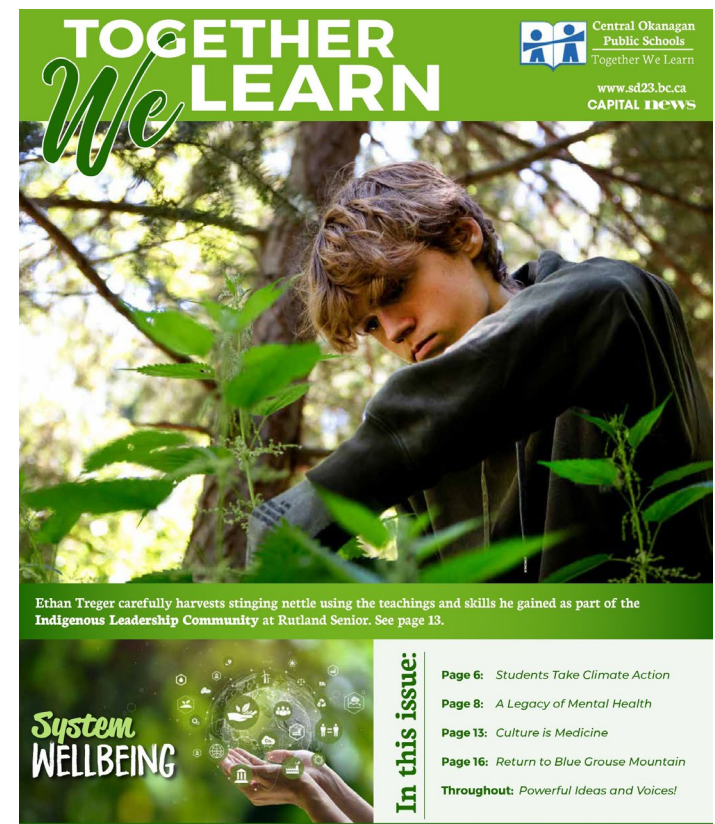


“Together We Learn” was published:

December 2024
Community Engagement



June 2025
System Wellbeing/Togetherness



MUCH TO BE PROUD OF.....



Provincial Championships

- École Kelowna Secondary School Senior Girls Volleyball B Team – First Place Invitational Tier 2 Champions
- École Okanagan Mission Secondary School Senior Girls AAAA Volleyball – Provincial Champions
- École KLO Middle School Grade 9 Girls Volleyball – Provincial Champions
- RSS Rugby – Tier 2 Provincial Champions
- Provincial Track and Field Meet – top male and female athletes

Special Recognition

- RSS e-Sports Team Pacific Regional Champions



SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.....



- Harmony Day; Bullying Awareness (Pink Shirt) Day; World Teachers' Day; National Children's Rights Day; Orange Shirt Day; Take Our Kids to Work Day; Teacher Appreciation Day; International Women's Day; Red Dress Day; Earth Day; and Black Excellence Day
- International Walk to School Day/Week; School Bus Safety Awareness Week; Human Rights Month; Pride Month; Citizenship Week; Canadian Mental Health Week; Education Week; Family Literacy Week; Principals and Vice-Principals Month; Adoption Awareness Month; Foster Family Month, TTOC Appreciation Week; and Truth and Reconciliation Week, Women's History Month
- National Bullying Awareness Week; National Volunteer Week; National Day of Mourning; Indigenous Peoples Day; National Indigenous History Month; National Fire Prevention Week; National Administrative Assistant's Day; National Principals' Month; Inclusive Education Month; National AccessAbility Week; World Mental Health Day; National Food Allergy Awareness Month; Indigenous Veteran's Day; National Day of Awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls; and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.....



- Celebrated the graduations for students from the **Okanagan College Gateway Program, Okanagan College Electrical Program, Central School, eSchool 23** and **all five secondary schools**.
- Heavy Equipment Operator Program Year-End Completion Ceremony



- Individual blanketing ceremonies were held at secondary schools and at Central Programs and Services during the month of June for **Indigenous graduates**.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.....



Time Capsule Openings

École Peter Greer Elementary School



École Kelowna Secondary School



SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.....



The **32nd Annual iGen Challenge Finale** took place at the Innovation Centre where the final eight teams took part in a live pitch session to local entrepreneurs.



The **10th Annual District Sumobot Competition** was held with almost 200 students and 74 robot teams participating.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.....



Expo of Awesome

Over 400 middle school students gathered at UBCO for the revamped Expo of Awesome: Youth Taking Action Towards a Sustainable Future.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.....



Trustees, students and staff participated in the **Kelowna Pride Festival**.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS.....

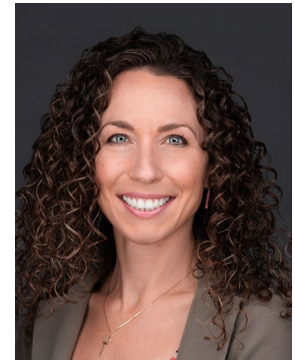


- Continued with “**Inside 23**” at Public Board Meetings to showcase students, staff and programs within the District, some of which included:
 - Student Perspectives (Grade 12 and Kindergarten students)
 - Post Critical Incident Response Team (PCIRT)
 - Story Workshop
 - Connecting and Empowering Schools through OECD Schools+Network – Case Studies in Cognitive Engagement
 - Quigley Summer Reading Program
 - Inclusive Education – Bamfield Marine Science Program for Students who are Blind or Visually Impaired
 - Engaging Learners Through Real-World Problem Solving with ChemCorp – OEC Schools and Network
 - The Courage to be Curious
 - Art Education Enhancement Support
 - Becoming Us: A Year of Agency, Connection and Collective Growth

THE BUSINESS OF THE BOARD.....



- Accepted retirements of the Superintendent of Schools/CEO and Deputy Superintendent of Schools
- Appointed new Superintendent of Schools/CEO
- Board Meetings rescheduled to occur once per month, with exception of September and June
- Combined the Finance and Audit Committee and the Planning and Facilities Committee into one, and renamed as the Finance and Planning Committee
- Participated in school and community-based events
- Participated in 8 School Community Student Learning Conversations
- Met with Partner Groups, Municipal Councils, MLAs and the Westbank First Nation



THE BUSINESS OF THE BOARD.....



- One new Policy was approved, 13 Policies/Regulations/Appendix/Forms were amended, 2 Policies were affirmed, and eight Policies, Regulations, Appendices and Forms were deleted
- Approved 1 Enhancement Agreement
- Approved the 2026/2027 Five-Year Capital Plan Submission
- Approved the 2024/2025 Amended Annual Budget - \$384,094,443
- Approved the 2025/2026 Annual Budget - \$381,087,979
- Approved the Annual Facility Grant (AFG) Plan for 2025/2026 through 2027/2028
- Received the Equity in Action 4th Annual Report
- Received, read and considered 63 letters from the public



THE BUSINESS OF THE BOARD.....



- During Public Meetings, the Board recognized:
 - 1 Trustee for Years of Service
 - 9 students/teams for achievements and awards
 - Approved an adjustment to the catchment boundary in the Smith Creek Road area between Shannon Lake Elementary School and Webber Road Elementary School.
- Advocated for Central Okanagan Public Schools by:
 - BCSTA Motions:
 - Funding Clean BC Goals
 - Increase Annual Facilities Grant to Address Deferred Maintenance
 - Accessible and Affordable Internet Connectivity
 - Custodial Costs
 - Critical Thinking
 - Adequate Funding for Costs in Childcare
 - Teaching Critical Thinking in K-12
 - Presented to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services
 - Virtual meeting with Minister of Education and Child Care, Lise Beare
 - Affirmed the Board of Education Statement on Indigenous Sovereignty
 - Adopted Local School Calendars for the 2026/2027 and 2027/2028 school years

EVENTS TO BE PROUD OF.....



- The **long-service recognition** of 16 employees for 35 years of service, 36 employees for 30 years of service, 63 employees for 20 years of service and 103 for 10 years of service, was acknowledged by providing each employee with a Certificate, chocolates and pin.
- Recognized the contributions of **retired employees**. The District acknowledged the following on their **retirements**:
 - 5 Principals/Vice-Principals
 - 45 teachers
 - 28 support staff
 - 3 exempt staff



CAPITAL PROJECTS.....



- École Hudson Road Elementary Child Care – opening Summer 2025
- Demolition and renovation at Hollywood Road Education Centre with a planned occupancy of Fall 2025
- Chief Tomat Elementary Prefabrication
 - seven new classroom space (175 student seats) to existing school
 - opening September 2025
- École Dr. Knox Middle School Addition (under construction)
 - additional 300 new student seats to existing school
 - opening Fall of 2025
- Webber Road Elementary Prefabrication
 - eight new classroom space (200 student seats) to existing school
 - opening September 2026
- George Pringle Secondary New Construction (under construction)
 - 1,200 student seats
 - opening September 2027
- École Hudson Road Elementary Addition
 - additional 265 seats to existing school
 - opening September 2028



REVENUE GENERATING INITIATIVES.....



Health and Safety

- Our Health and Safety Department managed claims for 31 School Districts in the Province
- Revenue totaling \$539,300.77 is obtained through three sources:
 1. Claims Management Shared Services – net \$142,883
 2. Online Safety Courses – net \$38,000
 3. COR Safety Audit – net \$358,417.77



International Education

- For the 2024/2025 school year, it is anticipated that the International Education Program will collect revenues of \$6.9M with 563 students, coming from 30 countries and jurisdictions.



MANAGING THE VOLUME OF CHANGE WITHIN THE SYSTEM.....



- The **Human Resources Department** processed (as of June 18th):
 - 377 support staff postings
 - 228 teacher postings during the Spring staffing period
 - 82 Senior staff, Principal, Vice-Principal and management changes (retirements, resignations, appointments and reassignments)
 - 165 new Teachers Teaching on Call (TTOC) hired
- During the 2024/2025 school year, the Board concluded the **selection process** for the following senior staff and management positions:
 - Superintendent of Schools/CEO
 - Assistant Superintendent
 - District Principal – Inclusive Education
 - District Principal – International Education
 - District Vice-Principal of Indigenous Education
 - District Vice-Principal of Inclusive Education
 - Principals
 - Vice-Principals
 - Health and Safety Manager – Prevention
 - Finance Manager
 - Executive Assistant - Operations

THANK YOU



**To the Board of Education,
all staff members, partner groups
and the community
for their efforts to support
our students this year.**

Your efforts have been appreciated!