



School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake)

Wildflower School

811 Stanley St, Nelson, BC, V1L 1N8

Telephone: (250) 505-7020 Fax: (250) 505-7007

Academic Success ♦ Creativity and Imagination ♦ Citizenship ♦ Resiliency

March 5, 2018

RE: Re-location of Wildflower programming to main-floor and basement at Central School

Hello Parents of Wildflower.

I am writing to you with good news. **We are pleased to announce the re-location of the existing Wildflower programs from the 3rd floor to the main floor.** Wildflower will maintain the current classroom in the basement. As such, in the 2018-2019 school year the Wildflower programs will occupy the entire main floor along with defined spaces in the basement (including Cheryl's classroom, small resource room, hallway, and learning space(s) under the gymnasium). The learning space will occasionally need to be shared with the Board of Education.

This announcement affords the opportunity to re-think the way in which we structure classes between the two floors (main floor and basement). Roughly the classes, offices and break-out spaces that will need to be re-located are:

- One seedlings class (K/1)
- Four grade 2-6 classes
- Two middle school classes (Gr. 7-9)
- Break-out learning spaces (read by three, group projects, Learning Assistance, Aboriginal Education, maker space etc...)
- Secretary office
- Principal office
- Staff room
- Bathrooms

The current **REACH program** will also re-locate to an alternative basement classroom (and adjacent space) along with an expanded district technology room in the basement.

The current **Distance Education School of the Kootenay's (DESK)** will be re-located to LVR and Hume Elementary.

The third floor will be occupied by the **International Program** and **SD8 School Board Office**. The movement of the school board office to the third floor is to be a temporary measure in the midst of projects outlined in the facilities plan.

Many questions will arise from this announcement along with other questions as we navigate the process and re-location. To ensure communication is constructive and information is as factual as possible please direct



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questions through Sacha Kalabis, Acting Principal of Wildflower School (contact details below). To help us all navigate the next steps of the process and to ensure there is an opportunity for dialogue it will be important to keep in mind the following timeline:

- March 02, 2018 – the Wildflower staff will begin dialogue regarding the potential layout of classrooms on the 2nd floor.
- March 06, 2018 – staff meeting, with continued dialogue regarding potential layout.
- A small committee will be formed at the school level with PAC, staff and admin representation to finalize ideas around possible layout.
- March 12th – parent/staff meeting to present layout ideas and receive further input (time TBA)
- March 14th, 2018 at 3:00 pm - an opportunity for representatives from PAC, staff and the Principal to meet with the Director of Operations, Bruce MacLean, to ask further questions, present draft layout, and talk through logistics.

The above timeline puts a preliminary process in place in which to draft a layout for the main floor, obtain insight into the process, and generate dialogue that will help to inform the project.

This is exciting news and a positive move forward for Wildflower students, parents, and staff. The re-location for Wildflower will undoubtedly entail some challenges, but within each challenge exists the potential to realize something inspiring and transformative. The announcement of the new floor plan along with the addition of a 2nd middle school class defines a significant moment in Wildflowers evolution as a school. A tremendous opportunity exists to be creative in the way we delineate space to best meet the learning and developmental needs of our students.

Sincerely,

Sacha Kalabis
Acting Principal Wildflower School
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cc: Dr. Christine Perkins, Superintendent