

Begbie View Elementary School

2013-2014

Annual Report

Submitted by
Yanping Wang, Principal



Give Me Five Greeting -- photo courtesy of Katrina Durocher, Gr. 6

Begbie View Elementary School Community

Our Vision Statement

Begbie View is a school where everyone works together to be our best. We are committed to creating a community of learning that strives for academic excellence and focuses on:

- honesty and integrity
- creativity
- social, emotional and physical health
- respect
- responsibility
- and thoughtfulness.

The contributions of our community in the education of our students is valued and encouraged in working to develop successful citizens.

Our Motto

Growing Together...Being Our Best



Our School Community

Nestled in the picturesque Revelstoke and surrounded with gorgeous natural beauty, young Begbie View Elementary School is approaching its end of the second year in the state-of-art facility—home of one of the first Neighbourhood Learning Centres in the province. This year, we have been working hard to build a school community with a caring, safe and supportive school culture, develop consistent expectations, foster positive relationships and pro-social behaviours through social and emotional learning.

We have developed shared values and vision statement, completed our Student Code of Conduct and Discipline Plan, implemented Restorative Justice Process, established emergency procedures, and set up an annual award program, just to name a few accomplishments. Our BVE students have been learning and practicing important virtues, forming healthy habits, and caring for our environment and earth. At Begbie View, we have been striving for academic excellence while providing various opportunities for students to reach their potentials academically, athletically, artistically, and socially. As staff, we strongly believe in lifelong learning, teamwork and collaboration.

This year, we have been very fortunate to work closely with Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, Community Connections, Canadian Avalanche Centre, Okanagan Regional Library,

Wildsight Educational, the Farm to Table Programs, RCMP Liaison Officer, Fire Department, to offer a wide variety of learning opportunities for our children. We greatly appreciate and value the contributions of parents, families and community partners in the education of our children as it takes the



whole community to raise a child.

Our Students

Our students are at the centre of Begbie View Elementary School community. They are the reason for the existence of BVE, and the purpose of our daily work is to prepare them for the future and life. We have 252 students currently enrolled at Begbie View. We have been enjoying learning, laughing and living together each and everyday while overcoming challenges and difficulties. We are very proud of our students' achievement and growth as they are trying their best to be respectful, responsible and thoughtful citizens.



Kindergarten 1: 16 students
Grade One: 19 students
Grade Two: 21 students
Grade Three B: 17 students
Grade Five: 24 students
Grade Six/Seven: 25 students

Kindergarten 2: 16 students
Grade One/Two: 19 students
Grade Three A: 18 students
Grade Four: 26 students
Grade Five/Six: 25 students
Grade Seven: 26 students



Our Staff

The BVE staff is committed to working for the best interests of our students. Each of us has brought different strengths, talents and expertise. Together we have been creating a unique and synergetic team that support and collaborate with each other to make Begbie View Elementary School a great place for all.

Classroom Teachers

Mrs. Catherine Lavelle	Grade 7
Mr. Josh Brown	Grade 6/7
Ms. Sarah Newton	Grade 5/6
Mr. Laurie Henshaw	Grade 5
Mr. Bob Rogers/Ms. Dannielle Douglas	Grade 4
Ms. Kim Floyd	Grade 3 A
Ms. Andrea Rollheiser	Grade 3 B
Ms. Megan Bouvette	Grade 2
Ms. Ashley Dollar	Grade 1/2
Ms. Colleen Wall	Grade 1
Mrs. Linda Dickson	Kindergarten 1
Mrs. Sonia Gagne-Maitre	Kindergarten 2

Support Teachers

Mrs. Pam Mair	Learning Support
Mr. Rory Luxmoore	Learning Support
Mrs. Eleanor Wilson	Teacher Librarian/Gifted
Mr. Bob Rogers	Band
Ms. Dannielle Douglas	Prep Teacher
Ms. Kendra Von Bremen	Prep Teacher

Support Staff

Ms. Laura Dyer
Mrs. Yvette Astra
Mrs. Amanda Adam
Mrs. Kim Cottingham
Mrs. Shannon Litke
Ms. Celes Lucius
Mrs. Gail Olsson
Mrs. Karin O'Neill
Mrs. Anne Woodhurst
Mrs. Naomi Spataro
Ms. Angela Inglis
Ms. Naoko Swift

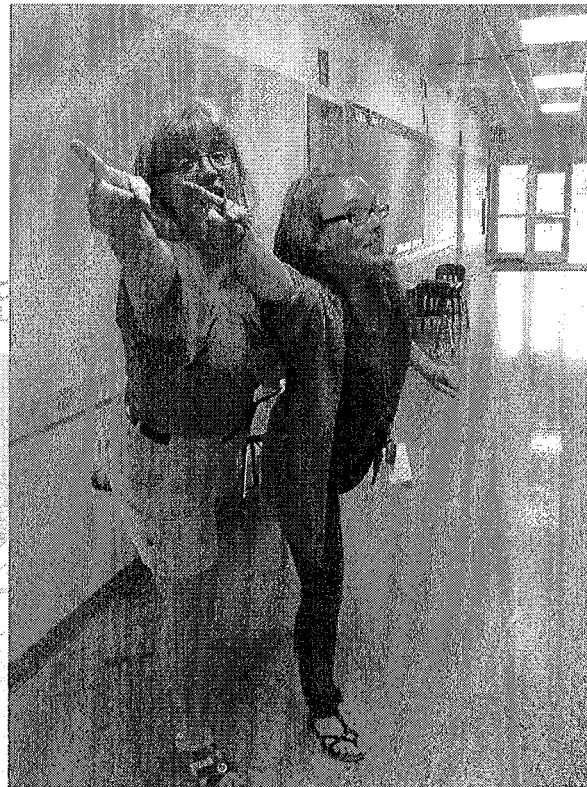
Secretary

Library Clerk
Educational Assistant/St. Supervision
Educational Assistant
Educational Assistant
Educational Assistant/St. Supervision
Educational Assistant
Educational Assistant/St. Supervision
Educational Assistant
Educational Assistant
StrongStart Coord. (Sept. - April)
StrongStart Coord. (April -)

Custodian in Charge

Custodian

Custodian



Mrs. Ruth Levesque

Mr. Gord Cancelliere

Ms. Charlene Buffett

Ms. Yanping Wang

Principal

District Staff:

Mrs. Lisa Moore	Aboriginal St. Assistant
Andrew Sykes	School Psychologist
Sean Borthwick	Elem. Counsellor/Behaviour Specialist
Vivian Binnington	Speech/Language Pathologist



Our Parents

Begbie View has been blessed with supportive and involved parents who work as educational partners with the school to help our children reach their potentials. They send students to school prepared for learning, provide healthy food, good sleep, and routine at home, support children in their homework and projects, promote healthy living by enrolling students in a wide variety of after school programs and/or participating in physical activities, instill morals and virtues for children's character development, and work together with the school to hold high expectations at school, at home and in the community.

They have volunteered and involved in many ways at BVE:

- ✓ Assisting school events and class activities
- ✓ Participating in D.E.A.R.
- ✓ Judging for Science Fairs
- ✓ Attending PALS, POPS, or RSL
- ✓ Attending Assemblies and Home Conferences
- ✓ Baking/Cooking for/with children
- ✓ Pumpkin carving
- ✓ Helping with crafts, and bingo/games
- ✓ Coaching sport teams
- ✓ Chaperoning for field trips and overnight camping
- ✓ Driving for sport events
- ✓ Offering free field trips to their dental office
- ✓ Volunteering on AR Stores, Book Fair, sports day



Parent Advisory Council

We are fortunate to have a dedicated PAC group that play an active and valuable role in making the new Begbie View Elementary School a great place to learn and grow.

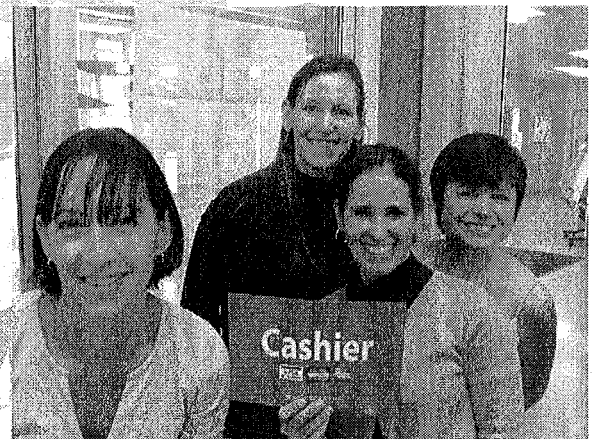
Our Parent Advisory Executive for 2013-2014 are:

- Bex Reid Parkin Chair/ Treasurer
- Krista Cadieux Vice chair
- Lucie Bergeron Secretary
- Kelli Redmond Co-treasurer and DPAC Rep
- Mary Webber Director

- Bex Reid Parkin School Planning Council Rep
- Angie McLeod Director - School Planning Council Rep
- Alex Farrugia School Planning Council Rep

2013-2014 PAC Sponsored Activities:

- ✓ Traffic Safety
- ✓ Sponsoring and Running AR Stores
- ✓ Organizing and Running Book Fair
- ✓ Sponsoring and Helping with Healthy Habits
- ✓ Supporting Terry Fox Run
- ✓ Sponsoring Field Trips
- ✓ Classroom Material/Student Incentives Purchase
- ✓ Running or Sponsoring Hot Lunches
- ✓ Sponsoring Garden Club
- ✓ Helping with Gr. 7 Hoodie and Year End Event
- ✓ Sports Day Concession
- ✓ Fundraising Events
- ✓ Annual Yearbook



Ordering

Our School Growth Plan Goal

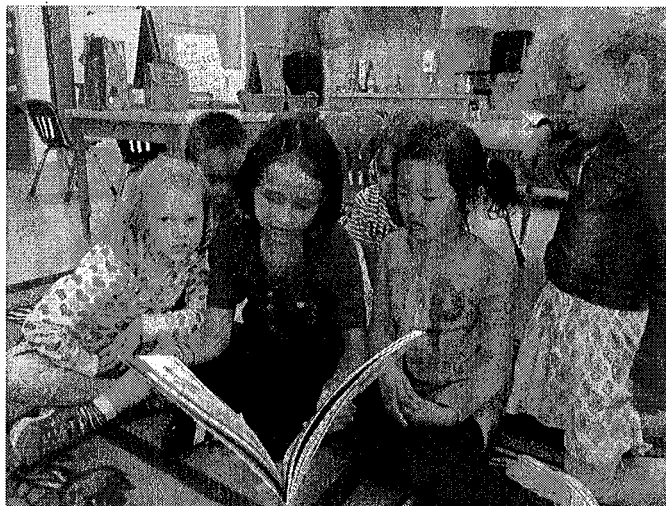
As a new school in its second year, we have focused our efforts on community building. Following is our goal for 2013-2014 and highlights on some of our initiatives:

We will be promoting a school community with high and consistent expectations, fostering positive relationships and pro-social behaviours.



Our 2013-2014 Objectives are:

- Develop a shared vision, mission statement based on our shared values
- Create a safe, connected, and supportive school community where learning is valued.



Developing Shared Values/Vision

At Begbie View, we are building a new learning community where everyone is a life long learner, including students, staff and parents. Researchers offer remarkable conclusions about the best path for a cohesive school community as well as sustained organizational improvement: "There is no more powerful engine driving an organization toward excellence and long-range success than an attractive, worthwhile, and achievable vision of the future, widely shared" (Nanus, 1992, p. 3).



After the opening of the brand new Begbie View Elementary, our staff, students, and parents have been working very hard as a team to create our new identity. Before Christmas 2013, we started the process to develop our shared vision. A vision committee was formed to lead the process, starting with work on developing our shared values. All the

staff members, Student Leadership Council, PAC and parents were involved in the whole process. Newsletter and parent surveys were sent home. Parents also participated directly in the Parent Advisory Council meeting to select top shared values.

Our Vision Committee then collected the results, drafted our shared vision statement based on parent input, key elements generated by student leadership council, and top shared values evolved from staff's active participation. The draft vision statement was presented at the staff meeting and the PAC meeting for further discussion. The revised version was then published in April's Newsletter for parents' feedback and input before we finalized it in May's Newsletter. It has been reported at the beginning of this report.

Developing Healthy Habits

A Teacher Initiative

to Enhance Social and Emotional Learning & School Connectedness

Healthy Habits is a program designed to inform and encourage the B.V.E. community to practice Healthy Habits that will enable our students to become more focused and mindful learners and generally happier and healthier citizens. This is the "grass roots" development of a bi-monthly/monthly whole school hour of instruction and activities about Healthy Habits initiated by

our B.V.E. teachers for our students. Led by Ms. Wall, a group of teachers formed a committee to meet a few times during the year to discuss the format and themes of the lessons. The Healthy Habits have been focused on Environment Appreciation (being mindful via social and emotional learning), Nutrition (Food Groups; nutritional value; and know what food does to our body), Healthy Snacks, and Physical Activities and Rest (balance).



The teachers have been working in partners to develop lesson plans on these themes for their colleagues to follow. The lesson plans come with supply list, materials needed for teachers and parent handouts for students to take home. For healthy snacks, each lesson included the sampling of a snack that was chosen with consideration of: nutritional and tasty ingredients; amount of packaging that come with the ingredients; cost; and ease of which the snack could be made independently by children. The recipes were sent home after each session of making and eating sample snacks so that children could make these healthy snacks at home.

All our students were organized in multi age family groups with our Gr. 6 and 7 students as leaders. The student leaders have been assisting the family group teachers with each of the Healthy Habits sessions. They met with Ms. Wall on Tuesday of the Healthy Habits week, receiving training on how to assist the teachers in each session, and preparing the lesson supplies. Then during the session, these student leaders acted as teaching assistants to the family group teachers in hands on activities.

The parent volunteers have also been playing a very important role in our Healthy Habits sessions. They supported teachers in implementing lesson plans with family groups for them to participate in



Healthy Habit activities, preparing healthy snacks, and displaying the work that the children have done so that our whole school community can see what we have been learning.

Our PAC provided the support to our Healthy Snacks session by supplying all the ingredients. Healthy Habits have enhanced school connectedness.



Action Schools BC at BVE

As the current research shows, exercise boosts brain power and improves cognition (Medina, J. 2008). For our students to be healthy and engaging learners, daily physical activities are crucial. In addition to our own grass root Healthy Habits program, our school also registered with Action Schools BC in order to receive professional training, resources and extend daily physical activities to Student Leadership training and Healthy Eating.

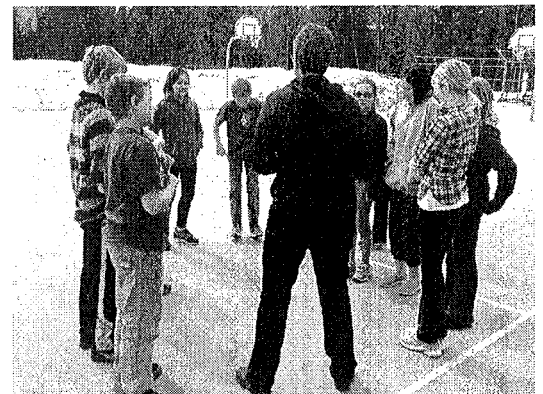
Mrs. Von Bremen took the lead in coordinating our Action Schools BC program. After



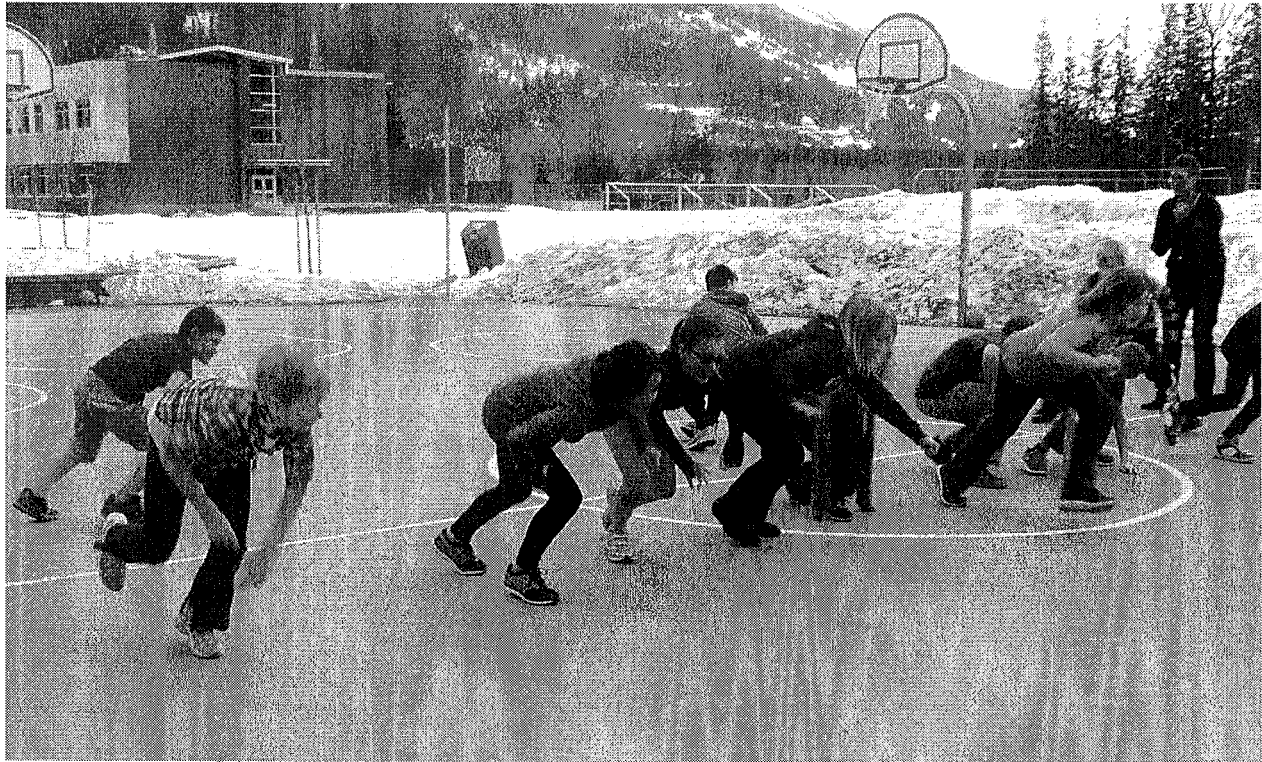
registering BVE with Action Schools, she booked an Action Schools trainer for a day to mentor teachers for classroom DPA (Daily Physical Activities). On March 3rd, eight teachers signed up with the trainer to work together with their classes on Brain Dance, Brain Build & Yoga, Brain Build & Juggling, and Strength & Conditioning circuit and Chair Aerobics. They also received

Action Schools resource bins for each to use in their classrooms. Our teachers now have more ideas and resources on how to run DPA outdoor and indoor and to insert brain breaks during the day to energize our learners and keep them engaged in learning.

Based on the positive feedback, we expanded our Action Schools program to involve Student Leadership Training on outdoor physical activity and Healthy Eating Workshop for the staff on April 9th. Two teachers participated in the student leadership training as teacher sponsors when 14 students had the opportunity to be trained how to run a variety of outdoor games at recess and lunch. Meanwhile, we were awarded resources for the student leaders to run the outdoor games. Now, our student leaders take turns to lead outdoor games for younger students, such as



tag games, four squares, hopscotch, Chinese Jumping Rope, sticks, etc. When on duty, our student leaders are wearing yellow t-shirt with action schools logo on them. They often attract a large group of students wanting to try different games at recess and lunch.



Our whole teaching staff participated in Healthy Eating Workshop on the same day after school. The training we received reinforced the principles in our Healthy Habits and added more valuable readymade resources and lesson plans for teachers to use with our students. The workshop was very informative, interesting and very well received. Our teachers were very excited, walking away with some new knowledge and free bins of resources to be implemented in classrooms.

Building on best practices and existing resources within the school community, we have created a school action plan to promote healthy living while increasing academic achievement and supporting a positive and healthy school culture for our children.

Building a School Garden

Aligning with the theme of healthy habits and community building, we started a school garden project. The Garden Club was established for our students, following the successful application by Mr. Brown for \$1000 grant from BC Hydro to build a school garden. A group of enthusiastic teachers, parents and community members came together and formed a Garden Committee. They received \$1000 matching grant from the BVE PAC and another \$1000 from Credit Union for the school garden. They developed a detailed plan in terms of the location, lumber, irrigation, soil, fertilizer, tools, and the Garden Club.



A group of primary and intermediate students joined the Garden Club sponsored by three teachers, Mr. Brown, Miss Bouvette and Miss Dollar. In April, they began meeting every Thursday during lunch, participating in different activities from natural walk, collecting twigs and logs to build a bughouse, planning seeds and growing the garden.

Thanks to the generosity from the local businesses, lumber, soil and other supplies were all donated. Our volunteering staff members, parents and community members worked hard before and after school to build two garden beds by the path between BVE and RSS. Pretty soon, we will see some flowers and vegetables growing in our new garden. This garden project has brought people together, providing great learning opportunities for our students to have hands-on experiences, pride of hard working, and enjoyment of sharing/consuming their own products.



More Programs and Opportunities to Foster the Building of Our School Community

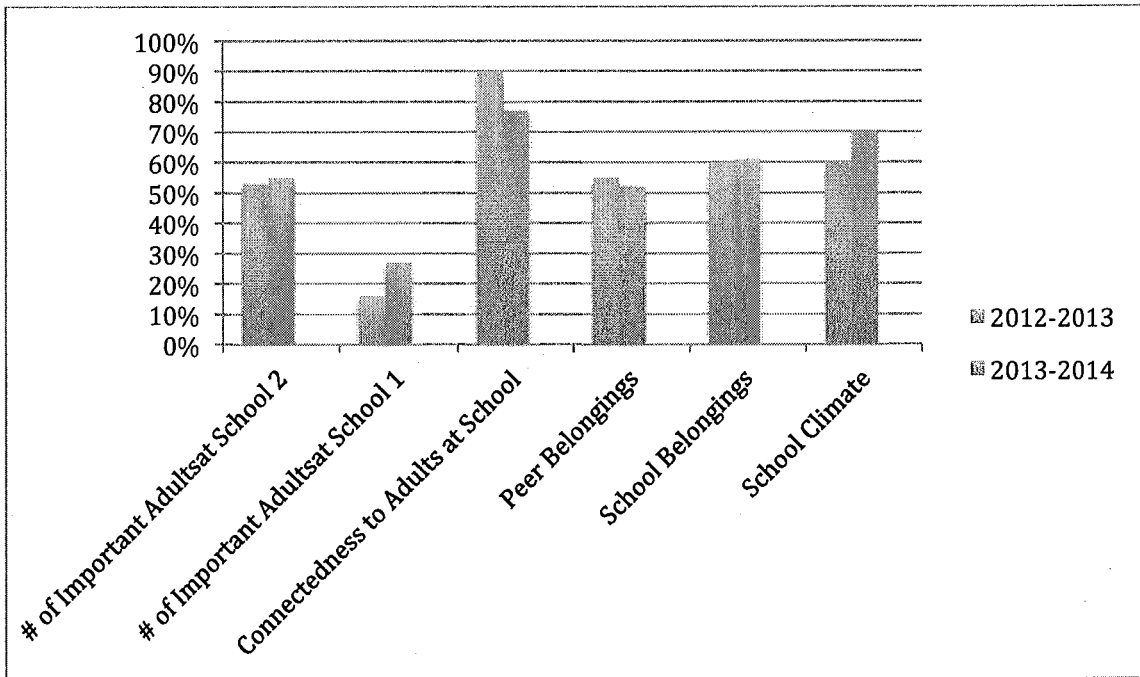
Our dedicated Begbie View team has been work diligently and creatively to offer a wide variety of opportunities to enrich our students' school life and enhance their sense of belonging, in partnership with our parents and other community agencies. The following are some of the activities, events, clubs and programs offered this year:

- 
- Student Leadership Council
 - Morning Announcers
 - Assembly MC Leaders
 - Lunch Monitors
 - Bike Wanderers
 - Assembly Set Up Crew
 - Tech Support Crew
 - Student Photographers
 - Litter Pick Up
 - Student Newsletter
 - Students' Contributions to School Newsletter
 - Playground Games Led by Student Leaders
 - Christmas Concert
 - Gr. 6/7 Band Concerts
 - Assembly Presentations
 - Halloween Costume Parade/Centers
 - Remembrance Day Ceremony
 - Christmas Concert
 - Buddy Reading/Programs
 - PALS, POPS, R.S.L.
 - D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read)
 - Scholastic Book Fair
 - Book Drive
 - Accelerated Reader
 - One to One Reading
 - Athletics
 - RAZ Kids
 - Fast ForWord
 - Spelling Bee
 - Battle of the Books
 - Caribou Math Contests
 - Science Fairs
 - Photo Exhibition Show
 - Talent Show
 - Salmon in the Classroom
 - Kokanee Fish festival
 - Butterfly/Chick Hatching
 - Roots of Empathy
 - Gr. 6/7 & Gr. 7 Mt. MacPherson Camp Outs
 - Running Club
 - Cross Country Running
 - Volleyball Teams
 - Basketball Teams
 - Badminton
 - Winter Olympics at BVE
 - Track and Field
 - Sports Day
 - Special Sports Program for All Grades
 - Action Schools BC
 - Gr. 7 Camp
 - BEST ticket for positive behaviours
 - Student of the Week Recognition
 - Weekly Assemblies
 - Annual Awards Program
 - Birthday Celebrations
 - Recycling Programs
 - Energy Champions Presentation
 - Monthly Themes
 - School Spirit Days
 - Chess/Games Club
 - House Teams
 - Intermural House Games
 - Aboriginal Programs
 - Cartooning Club
 - Choir Club
 - Anti-Bullying Pink Day
 - Earth Day Celebration
 - Terry Fox Run (\$4560 raised)
 - Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart (over \$4000 raised)
 - Food Bank Drive
 - Random Acts of Kindness Week

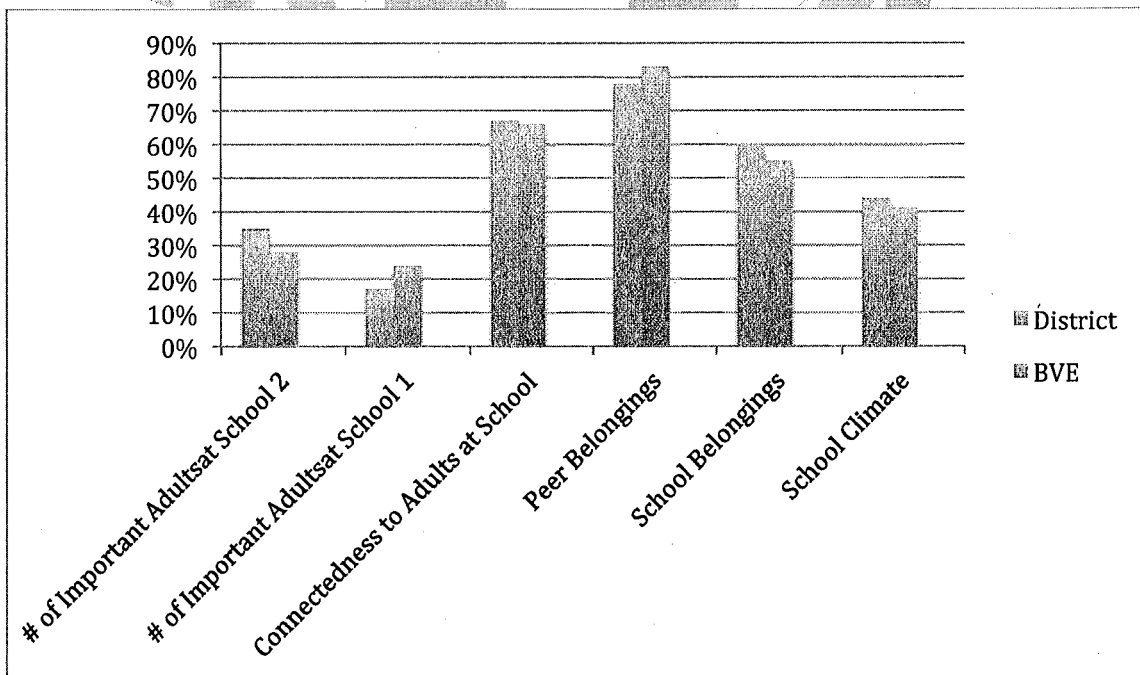
What Our Data Indicate

Levels of School Connectedness

MDI Gr. 4 Results

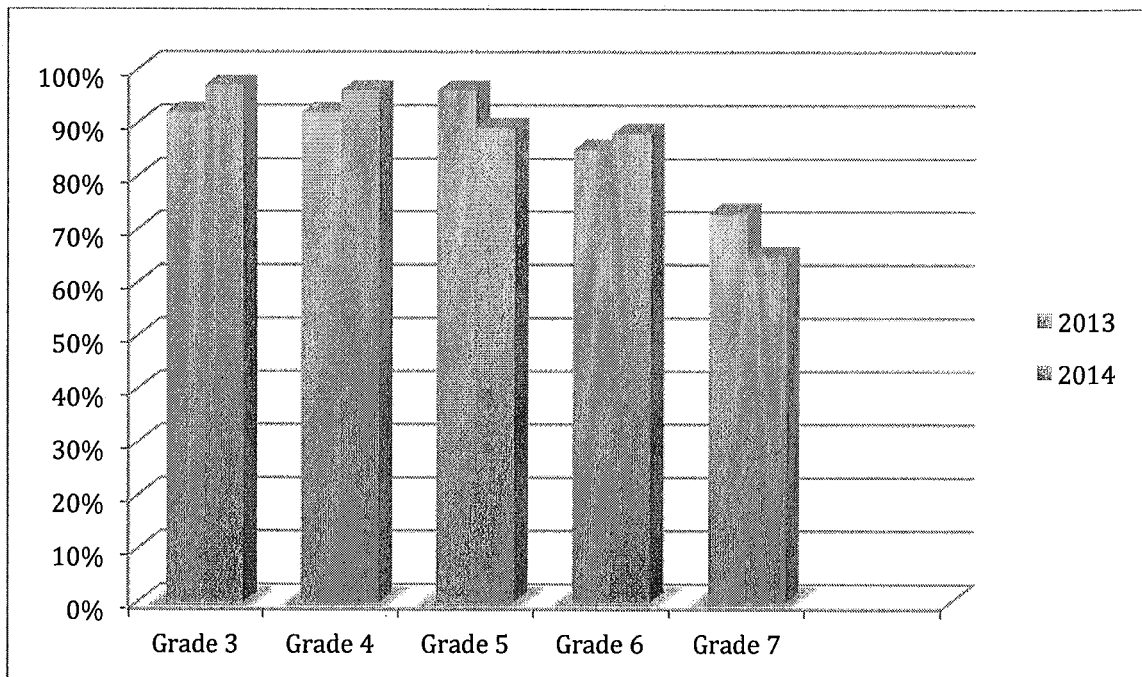


MDI Gr. 7 Results



The MDI (Nov. 2013) results for Gr. 4s showed an increase in 2013 comparing to 2012 in their perception of the school climate and number of adults important to them at school, but a decrease in their connectedness to adults at school. The MDI results for Gr. 7s were compared to the district results as this was the first year that Gr. 7s participated. Our Gr. 7s had a stronger sense of peer belongings than the overall grade 7s in the district but lower in their perceptions of the school climate and school belongs.

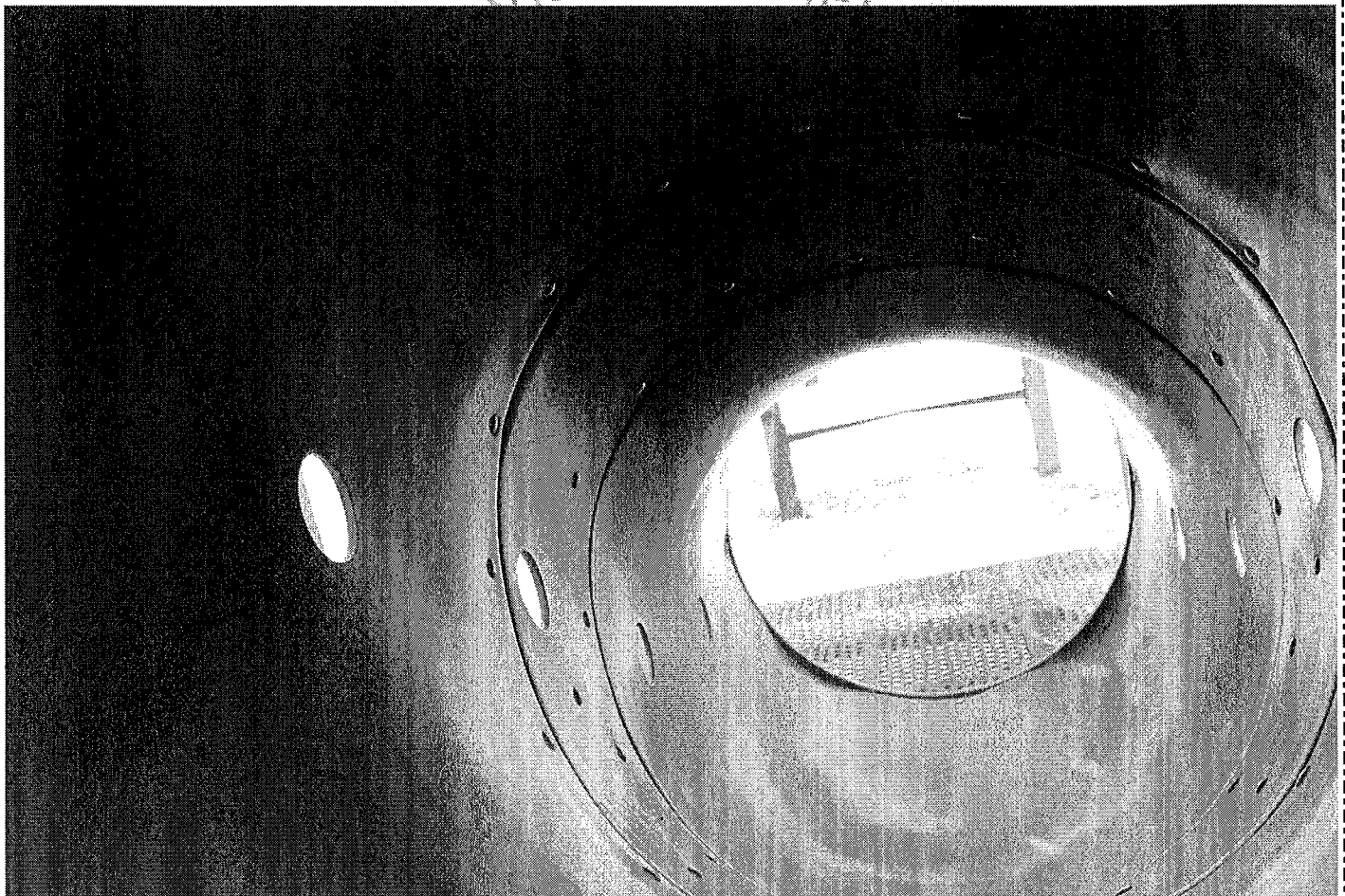
Students Report 2 or More Adults Care About Them at School



The Ministry Student Satisfaction Survey, completed in April, 2014, showed some different results from MDI for the same cohort of the Gr. 4 students. They reported a higher percentage (96%) of 2 or more adults caring about them at school. That may be the result of spending more time at school and feeling more connected to adults. The results show the improvement for three grade groups but a decrease in Gr. 5 (96% - 89%) and Gr. 7 (73% - 65%). All these results, positive or otherwise, will certainly generate some very meaningful discussions among our school community and provide us with the focus area for improvement.

Conclusion

Building a new Begbie View School Community with a positive, healthy, and respectful culture is a challenging yet most rewarding experience that requires collective commitment, dedication, and creativity from the whole community, including the staff, parents and students. We have achieved many successes and will continue working hard towards our vision. We are determined to overcome any hurdles to reach our goals and to be innovative in developing creative, capable lifelong learners as well as respectful and responsible citizens.



Slide into Happiness—photo courtesy of Sophia Humphreys & Hannah Winger, Gr. 6