



WV Aboriginal Education Committee
School Plans – 2014/2015

School: West Bay Elementary

School FN Committee/Contact Person(s):

- Laine Anderson
- Judy Duncan
- Jessica Eguia
- Brooke Moore

FN Resource Contact Person(s):

- Judy Duncan

FN Education Projects/Programs Planned for 2014/2015:

- Bob Baker will work with Grade One classes to teach them a dance; this complements the unit on “How We Express Ourselves”; this dance will be performed in January, 2015
- Principal will work with Grade One classes to explain the message uttered at the beginning of gatherings and assemblies which acknowledges we are on the traditional lands of the Squamish Nation; teachers will help students learn the message which will be read by them at the beginning of their dance performance
- Grade 4 teachers hope that Sahplek will once again work with their classes in November to discuss elder stories, roles and responsibilities, and life in the community
- Grade 4 classes are planning a field trip to the Hiwus Feasthouse at Grouse Mountain in December
- Grade 4 students will be working with an artist-in-residence on the tools and techniques used in First Peoples’ art (past and

present); they will be participating in a drum-making workshop with Tsawaysia Spukwus

- Grade 4 students, in their unit on “Where We Are in Place and Time”, will study how First Peoples’ culture has had an impact (ie., students will find authentic evidence of First Peoples culture in the community – signage, welcoming figure at Ambleside); students will study the impact of residential schools and the importance of reconciliation
- Ministry websites, together with support from Sahplek, will be used to discover original names of BC communities (Grade 4)
- Grade 5s will seek support from Faye Halls to enhance unit on government
- Gr. 6/7s will work with Kindergarten students using Inter-generational teaching model (Innovation Grant approved by District will help facilitate this initiative)
- Grade 6/7 classes will be learning about trade and power as it relates to Aboriginal, Inuit and Metis perspectives
- Outdoor Education: grade 6/7 classes plan to incorporate some Ab Ed into their new Outdoor Education plans
- Remembrance Day Service – quotes from Mike Mountainhorse and Edith Anderson Montury are included in the service script
- Canadian Aboriginal Books for Schools will be purchased for our new Learning Commons and to supplement units of inquiry
- Bob Baker (Sahplek) will be invited to the opening of our new Learning Commons to say a few words and to embed the First Peoples Principles of Learning into his message

Community Partnerships:

- Artist in residence will provide a drum-making workshop for our Grade Four students

- We will connect with Britannia Elementary School/Westview School to provide families in need with food hampers/vouchers or other identified items
- We will continue to support Backpack Buddies to supply food for vulnerable youth

Activities, events, speakers, presentations, projects etc. that have occurred at your location over the past two years:

- As Xwalacktun completed a wolf carving for our front entranceway in the spring of 2013, we had a Blessing Ceremony November 18th, 2013; Bob Baker worked with the school to prepare for this event. This included practising with our Grade 4 students to be dancers and with our Grade 6/7 students to be singers. The Eagle Song Dancers performed.
- Sahplek (Bob Baker) worked with our Grade One classes on storytelling
- Sahplek shared stories with our Grade 4 classes in connection with their unit of inquiry on mythology on March 10, 2014
- Sahplek provided resources on legends to our Grade Fours
- Artist in residence Christine McKenzie worked with our Grade 4 classes on a group art project connected with the First Nations; this enhanced their unit of inquiry on how cultures interact with their environment
- Faye Halls worked with our Grade 5 students on self-government
- Classes used carved 'talking stick' and circle structure for class meetings
- At parent and student gatherings, we acknowledge and recognize that we are on First Peoples' territory
- Grade Threes - Bob shared celestial resources to enhance unit of study on navigation

- Graphic novels and DVDs - “Raven Tales” were purchased; these helped Grade Four students understand the importance of traditions

District Support accessed last year

- Bob Baker (Sahplek) worked with several classes
- Faye Halls provided support in our Grade Five classes
- Bob Baker and Lynne Tomlinson worked with West Bay’s Committee to prepare for Blessing Ceremony
- Xwalacktun, recognized at the Blessing Ceremony, was on hand the morning following the ceremony when the primary classes went outside to view the carving in its place

Resources needed for this year:

- Bob Baker to provide support for our Grade 1 and 4 classes
- Faye Halls to connect with the Grade 5 classes on their unit on government structures, roles and responsibilities
- District money will fund artist-in-residence for our Grade Fours - drum-making
- District money will help purchase resources from “Canadian Aboriginal Books for Schools” catalogues; these will be for our new Learning Commons and to enhance units of inquiry
- District Innovation Grant money has been allocated to support work being done with Grade 6/7s and K students using the intergenerational model