



Volume 2025/26-8

Decker Lake Elementary School

April 2026

Principal: Ms. Eleanor Giesbrecht

Admin. Assistant: Mrs. Heather Paulson

Office Hours: 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM & 1:15 PM to 3 PM

Phone: 250-698-7301 Fax: 250-698-7349

Principal's Message

Dear Husky Families,

Welcome Back and Happy Spring!

Huskies have settled nicely back into their daily routines and seem happy to be back at school. Although most of our snow has melted, our children are still enjoying their playtime outside. It is wonderful to see active play and hear laughter spreading across the playground during break times.

Huskies attended the movie *Hopper* today at the local theatre. We used our fundraising money from the Sausage Factory orders to help pay for this fun field trip. Thank you to Mrs. Brenda Payne for organizing. Everyone enjoyed the movie and the popcorn.

Our school will be hosting a *Welcome to Kindergarten* event on Wednesday, May 20th in our school library from 1 – 2 PM. This event is for children in our catchment area who will be attending kindergarten in the fall of 2026. Please phone our school office to register your child for the event.

If you are planning to move away from the Decker Lake area and your children will not be attending our school next year, please let us know in the office as soon as possible.

Wishing all of you a wonderful month ahead and a very happy Easter weekend.

With much gratitude,

Ms. Giesbrecht

Principal - DLES

DLES Shares with Parents...

Mark your Calendar

April

- 1 Whole School Field Trip to Beacon Theatre!!
- 2 Hot lunch
- 3 **Good Friday—No School**
- 6 **Easter Monday—No School**
- 13 PAC Meeting @ 6 - 7pm
- 20 Norman Foote (entertainer)
- 24 **Zone Pro-D—No School**
- 25 Ms. Vivian's Service – Topley
- 30 Anything But a Backpack Day

May

- 5 Wear **Red** Day to Honour **Red** Dress Day
- 8 **District Pro-D—No School**
- 18 **Victoria Day—No School**
- 20 Welcome to Kindergarten Event
- 22 Jump Rope for Heart
- 29 Book Character Day



No School

**Good Friday,
April 3, 2026**

No School

**Easter Monday,
April 6, 2026**

No School

**Monday,
April 24, 2026
Zone Pro-D Day**

Welcome to Kindergarten Event

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

1 pm—2pm

Our school will be hosting a *Welcome to Kindergarten* event on Wednesday, May 20th in our school library. This event is for children in our catchment area who will be attending kindergarten in the fall of 2026. Please phone our school office @ 250-698-7301 to register your child.



Visiting DLES Reminder

When visiting our school, please remember that all doors are locked except for the front door. Please sign in and out at the office. Please do not go to classrooms without checking in at the office first!



DLES WINS GOLD!!

Congratulation to our Basketball team who won GOLD at the district basketball tournament. Thank you, Ms. Lee and Mr. Currie, for coaching our team and to Mrs. Benoit who accompanied the team to the tournament at LDSS. Go Huskies!



Grade 4 – 7 Student Learning Survey

If you have a child in grade 4 or 7 at DLES, please access and complete this survey @ www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm. We encourage parents/guardians to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus on improvement.

Student Learning Survey 2025/2026

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in 2026 the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 & 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>. Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be open until May 1, 2026.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 250-698-7301

Practicum Students

Welcome to **Erin Alec and Teresa Williams**. Both Ms. Alec and Ms. Williams are UBC students who are in their final teaching practicum here at DLES. They will be with us until mid-June as they complete their certification. Ms. Alec will be working in the grade 2/3 classroom with Ms. Giesbrecht and Mrs. Watts. Ms. Williams will be working in the grade 6/7 classroom with Mrs. Benoit.

Welcome to DLES!



Ms. Erin Alec



Ms. Teresa Williams

A Big THANK



YOU!!!



Thank you to **Lillian Reed and her helpers** who come each week to make and serve hot lunch to our Huskies. We appreciate you!

PAC Post...

Our PAC Executive Members

Co-Chairs:

Shawna Abietkoff

shawna.abietkoff@gmail.com

Nikki Shumka

cjoyce@hotmail.com

Co-Secretaries:

Lillian Reed

lillian.bransfield@live.ca

Jenelle West

jenellewest8@hotmail.com

Co-Treasurers:

Shannon Gibson

Shannon-andnate0805@gmail.com

Shelly Way

shell16@hotmail.com

Communications Director:

Laina Helgesen

lcurrie025@gmail.com

DPAC Rep:

Robert Currie



Instagram

Decker Lake Elementary
is on Instagram!!!

Our new Instagram account is:

dles_huskies

Our Instagram account is
private.

Followers will need to be
given access to join.

facebook

DLES PAC would love
for you to look us up &
join us on Facebook!

**"Decker Lake
Elementary School
Parent Group"**



PAC Meeting

Please join us for our next
PAC meeting!!

Monday,

April 13, 2026

6:00 pm— 7:00 pm

In the DLES Library

ONLINE GAMING



FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS



THE WHITE HATTER

Our programs are designed to empower parents and caregivers with the knowledge and tools needed to help keep their children safer online. It covers key aspects of digital literacy, including understanding popular apps and platforms, recognizing online risks like cyberbullying and exploitation, setting healthy digital boundaries, and promoting responsible technology use.

Wednesday, March 4
6:30PM - 8:30PM

ATTEND VIRTUAL LIVE PRESENTATION

Link : <https://app.sli.do/event/1pfl0VmoKTNrFfoTSegRQe>
Password: 7701

SAVE THE DATE

- March 12: Monitoring, Filtering & Online Tools
- March 19 : Supporting Youth Being Targeted by Cyberbullying/Online Aggression
- April 8 : Online Toxicity
- April 15 : Sexting, Nudes, Intimate Images & The Law



SPONSORED BY:



RioTinto

FOR MORE INFO : WWW.THEWHITEHATTER.CA



PROUD TO BE MCLEOD PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS: OUR 17TH ANNUAL PRODUCTION



MADAGASCAR A MUSICAL ADVENTURE JR. 2026

SHOWTIMES

THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD - 7 P.M.
FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH - 7 P.M.
SATURDAY APRIL 25TH - 1 P.M.
SATURDAY APRIL 25TH - 7 P.M.

TICKETS

\$5 EACH OR \$20 FOR A FAMILY OF 4 OR MORE.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT:
WALLACE STUDIOS, QUILTER'S CORNER, W.L. MCLEOD OFFICE & AT THE DOOR.

PLEASE PURCHASE THE FAMILY OF 4 OR MORE AT THE MCLEOD OFFICE

CASH ONLY AT ALL LOCATIONS PLEASE

Madagascar - A Musical Adventure Jr. is presented through special arrangement with and all referenced materials are supplied by Mosaic Theatre International, New York, NY (212) 224-2284 (madagascarjr.com)

LITERACY SUPPORT



At Burns Lake Public Library

PILOT PROGRAM

Support for children and adults in reading, writing, schoolwork, paperwork and applications



Ellie Jones

- Community Literacy Outreach Coordinator
- Certified Level 1 Orton-Gillingham Structured Literacy Tutor (Learning Differences Centre of BC)

Cost: Free

LEARN MORE & BOOK A TIME

- 250-251-7424
- LOC@LakesLiteracy.ca
- LakesLiteracy.ca

Out-of-Catchment Applications

Will be accepted

March 9– May 15, 2026

If your child has already been approved in the past for out-of-catchment with DLES, that student is already approved and you will not need to submit again.



School Board Meeting

Monday, April 20, 2026
6:30 pm

Virtual Meeting
via MS Teams

Important Public Attendance Notice:

Members of the public are invited to attend Regular Meetings of the Board of Education.

Due to limited space and seating availability, please request your seat in advance if you wish to attend in person.

Alternatively, members of the public may attend this meeting virtually through Microsoft Teams. To take advantage of this online attendance option, please visit www.sd91.bc.ca/meeting-information for the Teams link.

To view the meeting agenda, please visit www.sd91.bc.ca/board-agendas-and-minutes.

Contact:
Heather Silver
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
250-567-2284 ext. 9003
hsilver@sd91.bc.ca



Board Biz...



Superintendent's Report to the Board

Superintendent Anita McClinton presented her [Monthly Report](#) at the Regular School Board Meeting on Monday, March 30, 2026.

You may find it under the Latest News heading at www.sd91.bc.ca or on our [Board of Education Updates](#) page.



Proposed School Calendar

We are currently collecting public feedback regarding the DRAFT 2028-29 school calendar.

Your feedback will be accepted via email to calendarfeedback@sd91.bc.ca until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 22, 2026. Check out the 'Calendars - Yearly' page at www.sd91.bc.ca/school-calendar to view the proposed calendars.



Proposed Policy Update

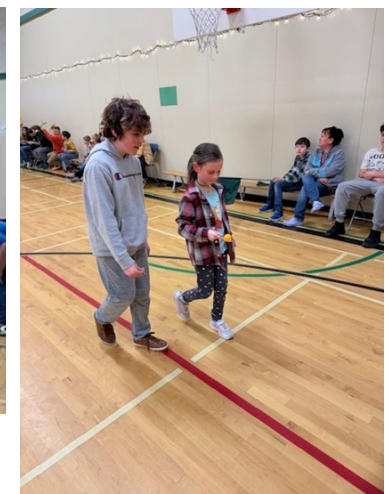
The following draft policy is currently open for public feedback until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2026.

[Policy 101.1.1 - Trustee Elections - Bylaw](#)

Members of the public are welcome to review all the information, including how to provide feedback, on the [SD91 Policies and Regulations webpage](#).

Quiet Indoor Sports Meet

We gathered in our team colours on the Friday before Spring Break and competed in relays to win points for our teams. The **Blue Team** came in **first place** with 110 points. The **Green Team** came in **second** with 100 points. The **Yellow Team** came in **third** with 92 points and the **Red Team** came in **fourth** with 89 points.





Easter Surprise!

Easter eggs,
Yellow and blue.
Easter eggs
For me and you.

Easter eggs,
Candy sweet.
Easter eggs
Are good to eat.

Easter eggs
Pretty and funny.
But...

WHERE OH WHERE IS THE EASTER BUNNY?