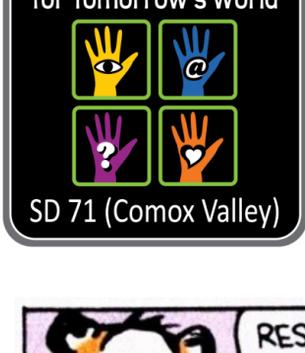


INNOVATIVE INKLINGS

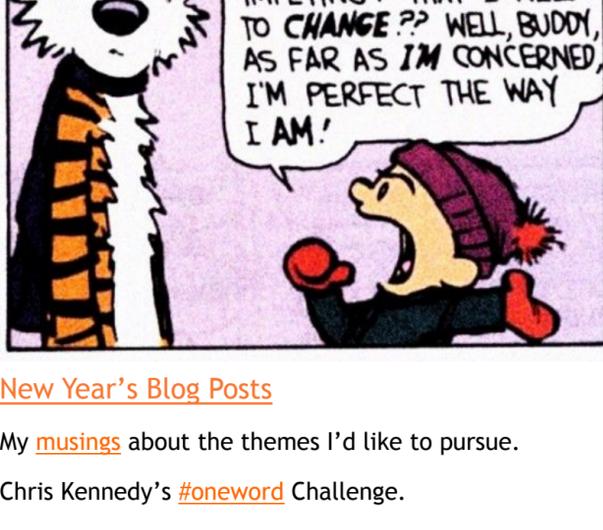
Comox Valley School District Newsletter for Innovation

January 8, 2016



New Year

Resolutions
Blogs
Questions
Collaboration
Coding Math
Interact Impact
My Resolution



[New Year's Blog Posts](#)

My [musings](#) about the themes I'd like to pursue.

Chris Kennedy's [#oneword](#) Challenge.

[Stephen Petrucci's](#) thoughts about a year of transitions.

[Kevin Kaardal's](#) description of the what Central Okanagan is working on.

Some questions for the coming year

What is going on for our learners?

How do we know?

Why does this matter?

What is my role in improving student success?

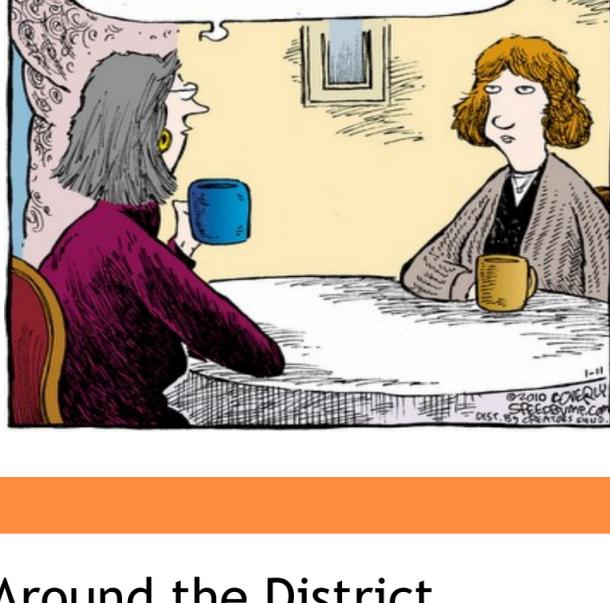
What do we, as a district, stand for?

Where do I fit into this?

What am I doing about where I fit in?

What three things am I going to commit to learning deeply this year? How will I apply them?

What am I passionate about? How will I pursue that passion?



Around the District

Innovative events and efforts from around our district

English Resources and Collaboration

Kara Dawson in conjunction with Lesley Johnson, Ron Olson, Megan Haut, Jeffrey Verkley, and Dwayne Mills from G.P. Vanier Secondary English Department have been building a website/portal through Scholantis on the School District Curriculum site: [Learn 71](#).

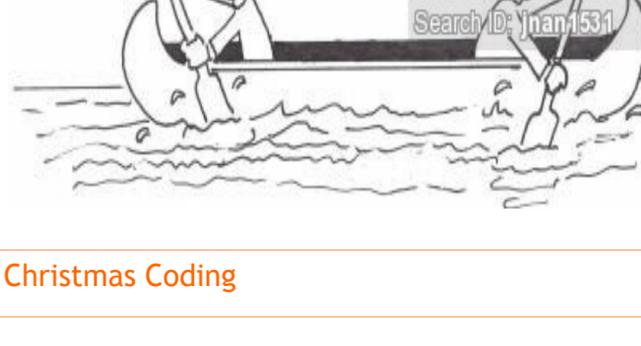
The goal is to present an opportunity for the department to develop an on-going conversation on the materials and methods they use at different grade levels. The platform works on a multitude of levels: it allows teachers to share materials, upload and upgrade new ideas for current classes, discuss issues such as scope-and-sequence, and share modules under development for the new curriculum.

The site is currently under development, with the support and encouragement of the Vanier Library, the LRC, and the Information Technology Support Teacher, Kara Dawson.

Right now, the site can be viewed by linking through the Learn 71 site, or by [clicking here](#).

Feel free to offer your support and get involved in the project by sending original materials, lesson plans, resources, and ideas to lesley.johnson@sd71.bc.ca or kara.dawson@sd71.bc.ca.

Another exciting access point the team at Vanier has created is a site that shows some of the work they are doing with their [PLC's](#) for everyone to see and to offer expertise and/or feedback.



Christmas Coding

Unfortunately I found out about this one after my last newsletter, but at Isfeld, teacher Christie Watt had her grade 8 students working on coding ([Math and Coding](#), [Coding Math](#), [Teaching Kids to Code](#)) for a bit of time before the break. The students were very engaged and many took their 'work' home with them. In fact, they were so engaged that Christie continued on and had them create their own electronic Christmas cards ([sample 1](#), [sample 2](#), [sample 3](#)).

"Interactive" Christmas

The Isfeld [Interact club](#) is sending \$10,000 USD to Honduras to help a school in St. Nicolas (what an appropriate name!). Originally they were hoping to replace the roof on 3 classrooms. The Rotary Club in Honduras and the local community got together and created a plan. With everyone pitching in, they will be doing much more with the donation. Below is the list of what that community is dedicated to see to fruition.

1. Build a new tin roof for 3 classrooms
2. Replace the tin roof over the rest of the school.
3. Change the ceiling tiles in 4 classrooms.
4. Install new toilets (no more latrines in the middle of the playing field).
5. Paint the entire school.
6. Purchase 55 school desks (That leave 25 students without desks so I've made a commitment that Interact will send money for those 25 desks).
6. Create a sign with the Rotary logo.

I have no doubt that this was a wonderful Christmas present for the children of St. Nicolas; but, I also believe that it was a great present for those from our community involved in the project.



Thank you for taking the time to read this and please direct any suggestions, questions, or inquiries to me directly: Gerald.Fussell@sd71.bc.ca