

WELCOME TO KDS



KDS
Kootenay Discovery School

COMMITTED TO EDUCATION

- Fully funded K- 12 + Adult learning public school in SD#5 with campuses in both Fernie and Cranbrook
- Online and blended learning programs
- Fully certified BC teachers
- Parent led, Teacher led, Student led
- Primary, Middle School, Senior Program, Adult Program
- Year round and 10 month programs

FOUNDED WITH ONE PURPOSE

Build a space both virtually and in person for all students to grow, learn and create with each passing day. Through a unique teaching approach and a truly passionate staff, we help students develop academically and personally to the highest level.

OUR PROGRAMS

- Primary Years (K-3) – Blended (Fernie Campus) and DL (District wide)
- Middle Years (4-6, 7-9)- Blended only, no DL only (Fernie and Cranbrook Campus)
- Secondary Program (10-12) Full time and Cross enrolled opportunities, District wide
- Adult Program (Graduated and Non-Graduated)
- Student Services



PRIMARY AND MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM

- Every learner is unique.
- Individualized programming, project-based learning
- Choice of teacher approved curricular resources.
- 2 Entry dates: September and January
- Blended model – 2 sessions per week plus outings. Max 30 students in Primary Blended and 60 students in Middle Years Blended.
- DL model. Virtual connections.



INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING PLAN

- Parents, students, and teachers collaborate to create a unique individualized learning plans for their child that meets the curricular outcomes and competencies as directed by the Ministry of Education.
- Parents/students can access KDS resources, other KDS approved online resources, or can seek out their own resources (teacher approved) to meet the learning outcomes of the program



TEACHER SUPPORTED

Regular communication, timely feedback and assessment from the primary and middle school teachers ensure that families know how their student is progressing towards meeting the grade-level learning objectives.

BLENDED MODEL

- The blended model (in person learning time + at home learning time) allows opportunities for small group face to face socializing and learning time, group activities, field trips, and community outings.
- Learning does not just happen when 'at school' . Parents are driving the majority of learning in the home. This is important!
- The primary reason to choose KDS- to have that engagement and involvement in your child's education on a daily basis.



PRIMARY PROGRAM SPECIFICS

- Learning plan created with parent and teacher
- Parent driven, teacher guides, supports, and assesses the learning
- KDS does not use one prescribed curriculum.
- Parents take the lead in directing the learning of their child while the KDS teacher guides the process throughout the year, assessing selected work samples, and providing feedback.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE - BLENDED PRIMARY PROGRAM

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM - Group 1 morning class (focused activity time)	AM - Group 2 morning class (focused activity time)	AM- Group 3 morning class (focused activity time)	At home learning- all groups	Outdoor Activity Event
PM - Group 3 afternoon class (team time)	PM - Group 1 afternoon class (team time)	PM- Group 2 afternoon class (team time)	At home learning- all groups	Outdoor Activity Event

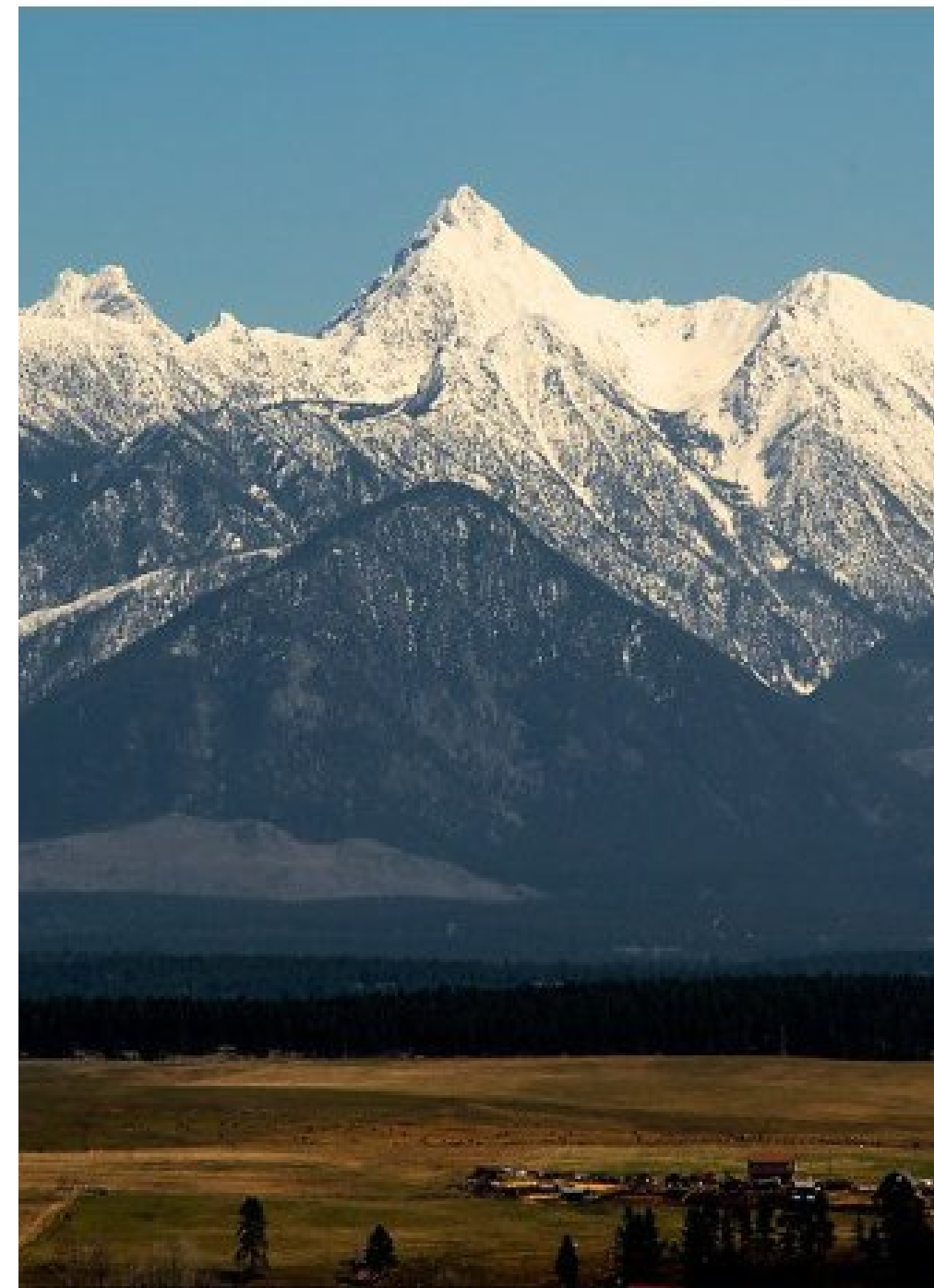


MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMS (4-6), (7-9)

- Flexibility and choice. Start the move away from fully parent driven education. Ownership of learning.
- Project based learning and individualized educational plans.
- Building skills in communication, critical thinking, creative and innovative thinking, and personal and social responsibility.
- Teacher as ally! Work together to create the learning journey that recognizes your interests, abilities and passions.
- A truly inclusive educational environment, where all learners have a chance to learn at their required pace. Success over schedule.

MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM

- Connect with other learners during our virtual meet ups and f2f collaboration times, with campuses located in both Fernie and Cranbrook.
- Outdoor Ed Connections! Opportunities to take the learning outside and apply it in real situations while creating an appreciation for the natural environment that makes up the Kootenays.
- Access to Student Services resources and support.
- First Nations (Aboriginal Education) resources, funding, tutoring support, and cultural events.
- PAC !! -looking to start one for September. Middle years and Primary program.



SAMPLE SCHEDULE - MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM - Group A meet up	AM Group B meet up	At Home Learning	At Home Learning	Middle School Inquiry/Community Day
At Home Learning	At Home Learning	PM Group A meet up	PM - Group B meet up	Middle School Inquiry/Community Day

SECONDARY/ADULT PROGRAM

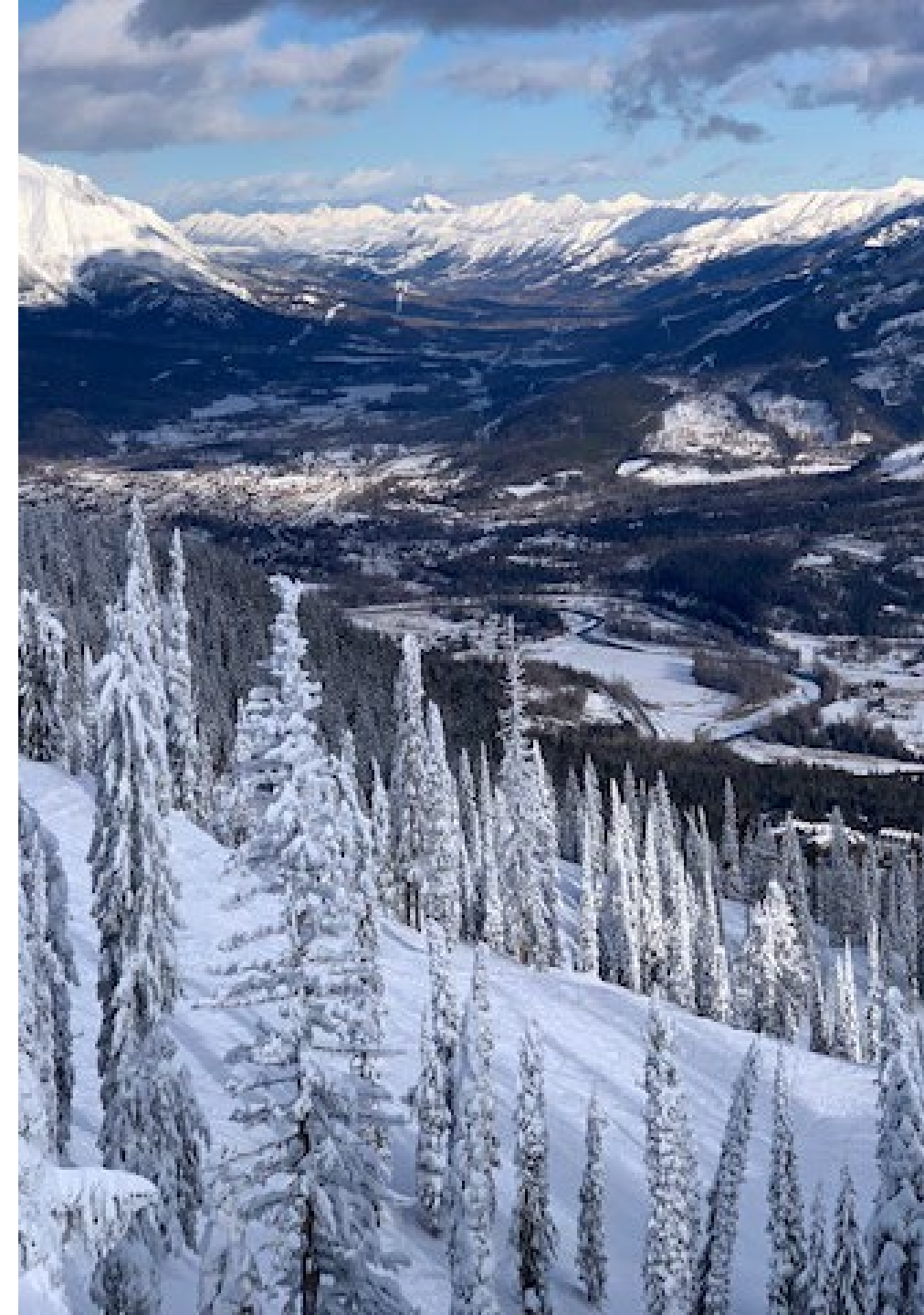
- Cross enrolled courses for grades 10-12 students. Full time enrollment is also an option. Both Cranbrook and Fernie campuses offer drop in times for our senior students.
- Moodle Learning Platform. Most courses run asynchronously, are continuous entry, and are self-paced.
- For September, all full-time students assigned an advisor to help them manage courses, pacing, accessing counselling/grad planning support, etc.. Regular check ins with advisor.
- Starting in September- a selection of courses will be offered as date specific entry, teacher paced courses with real time virtual sessions.
- Created by BC teachers, meet all BC prescribed learning outcomes and competencies.
- Graduation Planning, Career Connection opportunities are available for all of our full time students.
- Adult Graduation Diploma, Adult upgrading also available.

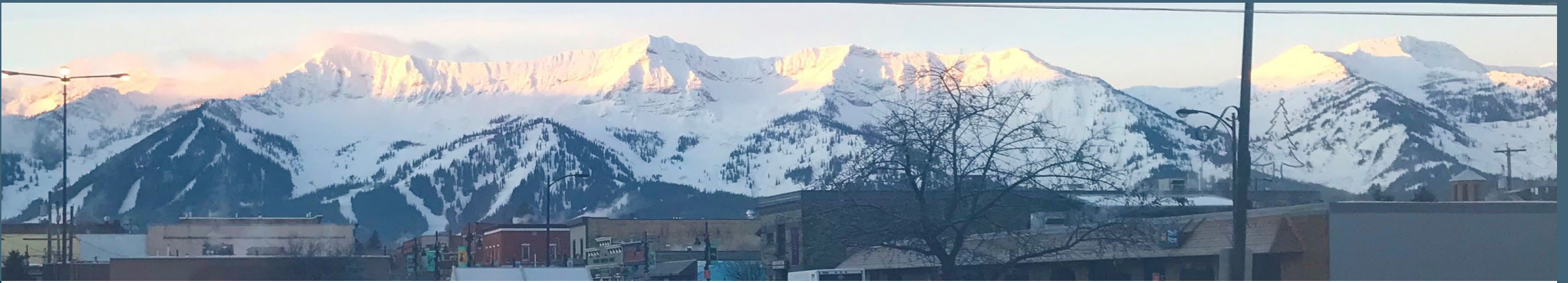
STUDENT SERVICES PROGRAM

- Kootenay Discovery School has a Student Services Teacher, two Educational Assistants, a Youth Care Worker, and a part time counsellor , all part of the team to help parents and students create strategies, goals and community connections through the students learning journey.
- Student Services Teacher supports students on Individual Education Plans. Communication is a key component that leads to the success of the Individual Education Plan. Together with parents and students, the Student Services Teacher supports the online learning process and provides strategies and resources to suit the individual needs of the student. This is provided through weekly online check ins with students and parents as well as coordination with other team members and teachers.

EXPECTATIONS ON BEING PART OF KDS

- Consistent engagement with the program, the teacher and the support team (if that is part of your child's learning plan)
- Regular contact and check ins with your teacher
- Attending the in person learning if your child is part of the Blended Program
- Agreeing to the KDS contract and Student Services Agreement, which describes what is expected for those participating in our program.





IS KDS RIGHT FOR YOUR CHILD?

- Distributed Learning and Blended Learning models are not for everyone!
- Distributed learning works for students and families who are:
- Engaged in and supportive of the learning process with their child.
- Looking for alternatives to the regular school schedule.
- Supportive of independent learning, life-long learning.
- Have access to technology at home.

PARENT PERSPECTIVE

Isabel Craig, parent of a grade 8 student in our program, will share some of her and her son's experiences with KDS this past year.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Join our Breakout Room sessions happening right after this! Click on the little 4 squares at the bottom of your window, then choose the room you want.
- EMAIL US AT: KDS.MAILING@SD5.BC.CA
- FIND US AT:
- WWW.KOOTENAYDISCOVERYSCHOOL.COM
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