

Educator Update this week

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Learning continuity and maintaining connections with students and families

Teachers and school staff have been delivering learning opportunities to students at home. We recognize this is a time of adaptation for everyone and a significant adjustment for teachers, school staff, families and students. It is important we continue to mutually support our colleagues, students and families with kindness and patience as we continue to adapt and plan learning opportunities during this time.

A reminder that learning opportunities during this time are being guided by Yukon's Learning Continuity Requirements. This includes requirements for establishing and maintaining connections and communications with students and families. Through the remainder of the school year, teachers and school staff shall:

- Regularly engage with students and families/guardians to determine student needs and provide materials, resources and activities to support ongoing student learning.
- Identify where adaptations or supports for student learning will be needed.
- Plan to address specific student and family needs related to at-home learning.
- Identify school staff who will regularly contact families to provide support.

Yukon's Learning Continuity Requirements and other important resources for teachers are available on the [Yukonnect site for Education Staff](#) under the "Essential guidelines for school programs section." Use your Rapid ID credentials (yesnet email address) and your Rapid ID Password to login. They are also available publicly on [on Yukon.ca](#).

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Student Support Services

Yukon's Learning Continuity Requirements include requirements for supporting students with diverse learning and exceptional needs. Student Support Services remains one of your support networks for students and the team is here to support principals, teachers, and educational assistants where it is required and appropriate.

During this time, we ask that you continue to follow the practices of contacting Student Support Services in the same ways that were established when school was face-to-face programming.

Please find attached: A list of supports and the most efficient channels to receive support.

Privacy at a glance for teachers

We realize that with the shift to remote learning and teaching, there are a lot of uncertainties regarding technology and privacy. The Technology and Student Information unit has compiled a list of frequently asked questions for teachers to help you navigate safely, and securely as well as a privacy at a glance flyer.

- [Privacy at a Glance for Yukon Educators](#) is a quick one-stop shop to get started with information on protecting student privacy while remote teaching.
- [FAQ for Teachers](#)

Computers for schools

[Computers for Schools Yukon](#) refurbishes donated surplus computers distributes them to students that may need help getting a low cost computer for home use.

Teachers or principals must apply for the computer on a student's behalf. To apply, complete an application for your student. Each student will require an individual application. If a school has a large number of students, a spreadsheet can be provided to simplify the process.

Keep in mind no software, or support, will be provided by ITSS for these computers. The receiving family bears the responsibility for upgrade costs, internet connection and support.

Resource Services can help facilitate devices being shipped to the community schools if needed. Please contact Marisa.Whyte@gov.yk.ca to make arrangements. If you have questions, contact David McInnes- Director of Technology and Student Information at david.mcinnnes@gov.yk.ca

Computers for schools accepts cash or e-transfers only at this time. Please contact them to make arrangements for payments. The costs for students are:

- \$130.00 for the premium laptops (including Windows) (French keyboards are available)
- \$55.00 for basic laptop (including Windows)
- \$10.00 for older desktops (including monitors and Windows)

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Food programs in Yukon schools

If you are interested in running a food program out of your school while classes are suspended, you must inform your Principal and contact Lori Duncan, ADM of First Nations Initiatives, at lori.duncan@gov.yk.ca or 867-456-6752 before it goes ahead. Please also have your Principal email Lori Duncan to confirm that they have approved the food program to operate in your school.

We will ensure that any food program offered in Yukon schools follows the attached health and safety guidelines and directives. We have worked with Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health and the departments of Health and Social Services and Highways and Public Works to ensure that this programming can continue safely. We are not allowing students in schools at this time, and these programs will only operate on a delivery basis.

Central administration building access

We are taking measures to further secure the central administration building to support security and the health and safety of staff while remaining open for business. Starting Thursday, April 23, the exterior doors will remain locked during business hours to control and monitor entry points.

For visitors, we have posted contact information and instructions on the front doors for how to contact the appropriate staff member or front reception, and receive service.

- If you are meeting with a staff member, you should contact them ahead of time to coordinate your visit. They will meet you at the identified entrance and safely admit them you to the building;

If you are dropping off materials, you should do so in the new drop box that we have installed at the front entrance. Please coordinate with a staff member ahead of time to ensure the materials you are dropping off are received. Note any confidential materials must be given directly to staff. These measures will be in place until further notice to support the security, health and safety of the central administration building and staff. We will continue to assess the situation and act based on the recommendations of Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Mental health and wellness

- Lifespeak's mental health marathon

Registration is now open for this unique, day-long, [Ask the Expert event](#). On May 6th you will be able to submit your own mental health questions, completely anonymously, and get an answer from a leading expert in real-time. Ask questions about coping with stress & anxiety, mental health in the workplace and at various stages of life, parenting & relationships, and so much more. To get it in your calendar, select [Marathon](#). The reason it starts so early is because the marathon is done in the Eastern Time Zone.

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Professional learning opportunities

- **Mathology**

Mathology.ca is a primary online tool for teachers containing rich math activities and pedagogical supports. Free webinars to get you familiar with the Mathology.ca are being offered. Note that all webinars will contain the same content.

Choose a date and [register](#) : May 4, May 11, May 18, or May 25 from 12:00 PM - 12: 45 PM.

- **LDAY workshops**

LDAY has tweaked the way that they operate and continue to offer [workshops for all ages and all places](#). If you would like further information, please contact Stephanie Hammond at 668-5167.

- **PD day sessions available online**

If you are interested in reviewing a session from the April 24, 2020 PD day, visit <http://msnider.yukonschools.ca/april-24-2020.html> to view the videos of the sessions.

- **Weebly Drop-In Support via Zoom**

Weebly drop-in support is being offered by education consultants Denise McDiarmid, Jesse Jewell and Amanda Bartle on Zoom. This support is being offered on both Tuesday, May 5th and Thursday, May 7th from 1:00-3:00pm. Please feel free to drop-in with questions or ideas relating to engaging students and parents via Weebly as you continue to provide educational support.

Topic: Weebly Drop In Q&A

Time: May 5, 2020 1:00-3:00 PM

Join [Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 995 8883 3500

Password: 076982

Topic: Weebly Drop-In Q&A

Time: May 7, 2020 1:00-3:00 PM

Join [Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 914 9863 2047

Password: 577712

Other opportunities for schools

- **Safety Build at Home 2020 contests**

Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board has expanded its annual Safety Build contest to include 3 contests this year! Build a safety scene using LEGO® models, recycling, craft supplies, stuff from nature (whatever you can find!) that show how you keep safe. The themes for each contest are available on their [website](#). Contact Vanessa at wcb-cs@gov.yk.ca if you have questions.

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Resources for educators

- Important resources for teachers are available on the [Yukonnect site for Education Staff](#)
- Visit [Connected North](#) for the latest weekly flyer or to watch recordings
- Government of Canada Science education resources in [English](#) and [French](#).
- [Yukon Continuity of Learning Requirements](#)
- [Learning Continuity Toolkit](#) contains a number of helpful resources that have been developed to support teachers with various technology platforms.
- [Zoom best practices](#).

Action items for consideration

- See important resources available for teachers on the [Yukonnect site for Education Staff](#)
- Check out [Privacy at a Glance for Yukon Educators](#) and the [FAQ for Teachers](#) is a quick one-stop shop to get started with information on protecting student privacy while remote teaching. Also, check the.
- Let your students know about [Computers for Schools](#) and contact David McInnes at david.mcinnis@gov.yk.ca if you have any questions.
- If you are interested in running a food program out of your school, contact lori.duncan@gov.yk.ca or 867-456-6752
- On May 6th, join the [Lifespeak mental health marathon](#) and ask the experts
- [Mathology webinars](#): May 4, May 11, May 18, or May 25 from 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM
- LDAY [workshops for all ages and all places](#). For information, contact Stephanie Hammond at 668-5167
- Access [April 24 PD sessions](#) online
- Get drop-in support for Weebly through Zoom. [May 5, 2020 1:00-3:00 PM](#) and [May 7, 2020 1:00-3:00 PM](#)
- Check out the [Safety Build at Home contests](#). Contact Vanessa at wcb-cs@gov.yk.ca if you have questions.