

Educator Update this week

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Over the summer, we surveyed students, families and school staff to learn about their perspectives and experiences on learning when face-to-face classes were suspended during the final months of the 2019-20 school year.

We heard from over 2300 students, families and school staff and [shared the results on Engage Yukon](#).

The feedback from this survey is guiding central administration staff, school principals and staff in planning learning opportunities and ongoing instruction for students and professional development opportunities for staff during the 2020-21 school year and over the course of the pandemic.

As one example, in response to the request for more centralized communication that came from staff, we will continue to provide an Educator Update weekly and post information on the [Educators' Place website](#).

Further, in response to professional learning requests with respect to using digital tools, opportunities will continue to be highlighted weekly.

We'll continue to check in with students, families and school staff during the school year so we can learn more about what is working well and any adjustments to learning that may be needed.

Professional Learning Opportunities

- **Mental Health Literacy**

The Student Support Services unit plans to provide two dates this school year which will introduce Yukon High Schools to the 'Mental Health and High School Curriculum Guide.' 'The Guide' is a school-based mental health literacy program for teachers and high school students in grades 9/10. This resource was created and field tested by the Canadian Mental Health Association in collaboration with Dr. Stan Kutcher of Dalhousie University. It aims to:

- increase student mental health literacy by providing easy access to mental health info, tools and learning strategies in the classroom.

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- o equip teachers to address student mental health concerns, and provide appropriate resources when necessary.

'The Guide' has been designed to allow educators to best determine how it should be applied in the classroom. It is available in both French and English. Please contact Brenda Jenner at 332.7015 or at Brenda.Jenner@gov.yk.ca for more information. Training dates are Sept. 16, 2020 and Jan. 27, 2021, 8:30-3pm. These will be Zoom sessions that will consist of a Powerpoint presentation, discussion and hands on time to explore the resource itself.

- **Book a Secondary Consultant**

[Tanya Lewis](#), [Flora Asp](#) and [Mark Connell](#) will be visiting high school teachers/schools the first three weeks of school to offer support with planning, Yukon First Nation Curriculum, COVID-19 strategizing, blended learning setup and any other support you may need. They are available in person (Whitehorse teachers) and via Zoom.

To book a specific time other than the times listed below, contact us at:

- Tanya Lewis: tanya.lewis@gov.yk.ca,
- Flora Asp: flora.asp@gov.yk.ca
- Mark Connell: mark.connell@gov.yk.ca

Date	Flora Asp / Mark Connell	Tanya Lewis
Aug. 31 – Sept. 2	PCSS	FHC
Sept. 3 – 4	FHC	VCSS

- **myBlueprint for Career Education 8, Career Education 9, and Career Life Education**

A professional development session is scheduled for September 3rd at 3:30 with a myBlueprint employee. Email Tanya Lewis at Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca to register for this training session.

Reporting and Assessments

- **Graduation Assessments Supplemental Session and Postponement**

Implementation of the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment has been postponed until 2021-22. The updated assessment schedule for the Grade 10 Literacy and Grade 10 Numeracy assessments that include a supplementary June 2021 session can be found on the [Provincial Assessments website](#). Grade 12 students this year will have Eng

- **FreshGrade Classic for this year is ready**

If you are interested in using FreshGrade Classic this year, email yukonportfolios@yesnet.yk.ca. This will ensure that you will receive up to date info and instructions.

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For more info, please visit the following site: <http://smaurice.yukonschools.ca/freshgrade-resources-and-support.html>

Resources for Educators

- **Education and School Supports: COVID-19 website**

[Yukon.ca/education and school supports COVID-19](http://Yukon.ca/education-and-school-supports-COVID-19) includes the most recent [Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements for 2020-21](#) that sets the priorities and expectations for delivering learning and the curriculum to students and features updated Learning Recovery and Experiential Learning sections.

- **The Educators' Place**

<http://lss.yukonschools.ca/> was built and is maintained to help support the implementation of the curriculum and the continuity of learning requirements.

- **The YESNet Portal**

<https://v2yesnet.wordpress.com/> is a launching pad to help connect students and teachers with information and digital resources to enhance their learning journeys as they develop a lifelong love of learning.

- **[August 21, 2020 Educator Update](#)**

Read the last edition of the Educator Update. All Educator Updates are posted at <http://lss.yukonschools.ca/>

- **History 12**

The Hazelmere Publishing Student Workbook-4th Edition resource along with one accompanying teacher resource have been sent to schools.

If you are teaching History 12 this year and have not notified Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca, please do so to ensure you receive the resources.

- **Kids on the Farm**

Book online and get more info at [Kids on the Farm](#). There are currently 7 local and diversified farms in the Whitehorse area to choose from until September 30. Consider touring a different farm from your colleagues, then have your students share and compare their experiences. Regardless of which farm you choose, your students will learn about plants and animals, where food comes from, and achieve specific [curriculum connections](#). (Transportation subsidies are available and ask your administrator about using the O&M budget for the \$7 student fee.)

- **Continuity of Learning Resources**

Don't forget to look at all the resources featured in the [Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements for 2020-21](#) including the [Learning Continuity Toolkit](#). Some newer toolkit highlights include:

- [Digital Tools at a Glance Guide for Yukon Parents & Guardians](#)
- [The Seven Ps of Blended Learning](#)

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- [FAQ for Teachers – Learning Continuity Planning](#)

- **Adobe Software: Currently Unavailable**

Adobe has changed their licensing model and ITSS is working on a solution, however the pandemic has delayed our work.

Privacy at a Glance for Yukon Educators

What would you do if an external organization asked you to part with student information?

In a recent case, teachers in Saskatchewan provided individualized student information to the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation because it was seeking details on class size and composition. The teachers were instructed to provide student initials only, not full names. However, this information created individual profiles that, along with the initials and the teacher's position, would allow for the students potentially to be identified.

Questions you can ask:

- Has my employer authorized me to collect this information? Where is it written?
- What do you mean by “anonymous survey”?
- May I get back to you after I have contacted our Privacy Officer/Management Coordinator?

Rachel Grantham- Privacy Management Coordinator rachel.grantham@gov.yk.ca

Cleaning Devices (iPads, MacBooks and iMacs)

ITSS & TSI are referring schools to this [Apple Knowledge Based Article](#). Basically it says that it is ok to use disinfectant wipes on our devices. Hand washing before and after using devices is still best!

Action Items for Consideration

- Use the [shared parent and student survey results](#) to help plan instruction over the course of the pandemic.
- Consider attending the mental health literacy professional learning opportunity on Sept. 16 or Jan. 27.
- Book a secondary consultant for support: tanya.lewis@gov.yk.ca, flora.asp@gov.yk.ca, mark.connell@gov.yk.ca
- Register for a myBlueprint training session on September 3 at 3:30. Email Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca
- Check out the updated graduation assessment schedule on the [provincial assessments website](#).
- Interested in using FreshGrade Classic this year? Email yukonportfolios@yesnet.yk.ca
- For resources and support check out the websites built for you including the; [Education and School Supports: COVID-19 website](#), [Educators' Place](#), and [YESNet Portal](#).
- Contact Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca for History 12 resources
- (Re)read the previous Educator Updates <http://lss.yukonschools.ca/>
- Book your class with Kids on the Farm www.kidsonthefarm.yukonfood.com.
- Check out the newest tools in the [Learning Continuity Toolkit](#)