

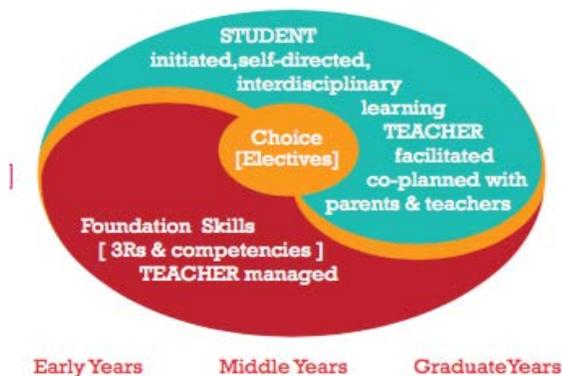
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We are well into the 2017-18 school year and our focus continues on shifting our instructional stance to reflect student-centered classroom assessment practice and culturally responsive instruction. This includes the integration of Yukon First Nation Ways of Knowing and Doing. As we know, this work is gradual and our professional learning will continue in the years to come. Thank you to all of our educators for their hard work so far this school year.

As schools begin planning for 2018-19, we can consider how our new curriculum's foundational principle of *personalized and flexible learning* will influence our work moving forward.

PERSONALIZED



Personalized and flexible learning motivates students by:

- giving them more choice in what and how they learn
- working from their strengths, interests, goals and needs
- providing opportunities for students to reflect on and take greater control of their learning

The Organization for Economic and Community Development (OECD) has developed the Seven Principles of Learning Framework to guide education systems around the world in establishing personalized and flexible learning environments.

Many of you have explored specific links to the seven principles through Learning Networks and in your professional learning with the Spiral of Inquiry. The Learning Branch is also working on a teacher resource and professional learning tool that will link the seven learning principles with our new curriculum and examples from Yukon classrooms. More to come soon.

For further professional learning consider:

- [Seven Principles of Learning Framework summary](#)
- [The OECD Handbook for Innovative Learning Environments](#)
- [Spiral Playbook \(Spiral of Inquiry\)](#)

K-9 Curriculum

Before spring break, K-7 classrooms will be receiving new science resources. The [Nelson Science K-7](#) resource is the only science resource that is fully integrated with B.C and Yukon's new curriculum.

This resource will help teachers deliver the new curriculum and features sample learning activities that are inquiry-based, design-focused, include student choice, allow for multiple ways to demonstrate learning, and are integrated with both the Science and ADST curriculum. They also include custom-developed assessment tools that

can be modified to support formative assessment of core and curricular competencies.

We are providing the following resource ratios:

- Teacher Digital Resource 1:1 per grade level
- Student Book (digital) 1:3 per grade level
- Student Book (physical) 1:12 per grade level

Grade 8 and 9 science resources will also be arriving soon.

Yukon First Nations elaborations update

The draft Yukon First Nations elaborations to the K-9 Math, Social Studies, Science and English Language Arts curriculum will be available, in PDF format, before March break on the [Learning Branch Website](#). Teachers are encouraged to begin using the elaborations when they are available. They will stay in draft until they are finalized with Yukon First Nations.

Below are some of the promising practices happening in Yukon schools to support the integration of Yukon First Nation Ways of Knowing and Doing:

- Collaborative development, with First Nation language teacher, of culturally inclusive lessons around common themes
- Development of lessons around culturally significant events such as the 45th anniversary celebration of Together Today for our Children Tomorrow on February 14th
- School cultural events that highlight Yukon First Nations culture (hand games, drumming, etc.)
- Use of circles, a traditional First Nations practice, for student check-ins, debriefs, building respectful and positive relationships, allowing all students voices to be heard and as restorative practice

First Nations Programs and Partnerships also has a new website under development. The new format is designed to enhance user experience. [Explore FNPP's website.](#)

Further resources

Curriculum resources and instructional samples are also available here:

- Learning Branch website: [Other Assessment Resources](#), [Planning Tools](#), and [Yukon First Nation Resources for Teachers Handbook](#)
- [B.C.'s website](#)
- [ERAC](#)
- [BCTF](#)

Integrated unit samples now available

- [Grade 8 – Plants and Connection to Place](#)
- [Grade 8/9 – Climate Change](#)
- [Grade 9 – Interconnectedness](#)

Units coming soon:

- Draft primary and intermediate units will be available soon. We are working with Yukon First Nations to gather feedback and finalize these samples.

10-12 Implementation Update

The Grade 10 curriculum will begin in September 2018; however, schools are already planning Grade 10 course offerings for next year and preparing to transition current students into the [2018 graduation program](#).

The Grade 10-12 curriculum is intended to separate students according to choice and interest, rather than ability or perceived ability. The focus is to provide different opportunities for learning within courses that are open to all students, rather than offering several different specialized courses. An example of this is the new English Language Arts curriculum and elimination of the Communications 11 and 12 courses.

More information on new Grade 10-12 courses and course changes can be found on [B.C.'s website](#). Each subject area has further detailed information under the Introduction, What's New and Goals and Rational headings. You can also contact Tanya Lewis, our new Secondary Curriculum Consultant at tanya.lewis@gov.yk.ca.

In the spring, the Learning Branch will begin working with schools to transition our Grade 8-10

Department Authorized Courses and alternative programs into the new curriculum format. Recall grade 11-12 courses will not be implemented until the 2019/20 school year. More information will be forthcoming.

Numeracy and Literacy Assessments

Numeracy proficiency assessment: The new numeracy assessment will be offered in June 2018. This assessment is not associated with a course or grade level. It is part of the student's overall growth and learning goals associated with the core competencies and career planning.

Procedures and timelines for the numeracy assessment:

- **Students must be registered in advance. This year's deadline is March 31, 2018 for the June 2018 sitting**
- Students are involved in determining when they wish to write
- Students have up to three opportunities to write the assessment
- Our first information session was held on Feb 6, 2018. Participants appreciated the in-depth information and connections to the curricular and core competencies
- Additional information sessions can be arranged through Tanya Lewis.

For more information please contact Tanya Lewis at tanya.lewis@gov.yk.ca.

Literacy proficiency assessment: Not available until January 2020.

Grade 4 and 7 Yukon Foundation Skills Assessments (YFSAs): The marked Grade 4 and 7 YFSAs have been returned to schools. The YFSAs were moved to fall so classroom teachers can use them, as well as the DART and SWW, to help identify strengths and where students can improve in reading, writing and numeracy.

K-12 Assessment Guidelines

The work of our Assessment Committee and the *Communicating Student Learning* iBook has received national recognition! Yukon is the latest jurisdiction to be invited to join the Canada 21

CEO Academy, which is a professional network of educational leaders from across Canada setting Canadian standards for 21st century learning, innovation and technology in the education system.



“The information and research is excellent. The emphasis on culturally responsive assessment and pedagogy is a rich layer of personalized learning addressing identity and equity. This is without a doubt the best assessment resource that I have laid eyes on!! (39 years)” Karen Yamada, CEO Vice President

Students self-assessments:

As we know, all K-9 teachers are preparing students to report on the core competencies regardless of the reporting option their school has chosen from the Interim Guide on Student Assessment.

Student self-assessments can be produced in physical format or uploaded into Aspen in digital format. Digital files can be up to 19mb, excluding video (for video provide link). [Samples can be found here.](#)

Our interim assessment guidelines are in place for two-years and schools have another year to transition; however, our Assessment Committee will meet in late April to reflect and provide feedback on this school year and prepare for next year.

We are still taking requests for a PDF format of the *Communicating Student Learning* iBook. Please note we limit the functionality of the iBook by making a PDF. It is intentionally designed to be interactive to offer more dynamic learning opportunities and to share our practice in new ways.

Frequently asked questions about report cards:

Option 1 schools:

- Requirements for the final report card is in the assessment iBook on pages 75 & 80.
- The Final Written Summative Report is the teacher's professional evaluation of the

student's achievement related to the curricular competencies and content for each area of learning. Comments must include a brief description of the student's strength areas and areas for growth.

Option 2 schools:

- Standards-based grade book and single term reporting training sessions will be provided later this school year.

If you have questions, please contact David McInnes at david.mcinnnes@gov.yk.ca.

Online Learning Apps

Information Technology and Support Services (ITSS) & Technology Assisted Learning (TAL) have heard from teachers that want to use more online learning apps in their classrooms that are outside the scope of the department's supported applications (Aspen, First Class, Moodle, etc).

Many apps require personal information (names, DOBs, addresses, etc.) and individual logins, which can put student information at risk. However, we recognize there are educational benefits to using these apps. We now have a way for you to anonymously create student accounts for a wider variety of online apps while protecting student privacy.

To create anonymous accounts for your students:

1. Inform [ITSS & TAL](#) about the app or service you want to use and why you need to use it.
2. ITSS will provide generic email addresses for you to use to create student accounts.
3. You will then create student accounts using the generic email addresses. Account usernames and passwords must

also be generic and not include any student information.

By keeping students anonymous while online, you are helping protect student privacy. For more information, see the Privacy Toolkit in the Teachers' Global Conferences in First Class or contact david.mcinnnes@gov.yk.ca.

New Curriculum Video Series

Remember you can share the assessment video with your school community through your school website, newsletters, School Council meetings and meetings with parents using these links:

- **English (with optional English captions):** <https://youtu.be/f4zWF-ZkF3Y>
- **French captions:** <https://youtu.be/OayUZQGNxBE>

We have also begun shooting footage for our second video, integrating Yukon First Nations Ways of Knowing and Doing. A special thank you to the staff, students and schools who have participated in these videos so far!

Where to get more information

[Monthly Educator Updates](#) in your inbox, which summarize the current directions and information about the curriculum and assessment changes.

The [Learning Branch website](#), to find current information and resources to support your professional learning and practice.

Talk to your Principal or ask the Learning Branch team at curriculum@gov.yk.ca.