

Educator Update

January 15, 2020



Educator Update this week

[New look for the Educator Update](#)

[Arctic Winter Games](#)

[Reporting and Assessment](#)

[Curriculum](#)

[Professional learning opportunities](#)

[Other opportunities for schools](#)

[Resources for educators](#)

[Action items for consideration](#)

New look for the Educator Update

We have updated the look of Educator Update to try and make it even more engaging. The Educator Update is how we let teachers and school staff know about:

- important information from the department
- curriculum and assessment updates and support
- classroom resources and training opportunities

We hope that you enjoy the new look and find the information helpful. If you have any feedback on how we can make the Educator Update more helpful to you, please send your feedback to Paula.Thompson@gov.yk.ca.

Talk to you colleagues to ensure they are receiving the Educator Update. Also consider:

- Printing off copies of the Educator Update for staff rooms and other places staff gather so they can have a look at it on their breaks.
- Bringing up the Educator Update at staff meetings for discussion.

Arctic Winter Games

Beginning March 13th, 2020, the following schools will be transformed into venue facilities to host the athletes and cultural participants while they perform, compete, eat and sleep:

- Porter Creek Secondary School
- Jack Hulland Elementary School
- Takhini Elementary School

- Elijah Smith Elementary School
- FH Collins Secondary School
- Christ the King Elementary School
- Vanier Secondary School

The Arctic Winter Games Committee appreciates your support and cooperation as they prepare to host the Games. If you would like to know how your school will be helping, ask your principal.

Reporting and Assessment

- **Final report cards – support for writing report cards**

The fall semester is coming to an end and teachers will be drafting final report cards. Guidance on preparing final report cards and the type of information that should be included is available in the Apple iBook. Check out the following pages in the Apple iBook: p. 88, p. 106, p. 115-118 and Appendices J, M, N. There are also sample report cards on the Curriculum and Assessment website on the Standards-Based Grade [Elementary](#) and [Secondary](#) pages.

- **Written progress reports – new samples for secondary grades**

The [Standards-Based Learning, Grading and Reporting \(SBLGR\) – Secondary](#) page on our website contains resources to help you complete the written progress reports. Check the new Porter Creek Secondary School (PCSS) written progress report samples.

- **FAQ – navigating the Communicating Student Learning Resource and Professional Development Tool**

The Communicating Student Learning resource provides helpful information to teachers for communicating about student learning and what we require from schools. [Check out the FAQ](#) again to find answers to common questions about the resource and communicating student learning.

Curriculum

- **VOICES / VOIX Poetry Journal**

Encourage your students in grades 9-12 to discover their own poetic voices by writing [VOICES/VOIX](#), a bilingual student poetry journal. The submission deadline is Thursday, April 30.

- **Books and themes of interest to secondary students**

Secondary Language Arts Educators: If you have a book theme idea or a book title that is of high interest to your secondary students, please let Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca know. We will work to bolster our inventory of high interest books for students with the identified themes and also search for specific titles with varying reading levels.

Professional learning opportunities

- **Arts in Education for Primary Teachers - Explore Yukon through the Arts!**

Come join us for a fun filled day dedicated to hands-on arts experiences and understanding how to successfully deliver the Arts in Education program, which pairs teachers with local artists to integrate art and curriculum. The theme for the day will be Yukon, to set us in “place” and support the concept of place-based education, which is prevalent in the new curriculum. We will also explore the importance of noticing, naming, and nurturing the Core Competencies during Arts Education lessons.

- February 4th 8:30am-3:30pm at the Kwanlin Dün Centre. Lunch and snacks will be provided.
- Please apply to YTA for local PD by January 20th. Space is limited.

For more information, please contact Denise McDiarmid, Primary Curriculum Consultant, 332-6026 or denise.mcdiarmid@gov.yk.ca.

- **Webinar to help teachers support our youngest learners’ individual development**

This webinar targeting Kindergarten 4 and Kindergarten educators offers lots of fun activities that build oral language and early reading and writing skills. Participants will leave with ideas for creating a literacy-rich environment, literacy activities for whole-class, small-group and independent learning, strategies for building an effective home-school connection, and much more.

[Setting the Stage for Early Literacy](#): Tuesday, January 21, 12:00 - 1:00 PM PST.

Register even if you are unable to attend the live event to get a recording.

- **Free Corwin Webinars**

The free [Corwin Monday Afternoon Webinar Series](#) resumes January 27, 2020.

Register online and download the webinar [calendar](#).

- **Your Students, My Students, Our Students: Rethinking Equitable and Inclusive Classrooms**

Watch this [archived webinar](#) from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD).

- **Master of Education in Numeracy**

A Yukon-based opportunity for a Master of Education in Numeracy through Simon Fraser University (SFU) is being explored for 2023. More expressions of interest are needed in order to keep moving forward. For more information, contact Paula.Thompson@gov.yk.ca. There is no commitment necessary at this time.

Other opportunities for schools

- **Contest: Explore Safety**

Explore Safety is a program that encourages elementary school students to integrate safety into every activity. Teachers can submit a safety-related project proposal and, in return, the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board will give them \$200 for their classroom.

The deadline for submissions is: March 30, 2020.

For more information, visit the [Explore Safety contest website](#).

Resources for educators

- [Secondary Science Teacher Resource Guide](#) - First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)
- [Educator Update Archive](#)

Action items for consideration

- Send your feedback about the Educator Update to Paula.Thompson@gov.yk.ca.
- To know how your school will be helping for the AWG, ask your principal.
- Find support for writing report cards on our Standards-Based Grade [Elementary](#) and [Secondary](#) pages
- Visit [Standards-Based Learning, Grading and Reporting \(SBLGR\) – Secondary](#) to help with written progress reports
- [Check out the FAQ](#) to find answers to questions about the resource and communicating student learning
- Grades 9-12: Encourage your students to write in the bilingual poetry journal [VOICES/VOIX](#)
- Secondary teachers: send book theme ideas and book titles of interest to your students to Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca
- Primary teachers: Apply to YTA for local PD by January 20 for Arts in Education / Yukon through the Arts. contact Denise McDiarmid, Primary Curriculum Consultant, 332-6026 or denise.mcdiarmid@gov.yk.ca.
- Watch a webinar on Early Learning literacy: [Setting the Stage for Early Literacy](#)
- [Corwin Monday Afternoon Webinar Series](#) and download the [calendar](#) of webinars
- Watch this [archived webinar](#) on Rethinking Equitable and Inclusive Classrooms
- If you are interested in a Master of Education in Numeracy, contact Paula.Thompson@gov.yk.ca
- Visit the [Explore Safety contest website](#) for more information and to submit a project.