Educator Update March 4, 2022



Educator Update this week

Yukon Youth Summit

Mental health supports

Professional learning opportunities

Resources for educators and students

Technology Updates

Action items for consideration

Quick links to resources related to our COVID-19 response



Yukon Youth Summit

Yukon Youth Summit - Yukon Youth Invited!

The Yukon Youth Summit is excited to collaborate with the Yukon Government Department of Education for its upcoming Youth Summit happening from March 21st -March 25th from 11-2pm each day. The Youth Summit offers the opportunity for students in Grades 9-12 to become involved and engaged with community leaders, governments, and policy writers to assist with territorial reforms on themes of Education, Health - Mental Wellness, Environment & Climate Change. Most of all, we are inviting Yukon Youth to inspire and drive these important conversations. Please click here for more details.

Mental health supports

Movement is known to support mental health in a positive way. In daily routines or if kids just need little bursts of activity, please see the link below for supports. Bodies are meant to move and movement supports overall wellness for all.

Here is the BOKS booklet link: BOKS booklet

Addressing the conflict in Ukraine

The invastion of Ukraine may resurface difficult feelings and trauma for students, teachers, staff and families. It is important to be mindful of how these troubling events may impact you and those around you. In this uncertain time, please continue to prioritize mental health and well being of students. Conversations about significant global events can be challenging, however it is important that children have caring adults around them to help make sense of the world. The following resources provide tips for teachers and parents that may be helpful.

How to Talk with Students about the Russia-Ukraine War: Includes 5 tips to help teachers and principals talk to students thoughtfully and appropriately about what is going on in Ukraine.

<u>How to Talk to Kids About Violence, Crime, and War</u>: Common Sense Media gathers tips and conversation starters to help you talk to kids of different ages about the toughest topics.

Resilience in a time of war: Tips for parents and teachers of elementary school children: This article from the American Psychological Association can help adults guide their young children beyond fear and to resilience.

Resilience in a time of war: Tips for parents and teachers of middle school children: The American Psychological Association breaks out tips and strategies for parents and teachers of middle school-aged children.

<u>National Child Traumatic Stress Network</u>: Provides resources that can be filtered by topic or keyword and by audience with a focus on how adults can identify traumatic responses in young people and how to support them.

Professional learning opportunities

Present at YAEP September 2022 Fall Conference

YAEP is looking for members to present at the September 2022 Fall Conference-Moving Forward. Contact the PD office at pd@yaep.ca with questions or to express interest in facilitating a session.

Sexual Health Education Professional Learning Opportunity

PD opportunity: Comprehensive sexual health education: Body Parts and Safe Touch video resource Grades K to 3.

This lesson plan and video resource <u>www.youtube.com/watch?v=wlsh0qRHh0U</u> aims to increase students' protective factors around sexual health.

Curious to learn more about this new resource and how you can be teaching the sexual health curriculum in the K-3 classroom? Join Erin McArthur from Health Promotion and Nikki Krocker from Yukon Education for one of the following zoom sessions (Zoom Meeting Room: https://yukonedu.zoom.us/i/3098451674):

Wednesday March 23 from 3:30 – 4:30
 No sign up required

Please contact Nikki Krocker at (867) 332-0631 or nikki.krocker@yukon.ca with any questions.

Connected North Recording

If you missed the Feb.23rd, 2022 session to learn more about French Language Connected North Sessions for Yukon schools, please review the recording. (Please note that the recorded information is in French) Meeting Recording: French Language Connected North Sessions

Teachers can access the online menu of sessions here: tigurl.org/cnmanuel

Once they send me their email address, and I add them into the booking system, they can begin to search or request sessions here: sessions.connectednorth.org

Please reach out to Brenda Sherry at <u>bsherry@takingitglobal.org</u> for support, in either English or French!.

Resources for educators and students

New Locally Developed Courses

The Locally Developed Curriculum Committee has approved its latest courses, "Criminology 12" and "Forensics 12" at Aurora Virtual School. Criminology 12 focuses on the study of crime, possible explanations for criminal behaviour, and social consequences of crime. Forensics 12 focuses on the analysis of crime scene

evidence and the forensic testing that takes place within the crime laboratory setting. For permission to offer these courses outside of Aurora Virtual School, please fill out the <u>permission form</u> and contact <u>David</u> Schroeder."

Yukon WHERE Challenge now open for entries

Hosted by Mining Matters and the Yukon Chamber of Mines, the Yukon WHERE Challenge is a contest endorsed by the Canadian Earth sciences community. It invites Yukon students in Grades 3-12 to research the materials that make up their favorite household items and create a unique and original submission piece (be it a video, poster, song, etc.) that answers these two questions:

- What on earth is in my stuff?
- Where does it come from?

All submissions will be judged and the students who submit winning entries will receive cash or locally - sourced prizes. The Yukon WHERE Challenge seeks to excite and educate Yukon students about the world around them, and further the celebration of geological sciences.

The Yukon WHERE Challenge will run from February 14 through to May 5, 2022. Students can submit their entries at www.yukonminingwherechallenge.ca

Technology Updates

Microsoft Learning Pathways

You will notice tiles for our New Learning Pathways site (lp.yesnet.yk.ca) in your Rapid ID portal.

What is MS Learning Pathways?

Microsoft 365 Learning Pathways is an on-demand learning solution designed to increase usage and adoption of Microsoft 365 services. This has been developed for Yukon education specifically to our environment. We have built learning portals that specifically target principals, teachers, students, and district support staff. Please check them out to learn more about all things M365 <u>lp.vesnet.yk.ca</u>

Supervised Chat in MS Teams

Supervised Chat is being implemented in Yukon Education's MS365 tenant starting next week.

What is supervised chat?

Supervised chat allows institutions to enable chat for students while keeping chats safe. Supervised chat grants designated educators (Teachers, Educational Assistants, and Administrators) permission to initiate chats with students and blocks students from starting new chats unless an appropriate educator is present. When chat supervision is enabled, supervisors are not allowed to leave chats and other participants are not allowed to remove them, ensuring that chats involving students remain properly supervised. Read more information about Supervised chats in Microsoft Teams for Education.

iPads for Educational Assistants

To provide more equitable access to devices for EAs, ITSS is shipping iPads to schools to be assigned to EAs on a one-to-one basis. These devices can be personalized (via app selection and settings) and taken home for their use for the remainder of the school year. Please track the devices in a spreadsheet (asset tag, name of EA, loaned out date, date returned (prior to end of school year).

Yukon Robotics Challenge

Interested in having your students meet the ADST goals in a fun and interesting way?

The Yukon Robotics Challenge provides an opportunity for students to meet the curriculum goals. Students are given specific tasks to complete to program a EV3 robot. Teams of students work together to complete as many of the 5 tasks as they can. Students are then asked to show a panel of judges how they completed the tasks. As well, students meet with judges to discuss some of the ideas and challenges faced in building and programming the robot.

While this was designed to target students in grade 6, students from grade 4 to 7 (rural areas, this is more flexible) are welcome to take part. Help can be provided to teachers and students in programming and understanding the tasks.

This event is currently scheduled for April 26, 2022.

For further information please feel free to contact Glenna Howard at ghoward@northwestel.net. If teachers want to know how this works in a classroom or the benefits of doing this with students, please feel free to contact Jill or David at jill.potter@yesnet.yk.ca or david.michayluk@yesnet.yk.ca

Action items for consideration

• Check out the Professional learning opportunities featured in this update.

Check out the resources

Quick links to resources related to our COVID-19 response

- K-12 School Guidelines for 2021-22: COVID-19
- Yukon Education Recovery Document: Guidelines for K-12 Schools
- Can your child go to school or return to regular activities?
- Education updates and supports on COVID-19

- Talking and Sharing with Kids and Families on COVID-19
- COVID-19 and teenagers:
 Supporting Youth Mental
 Wellness
- Mental health and wellness support during COVID-19
- Wellness Together Canada free resources and support

- Yukon COVID-19 information
- COVID-19 self-assessment
- Practice the Safe 6 plus 1
- Non-medical masks in the workplace
- Canada's response and Health
 Canada information
- Council of Yukon First Nations COVID-19 info hub