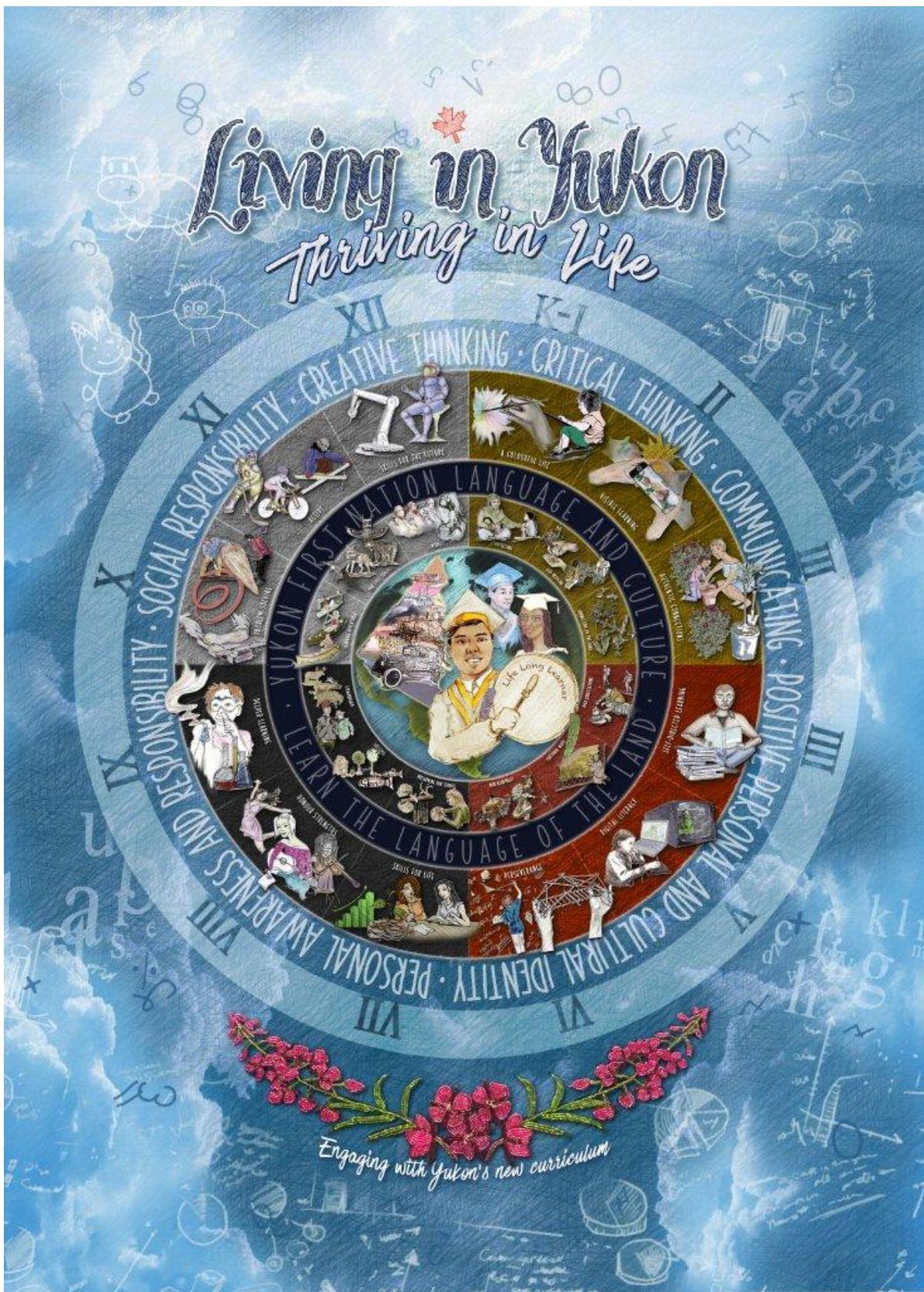




Educator Update

November 2018



Educator Update this month

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Reporting and Assessment Guidelines: K-12

Schools continue to phase in our new assessment guidelines this school year. Schools are following Option 1 or Option 2 from the Interim Assessment Guidelines ([K-9](#), [Grade 10](#), [Grades 11-12](#)) in their assessment plans this year and all schools will be shifting to Option 1 starting during the 2019-20 school year. We will be reaching out to parents, School Councils and school staff in the new year to collect feedback on this process and how we can improve our reporting on student learning ahead of our Assessment Committee meeting in Spring 2019.

Student assessment learning opportunities:

Ken O'Connor: standards-based learning, grading and reporting:

Ken O'Connor will be hosting a free, live, online presentation on standards-based grading and reporting on **Monday, December 10 at 3:30 p.m.** [Register online](#) to view the presentation. Ken was in Yukon earlier this year for a presentation to discuss this topic. Not everyone was able to attend, but a similar [online presentation](#) is available to view until April 2019. To view, please e-mail paula.thompson@gov.yk.ca for the password.

John Hattie: descriptive feedback and improving student achievement:

Following Ken's presentation, many educators indicated a desire to refine their skills and focus on providing descriptive feedback to students. Ken focused on John Hattie's research and highlighted the influences descriptive feedback can have on student achievement. To learn more and refine your skills, consider this John Hattie webinar, [Visible Learning: Feedback](#). Topics include:

- The power of feedback
- Why is it so variable?
- Instructional fit
- Giving and receiving feedback
- The perils of praise
- Talking & listening
- The beauty of errors
- Feedback strategies

You can also check out John's [250+ Influences on Student Achievement](#) resource to inform your practice.

Numeracy and Literacy Assessments

Graduation numeracy assessment: The deadline to register students for the January sitting is **December 11**. The January sitting will take place Jan. 21-25, 2019. To prepare your students, please consider the [pre-assessment activities](#) to support their success on this assessment.

Yukon Foundation Skills Assessments for Grades 4 and 7: Thanks to all of the educators from across the territory who gathered for the standards-based collaborative marking session on Nov. 19-20. The assessment booklets will be sent back to schools later when score data entry has been completed. Final student results will be available in February.

Graduation literacy assessment: Yukon educators continue to collaborate with B.C. colleagues on the development of the graduation literacy assessment. Specifications are now available for [English](#), [French First Language](#) and [French Immersion](#). All schools with senior secondary students were given the option to field test the assessments. This is now underway. The sample assessments will be available after field testing.

Student assessment resources

Classroom assessment and reporting: BC has published new resources for [classroom assessment and reporting](#).

Self-assessments: More Information and samples for student self-assessments are available for [Elementary](#), [Secondary](#), [French translations](#) are also now available.

Fresh Grade: [Fresh Grade](#) continues to gain in popularity with Yukon teachers, students, and parents as an informal tool for communicating student learning. To sign up, contact yukonportfolios@yesnet.yk.ca. You will be sent information to get started.

The Jelly Bean Books: Collecting Evidence and Portfolios: Engaging Students in Pedagogical Documentation is [now available](#) in French. This is the fourth book in the Knowing What Counts series by Anne Davies, Sandra Herbst, and Brenda Augusta. If interested, contact sofie.maurice@gov.yk.ca.

Curriculum K-12

As we continue to implement the new curriculum this year for Kindergarten to Grade 10, we are considering resources to support teachers. Please see the latest updates below.

New curriculum resources:

Science resources:

- **K-7:** French translations are expected from the publisher in September of 2019.
- **8-10:** All schools should have the new Science 10 resource. Follow the instructions in the memo to access the digital resource. Report technical issues to jane.downing@gov.yk.ca.

Social Studies resources:

- **K-3:** The new Nelson Social Studies resources for K-3 are on their way to schools. Nelson will be translating their Social Studies resources for K-7 into French with availability in September 2020.
- **4-7:** New resources for Grades 4-7 are still under consideration by Yukon educators. This has been a longer process than K-3 and 8-9 as there is more than one publisher with resources to consider.
- **8-9:** Based on positive reviews from Yukon teachers, Nelson's Social Studies 8-9 resources have been ordered.

Agencies in the Schools:

- Community resources can help promote the delivery of the curriculum.
- Agencies are approved for use in the schools through the [Agencies in the School process](#).
- The approval committee is meeting on November 28 to review several new community resources.
- View the [full list of approved resources](#) to support your class programming.

Other resources:

- Laser cutters have arrived for use in our schools. [Check out](#) when they will be available for your school.
- Yukon's curriculum video series: [Yukon's curriculum](#), [Yukon's curriculum and First Nations](#), [Performance Reports](#).

Other opportunities for schools and students

The Prime Minister's Youth Council: The [Prime Minister's Youth Council](#) is accepting applications for the next cohort of members. The council provides Canadian youth with an opportunity to give advice to the Prime Minister and Government of Canada on issues of importance to them and Canadians. Youth ages 16-24 can apply. Please share this opportunity with students. The application deadline is **November 30**.

Imagine a Canada: At the YTA Territory-Wide Conference, keynote speaker Kevin Lamoureux identified an opportunity for Yukon students to lead our nation through reconciliation. Like in previous years, through [Imagine a Canada](#), students are encouraged to show they can be leaders in reconciliation, make the future of Canada a more respectful place and share their vision of what reconciliation looks like through a poem, a song, a painting, a sculpture, a rap, a drawing, an essay,

anything! Please encourage your student's to participate in this great initiative. The registration deadline is **January 31, 2019**.

Education Savings Week: November 18-24 is Education Savings Week. It can be tough for parents to save for college or university. When parents start saving early, their money will grow more over time with interest. The Government of Canada can help parents build savings in a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP), where savings grow tax-free until they are withdrawn to pay for a child's post-secondary education. The Government of Canada can also contribute to eligible children's RESPs through the Canada Learning Bond and the Canada Education Savings Grant. For more information on these programs, visit [Canada.ca/education-savings](https://www.canada.ca/education-savings).

Technology updates

Please check out the attachment to this e-mail for all the latest technology-related updates, including on the Rapid Identity Single Sign-On, Personalized Logins and accessing new iPads and the Nelson digital resources.

Resources for educators

- Social Media Guidelines for Schools (please see attached e-mail)
- [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Teaching Resources](#)
- [First Nations teaching resources](#)
- [Curriculum and Assessment website](#) (including past educator updates)

Action items for consideration

- Watch Ken O'Connor's [live presentation](#) on standards-based grading and reporting (Dec. 10 at 3:30 p.m.).
- E-mail paula.thompson@gov.yk.ca for the password to view Ken O'Connor's [previous work on](#) stands-based grading and reporting.
- Watch [Visible Learning: Feedback](#) with John Hattie.
- Register your students for the January numeracy assessment sitting (deadline is Dec. 11).
- Digital portfolio sign-up: yukonportfolios@yesnet.yk.ca.
- Engage your students in the [Imagine a Canada](#) contest.
- Encourage your students to [apply for the Prime Minister's Youth Council](#).
- [Download](#) the Communicating Student Learning Resource and Professional Development Tool.
- Share information about the [Registered Education Savings Plan \(RESP\)](#) with parents to support them in their efforts to pay for a child's post-secondary education.