

Educator Update this week

[Survey on Student Learning](#)

[Mask Use in Schools](#)

[School Busing Update](#)

[Graduation Program](#)

[Professional Learning Opportunities](#)

[Reporting and Assessments](#)

[Resources for Educators](#)

[Other Opportunities for Schools](#)

[IT Alerts](#)

[Action Items for Consideration](#)



Survey on Student Learning

The results from the survey of students, families, and school staff are still available on [Engage Yukon](#). The feedback continues to guide central administration staff, school principals and staff.

For example, to support parents with the digital tools and instructional methods that may be in use in your classroom, consider sharing [Digital Tools at a Glance- Guide for Yukon Parents & Guardians](#) and the [7 Ps of Blended Learning](#). Further, here are some [answers to key questions](#) for students and families. Please consider sharing it with students and families who may have questions.

Mask Use in Schools

The most effective ways to keep yourself and others healthy continue to be keeping a physical distance of 2 meters where possible, frequently washing hands and staying home when sick.

When physical distancing is not possible, Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health has recommended children age 10 and older wear non-medical masks. The Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health has provided guidance on using masks in school to support efforts to safely use a mask. To learn more, review the attached [Guidance on non-medical mask use in schools](#).

School Busing Update

Central administration staff have been working our school bus contractor to adapt bus services to meet the health and safety guidelines set by Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health. This includes assigning students to seats this school year and keeping two students to a seat unless they are from the same family or household bubble.

School bus routes have been updated today to accommodate a high number of eligible students who registered closer to the start of the school year and will take effect on Tuesday, September 8. Updated bus routes can be viewed on Yukon.ca.

For more information:

- Read the [Info Bulletin](#) that was issued on Thursday, September 3
- Read about the [health and safety guidelines for school buses](#) this school year

Graduation Program

- **2020-21 Handbook of Procedures & BC Graduation Program Policy Guide**

The 2020-21 Handbook of Procedures for the Graduation Program and the companion B.C. Graduation Program Policy Guide are now available on the BC [Ministry Graduation web page](#). Please see the “What’s New” sections and review both documents for minor updates to procedures and policies.

- **Graduation Assessments Supplemental Session and Postponement**

Letters are being drafted for parents at the central administration office to help support communication with respect to last week’s announcement about the postponement of the implementation of the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment until 2021-22. The letter will also include information on the updated assessment schedule for the Grade 10 Literacy and Grade 10 Numeracy assessments that include a supplementary June 2021 session that can be found on the [Provincial Assessments website](#).

Professional Learning Opportunities

- **Building Educator Capacity**

Over the summer, the BC Ministry of Education created professional learning opportunities to support educators. Enroll in the following by creating a new account using your yesnet e-mail:

[Blended Learning: Creating a Flexible Classroom](#) – a self-paced, online course that provides educators with tools and strategies for incorporating blended learning into the classroom.

[Building Compassionate Communities in a New Normal](#) (Sept. 9, 10 am) The first in a series, this session will feature three expert panelists sharing information, ideas and strategies to create compassionate spaces for students, especially during uncertainty and change.

- **Learning Recovery**

One of the recommendations in the *Learning Recovery* section of the most recent [Yukon Learning Continuity Requirements document](#), is for intermediate teachers to assess the reading levels of their students, within the first 2 weeks of school, using the PM Benchmark Kit or a Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment in order to plan for instruction. Recently, each school was sent an updated *Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 2, 3rd Edition* (Grades 3-8, Levels L-Z).

If you would like support in using the PM Benchmark tool, please reach out to Christiane Robert or Jane Wilson from the Reading Recovery Center. They have offered to provide guidance and support in the form of mini after-school PD sessions as requested. They can be emailed at Christiane.Robert@gov.yk.ca and Jane.Wilson@gov.yk.ca. For intermediate support contact Nikki.Krocker@gov.yk.ca.

Reporting and Assessments

- **Grades 2-9 School Wide Write (SWW) and District Assessment of Reading Test (DART)**

Information on the administration of the DART and SWW formative literacy assessments. Deadline Dates:

- Fall DART and SWW: to be completed, inc. data entry, by the Friday before Thanksgiving holiday.
- Spring DART and SWW: to be completed, inc. data entry, by the Friday before Victoria Day.

To find an outline of the process:

- Login to FirstClass and locate the SWW/DART folders.
- Instead of the AMS portal, data will be entered into Aspen this year. More info to come soon.

If you have any questions, contact Nikki.Krocker@gov.yk.ca.

- **Yukon Foundation Skills Assessments (YFSAs)**

The 2020-21 YFSA administration in schools will take place between Oct. 5 and Nov. 13, 2020. Schools should receive their 2020-21 YFSA supplies parcel by the end of September. The YFSA Assessment Description and Specifications are available on the BC [Ministry of Education Website](#). The [sample YFSA](#) provide teachers and students with a preview of the sample online questions, sample student booklet and sample collaboration activity.

YFSA important dates:

Sept. 14-18 -	Daily online after school training session for all teachers/administrators 3:30-4:30 pm
Oct. 5 – Nov. 13 -	YFSA Administration
Nov. 16-19 -	Marking
Nov. 27 -	Score entry deadline
Dec. -	Booklets sent back to schools
Jan. -	Standard setting session
Feb. -	Final student results

Due to the timing of the YFSA and the data generated, both DART and SWW for grades 4 and 7 are optional for schools in both the fall and the spring. Contact Nikki.Krocker@gov.yk.ca or go to [Nikki Krocker](#)

Resources for Educators

- **Science 8-10 Online Access Update: Accessing the Whole Resource**

To register a student for an account go to [Connect School](#) and select “student”.

- on the registration page, fill out the form and select the title of the book they are registering for
- put in the corresponding code.

Then log in and go to the “new/extend course” link in the top bar and enter in the new code. Access codes:

- BC Science Connections 8 – ZQDU8AU6 (215 usages)
- BC Science Connections 9 – K7P7DY47 (200 usages)
- BC Science Connections 10 – 9DVRWP8H (200 usages)

If you have any questions, contact Tanya.Lewis@gov.yk.ca.

- **Teacher One-to-One Device Cost Sharing Program: Wave 12 Open Until Sept. 18, 2020 @ 5 PM**

The program is intended to help teachers and administrators with a minimum one-year contract to cost-share devices for their use; it is not intended to purchase devices for teacher's family members.

Read the [FAQ for the One-to-One Program](#) and express your interest: [sign-up](#).

- **Health and Safety Sample Lessons in Action and French Translations Available**

Part of the new normal this year is making sure students are learning about how to stay safe and healthy during the pandemic. COVID-19 lesson plans are now available in French.

French and English lesson plans: [Primary](#), [Intermediate](#), and [Secondary](#).

Here is a link to [photos and videos](#) from Christ the King Elementary School Grade 3 teacher, Angellina Burns, who taught the series of lessons from the handwashing unit to her students.

Other Opportunities for Schools

- **Orange Shirt Day – September 30**

Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually. For further information, visit [Orange Shirt Day](#).

IT Alerts

ITSS has been experiencing and working to resolve issues that affect the “self-service” app.

Also, ITSS is aware of and working on a solution to a security issue preventing searching the Apple store, which may impact the ability to find apps.

Action Items for Consideration

- Use the [shared parent and student survey results](#) to help plan over the course of the pandemic.
- Download the [2020-21 Handbook of Procedures & BC Graduation Program Policy Guide](#)
- Check out the updated graduation assessment schedule on the [provincial assessments website](#).
- Enroll in the [Blended Learning: Creating a Flexible Classroom](#) online course.
- Register and watch [Building Compassionate Communities in a New Normal](#)
- Check out the [sample YFSA](#) with your students.
- Get the Grades 2-9 SWW and DART literacy assessment info out of the FirstClass folders.
- Get full online access to Science 8-10 resources on [Connect School](#).
- Sign up for the teacher One-to-One device cost sharing program by Sept. 18, 2020 @ 5 PM
- Try another health and safety lesson with your students from the provided samples in French or English.
- For further information about Orange Shirt Day, please see the attached [link](#).
- For resources and support check out the websites built for you including the; [Educator Update Archive](#), [Education and School Supports: COVID-19 website](#), [Educators' Place](#), and [YESNet Portal](#)