

From: Silver, Matt GCPE:EX(Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca)
To: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX (Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca); Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX (Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: MEDIA REQUEST: Updates - VSB instructional model
Sent: 03/04/2021 17:55:27

As you both are likely aware, there is now an MLA-organized virtual event for Vancouver parents to discuss VSB's instructional model on March 10.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/inequity-in-instruction-forum-for-vancouver-high-school-families-students-registration-143383312347>

Any concerns with these holding messages before I share with Scott for review.

IF ASKED ABOUT PUBLIC VIRTUAL MEETING HOSTED BY MLAS:

- . We know that parents and families are advocating for more in-person instructional hours for their children.**
- . We are aware of the meeting that local MLAs are holding for their constituents on March 10.**
- . The Ministry continues to actively work with VSB to support more in-person instructional hours for students.**

From: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: March 3, 2021 1:33 PM
To: Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>; Silver, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: MEDIA REQUEST: Updates - VSB instructional model
Agreed

From: Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: March 3, 2021 12:55 PM
To: Silver, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>; Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: MEDIA REQUEST: Updates - VSB instructional model
No concerns from me.

On Mar 3, 2021, at 12:43 PM, Silver, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Cloe and Keith, are these response bullets good to go?

- . A motion was passed at VSB's board meeting on Feb. 22 to continue to analyze student achievement data and report back to the board.**
- . On Feb. 26, VSB submitted its updated health and safety plan to the Ministry without changes to its instructional model.**
- . VSB's board chair has told Minister Whiteside that next steps are expected to be shared with families prior to spring break, either on or before March 12.**

From: Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: March 3, 2021 11:44 AM
To: Silver, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca>; Godin, Keith EDUC:EX <Keith.Godin@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: MEDIA REQUEST: Updates - VSB instructional model

Hi Matt –

Here is the update on recent actions:

- February 22: VSB passed a board motion:

o Copyright

o Copyright

- February 25: Board Chair wrote a letter to MJW:

o Superintendent will Copyright
Copyright

- February 26: VSB submitted updated health and safety plan (does not contain updates on instructional model)
- March 12: Superintendent will report to the Board on her analysis of current model and Board communicates publicly

Based on this I think we could say that VSB has passed a public motion about next steps and also communicated with the Ministry. We anticipate an update on or before March 12th.

Also looping in Keith as he is doing most of the work on this one and he may have advice on positioning.

C

From: Silver, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: March 3, 2021 11:30 AM

To: Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: MEDIA REQUEST: Updates - VSB instructional model

Hi Cloe, do we have any updates on our review of VSB's instructional model and/or recent communication with the district that we want to highlight to media?

Here's what we provided on Feb. 17, and below this e-mail is the follow-up from the same reporter we received today.

- While the Ministry is pleased the Vancouver school district has responded to parent feedback and recently made some changes, the Ministry has asked the district to further review its instruction model for all secondary students, and especially grades 8 and 9 students to maximize in-class and online learning with teacher supervision.
- As stated in the letter dated February 12, the Ministry has also requested that the school district implement revisions to its instruction model and include this in the district's updated health and safety plan, which is to be completed by Feb. 26.

Can you please let me know asap today.

From: Liam Britten <liam.britten@cbc.ca>

Sent: March 3, 2021 10:11 AM

To: Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX <Corinna.Filion@gov.bc.ca>; Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>; Silver, Matt GCPE:EX <Matt.Silver@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: CBC checking in: any changes to VSB in-class hours?

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Corrina, Meribeth and Matt: just wanted to follow up on the situation with VSB instructional hours. The deputy minister asked in his Feb 12 letter for the VSB to include details of its plan to increase in-person instructional hours in its updated safety plan on Feb. 27.

Just wondering if the ministry can say whether or not that plan was received and if the minister is satisfied with its details on increasing in-person hours.

Thanks!

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Sincerely,
Liam Britten
CBC Vancouver
Cell: s.22

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Sincerely,
Liam Britten
CBC Vancouver
Cell: s.22

From: Hodges, Nell ECC:EX(Nell.Hodges@gov.bc.ca)
To: Duerksen, Dave ECC:EX (Dave.Duerksen@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: For review: MLA Bullets (Vancouver MLAs) - VSB instructional hours update -RUSH
Sent: 01/20/2021 17:11:27
Attachments: FW: RUSH REQUEST: Cliff # 237738 - Follow up ASAP (Instructional Hours in VSB).msg

Hi Dave,

Please see MLA bullets below for your review re: VSB instructional hour issue. They are based on the previous bullets we'd prepared as well as the messaging you shared yesterday. Due ASAP. (MO is requesting by EOD.)

Thanks

Nell

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- The Ministry of Education's revised K-12 Restart Plan, which was designed to address the September 2020 return to school, marked the transition to Stage 2.
- The Ministry's primary objective and focus for Stage 2 is to maximize in-class instruction for all students while ensuring health and safety guidelines are followed.
- The Ministry has asked school districts to be flexible delivering education during the pandemic.
- Students should receive instruction to meet their learning needs, whether in a classroom or virtually.
- The Ministry understands that the Vancouver School District's timetable and scheduling for secondary schools was developed with input from parents, students, school administrators, teachers and support staff.
- Some Vancouver parents have expressed concern about the delivery of instruction time their child is receiving at the secondary level.
- The Minister of Education met with the Chair of the Vancouver School Board (VSB) to discuss these concerns. The Chair provided assurance that a speedy review of VSB's current instruction model – involving parents, students, Indigenous rights holders, unions and communities – is underway.
- Boards of education are responsible for providing and assessing their own educational programs within parameters set out in health and safety guidelines.
- The Ministry expects that VSB and all school districts adhere to the amount of instructional hours specified in the *School Act*. School districts will meet these expectations in a variety of ways, whether in class and/or virtually.

From: Grauer, Deborah EDUC:EX <Deborah.Grauer@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: January 20, 2021 8:51 AM

To: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>; Hodges, Nell EDUC:EX <Nell.Hodges@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Weber, Megan EDUC:EX <Megan.Weber@gov.bc.ca>; Restall, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Restall@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: MLA Bullets (Vancouver MLAs) - VSB instructional hours update -RUSH

Nell, please read below, noting time sensitivity. Can you provide updated bullets via email?

/dlg

From: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: January 20, 2021 8:48 AM

To: Grauer, Deborah EDUC:EX <Deborah.Grauer@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Weber, Megan EDUC:EX <Megan.Weber@gov.bc.ca>; Restall, Emma EDUC:EX <Emma.Restall@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: MLA Bullets (Vancouver MLAs) - VSB instructional hours update -RUSH

Importance: High

Good morning Deb - MO is looking for some updated MLA bullets for Vancouver MLAs on status of VSB instructional hours issue. Minister had asked for an update mid-December (attached previous request to reference) so Emma can cross-reference previous CLIFF when creating new log and eAp.

They are requesting this info by the end of day today please.

Many thanks!

Julie Charlton | Manager, Executive Operations

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Education

m: (250) 216-7142 e: Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca

From: Weber, Megan EDUC:EX(Megan.Weber@gov.bc.ca)
To: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX (Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: RUSH REQUEST: Cliff # 237738 - Follow up ASAP (Instructional Hours in VSB)
Sent: 12/18/2020 00:19:29

Hi Julie – here's some bullets for MO (hope we are not too late).

- The global pandemic is an unusual and unprecedented event; it is a situation that is not contemplated by the *School Act*.
- The five-stage approach for the K-12 Restart Plan released last spring was informed by strict health and safety guidelines as determined by the PHO, the Ministry of Health and WorkSafeBC.
- The Ministry of Education's revised K-12 Restart Plan, which was designed to address the September 2020 return to school, marked the transition to Stage Two. Stage Two involves full-time instruction for all students for the maximum instructional time possible within learning group limits. Self-directed learning supplements in-class instruction, if required.

s.14

- It should also be noted that boards of education are responsible for providing and assessing their own educational programs within parameters set out in health and safety guidelines. Locally elected boards of education and school district staff are best positioned to address questions regarding their delivery of educational programs.

From: Godin, Keith EDUC:EX
Sent: December 17, 2020 4:11 PM
To: Hodges, Nell EDUC:EX
Cc: Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX ; Weber, Megan EDUC:EX
Subject: Re: RUSH REQUEST: Cliff # 237738 - Follow up ASAP (Instructional Hours in VSB)
Thanks Nell
Megan - can go to MO

On Dec 17, 2020, at 3:48 PM, Hodges, Nell EDUC:EX <Nell.Hodges@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi,
Thanks for the conversation. Here are some bullets for your review.

Thanks
Nell

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- The global pandemic is an unusual and unprecedented event; it is a situation that is not contemplated by the *School Act*.
- The five-stage approach for the K-12 Restart Plan released last spring was informed by strict health and safety guidelines as determined by the PHO, the Ministry of Health and WorkSafeBC.
- The Ministry of Education's revised K-12 Restart Plan, which was designed to address the September 2020 return to school, marked the transition to Stage Two. Stage Two involves full-time instruction for all students for the maximum instructional time

possible within learning group limits. Self-directed learning supplements in-class instruction, if required.

s.14

- It should also be noted that boards of education are responsible for providing and assessing their own educational programs within parameters set out in health and safety guidelines. Locally elected boards of education and school district staff are best positioned to address questions regarding their delivery of educational programs.

From: Weber, Megan EDUC:EX <Megan.Weber@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: December 17, 2020 1:28 PM

To: Hodges, Nell EDUC:EX <Nell.Hodges@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: RUSH REQUEST: Cliff # 237738 - Follow up ASAP (Instructional Hours in VSB)

Importance: High

Hi Nell,

MJW is looking for some info asap on issue raised about instructional hours in VSB. Can you provide some bullets via email?

Thank you,

Megan

From: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: December 17, 2020 1:23 PM

To: Weber, Megan EDUC:EX <Megan.Weber@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>; Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Cliff # 237738 - Follow up ASAP (Instructional Hours in VSB)

Importance: High

Hi Megan. Flagging to you for follow up noting MJW is wanting some info on this asap (and will flag to the DM). Are you able to follow up please? Cloe, looping you in as these were originally assigned to your team so not sure if you need to weigh in.

Thanks!

Julie

From: Farrance, Melissa EDUC:EX <Melissa.Farrance@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: December 17, 2020 1:10 PM

To: Charlton, Julie EDUC:EX <Julie.Charlton@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Lindsay-Baugh, Anna ENV:EX <Anna.LindsayBaugh@gov.bc.ca>; Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Cliff # 237738 - Follow up ASAP

Hi Julie,

s.14

MJW had a meeting with Ministers Heyman and Eby today and needs to debrief with the deputy on some points raised there as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Melissa Farrance (she/her)

Ministerial Assistant
Minister of Education
250-213-1432