

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Harrison, Veronica EDUC:EX
Sent: March 17, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Dinicol, Sam GCPE:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX; Smith, George PREM:EX
Cc: Talbot, Sarena MCF:EX
Subject: Fwd: COVID School closures statement KMs March 17 8am
Attachments: COVID School closures statement KMs March 17 8am.docx; ATT00001.htm

This is the Minister's statement/letter we are working from that will be the basis of speaking notes. This will also go out to education partners later today.

Please let me know ASAP if there are any questions or concerns.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Filion, Corinna GCPE:EX" <Corinna.Filion@gov.bc.ca>
Date: March 17, 2020 at 8:38:12 AM PDT
To: "Harrison, Veronica EDUC:EX" <Veronica.Harrison@gov.bc.ca>, "Farrance, Melissa EDUC:EX" <Melissa.Farrance@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Burton, Meribeth GCPE:EX" <Meribeth.Burton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: COVID School closures statement KMs March 17 8am

Here is the latest. Looking to ensure everyone is good with this before we finalize speaking notes.

C

School closures

Minister statement/letter:

The health and safety of our students, staff and their families is our highest priority.

The global pandemic COVID-19 is moving quickly and its impact on British Columbians is growing.

We have followed the direction – daily – of public health officials and scientists in making fact-based decisions when it comes to B.C.'s school system.

Today, under the direction of the Provincial Health Officer we are directing all schools to extend their spring break to Friday, April 17, 2020. On April 20 and until further notice; all in-person classes will be suspended.

While classroom lessons are suspended it is expected that schools will implement a variety of measures to ensure continued learning for students.

We are urging teachers, principals, school districts and independent school authorities to begin planning now to ensure continuity of learning and I have tasked Ministry of Education staff to work with our education partners to coordinate these initiatives.

We expect school districts and independent schools will have plans in place by March 30 to maintain some level of service for children of people who are performing essential services across our province – like medical health professionals, first responders, pharmacists and critical infrastructure workers.

We also know there are vulnerable students who have unique needs; important services like school meal programs, and child care services operating on school grounds that need to be addressed. We expect schools to consider these issues in their planning while we work together through these extraordinary times.

Every student will receive a final mark, and all students on track to move to the next grade will do so in the fall. For grades 10 and 11 students, graduation assessments will be postponed.

Every student eligible to graduate from Grade 12 this year will graduate. The only graduation assessment required for current Grade 12 students is the Grade 10 numeracy assessment. The Ministry of Education will ensure Grade 12 students who have not yet completed this assessment and who are otherwise on track to graduate are able to meet this graduation requirement. The ministry will also work with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training and with post-secondary institutions on admissions and the smooth transition of graduating students in this extra-ordinary year.

We will continue to work in consultation with our education partners as we plan for ongoing learning, including frequent contact with school districts to ensure we work through this together as plans are developed.

This is a very challenging time in B.C. and around the world. Please take necessary preventative measures to keep you and your families healthy. If you have symptoms call 8-1-1 to pre-arrange health testing. While symptomatic, self-isolate.

The province has a launched a new non-medical information line for British Columbians who have questions about COVID-19: **1-888-COVID19**. Phone lines are open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM to 8 PM, and information is available in more than 110 languages.

These measures are temporary. But we must act together and act now to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Harrison, Veronica EDUC:EX
Sent: April 30, 2020 4:19 PM
To: Dinicol, Sam GCPE:EX; Farmer, Leila GCPE:EX; Jones, JJ GCPE:EX; Robinson, Jon PREM:EX; McColl, John-Michael FIN:EX
Cc: Talbot, Sarena MCF:EX; Gunn, Paula MCF:EX; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Subject: Education Recovery
Attachments: 5 stage framework - Sunday 415 PM.docx; Education Stages 20200423 10_50 am.docx; 1.0e 0422 Education Jurisdiction Scan.docx; Education Stages v6_20200424_16_52.docx

Hi folks,

Attached are some more thorough documents on education re-entry possibilities. We are currently having discussions with our education partners about the potential stages.

Our DM has reviewed these with Don Wright and we are hoping to have a briefing with some PO staff before next Wednesday's cabinet meeting (request is in the works). I'm hoping that folks that have time can review some of these documents and provide any feedback.

As always, reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,

Veronica

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K-12 Operating Principles to Support a Phased Return to In-Class Instruction

The B.C. Ministry of Education's *Five Stage Framework* for the provision of educational services during the COVID-19 pandemic outlines requirements for school districts and independent schools to follow. These requirements:

- are supported by medical research and evidence regarding the COVID 19 epidemic in BC and its impact on school-aged children and the adults working in schools;
- can be adjusted based on the Provincial Health Officer's directions regarding health emergency actions; and
- can be applied provincially or regionally, depending on the COVID 19 outbreak.

A return to "in-class" instruction will commence under the direction of Minister of Education based on advice provided by the Public Health Officer and will align with health measures put in place to manage the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

As schools re-open to increased attendance and service, it is important to acknowledge:

- measures to manage the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in a K-12 setting will be implemented on the advice of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) and the BC Center for Disease Control (BCCDC) to ensure that health and safety of students and staff is paramount;
- a resumption of in-class learning for students is an important factor in re-starting the economy by allowing parents to return to the workforce and aiding communities to transition to regular operation;
- while remote and online instruction has met the urgent need for continuity of learning, it is not the ideal instructional model for all students. The majority of students learn best in a classroom environment with daily direct contact with teachers, other professional staff and peers. Schools play a key role in the social/emotional, academic and career development of students and they deserve every opportunity to maximize their capacities in those areas;
- health measures to manage the transmission of COVID-19 may differ in various regions and communities; therefore, the stages of a return to in-class learning may vary among school districts and possibly from one school to another;
- all schools are expected to have completed the necessary planning and resourcing to meet or exceed the provision of services described at each stage as it is implemented; and,
- School districts and independent schools will be required to provide the Ministry of Education with regular reports on the status of educational services in relation implementation of each of the stages described in the Framework.

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Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

April 22, 2020

Location	Schools Open - Y/N Pending	Date Closed & Re-opened	Source	Approach (i.e. age categories, staggered return, partial return, full return and potential timing)?	Factors considering for K-12 students re-entering school (for example: transportation and social distancing rules, mental health, summer school, etc.)?
USA					
USA – Pacific North West	N	Closed: Mid-March	Washington Post AZ Government OR Government Health & Safety KDVR News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA - Schools closed statewide until April 25. • School facilities may continue to be used for preparation of food service, childcare and, to provide other social services that are not possible to be provided off-site. • MI - schools to close for remainder of year unless social distancing orders can ease • AZ - extension of school closures through the end of the 2019-2020 School Year. • Encourages schools to continue to provide educational opportunities • OR – schools closed for rest of school year • CO – reopening schools increasingly unlikely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easing of social distancing orders
California	N	Closed: Mar 23	EdSource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible return in the fall • Return to ‘normal’ life when there is herd immunity and a vaccine is available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return reorganized in “radically” different ways to protect staff, students and families • Challenge to maintain physical distancing: implement staggered schedules, reform school activities that happen in large groups • Deep sanitation and massive deep cleaning in schools and beyond • Changes in school schedules need to be negotiated with labour leaders
INTERNATIONAL					
Denmark	Y	Closed: Mar 11 Open: April 15	CNN Danish Police Politi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reopening primary schools • Phase 1: preschool – gr 5 • Before and after school care for students up to gr 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all students can sit at least 2m apart • Staggered arrival times, routes, breaks and lunch time • School yard split into sections with barrier tape • New hygiene measures – wash hands upon arrival and every 2 hrs

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools
April 22, 2020

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special needs from all grades when individual local councils consider it safe based on direction from health authorities • Upper secondary education will remain physically closed, except for students in 3rd grade of upper secondary, 2nd grade of higher prep exam course, classes for students with ASD, and students taking school-leaving exam this summer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact surfaces (sinks, toilet seats and door handles) are disinfected 2x/day • All students with high-risk families can stay at home at parents' choice • Employees must follow general recommendations of health authorities • Ministry of Children and Education to lay out detailed rules • Discussions on how students can take exams • General proficiency marks will replace exam marks
Austria	N			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible mid-May opening if there is not a surge in infections after ease in lockdowns (small businesses, hardware and gardening outlets) 	
Germany	Pending	Closed: Mar 13 Open: May 4	The Guardian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staggered reopening: students in final 2 years of high school and final year of primary returning first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing measures to remain in place until at least May 3
Switzerland	Pending	Closed: Mar 13 Open: May 11		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 stage plan to gradually reopen businesses and schools • Companies providing personal services to open first • 2-3 week gap, schools reopen May 11 • 3rd stage: reopen secondary, vocational/universities from June 8 	
Sweden	Y	Never closed	Financial Times CBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has kept schools open for children up to age 16 • Closed university and higher education colleges • Recommend secondary and universities switch to distance learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools need to stay open to provide childcare for health workers • Swedish HA says it doesn't believe that school kids are transmitting the disease to a great extent that the costs of closing schools outweighs the benefits of keep them open • Some concerns for teachers at risk; children are carriers •

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

April 22, 2020

Norway	Y	Closed: Mar 12 Open: Apr 20		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-school and K to open Apr 20 Apr 27 – reopen grade 1-4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children under age of 3 will have to be in groups of 3 under 1 adult supervision Children between 3-6yrs can stay in groups of 6
Czech Republic	N	Closed: Mar 12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apr 20 students begin phased return to colleges and schools; mainly 1:1 consultation High school grad and entry exams held after June 1 High schools not expected to fully open until Sept 1 	
France	Pending	Closed: Mar 13 Open: May 11	MSN.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposing to offer summer school Progressive opening as of May 11 of creches, schools, colleges and lycées French children return to school in staggered year groups Ages 5-11 to go back first; following week older kids in selected years at secondary schools All classes back by May 25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than 15 students allowed in each class Primary kids in small groups (<10)
New Zealand	Pending	Closed: Mar 25 Open: Apr 29	Education.govt.nz (Government Education Covid website) Control measures to deliver COVID-19 strategies: Education sector evidence NZ Herald	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning for a hybrid model of online learning and in-class instruction Prioritizing children of essential workers Has 4 levels of alerts in place (currently in level 4 = complete lockdown); April 27, government will move to level 3 (restrict) Alert 3: safe for early learning centres and schools for children up to year 10 (gr 9) to open All young people in years 11-13 will continue to learn at home Children and young people who can stay at home, should 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In advance of reopening allow for adequate time for property inspection and adequate maintenance and cleaning; at least 1 week The two key public health principles that support Alert Level 3 are first to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place, and second to limit the number of possible contacts people have if they do get infected to make it easier to rapidly stop further spread. PPE not necessary for school environment Children, young people and staff at greater risk encouraged to stay at home; anyone who is sick should remain at home

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools
April 22, 2020

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Education setting up a process for parents to register if they want their kids to return to school; working with sector on a process for this 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer students on the school grounds Stay within their small groups Some teachers will be teaching at school while others provide distance learning Restrictions on numbers of children are necessary for physical distancing (1m insides and 2m outside), transport constraints and limited resources Also implement contact tracing and hygiene requirements Children to remain with same group each day with no mixing between groups Public health advice is to limit school bubble to 10; could increase to 20 once up and running Expansive list of public health measures being put in place in schools
Singapore	N	Closed: April 3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved to home based learning for all grades starting week of April 3 Providing limited services for children of parents who must work or can't find childcare 	
Taiwan	Y	Closed: Early Feb Open: Feb 27	CBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Took an additional 2 weeks off at winter break 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In advance of pandemic increased mask and alcohol sanitizer production Increased fines for raising prices of medical supplies and spreading misinformation Set cleaning standards for public transportation and other areas Take temperature and report to school each morning before arriving Kids wear masks all day, except at lunch Plastic barriers on desks Opening all windows and air vents Suspended some sports Set guidelines for the suspension of classes in the future

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools
April 22, 2020

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools with 2 or more confirmed cases must close immediately
Tibet	Y	Closed: Early Mar Open: End of Mar		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staggered re-opening time across provinces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some students/schools still using online learning
CANADA					
ON	N		CTV News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ford saying schools will likely be among the last to open as covid restrictions are loosened Relying on online learning as main learning platform 	
QC	N	Open: possibly before May 4	CBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong public reaction against opening schools prior to May 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs agreement of public health No risk for children and teachers PHO said reopening schools would mean kids who not at high risk of developing complications from covid19 would participating in natural immunizations i.e. herd immunity
AB	N		Global News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will reopen schools when other segments of the economy reopen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider wearing masks in schools since challenging to keep 2m apart Emphasize regular handwashing Keep anyone who is ill at home
MB	N	Closed: Mar 13		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated Apr 21: PHO advised all in-classroom learning be suspended indefinitely for this school year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classes will resume when public health officials advise to do so
NB	N	Closed: Mar 13	Global News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apr 2: Education Minister stated barring drastic improvement schools will remain closed for rest of school year As of Apr 15: slow growth of confirmed Covid cases has started to develop a plan to ease restrictions 	
NS	N		NovaScotia.ca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All public schools closed until at least May 1 	

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

April 22, 2020

NWT	N	Closed: Mar 22	NWT Education, Culture and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools closed for remainder of school year 	
Nunavut		Closed: Mar 17	Nunavut Dept. of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools closed for remainder of school year School staff report to work Apr 21 to prepare learning packages 	
PEI		Closed: Mar 16	PEI Government News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools closed until at least May 11 Apr 22: Province preparing ease back plan 	
SK		Closed: Mar 17	SK Government News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apr 22: Announcement of reopen plan (@6:02pm) 	
YK	N		YK Government Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close in-class instruction for remainder of school year. Learning at home to resume April 16 	

- *As of March 18, 107 countries had implemented national school closures*

EDUCATION – COVID-19 RESPONSE

K-12 Operating Principles

The strategies and actions needed to support educational programs and operations of schools during COVID-19;

- are supported by research and evidence of COVID 19 epidemic in BC and the impact on school-aged children;
- are informed by practices in other jurisdictions who have also contemplated returning to in-class instruction in recent months;
- can expand and contract to align with the health emergency measures as directed by the PHO; and
- can be applied provincially, regionally and/or on an individual school basis depending on the status of COVID 19 outbreak and the level of risk presented in individual schools and communities.

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OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Harrison, Veronica EDUC:EX
Sent: May 2, 2020 11:27 AM
To: Dinicol, Sam GCPE:EX; Farmer, Leila GCPE:EX; Jones, JJ GCPE:EX; McColl, John-Michael FIN:EX; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX; Aaron, Sage PREM:EX; Talbot, Sarena MCF:EX; Gunn, Paula MCF:EX; Robinson, Jon PREM:EX
Subject: Updated - Education Recovery Materials
Attachments: 20200501 Education Jurisdiction Scan.docx; ATT00001.htm; Education Stages Placemat 20200501_0700.pdf; ATT00002.htm; Education.Restart.May.2020_01_1302.pdf; ATT00003.htm; Education Three Week Rollout 20200501_1509.docx; ATT00004.htm

Hi folks,

There's been a few tweaks to the stages based on feedback from partners. We are also working on a PowerPoint for cabinet on Wednesday that is attached.

We have a briefing with the Premier on Tuesday morning where I'm sure we'll get some more direction. We're also sharing with GCPE HQ as they work on their restart plan.

Thanks and call if you have any questions.

Veronica

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX" <Reg.Bawa@gov.bc.ca>
Date: May 1, 2020 at 9:31:02 PM PDT
To: "Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX" <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Blair, Tammy EDUC:EX" <Tammy.Blair@gov.bc.ca>, "Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX" <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Mo

Hi Sheila - at the briefing today Veronica asked for copies of the documents for a discussion with the PO regarding communications.

Can you please forward to her but note these are DRAFT copies and we may have some changes over the weekend before they are final and ready for Cabinet.

Reg Bawa

K-12 Operating Principles

The strategies and actions needed to support educational programs and operations of schools during COVID-19;

- are supported by research and evidence of COVID 19 epidemic in BC and transmission risk between school-aged children and adults;
- are informed by practices in other jurisdictions planning and returning to in-class instruction;
- can expand and contract to align with government pandemic management measures and orders;
- can be applied provincially, regionally and/or by community to address COVID 19 risk; and,
- where required, allow some parents/guardians to elect to continue being supported remotely by their classroom teacher for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year.

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COVID-19 Response Plan for the K-12 Education Sector

Ministry of Education

May 6, 2020

CONFIDENTIAL CABINET

1

Request for Decision

EDUC is requesting approval of the:

1. Approach for a controlled and measured return to in-class instruction; and
2. K-12 response framework for the 2020/21 school year

CONFIDENTIAL CABINET

2

Background

March 17th: Suspended in class instruction for the vast majority of students in all public and independent schools.

March 27th: Released Integrated Planning Framework to guide schools in adjusting their operations.

Guiding Principles:

1. Ensure a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees
2. Provide the services needed to support children of our essential service workers
3. Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance
4. Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students

CONFIDENTIAL CABINET

3

Operating Principles for K-12 Stages:

The strategies and actions needed to support educational programs and operations during COVID-19:

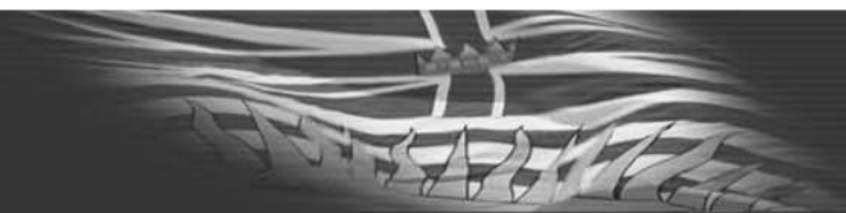
1. are supported by research and evidence of COVID 19 epidemic in BC and transmission risk between school-aged children and adults;
2. are informed by practices in other jurisdictions planning and returning to in-class instruction;
3. can expand and contract to align with government pandemic management measures and orders;
4. can be applied provincially, regionally and/or by community to address COVID 19 risk; and,
5. where required, allow some parents/guardians to elect to continue being supported remotely by their classroom teacher for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year.

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4



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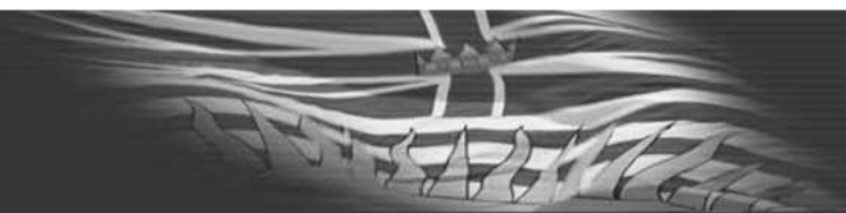
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Current Status (Stage 4)

- **All students** have been contacted by their classroom teacher and are receiving learning opportunities.
- **~4,700 children** of Essential Service Workers are being supported, mostly in health services and first responders.
- **~300 vulnerable students** and students with disabilities/diverse abilities are being supported.
- **27,000+ devices** have been loaned out to public school students.
- **75,000+ meal packages** provided to more than 16,000 families per week.



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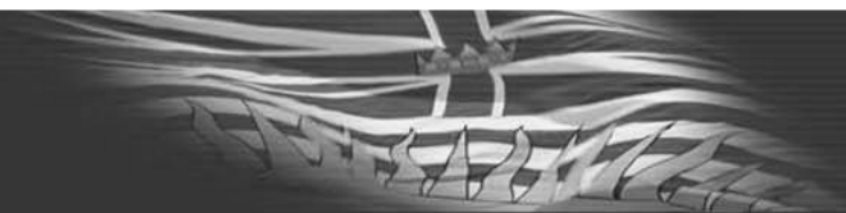
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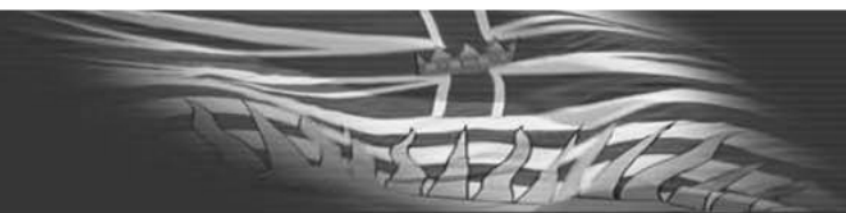
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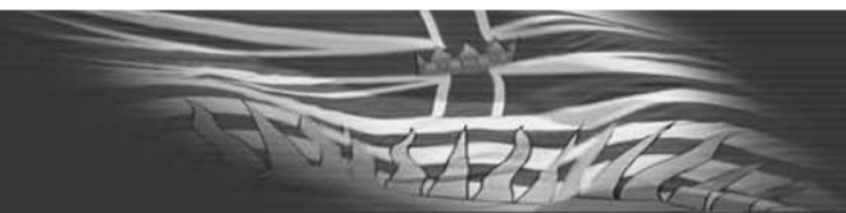


What others are doing:

Canada	International
Quebec	Sweden
Ontario	Denmark
Alberta	New Zealand
Saskatchewan	



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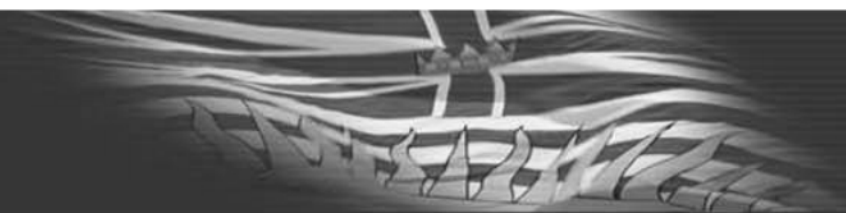
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Key Messages:

1. Schools are safe for students and staff.
 - If people are sick, they should continue to stay at home – this is about healthy children and adults.
 - Modified physical distancing, hygiene and safety protocols have been put in place.
2. Children are low risk to transmit the virus.
3. Schools are safe havens and community hubs – time away from them deepens inequity.
4. A controlled and measured return is consistent with the broader public health strategy.



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Decisions:

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12

COVID-19 Response Plan for the K-12 Education Sector

DATE	Government Decision	Products/Guidelines	Policies	Stakeholder Engagement	Sector Communications	Public Communication
Tuesday, April 28						PHO – Special address to BC educators and support staff, video
Wednesday, April 29				Surrey, Vancouver, Richmond and North Vancouver SDs Executive		
Thursday, April 30	DW	Presentation, 5 Stages Overview, Jurisdiction Scan, Operating Guidelines, 3 Week Rollout		BCTF, Teri Mooring Technical Working Group (FNESC, FISA, BCSTA, BCSSA, BCASBO, BCPVPA, BCPSEA, and PSEC)		
Friday, May 1	DW MRF Briefing	Presentation, 5 Stages Overview, Jurisdiction Scan, , 3 Week Rollout		BCSSA Executive BCASBO Executive	DM Bulletin – Survey #2 SD on local implementation planning activities	PHO – Data Model Overview, What is the Data Telling Us, Positive Signs, Foreshadow of a Restart
Saturday, May 2		Speaking Notes, Q&As				MRF/PHO Town Hall – Answering Questions from Children
Sunday, May 3						
Monday, May 4	Minister's Council	Final Presentation and Materials to Cab Ops (9am) Develop speaking points for sharing with sector executives.		CSF and Rural SD Superintendents BCASBO having regional meetings		NR – Follow up on MRF/PHO Town Hall – Positive Messaging, Signal Education Restart is Coming
Tuesday, May 5	PO	Finalize Minister's speaking notes.	Summer Learning	BCTF / CUPE LAB (Superintendents) BCPVPA	Learn – Focus on Health and Safety; Appropriate Use of PPE/K-12 Settings	PHO/HEALTH Messaging - physical distancing strategies will look different in schools – low risk of transmission
Wednesday, May 6	Cabinet		TTOC vs Volunteer	Minister meeting with BCSTA Exec	DM Bulletin – Request SD Plans for Restart (now to end of June)	PHO – Messaging to support Government's Roadmap, Education Restart; and Health and Safety (no PPE needed) PJH: NR – Government's Roadmap
Thursday, May 7			Sick Leave Opt-in/Opt-out language	Technical Working Group (FNESC, FISA, BCSTA, BCSSA, BCASBO, BCPVPA, BCPSEA, and PSEC) Engage with BC Transit		

COVID-19 Response Plan for the K-12 Education Sector

Friday, May 8	MCFD Linkages	Updated Integrated Planning Framework with the 5 Stages Overview (Placemat) and Operating Guidelines Ministry plans due to DW	PSEC Letter 2 – details?	All STs, All Sups – Calls – Respond to Q&As (regarding Education Restart) Minister meeting with all Board Chairs	DM Bulletin – Reminder Request SDs to submit plans Learn – Focus - safety protocols – link to website – everything that is being done in schools to reduce the risk of Covid transmission	MRF: NR – Education Restart Plan released – Framework/operating guidelines, aligns with the direction across Government
Saturday, May 9						
Sunday, May 10						
Monday, May 11	Alignment with BC Transit (re: transportation guidelines)	Updated Health & Safety Guidelines/Transportation Guidelines SD plans due	Pull information from SD plans on health and safety measures Worksafe begins to review SD plans.	PHO– Call with Teachers/ Sups	Publish Health & Safety Guidelines/Transportation Guidelines	
Tuesday, May 12		Speaking Notes, Q&As				MRF: Media Interviews (teachers, parents, and students); respond to questions
Wednesday, May 13		Speaking Notes, Operating Guidelines and 5 Stages Overview		All STs, All Sups – Calls – Operating Guidelines distributed in advance; respond to Q&As		
Thursday, May 14		Speaking Notes, Operating Guidelines and 5 Stages Overview		Technical Working Group (FNESC, FISA, BCSTA, BCSSA, BCASBO, BCPVPA, BCPSEA, and PSEC)		
Friday, May 15				Data Collection Due for SDs Plan	DM Bulletin – Survey #3 SD on local implementation planning activities, welcome back to school, distribute protocols, updated Integrated Planning Framework with the 5 Stages Overview (Placemat) and Operating Guidelines Learn –focus on teaching approaches that support online/in-class instructions, managing a new environment,	

COVID-19 Response Plan for the K-12 Education Sector

					professional development opportunities	
Saturday, May 16						
Sunday, May 17						
Monday, May 18						
Tuesday, May 19				Professional Development	Publish updated Integrated Planning Framework with the 5 Stages Overview (Placemat) and Operating Guidelines	NR – Education Restart

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

Location	Schools Open - Y/N Pending	Date Closed & Re-opened	Source	Approach (i.e. age categories, staggered return, partial return, full return and potential timing)?	Factors considering for K-12 students re-entering school (for example: transportation and social distancing rules, mental health, summer school, etc.)?
USA					
USA	N		Politico Washington Post McKinsey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools could reopen in phase 2 (of 3) of 43 states and Washington BC have ordered or recommended keeping in-person schooling closed for rest of academic year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States need to log 2 weeks of declines in flu-like illnesses and documented Covid cases before considering phase 1 of emergence plan Widespread community testing
USA – Pacific North West	N	Closed: Mid-March	Washington Post AZ Government OR Government Health & Safety KDVR News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WA - School facilities may continue to be used for preparation of food service, childcare and, to provide other social services that are not possible to be provided off-site. Students will continue to learn from home for rest of school year and possibly in the fall MI - schools to close for remainder of year unless social distancing orders can ease AZ - extension of school closures through the end of the 2019-2020 School Year. Encourages schools to continue to provide educational opportunities OR – schools closed for rest of school year CO – reopening schools increasingly unlikely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easing of social distancing orders
California	N	Closed: Mar 23	EdSource Politico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible return in the fall Return to 'normal' life when there is herd immunity and a vaccine is available Possibility of staggering school schedules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return reorganized in “radically” different ways to protect staff, students and families Challenge to maintain physical distancing: implement staggered schedules, reform school activities that happen in large groups Deep sanitation and massive deep cleaning in schools and beyond Changes in school schedules need to be negotiated with labour leaders

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

INTERNATIONAL					
Belgium	N	Closed: Mar 12 Open: May 18	BBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shops opening doors from May 11; schools set to reopen the week after 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cap on the number of pupils in class; 10 children in each class and will need to have at least 4 m² of space All Belgians over age 12 will have to wear masks on public transport
Denmark	Y	Closed: Mar 11 Open: April 15	CNN Danish Police Politi UNESCO: Preparing and Planning for the Reopening of Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First country in Europe to reopen schools following advice from health authorities that it was safe to do so Phase 1: gradual reopening of daycare and primary schools, after-school programs, special institutions, last year of high school and a certain part of vocational education Consensus among stakeholders not to rush reopening and other levels should not be opened yet Decision to open daycare and primary schools based on several factors: education critical for development and wellbeing, less likely to benefit from distance learning, and to relieve families in need of social support and/or allow them to continue to work Special needs from all grades when individual local councils consider it safe based on direction from health authorities Upper secondary education will remain physically closed, except for those grades noted above. These classrooms being used to spread out elementary students After first 2 weeks of reopening: 4/5 parents feel comfortable sending children back ½ children in daycare have returned; 80-90% in primary Unable to open rest of school levels as all staff and physical space is being used under physical distancing rules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOE published health guidelines with well-defined criteria re: hygiene, social distancing Health authorities also developed other support material including a hotline and website with Q&As Classroom orientation with parents and students prior to return to school Gov allowed municipalities to decide when public schools and day-cares would be ready to open No schools or institution can open until they meet the rules set out by HA; some schools still not open 10 days after official announcement Infected children or those living with an infected person cannot go back to school without the assessment of a health professional Ensure all students can sit at least 2m apart; 24 students divided into 2 classrooms and smaller groups. Intensive use of TOC to support supervision 5-6 kids together in groups without social distancing Staggered arrival times, routes, breaks and lunch time; Children of ESW can drop off early morning Increased outside time for interactions School yard split into sections with barrier tape New hygiene measures – wash hands upon arrival and every 2 hrs.

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seen no new cases of COVID • Small group of staff with pre-existing health conditions have not return • Challenges: leaders find difficult to balance health guidelines with pedagogical aims • Insecurities related to staff with pre-existing conditions and scared families • Schools and daycare running on full capacity but cannot open for all children • Logistical problems with dividing playground, entrance doors, toilets etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact surfaces (sinks, toilet seats and door handles) are disinfected 2x/day • All students with high-risk families can stay at home at parents' choice • Employees must follow general recommendations of health authorities • Ministry of Children and Education to lay out detailed rules • Discussions on how students can take exams • General proficiency marks will replace exam mark
Austria	N			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible mid-May opening if there is not a surge in infections after ease in lockdowns (small businesses, hardware and gardening outlets) 	
Germany	Pending	Closed: Mar 13 Open: May 4	The Guardian BBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staggered reopening: students in final 2 years of high school and final year of primary returning first • Priority given to those students with exams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing measures to remain in place until at least May 3 • Safety measures for breaks and school buses
Switzerland	Pending	Closed: Mar 13 Open: May 11		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 stage plan to gradually reopen businesses and schools • Companies providing personal services to open first • 2-3 week gap, schools reopen May 11 • 3rd stage: reopen secondary, vocational/universities from June 8 	
Sweden	Y	Never closed	Financial Times CBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has kept schools open for children up to age 16 • Closed university and higher education colleges • Recommend secondary and universities switch to distance learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools need to stay open to provide childcare for health workers • Swedish HA says it doesn't believe that school kids are transmitting the disease to a great extent that the costs of closing schools outweighs the benefits of keep them open • Some concerns for teachers at risk; children are carriers

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

Norway	Y	Closed: Mar 12 Open: Apr 20		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-school and K to open Apr 20 Apr 27 – reopen grade 1-4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children under age of 3 will have to be in groups of 3 under 1 adult supervision Children between 3-6yrs can stay in groups of 6
Czech Republic	Y	Closed: Mar 12 Open: Apr 20		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apr 20 students begin phased return to colleges and schools; mainly 1:1 consultation High school grad and entry exams held after June 1 High schools not expected to fully open until Sept 1 	
France	Pending	Closed: Mar 13 Open: May 11	MSN.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposing to offer summer school Progressive opening as of May 11 of creches, schools, colleges and lycées French children return to school in staggered year groups Ages 5-11 to go back first; following week older kids in selected years at secondary schools All classes back by May 25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than 15 students allowed in each class Primary kids in small groups (<10)
New Zealand	Pending	Closed: Mar 25 Open: Apr 29	Education.govt.nz (Government Education Covid website) Control measures to deliver COVID-19 strategies: Education sector evidence NZ Herald 04/30 Phone communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning for a hybrid model of online learning and in-class instruction Prioritizing children of essential workers Has 4 levels of alerts in place (currently in level 4 = complete lockdown); April 27, government will move to level 3 (restrict) Alert 3: safe for early learning centres and schools for children up to year 10 (gr 9) to open All young people in years 11-13 will continue to learn at home Return to school message: stay home if you can, if not come to school Ministry of Education setting up a process for parents to register if they want their kids to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In advance of reopening allow for adequate time for property inspection and adequate maintenance and cleaning; at least 1 week The two key public health principles that support Alert Level 3 are first to minimise the risk that someone gets infected in the first place, and second to limit the number of possible contacts people have if they do get infected to make it easier to rapidly stop further spread. PPE not necessary for school environment Children, young people and staff at greater risk encouraged to stay at home; anyone who is sick should remain at home Fewer students on the school grounds Stay within their small groups

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

			with Secretary of Education	<p>return to school; working with sector on a process for this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance first few days: only 2% (12,000) on day 1; 2000 on day 2; ECE (0-5) 4%; 6-14 yrs. 2% Continue to fully pay teachers Issues: mixed messaging (i.e. stay at home, come to work), measles outbreak is creating more fear Learning: produce home learning guides for parents bundles in grades, increasing IT budgets, 2 dedicated TV stations Vulnerable students: significant digital divides, reports of child abuse dropped by 50%, delivering food Government has had a \$54 B response; \$1B for capital to “smarten” schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some teachers will be teaching at school while others provide distance learning Restrictions on numbers of children are necessary for physical distancing (1m insides and 2m outside), transport constraints and limited resources Also implement contact tracing and hygiene requirements Children to remain with same group each day with no mixing between groups Public health advice is to limit school bubble to 10; could increase to 20 once up and running Expansive list of public health measures being put in place in schools
Australia	Y	Open: depends on location	<p>Guardian</p> <p>NCIRS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students return to schools in South Australia on Monday May 4 Australian Capital Territory and Victoria will deliver curriculum online for term 2 New South Wales (NSW) staggered return starting Apr 28 WA schools open for term 2 with emphasis on year 11 and 12 students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSW Health’s Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance published findings from close contacts of Covid 19: data collected from all 863 close contacts of the 9 students and 9 staff infected. Found that it was likely (not certain) that only 2 students and no adults has been infected as a result of those infections Health evidence suggests schools should be reopened with important caveats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and safety of staff and students Don’t attend school if unwell Conflicting recommendations about social distancing in the classroom In NSW, from March 5 to April 3, 2020, 18 individuals (9 students and 9 staff) from 15 schools (10 high schools, 5 primary schools) were confirmed as COVID-19 cases; all these individuals had an opportunity to transmit the

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

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					<p>COVID-19 virus (SARS-CoV-2) to others in their schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 735 students and 128 staff were close contacts of these initial 18 cases. One child from a primary school and one child from a high school may have contracted COVID-19 from the initial cases at their schools. No teacher or staff member contracted COVID-19 from any of the initial school cases.
Mexico	Pending	<p>Closed: Mar 20</p> <p>Open: mid-May to June 1</p>	UNESCO: Preparing and Planning for the Reopening of Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reopening will be gradual and sensitive to diverse contexts Phase 1: gradual reopening in risk-free municipalities starting mid-May Phase 2: school reopening planned for rest of country as of June 1 School year extended to July 17 (from July 1) 	<p>Focus on following dimensions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socio-emotional support Academic support – teachers to develop recovery programs Evaluation - flexible
Republic of Korea	N	Closed:	UNESCO: Preparing and Planning for the Reopening of Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strict social distancing measures are still in place To ensure learning continuity, MOE went for “online school year” option; feasibility and success attributed to teachers’ commitment, ICT capacity, public-private partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision for physical reopening and decision will be taken in 3 stages: (1) consultation with epidemiologists (2) teachers, parents and school administrators (3) nationwide school mock drill
Singapore	N	Closed: April 3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved to home based learning for all grades starting week of April 3 Providing limited services for children of parents who must work or can’t find childcare 	
Taiwan	Y	<p>Closed: Early Feb</p> <p>Open: Feb 27</p>	CBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Took an additional 2 weeks off at winter break 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In advance of pandemic increased mask and alcohol sanitizer production Increased fines for raising prices of medical supplies and spreading misinformation Set cleaning standards for public transportation and other areas Take temperature and report to school each morning before arriving Kids wear masks all day, except at lunch Plastic barriers on desks

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening all windows and air vents Suspended some sports Set guidelines for the suspension of classes in the future Schools with 2 or more confirmed cases must close immediately
Tibet	Y	Closed: Early Mar Open: End of Mar		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staggered re-opening time across provinces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some students/schools still using online learning
Sierra Leone	N	Closed: Mar 31	UNESCO: Preparing and Planning for the Reopening of Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools closed indefinitely Learning delivered via radio and online with free access provided by Orange (leading mobile company) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons learned from Ebola crisis: Carry out assessment of schools to ascertain status of buildings, furniture, wash facilities Disinfect schools prior to reopening Training teachers on psychosocial support and school safety Raising awareness among community to school reopening Issuing specific health guidelines and protocols Providing hygiene kits, encourage handwashing and monitoring students' temperature Readjusting academic year upon reopening of schools
CANADA					
ON	N		CTV News CBC News Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 26: Education Minister announced all publicly funded schools will remain closed until at least May 31 Ford saying schools will likely be among the last to open as covid restrictions are loosened Relying on online learning as main learning platform 	

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

QC	N	Open: May 11-19 elementary schools	CBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong public reaction against opening schools prior to May 4 In greater Montreal, elementary schools and daycares reopen May 19; outside greater Montreal open May 11 School buses in operation starting May 11 Parents' assoc. and teachers' unions expressed concerns that government has not consulted widely enough before deciding High schools, CEGEPs off until late Aug Secondary students will continue schooling at home Starting May 4, parents will be able to go to school to collect children's educational materials Children of teachers will have priority for childcare as of May 4 (in addition to front line workers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision to go back necessary based on mental health, access to food and importance of continued learning for students with difficulties Public Health Director recommends people wear a mask in public if they can't stay 2m away from others Attendance will not be mandatory Students with health conditions that put them at higher risk are not to return to school Minister recommending teachers over the age of 60 work from home Classrooms capped at 15 students Daycares will have to reduce numbers by half Only 1 child/bench on school busses Schools will be closed if hospitalization numbers spike or people stop following physical distancing directives
AB	N	Closed: Mar 15	Global News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 04/30: schools will be closed for rest of academic year; decision based on consultation with boards Considering bringing back schools later in the summer to make up for lost time Some schools may open in a limited capacity on a trial basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consulted boards and they preferred not to return to school this academic year citing it would take 'weeks' to prepare classrooms Consider wearing masks in schools since challenging to keep 2m apart Emphasize regular handwashing Keep anyone who is ill at home
MB	N	Closed: Mar 13		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated Apr 21: PHO advised all in-classroom learning be suspended indefinitely for this school year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classes will resume when public health officials advise to do so
NB	N	Closed: Mar 13	Global News CBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announced 4 step COVID recovery plan Will maintain home learning; schools closed for rest of school year Apr 2: Education Minister stated barring drastic improvement schools will remain closed for rest of school year 	

Jurisdiction Scan – Re-Entry to Schools

Last Updated: May 1, 2020

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of Apr 15: slow growth of confirmed Covid cases has started to develop a plan to ease restrictions 	
NS	N		NovaScotia.ca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All public schools closed until at least May 1 	
NWT	N	Closed: Mar 22	NWT Education, Culture and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools closed for remainder of school year 	
Nunavut		Closed: Mar 17	Nunavut Dept. of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools closed for remainder of school year School staff report to work Apr 21 to prepare learning packages 	
PEI		Closed: Mar 16	PEI Government News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools closed until at least May 11 Apr 22: Province preparing ease back plan 	
SK		Closed: Mar 17 Open: date not set	SK Government News CBC Reopen SK Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apr 22 announce reopening plan for province 5 phase plan to reopen begins May 4 Opening of childcare facilities included in phase 3 	
YK	N		YK Government Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close in-class instruction for remainder of school year. Learning at home to resume April 16 	

- As of March 18, 107 countries had implemented national school closures

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Nash, Amber PREM:EX
Sent: May 13, 2020 3:58 PM
To: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Subject: FW: Draft briefing materials for PO
Attachments: Provincial COVID HS Plan 20200513_0600.docx; DRAFT_COVID-19 K-12 Schools Guidance - May 12 - 10pm.pdf; Education Three Week Rollout 20200513_1100.docx; Five_Stages_K-12_Education_Placemat.pdf; Return To In Class Instruction Stage 32 20200513_1200.docx

Importance: High

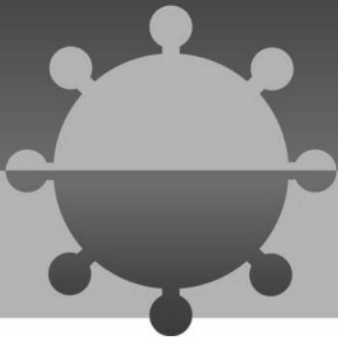
Very early drafts.

From: Harrison, Veronica EDUC:EX <Veronica.Harrison@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: May 13, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Nash, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Nash@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Draft briefing materials for PO
Importance: High

From: Blair, Tammy EDUC:EX
Sent: May 13, 2020 12:05 PM
To: Purdy, Sheila EDUC:EX <Sheila.Purdy@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Merry, Kathleen EDUC:EX <Kathleen.Merry@gov.bc.ca>; Berkers, Mariah EDUC:EX <Mariah.Berkers@gov.bc.ca>; Chester, Delaney EDUC:EX <Delaney.Chester@gov.bc.ca>; Cloe EDUC:EX Nicholls (Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca) <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>; Bawa, Reg R EDUC:EX <Reg.Bawa@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Minister Briefing Materials for May 13: 1 pm meeting

Minister Briefing
Agenda for 1pm

- Three Week Roll Out
 - Timing of stakeholder calls/Zooms
- Draft Guidelines / Integrated Planning Framework materials
 - 5 Stages Placemat
 - PHO Guidelines for K-12 Sector
 - Health and Safety Plan
 - Return to In-Class Instruction
- Communication materials for Friday
- Other



Coronavirus COVID-19

BC Centre for Disease Control | BC Ministry of Health



HOW YOU CAN SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Take care of others by
taking care of yourself.

Wash your hands, don't touch
your face, and stay home if
you are sick.

Stay at Home and
Physically Distance

Stay at home whenever you can.
Maintain 2 meters distance from
those outside of your household.

COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings

UPDATED: May 12, 2020

Background

On the advice of the Provincial Health Officer, in-person instruction in public and independent K-12 schools was suspended effective March 17, 2020 as a precautionary measure in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Beginning March 30, 2020, public and independent K-12 schools were asked to ensure ongoing school care and in-person learning opportunities for children of essential service workers requiring school care, those in remote locations, vulnerable students requiring in person support, and learners with diverse needs. As of May 19, school districts are expected to gradually resume regular operations and return to in-class instruction using a staged approach.

This guidance document is informed by [BC's Restart Plan: Next Steps to Move BC Through the Pandemic](#) and the [BC COVID-19 Go-Forward Management Strategy](#), and is also in keeping with [BC's COVID-19 Go-Forward Management Checklist](#) and information on [WorkSafe BC's COVID-19 Information and Resources](#) and [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#) websites. It provides guidance for educators, administrators and support staff at public, independent and First Nations K-12 schools to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 and maintain a safe and healthy environment for students, families and staff. This document identifies key infection prevention and control practices to implement, as well as actions to take if a student or staff member develops [symptoms](#) of COVID-19.

Based on the current epidemiology of COVID-19 in B.C., and the fact that children are at a much lower risk of developing COVID-19, K-12 schools in British Columbia should begin increasing the number of students receiving in-class instruction within the school environment, while supporting the health and safety of children and adults. Schools should adapt as much as possible to implement public health and infection prevention and control measures, including staying home when ill, physical distancing, minimized physical contact, hand hygiene, frequent cleaning and disinfection, as described in this guidance. While remote and online learning options will continue to play a role in the education of our children, it is up to individual schools through their local planning processes to determine the optimal balance between virtual and face-to-face opportunities for students.

For up-to-date information on COVID-19, visit the [BC Centre for Disease Control \(BCCDC\) website](#).



COVID-19 and Children and Youth

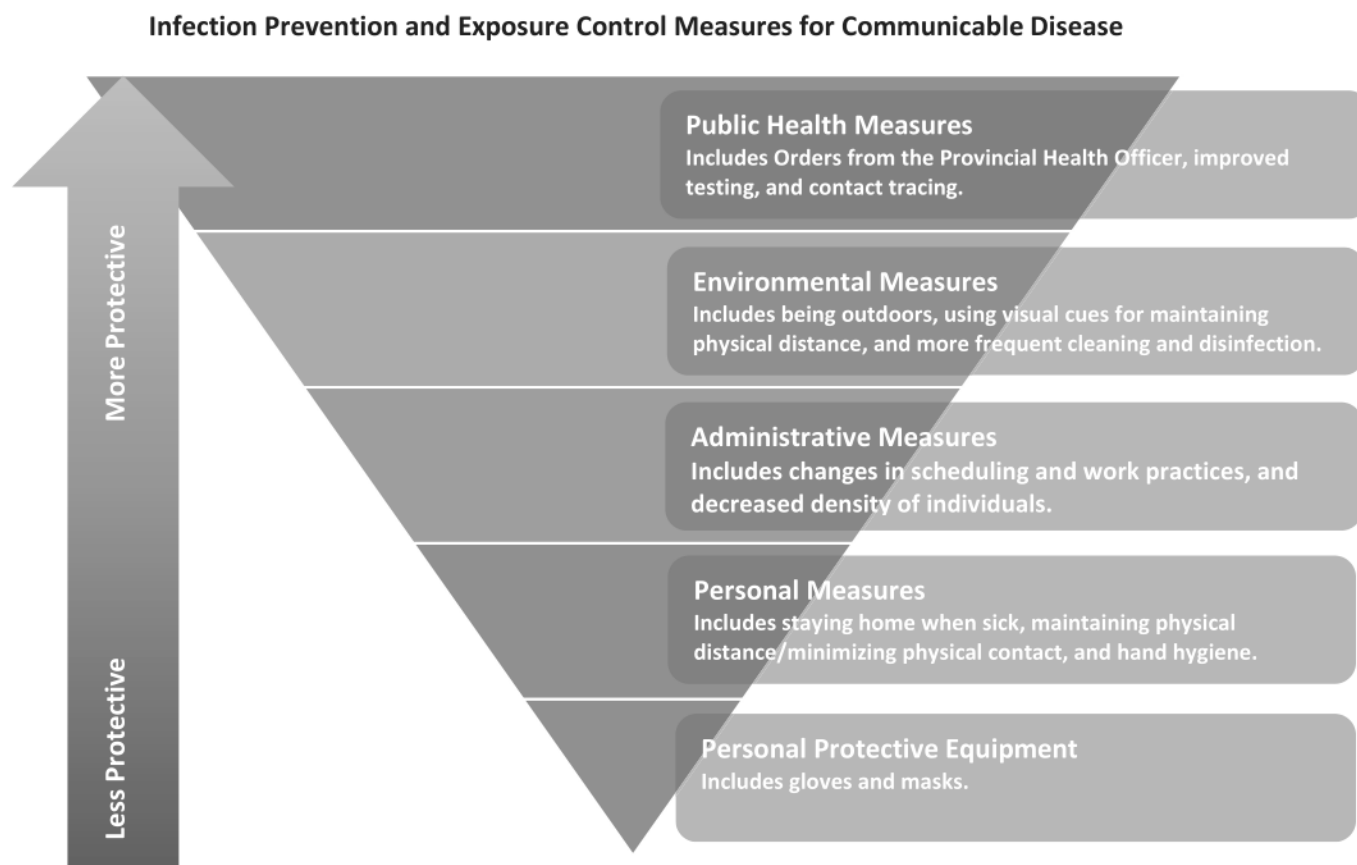
- COVID-19 virus has a very low infection rate in children and youth. In BC, less than 1% of children and youth tested have been COVID-19 positive. Most children and youth are not at high risk for COVID-19 infection.
- Children under 1 year of age and those who are immunocompromised or have pre-existing pulmonary conditions are at a higher risk of severe disease (visit the [BCCDC Priority Populations](#) page for further details).
- Children and youth typically have much milder symptoms of COVID-19 most often presenting with low-grade fever and a dry cough. GI symptoms are more common over the course of disease, while skin changes and lesions, are less common.
- Many children have asymptomatic disease. However, there is no conclusive evidence that children who are asymptomatic pose a risk to other children or to adults.
- Evidence indicates transmission involving children is primarily limited to household settings, and from COVID-19 positive adults to children. Most cases in children have been linked to a symptomatic household member.
- Clusters and outbreaks involving children and youth are unusual and tend only to occur in areas where there are high levels of community spread.
- Children are not the primary drivers of COVID-19 spread in schools or in community settings.
- Schools and childcare facility closures have significant negative mental health and socioeconomic impacts on vulnerable children and youth.
- Prevention measures and mitigation strategies involving children and youth must be commensurate with risk.
- Adolescent children should physically distance themselves where possible when outside the family unit or household.
- For younger children maintaining physical distance is less practical and the focus should be on minimizing physical contact instead.

COVID-19 and Adults

- While COVID-19 impacts adults more than children, some adults with specific health circumstances are at an increased risk for more severe outcomes, including individuals:
 - Aged 65 and over,
 - With compromised immune systems, or
 - With underlying medical conditions.
- Most adults infected with COVID-19 will have mild symptoms that do not require care outside of the home.

Infection Prevention and Exposure Control Measures

Infection prevention and exposure control measures help create a safe environment for students and staff. *Infection Prevention and Exposure Control Measures for Communicable Disease* describes measures that can be taken to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. Control measures at the top are more effective and protective than those at the bottom. By implementing a combination of measures at each level, the risk of COVID-19 is substantially reduced.



Public Health Measures are actions taken across society at the population level to limit the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and reduce the impact of COVID-19. The Provincial Health Officer has implemented public health measures, including: prohibiting mass gatherings, requiring travellers to self-isolate or quarantine upon arrival in B.C., effective case finding and contact tracing, and emphasizing the need for people to stay home when they are sick.

Environmental Measures are changes to your physical environment that reduce the risk of exposure. Examples include being in outdoor spaces, ensuring good ventilation and air exchange, using visual cues for maintaining physical distance, erecting physical barriers where appropriate and frequent cleaning and disinfection.

Administrative Measures are measures enabled through the implementation of policies, procedures, training and education. Examples of these include health and wellness policies, decreased density in classrooms, staggered schedules and using virtual learning opportunities.

Personal Measures are actions individuals can take to protect themselves and others. Examples include maintaining physical distance/minimizing physical contact, washing your hands frequently, coughing into your elbow and staying home from work if you are sick.

Personal Protective Equipment is the last and least effective of the infection prevention and exposure control measure and should only be considered after exploring all other measures. PPE is not effective as a stand-alone preventive measure, should be suited to the task, and must be worn and disposed of properly. Outside of the health care settings, the effectiveness of PPE is generally limited to protecting others should you be infected.

Schools can implement a combination of measures at different levels, as described in this document. This document includes Environmental, Administrative, Personal Measures and the use of PPE. A summary of control measures relevant is included as Appendix A.

Public Health Measures

Mass Gatherings

The Provincial Health Officer's Order for Mass Gatherings continues to prohibit gatherings and events of people in excess of 50 people, however, this Order does not apply to regular school activities. As such, there can be more than 50 students and staff in a school at any given time if they are not all in one area and if they are actively engaged in physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. However, large assemblies of staff and students should not be held.

Case Finding, Contact Tracing and Outbreak Management

Active testing of people with mild COVID-19 like symptoms (case finding) helps us identify cases early in the course of their disease, determine whether others in close contact with them are at risk for infection (contact tracing), and ensure they get appropriate care and follow-up. Enhancing policies regarding reporting employee and student absenteeism to public health can be helpful in early identification of clusters and outbreaks.

Should a COVID-19 positive person be identified by public health staff, significant efforts are undertaken to determine if they are part of a cluster of cases or part of a local outbreak. Specific public health measures are implemented in facilities where an outbreak occurs to prevent further transmission of COVID-19 and keep others safe in a school or workplace.

Self-isolation and Quarantine

Should children, youth and staff have common-cold, influenza, or COVID-19 like symptoms they should be encouraged to stay home, be assessed by their health care provider and tested for COVID-19. When someone is symptomatic, they should self-isolate and follow directions provided by their health care provider. Self-isolation is also advised for those who are considered a close contact of a confirmed case and are waiting to see if they develop COVID-19 illness.

Quarantine is a term typically reserved for persons who return from travel outside the country are at risk of developing COVID-19

If a person is found to be a confirmed case of COVID-19, public health staff will ensure there is robust contact tracing and management of any clusters or outbreaks. They will also ensure that children, staff and parents have access to health care providers and that appropriate supports are in place.

Environmental Measures

Cleaning and Disinfection

Regular cleaning and disinfection are essential to preventing the transmission of COVID-19 from contaminated objects and surfaces. Schools should be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the BCCDC's [Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings](#) document.

This includes:

- General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises should occur at least **once a day**.
- Frequently-touched surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected at least **twice a day**.
 - These include door knobs, light switches, toilet handles, tables, desks, chairs, keyboards and toys.
- Clean and disinfect any surface that is visibly dirty.
- Use common, commercially-available detergents and disinfectant products and closely follow the instructions on the label.
- Limit items that are not easily cleaned (e.g., fabric or soft items);
- Empty garbage containers daily.
- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning blood or body fluids (e.g., runny nose, vomit, stool, urine). Wash hands before wearing and after removing gloves.

There is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus is transmitted via textbooks, paper or other paper-based products. As such, there is no need to limit the distribution or sharing of books or paper based educational resources to students because of COVID-19.

Administrative Measures

Physical Distancing and Minimizing Physical Contact

Physical distancing (i.e., maintaining a distance of 2 meters between two or more people) is challenging in a K-12 school setting, particularly with younger students. As such, it is reasonable to establish different expectations for varying age levels and activities. For example, younger students should be supported to have minimized physical contact with one another, while older students and adults should seek to maintain a safe physical distance whenever possible.

The following physical distancing strategies should be implemented where possible in the K-12 school setting:

- Avoid close greetings (e.g., hugs, handshakes). Regularly remind students about keeping their “hands to yourself”.
- Spread people out into different areas:
 - Consider different classroom and learning environment configurations to allow distance between students and adults (e.g., different desk and table formations).
- Group students into classes.
- Stagger pick-up and drop-off times.
- Stagger recess/snack, lunch and class transition times to provide a greater amount of space for everyone.
- Take students outside more often.
 - Organize learning activities outside including snack time, place-based learning and unstructured time.

- Take activities that involve movement, including those for physical health and education, outside. Group sports activities should be organized in a thoughtful way, taking into consideration personal hygiene practices.
- Reassure students and parents that playgrounds are a safe environment, and encourage appropriate personal hygiene practices before, during, after outdoor play.
- Incorporate more individual activities or activities that encourage more space between students and staff.
 - For younger students, adapt group activities to minimize physical contact and reduce shared items.
 - For adolescent students, minimize group activities and avoid activities that require physical contact.
- Manage flow of people in common areas, including hallways.
- Parents and Caregivers and other non-staff adults entering the school should be minimized as much as is practical to do so. They should also be reminded to practice diligent hand hygiene and maintain physical distance when they are in the school.
- Assemblies and other school-wide events should be held virtually to avoid a large number of people gathered in one space.

Student Transportation on Buses

Buses used for transporting students should be cleaned and disinfected according the guidance provided in the BCCDC's [Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings](#) document.

Additional measures should be taken, including:

- Encouraging private vehicle use where possible to decrease transportation density.
- Consider installing a physical barrier between the driver and passengers (e.g., plexiglass).
- Have students sit in their own seat:
 - Students should be separated side to side and front to back .
 - Students from the same household can share seats if space is limited.

Personal Measures

Stay Home When Sick

- All students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 **OR** travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days **OR** were identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate, including children of essential service workers who are ill.
- Parents and caregivers must assess their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school.
- Staff must assess themselves daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, or COVID-19 prior to entering the school.
- School Administrators must ensure school staff are aware of their responsibility to assess themselves daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory disease prior to entering the school.
- School Administrators must:
 - Clearly communicate with parents and caregivers their responsibility to assess their children daily before sending them to school.

- Alternatively, conduct screening at drop-off by asking parents and caregivers to confirm the child does not have symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other respiratory disease.
 - Establish procedures for students and staff who become sick while at school to be sent home as soon as possible.
- Staff and students who are ill, including children of essential service workers, should not be permitted to attend school.
- Those unsure of if they or a student should self-isolate should be directed to use the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#).
 - If concerned, they can be advised to contact 8-1-1 or the local public health unit to seek further input.
 - They can also be advised to contact a family physician or nurse practitioner to be assessed for COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases.
- There is no role for screening students or staff for symptoms, checking temperatures, or COVID-19 testing. Such activities are reserved for health care professionals.

An info sheet on what to do if a student or staff member becomes ill at work is included as Appendix B.

Hand Hygiene

Rigorous hand washing with plain soap and water is the most effective way to reduce the spread of illness. Both students and staff can pick up and spread germs easily, from objects, surfaces, food and people. Everyone should practice diligent hand hygiene. Parents and staff can teach and reinforce these practices amongst students.

How to practice diligent hand hygiene:

- Wash hands with plain soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Antibacterial soap is not needed for COVID-19.
- If sinks are not available (e.g., students and staff are outdoors), use alcohol-based hand rub containing at least 60% alcohol.
- If hands are visibly soiled, alcohol-based hand rub may not be effective at eliminating respiratory viruses. Soap and water are preferred when hands are visibly dirty.
- To learn about how to perform hand hygiene, please refer to the BCCDC's [hand washing poster](#).

Strategies to ensure diligent hand hygiene:

- Encourage hand washing with water and soap upon arrival at school. Place hand washing stations in various locations including school entrances, hallways, and classrooms to encourage appropriate hand hygiene throughout the day.
- Consider alcohol-based hand rub dispensers where sinks are not available, and posters to promote the importance of regular hand washing.
- Regularly remind staff and students about the importance of diligent hand hygiene.
- Incorporate additional hand hygiene opportunities into the daily schedule.
- Ensure hand washing supplies are well stocked at all times including soap, paper towels and where appropriate, alcohol-based hand rub with a minimum of 60% alcohol.
- Staff should assist younger students with hand hygiene as needed.

An info sheet on when students and staff should practice hand hygiene is included as Appendix C.

Respiratory Etiquette

Students and staff should:

- Cough or sneeze into their elbow sleeve or a tissue. Throw away used tissues and immediately perform hand hygiene.
- Refrain from touching their eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Refrain from sharing any food, drinks, unwashed utensils, cigarettes, or vaping devices.

Cloth or homemade mask, particularly by children. There is limited evidence outside of health care settings and only in uncontrolled situations where physical distancing between adults cannot be maintained for extended periods of time (greater than 15 minutes with a person who has probable or lab confirmed COVID-19). Wearing one is a personal choice. It is important to treat people wearing masks with respect.

Parents and staff can teach and reinforce these practices amongst students.

Personal Protective Equipment

Personal protective equipment, such as masks and gloves are not needed, beyond those used by staff as part of regular precautions for the hazards normally encountered in their regular course of work. They should only be used when all other controls fail.

- Managing students with complex behaviours, on a delegated care plan or experiencing a health emergency may require staff to be in close physical proximity with the student. ***No additional personal protective equipment beyond normal universal precautions are required.***

There is no evidence to support the use of medical grade, cloth, or homemade masks in schools settings at this time. Wearing one is a personal choice. It is important to treat people wearing masks with respect. More information about COVID-related mask use is available [here](#).

Supporting School Communities

The BC Centre for Disease Control is the source of information about COVID-19. Resources available there can be used to support learning and to respond to questions you may receive from members of your school community. More information is available [here](#).

Appendix A: Summary of School-Based Control Measures



1. STAY HOME WHEN SICK

All children and staff with common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other respiratory diseases must stay home and self-isolate.



2. HAND HYGIENE

Everyone should wash their hands more often!

Thorough hand washing with plain soap and water for at least 20 seconds is the most effective way to reduce the spread of illness.



3. RESPIRATORY AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

Cover your coughs.

Do not touch your face.

No sharing of food, drinks, or personal items.



4. PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND MINIMIZING PHYSICAL CONTACT

Spread children out to different areas.

Take them outside more often.

Stagger lunch times. Incorporate individual activities.

Remind children, "Hands to Yourself!"



5. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least twice a day.

General cleaning of the centre should occur at least once a day.

Use common cleaning and disinfectant products.

Appendix B: What to Do if a Student or Staff Member Develops Symptoms at School

<i>If a Student Develops Symptoms of COVID-19</i>	<i>If a Staff Member Develops Symptoms of COVID-19</i>
<p data-bbox="142 363 850 394">IF STUDENT DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT HOME:</p> <p data-bbox="142 422 781 453">Parents or caregivers must keep their child at home.</p> <p data-bbox="142 491 834 596">The student must self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms AND until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.</p> <p data-bbox="142 634 850 665">IF STUDENT DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT SCHOOL:</p> <p data-bbox="142 693 578 724">Staff must take the following steps:</p> <ol data-bbox="142 728 850 1472" style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immediately separate the symptomatic student from others in a supervised area. 2. Contact the student's parent or caregiver to pick them up as soon as possible. 3. Where possible, maintain a distance of 2 metres from the ill student. If not possible, staff may wear a mask if available and tolerated, or use a tissue to cover their nose and mouth. 4. Provide the student with tissues to cover their coughs or sneezes. Throw away used tissues as soon as possible and perform hand hygiene. 5. Avoid touching the student's body fluids (e.g., mucous, saliva). If you do, practice diligent hand hygiene. 6. Once the student is picked up, practice diligent hand hygiene. 7. Staff responsible for facility cleaning must clean and disinfect the space where the student was separated and any areas used by them (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas). 8. Contact 811 or the local public health unit to notify them of a potential case and seek further input. <p data-bbox="142 1512 824 1577">Parents or caregivers must pick up their child as soon as possible if they are notified their child is ill.</p>	<p data-bbox="873 363 1495 394">IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT HOME:</p> <p data-bbox="873 422 1487 453">Staff must be excluded from work and stay home.</p> <p data-bbox="873 483 1471 583">Staff must self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms AND until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.</p> <p data-bbox="873 655 1495 686">IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT WORK:</p> <p data-bbox="873 714 1382 745">Staff should go home as soon as possible.</p> <p data-bbox="873 783 1248 814">If unable to leave immediately:</p> <ol data-bbox="873 819 1487 1245" style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Symptomatic staff should separate themselves into an area away from others. 2. Maintain a distance of 2 metres from others. 3. Use a tissue or mask to cover their nose and mouth while they wait to be picked up. 4. Staff responsible for facility cleaning must clean and disinfect the space where the staff member was separated and any areas used by them (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas). 5. If concerned, contact 8-1-1 or the local public health unit to seek further input.
<p data-bbox="175 1663 1459 1734">If a student or staff member is assessed by their family physician or nurse practitioner and it is determined that they do NOT have COVID-19, they may return to school once symptoms resolve.</p>	

Appendix C: When to Perform Hand Hygiene at School

When Students Should Perform Hand Hygiene:	When Staff Should Perform Hand Hygiene:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When they arrive at school and before they go home. • Before and after any breaks (e.g., recess, lunch). • Between different learning environments (e.g., outdoor-indoor transitions, from the gym to the classroom). • Before and after eating and drinking. • After using the toilet. • After handling common resources/equipment/supplies or pets. • After sneezing or coughing into hands. • Whenever hands are visibly dirty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When they arrive at school and before they go home. • Before and after any breaks (e.g. recess, lunch). • Between different learning environments (e.g. outdoor-indoor transitions, from the gym to the classroom). • Before and after eating and drinking. • Before and after handling food or assisting students with eating. • Before and after giving medication to a student or self. • After using the toilet. • After contact with body fluids (i.e., runny noses, spit, vomit, blood). • After cleaning tasks. • After removing gloves. • After handling garbage. • Whenever hands are visibly dirty.

COVID-19 Response Plan (K-12 Education)

Updated: May 13, 2020

Date	Government Decision	Products/Guidelines	Policies	Stakeholder Engagement	Sector Communications	Public Communication
Monday, May 11	MRF Briefing	EDUC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review second draft of Op. Standards & Guidelines (except health & safety plan) Begin drafting new IPF K-12 Return to In-Class Instruction Template drafted 		EDUC/PHO: Call with Superintendents/STs BCPSEA/BCTF/CUPE/Worksafe: working group on provincial health & safety plan Technical Working Group: distribute Op. Standards & Guidelines and HLTH guidelines		MRF: Media
Tuesday, May 12		SN, Q&As for announcement		BCSSA Executive Technical Working Group: feedback on Op. Standards & Guidelines	Learn: Kindergarten student still learning at school – H&S measures (TBD)	MRF: Media
Wednesday, May 13	MRF Briefing	EDUC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review third (final) draft of the Op. Standards & Guidelines 				MRF: Media
Thursday, May 14		EDUC/BCPSEA/BCTF/CUPE/WORKSAFE: Provincial school safety plan (if announcing May 15 th) – Worksafe must approve. EDUC: finalize IPF and Template		MRF: BCSTA Exec DM: BCSSA Exec MRF: Stakeholder Call	HLTH: PHO k-12 guidelines (tentative)	MRF: Media
Friday, May 15 (KEY DATE)	MRF Briefing	EDUC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal: IPF 2.0 (working draft that districts can provide feedback on as they build plans) External: K-12 Education Restart Guidelines – What to Expect K-12 Provincial COVID Health and Safety Plan Return to In-School Instruction Plan Template 		MRF: All Board Chairs DM: All Sups	Announcement: Restart Date Release “what to expect” guidelines and health and safety plan SD Templates should be sent in between May 19-22 Learn: Education assistants supporting students at school OR story about announcement. DM Bulletin: Survey #3, IPF 2.0, Template, NR	MRF: NR – Education Restart Plan Backgrounder on safety – measures to date and new provincial plan negotiated with unions EDUC website updates
Saturday, May 16					Learn: Resource - YGym Supporting Kids and teachers in their physical education at home	
Sunday, May 17						
Monday, May 18						

COVID-19 Response Plan (K-12 Education)
Updated: May 13, 2020

Tuesday, May 19 (KEY DATE) Prof. Development Day		SD Plans begin to be sent in Worksafe: K-12 Workplace Guidelines			Learn: Resources for ECE and K Teachers, Story about returning to class (TBD)	EDUC website updates MRF: letter to parents
Wednesday, May 20 th		SD Plans reviewed/approved IPF refined based on SD feedback		Health Authorities/PHO Town Hall with Supers and STs		MRF: Media
Thursday, May 21 st		SD Plans reviewed/approved IPF refined based on SD feedback		Technical Working Group Health Authorities/PHO Town Hall with Supers and STs	Learn: Schedule and promotion of Webinars from Focused Education	MRF: Media
Friday, May 22 nd		SD Plans reviewed/approved		Health Authorities/PHO Town Hall with Supers and STs	DM Bulletin: Revised IPF 2.1, reminder on sending in Return To In Class Instruction Plans.	MRF: Media
Saturday, May 23 rd					Learn: SD42 Mentoring Program	
Sunday, May 24 th						
Monday, May 25th (KEY DATE)		First schools begin to open				NR – Education Restart
Tuesday, May 26 th		SD Plans reviewed/approved IPF refined based on SD feedback		Health Authorities/PHO Town Hall with Supers and STs		MRF: Media
Wednesday, May 27 th		SD Plans reviewed/approved IPF refined based on SD feedback		Health Authorities/PHO Town Hall with Supers and STs		MRF: Media
Thursday, May 28 th		SD Plans reviewed/approved				MRF: Media
Friday, May 29 th		SD Plans reviewed/approved			DM Bulletin: Revised IPF 2.2	MRF: Media
Saturday, May 30 th						
Sunday, May 31 st						
Monday, June 1st (KEY DATE)		K-12 system moves to Stage 3				NR – schools expanding in-class instruction

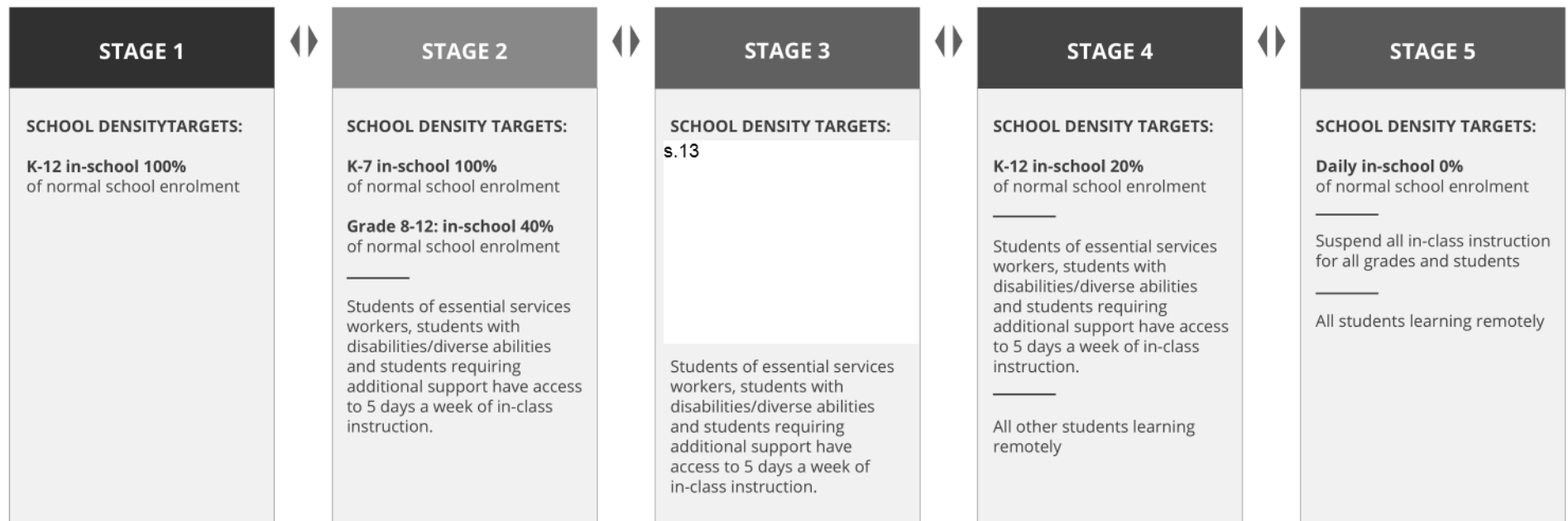
FIVE STAGES FOR K-12 EDUCATION



Ministry of
Education

The strategies and actions needed to support educational programs and operations during COVID-19:

- are supported by COVID-19 research and evidence showing a **low transmission** risk between school-aged children and adults;
- are informed by **practices in other jurisdictions** planning and returning to in-class instruction;
- can expand and contract to **align with government** pandemic management measures and orders;
- can be applied **provincially, regionally and/or by community** to address COVID 19 risk; and
- allow some **parents to elect** to keep students at home, supported remotely by teachers.



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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

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COVID-19 Response – K-12 Education Restart

The Ministry of Education recognizes the importance of having children in the classroom to minimize learning gaps and to provide the academic, social and emotional environments which are essential for every learner. Resuming in-school instruction in a measured way is a crucial part of the Province's plan to restart the economy. For many students, school is a safe and welcoming space that provides access to supports not available in their home environment.

Remote and online learning have met the urgent need for continuity of learning during the initial stage of the pandemic; however, these modes of instruction are not ideal for all students. The majority of students learn best in a classroom with direct contact with teachers, other professional staff and peers. Schools play a key role in the lives of students and they deserve every opportunity to maximize their capacities for growth and development.

The return to each of the stages of in-class instruction listed below will be guided by health and safety protocols from the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) and the principles developed for continuity of learning during the pandemic:

- maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees;
- provide the services needed to support the children of our essential workers (ESWs);
- support vulnerable students who may need special assistance; and,
- provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students.

Approach for Continuity of Learning

The B.C. Ministry of Education's five-stage approach for continuity of learning will support schools and school districts to achieve the principles listed above while providing high levels of educational opportunities and lowering the risk of transmission of COVID-19. The focus in Stage 3 is to gradually increase in-class instruction while also maintaining health and safety measures. The school density targets have been developed to reduce the number of students who would normally be in the K-12 environment pre-pandemic. Reduced density along with updated K-12 public health guidelines will contribute to reducing the risk of transmission in a school setting.

The gradual increase in in-class instruction along the 5-stage continuum will be:

- supported by COVID-19 research and evidence;
- informed by practices in other jurisdictions planning and returning to in-class instruction;
- flexible and adaptable to align with government pandemic management measures and orders; and
- applicable provincially, regionally and/or locally based on COVID 19 risk.

COVID-19 Response – K-12 Education Restart

STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4	STAGE 5
DENSITY TARGETS: K-12 in-school 100% of normal school enrolment	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS: K-7 in-school 100% of normal school enrolment Grade 8-12: in-school 40% of normal school enrolment Students of essential service workers and students needing additional support (special needs/vulnerable) have access to 5 days a week of in-class instruction	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS: s.13 Students of essential service workers and students needing additional support (special needs/vulnerable) have access to 5 days a week of in-class instruction	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS: K-12 in-school 20% of normal school enrolment Students of essential service workers and students needing additional support (special needs/vulnerable) have access to 5 days a week of in-class instruction All other students learning remotely	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS: Daily in-school 0% of normal school enrolment Suspend all in-class instruction for all grades and students All students learning remotely

Moving from Stage 4 to Stage 3:

Next Steps: Ministry, Boards of Education and Independent School Authorities

May 15th: Announcement of Education Restart, release of Planning Template

May 15th – 22nd:

- School Boards will develop plans outlining their approach to return to in-class instruction. The plans will outline a move to Stage 3 ^{s.13}
- School density targets have been developed as guidelines to consider in planning. These targets are meant to reduce the number of students in the K-12 environment on any given day as a part of reducing risk. School districts will need to develop their Plan within these targets using a range of methods, e.g. instruction on alternate days, reduced hours of instruction, blended online and in-person learning.
- As a part of the Plan, districts/authorities will outline:
 - Measures put in place to implement new health and safety guidelines;
 - Details on how the district is planning to deliver in-person instruction within the school density targets (i.e. which days/hours of the week students in school);
 - Plan for assessing and supporting ESW children and students requiring additional support; and
 - Plan for balancing remote, online and in-person learning.
- Districts and authorities should also be surveying parents and families in the district to determine how many students are planning to return to school.

COVID-19 Response – K-12 Education Restart

May 19th – 22nd:

- Districts will submit their plans to the Ministry for review.

May 25th:

- Some schools begin to implement Stage 3.

June 1st:

- All schools are in Stage 3.
- s.13

What can Parents and Students Expect in Stage 3?

- Survey from school or school district to assess family need and interest on resuming in-person instruction.
- Increased access to in-class instruction:
s.13
- Instruction available 5 days/week for children of ESWs, students with disabilities/ diverse abilities, and students requiring additional supports who would benefit from in-school instruction.
- School districts will be organizing their daily and weekly schedules based on school density targets and the number of children who are returning to school.
- Regular information updates for students and families on school and district websites.
- Gradual resumption of transportation services – understanding modifications may need to be made to adapt to public health guidelines and to accommodate any shifts in school hours.

Health & Safety:

- Individuals who have the symptoms of a cold, flu, or Covid-19 including any coughing or sneezing will not be allowed in school.
- Hygiene supplies will be provided for all occupied spaces, including hand sanitizer at all entrances.
- Continued focus on hand washing routines.
- Adjustments to school schedules to accommodate public health measures:
 - Staggered drop-off and pick up times
 - Staggered lunch and recess hours
- Adjustments to physical space and environment:
 - Increased spacing between students in classrooms

COVID-19 Response – K-12 Education Restart

- Smaller group activities
 - No physical contact sports
 - Increased time outdoors
 - Limitations on assemblies and other large gatherings
- Additional cleaning each day.

Prioritization of In-School Supports and Services:

- Full-time attendance available for any students with disabilities/diverse abilities and students requiring additional supports who would benefit from in-school instruction.
- ESW children in K-5 will be offered instruction 5 days/week based on parental need.
- School districts/authorities will continue to accommodate ESW children beyond Grade 5 if the children have a disability that precludes them from being alone in a home environment.
- As in-school supports gradually increase, school districts/authorities will be limited in their ability to provide extended hours for ESW children. ESWs should begin to re-engage with local childcare providers if they will have a need for before and after school care.

Continuity of Educational Opportunities:

- Continuation of online/remote learning opportunities to supplement in-school instruction.
- Refinement of remote and online learning resources and delivery to support a “hybrid” instructional design.

Continuity of Supports:

- Breakfast and lunch programs and limited cafeteria services available with additional health and safety, physical distancing and hygiene measures in place.
- Continuation of pick up food support for those not in attendance.