

SCHOOL OPENING REPORT - PART 1

September 16, 2020



Kevin Kaardal
Superintendent of Schools/CEO

PROVINCIAL GUIDELINES



K-12 Schools are in				
Remote learning for all	Remote learning with exceptions	In-class & remote learning	Learning groups: full-time in-class	Learning as usual: full-time in-class
Stage 5	Stage 4	Stage 3	Stage 2	Stage 1

CURRENT STATUS



- The District has submitted its Return to School Plan and Staff and Student Safety Plan, which have been approved by the Ministry of Education.
- The Plans were developed to meet all the Guidelines from the Provincial Health Office and the Ministry of Education.
- The Plans were reviewed by Interior Health, Provincial Health and the Ministry of Education.

Staff and Student Safety Plan Overview

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) and WorkSafeBC is the source of information about COVID-19 for K-12 school settings and is guided by the most current *COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School* available on BCCDC website can be used to support learning. The Ministry of Education is working with the BCCDC and WorkSafeBC to develop a K-12 Education outlining expectations for BC school reopening during COVID-19.

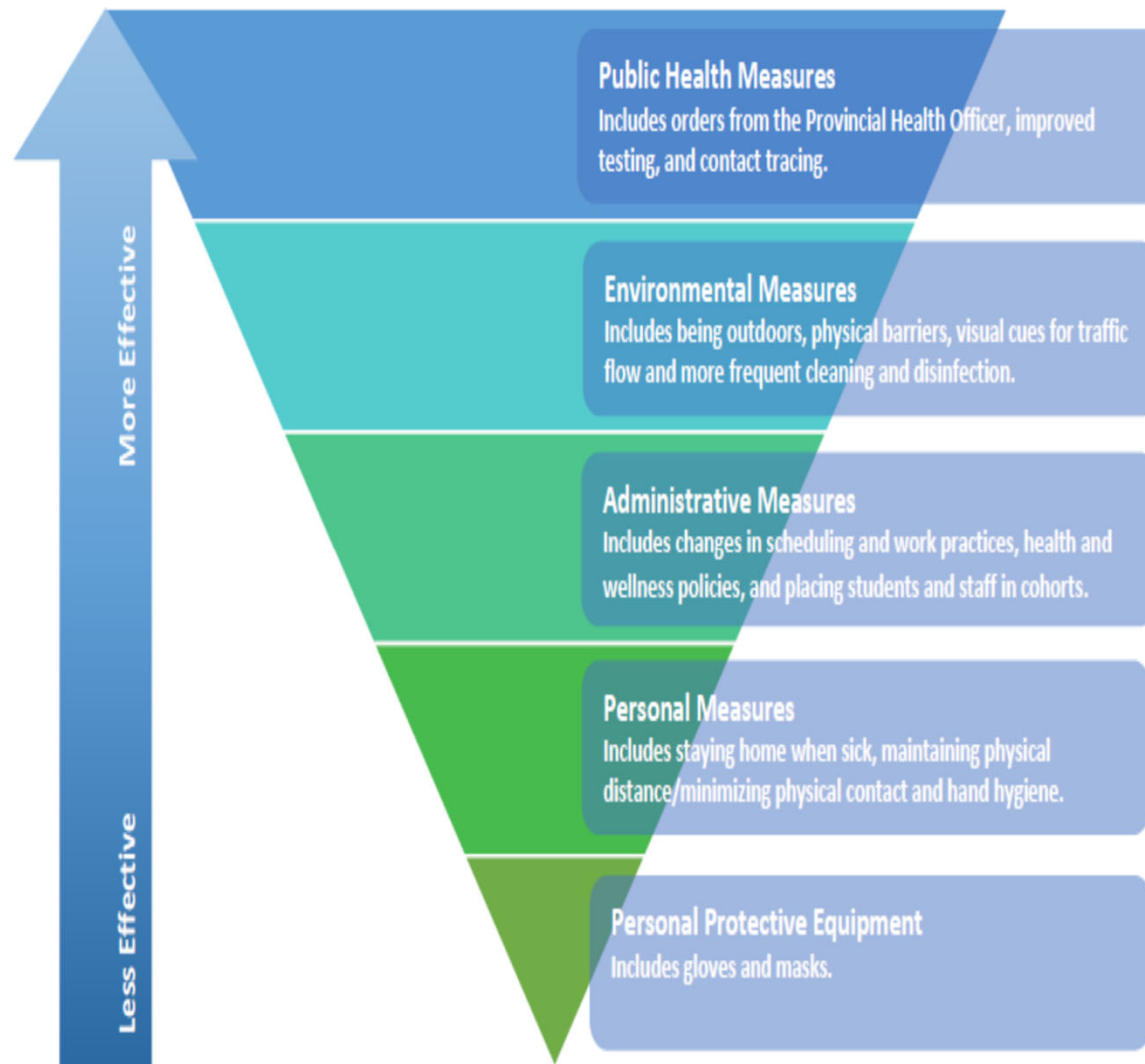
STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4	STAGE 5
Learning Group Size • Elementary: N/A • Middle: N/A • Secondary: N/A	Learning Group Size • Elementary: 60 • Middle: 60 • Secondary: 120	Learning Group Size • Elementary: 30 • Middle: 30 • Secondary: 60	Learning Group Size • Elementary: 30 • Middle: 30 • Secondary: 30	Learning Group Size • Elementary: 0 • Middle: 0 • Secondary: 0
DENSITY TARGETS: • Not applicable	DENSITY TARGETS: • Not applicable	DENSITY TARGETS: • 50% for all schools	DENSITY TARGETS: • 25% for all schools	DENSITY TARGETS: • 0% for all schools
IN-CLASS INSTRUCTION: • Full-time instruction for all students, all subject levels.	IN-CLASS INSTRUCTION: • Full-time instruction for all students, all subject levels.	IN-CLASS INSTRUCTION: • Full-time instruction for all students, all subject levels.	IN-CLASS INSTRUCTION: • Full-time instruction for all students, all subject levels.	IN-CLASS INSTRUCTION: • Full-time instruction for all students, all subject levels.
Self-directed learning supplements in-class instruction, if required.	Self-directed learning supplements in-class instruction, if required.	Self-directed learning supplements in-class instruction, if required.	Self-directed learning supplements in-class instruction, if required.	Self-directed learning supplements in-class instruction, if required.

This Stage 2 Staff and Student Safety Plan follows current public health protocols and is a general document that allows site Administrators the flexibility to customize processes based on the dynamics of their site. The information in this document is taken not only from the *BC Centre for Disease Control and WorkSafeBC*, but also from *Public Health Agency of Canada*, *Interior Health Authority*, and the *Ministry of Education*.

Based on the current epidemiology of COVID-19 in B.C., children are at a much lower risk of developing and transmitting COVID-19. Children are much less likely to get sick or transmit the virus than adults. The BCCDC has stated on July 29, 2020:

- COVID-19 virus has a very low infection rate in children (ages 0 to 19).
- In B.C., less than 1% of children tested have been COVID-19 positive, and even fewer are suspected to have been infected based on serological testing. Most children are not at high risk for COVID-19 infection. Children under 10 comprise a smaller proportion of the total confirmed child cases compared to children between the ages of 10 and 19.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN



THEME FOR THIS YEAR....



COURAGE



SCHOOL OPENING/ ENROLMENT TRENDS



- Admin Council reports it has been a very positive start and commend school staffs for their efforts in preparing schools to be safe learning communities.
- As of September 11, 2020, **22,403** students were registered, representing **139** students over last year's September 30, 2019 numbers (22,264), but a decrease of **141** under budget projections. These numbers do not include International students or Alternate Education students.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



- We had a successful first few days of school. Registrations indicate:

97% of students returned to in-class instruction

3% of students chose eSchoolBC



First day of Kindergarten at Hudson Road Elementary School.

TRANSPORTATION



- 67 School Bus Routes Operating
- 4,577 riders (87% of riders are eligible)
- 28 noon bus runs at Kelowna Secondary and Mount Boucherie Secondary
- 4 new diesel buses and 3 new electric buses for this school year
- Implementation of changes to Regulation 470R – Transportation Services Management
- Development of new systems and processes to improve efficiency and service to parents
- Improvements to communications protocols

SUPPORTING FAMILIES WITH MORE CHOICE



- Improvements to eSchoolBC – School District No. 23's remote option.
- Reassigned existing eSchoolBC staff and Learning Technology Team staff to accommodate emerging learning needs for students and families.
- Additional teaching staff hired to provide service to meet increasing demand (K-12).
- Implementation of a new synchronous K-5 program.
- Fully synchronous middle school program (Grade 6-9) with optional in person or virtual tutorial, lessons, and field studies by choice.
- Weekly synchronous tutorials and lessons to support students in Grade 10-12 core courses.

ELEMENTARY OPTIONS FOR K-5



NEW

K-5 Synchronous

This program will serve students from within Central Okanagan Public Schools only. Learning groups will be organized in similar grade groups and learning will focus primarily on literacy and numeracy.

Weekly learning activities will include a variety of self-paced activities, scheduled (synchronous) online lessons and class meetings and student choice learning through a variety of online tools such as Zoom, Google Classroom etc.).

Potential Weekly Schedule

Online Classes	In Person Attendance or Virtual	Independent Student Learning	Optional Sign-up (on & off site)
			

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00am - 9:30am	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Literacy	Optional Field Studies, Exploratories & Community Building (partial and/or full day activities by sign-up)
	Cross-Curricular Learning Integrated				
10:00am - 10:30am	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	Numeracy	
Lunch					
12:00pm - 2:30pm	Small Group Tutorials & Drop-in Support	Independent Student Learning/ Teacher Collaboration Time	Small Group Tutorials & Drop-in Support	Independent Student Learning/ Teacher Collaboration Time	

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPTIONS FOR 6-9



6-9 Synchronous Scheduled, Daily Virtual Classes

Students will attend virtual classes 4 days per week. Classes include 4 core academics (English, Social Studies, Math and Science) with additional cross-curricular enrichment opportunities.

Learning groups will be organized in similar grade groups.

Individual and/or small group support available in person and virtually.

Optional in-person field studies may be offered to support a greater sense of community.

Online Classes	In Person Attendance or Virtual	Independent Student Learning	Optional Sign-up (on & off site)
			

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00am - 9:45am	Grade 6 & 7: Humanities (Eng/SS) Grade 8 & 9: STEM (Math/Science)	Grade 6 & 7: Humanities (Eng/SS) Grade 8 & 9: STEM (Math/Science)	Grade 6 & 7: Humanities (Eng/SS) Grade 8 & 9: STEM (Math/Science)	Grade 6 & 7: Humanities (Eng/SS) Grade 8 & 9: STEM (Math/Science)	Optional Field Studies, Exploratories & Community Building (partial and/or full day activities by sign-up)
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Lunch					
1:00pm - 2:45pm	Small Group Tutorials & Drop-in Support Grade 6-9	Independent Student Learning	Small Group Tutorials & Drop-in Support Grade 6-9	Independent Student Learning	

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPTIONS FOR 10-12



10-12 Self-Paced Learning

Full-time or part-time students work at their own pace online (asynchronously). Students may remain cross-enrolled with their local schools. Students have regular access to teacher support either by phone, video conference, email or in person. Each of our secondary schools also has a local eSchoolBC teacher contact for additional school-based support for cross-enrolled students.

Additional Remote Learning Supports

- Flexible hours for support (9:00am-7:00pm M-Th, 9:00am-3:00pm F)
- **Weekly scheduled online synchronous lessons, tutorials and Q&A opportunities for some courses (Math/Science)** 
- Individual learning supports by appointment (virtually or in person)
- **Additional staffing to facilitate student communications and outreach support.** 

*650 courses have been registered – typical for this program. Most students are cross-enrolled and attending their catchment area school as well.

Details of each program can be found on the [eSchoolBC website](https://www.eschoolbc.ca).

STUDENT PLACEMENT



At their September 2, 2020 Special Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education made the following Motion:

THAT: Subject to the Board of Education receiving sufficient funding from the Provincial Government:

THAT: Regulation 405R – Student Placement (*Regulations*) be amended as follows:

2. Enrolment Priorities

Priority shall be given to students on the following basis:

- catchment area students who, in the previous year, attended the school;
- catchment area students who, in the previous year, were 'placed' by the district in a different school;
- siblings of catchment area students;
- returning catchment area students that have transferred into the school or program they previously attended from eSchoolBC;
- new catchment area students;
- siblings of non-catchment area students currently enrolled in the school;
- non-catchment area students who request to attend the school which is other than their catchment area school;
- non-district area students;
- international students.

STUDENT PLACEMENT



AND THAT: For the 2020-21 school year, students with approved medical conditions and their siblings in the same household that attend the District's remote learning may resume in person instruction at their school at any point in the year;

For registration in the 2021-22 school year these students will be considered to have in the previous year, attended the school;

AND THAT: For the 2020-21 school year, students that enroll in the District's remote learning at their school shall retain their enrolment at their school if they resume in-person instruction at their school prior to November 13, 2020. After this date, students shall remain the remainder of the year in the District's remote learning program;

For registration in the 2021-22 school year, these students will be considered as returning catchment area students that have transferred into the school from eSchoolBC;

AND FURTHER THAT: Regulation 405R – Student Placement (Regulations) will be reviewed prior to the 2022/2023 District enrolment date.

*If parents have chosen to enroll in another District's or Independent School's Program, they will not have a space held until November 13th as they have transferred from the District.

STRONGSTART



As per our District's Ministry approved Restart Plan, we will move from a drop-in StrongStart program to a program that registers smaller groups of parents and children and requires adults to wear masks where physical distancing is not possible. To properly prepare and orient staff, parents and young learners, we are following this timeline:

September 8 and 9	Staff Orientation Days (StrongStart Facilitators attend with school staffs)
September 10-18	Kindergarten Transition Support and StrongStart Site Planning with Facilitators, District staff and Principals/Vice-Principals
September 21-25	StrongStart Facilitators communicate with parents, schedule and orient children and families to site plan
September 28	StrongStart Centres open under new Guidelines

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION/ THE WELCOME CENTRE



- 589 students were confirmed to come to the Central Okanagan for the 2020/2021 school year.
- Due to COVID-19, and the associated border closures and travel restrictions, to date 157 fee paying students have arrived.
- Another 247 students are still planning to come if they are able to enter Canada.
- Other students have delayed to the 2021/2022 year.
- The Welcome Center helped to settle 89 students and their families from 31 different countries.
- A total of 1,264 newly immigrated children are attending Central Okanagan Public Schools.
- Currently students from 80 different countries are in attendance.
- The diversity and cultural richness that international and new immigrant students bring to the Central Okanagan Public Schools continues to enhance our schools and enrich the experiences of all students and staff.

HUMAN RESOURCES RECRUITMENT



- 238 teacher postings were filled during the months of May and June.
- 206 full-time temporary contracts were awarded to teachers over the summer.
- Since September 2019, approximately 212 new teachers were hired into temporary contracts or placed on our Teachers Teaching on Call (TTOC) list.
- Anticipate continued recruitment with an emphasis on French Immersion, Learning Assistance, Resource, Counselling, as well as School Psychologists.

RECRUITING TEACHERS



- The partnership with the Teacher Education Program at the University of British Columbia – Okanagan continues to provide our District with high quality beginning teachers throughout K-12. A graduating class of approximately 122 elementary, middle and secondary teachers is expected in December 2020.
- We have a large majority of the teacher candidates from UBC-O assigned to schools in the Central Okanagan, as well as student teachers from various other universities in the Province.



SUPPORT STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION HIRING



- The Human Resources Department processed 433 support staff postings in 2019/2020, which included 95 CEA postings.
- The selection process for the following senior staff and management positions were concluded:
 - Assistant Superintendent
 - Assistant Director of Operations
 - District Principal of Learning Support Services
 - Principals/Vice-Principals
 - Executive Assistant – Human Resources/Labour Relations
- We now employ close to 3,530 employees (head count) which includes 40 District-Level Senior Administration/District-Level Exempt staff, 91 administrators (Principals/Vice-Principals), 1,821 teachers/teachers teaching on call and 1,571 support staff. Hiring teachers teaching on call or Certified Education Assistants for vacant positions is continuing.

FINANCIAL



- The external auditors found the fiscal and accounting and control processes to be comprehensive and appropriate.



- The 2020/2021 preliminary budget is \$285,166,433.

FACILITY UPDATES



- There were a substantial number of projects completed in addition to normal summer clean-up that took place at every school in the District.
- Routine maintenance of facilities, grounds and custodial summer cleaning was also carried out.
- There was no, or very little, disruption for the start of the school year.
- Examples of the Operations 2020 Summer Work included:
 - portable moves
 - refinishing/replacement of gym floors
 - portable roof replacements
 - office relocations
 - classroom conversions



NEXT STEP



- **Part 2 of the 2020 School Opening Report**, providing updates, will be provided at the **September 30, 2020** meeting of the Board of Education

