

LEGISLATIVE RETURN

SUBMITTED BY: Tracy-Anne McPhee, Minister of Education



1. On November 8, 2017, the Member for Porter Creek North

asked the following question during the Oral Question Period at page(s) 1551 of *Hansard*

submitted the following written question – WQ No. _____

gave notice of the following motion for the production of papers – MPP No. _____

RE: School curriculum

In that same news release, public open houses were announced to present the curriculum and answer questions. Can the minister tell us how many open houses were held, how many people attended and what feedback about the new curriculum the department received at those public meetings?

OR

2. This legislative return relates to a matter outstanding from discussion related to:

_____ on _____ at page(s) _____ of *Hansard*.

The response is as follows:

During the 2016/17 school year, the Department of Education scheduled visits with all Yukon school communities to present the changes to the curriculum, with public meetings and additional meetings for school staff, School Councils, and Yukon First Nations as requested. On average, we estimate that 10-50 people attended the open houses at each school. The presentations in Beaver Creek and Old Crow were rescheduled for this school year. The presentation in Beaver Creek has been confirmed and is scheduled to occur November 23rd. The presentation in Old Crow will be scheduled when it is convenient for the community.

The comments and questions that department staff heard at the public meetings focused on how the new curriculum can:

- be more practical, hands-on and experience-based learning;
- create more culturally responsive school programs, especially the integration of Yukon First Nations ways of knowing and doing;
- maintain standards and ensure students are prepared for post-secondary and the work force;
- continue to provide pathways to post-secondary education and entering college and university;
- use class content to develop skills and competencies;
- offer more flexibility to meet the needs of students who struggle in their learning;
- offer deeper learning opportunities to students who are excelling in their learning;
- integrate technology in the classroom

In the spring, the department undertook a public engagement specifically on student assessment. The Education Assessment Committee, a group of 40 Yukon educators and partners in education researched good practices in assessment and student-centered learning and recommended what changes Yukon schools should make to how they assess and report on student progress in the redesigned curriculum. To inform school communities and to gather feedback on the proposed changes, the Yukon government conducted an online public survey. We also met with partners and staff to hear their

thoughts. The assessment survey was completed by 688 respondents. The feedback from the survey and the meetings with partners was reviewed and considered by the Department of Education and the Education Assessment Committee in developing the interim guide on student assessment that schools are now following. The guidelines provide for:

- ongoing feedback to students as part of regular class work and different ways of sharing feedback with parents;
- using examples of student work to show learning progress to parents and students, including strengths and areas for improvement;
- basing report cards on recent and consistent work to best reflect students' understanding and learning progress;
- providing performance descriptions and to help parents understand this change providing a table of matching letter grades for Grades 4-9; and
- teaching students how to self-assess their strengths and areas for improvement for certain skills, which will be included with final report cards.

The final report on the results of the survey is available on the Department of Education website: <http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/Assessment-survey.html>

November 14, 2017

Date



Signature