

Superintendent's Speaking Notes

1. Winter Weather

Student safety is the first priority of School District No. 57. Parents/Guardians are responsible for their children's safe travel to and from school. If, for any reason, a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make other arrangements. Schools shall not be closed because of cold or inclement weather. On days when student attendance is reduced substantially because of cold or inclement weather condition or because travel is considered treacherous, regular scheduled instruction may be modified for those students who attend school. The decision to keep a student from home for the day because of winter weather conditions shall be made by the parent/guardian.

Reference Policy: 3541.35 - Winter Weather

2. January Exam Week

As of the 2011/12 school year, optional provincial exams will no longer be offered. Approximately 16 optional exams had been offered in the past along with the five required provincial exams. The scheduling of 21 exams was complex, utilized significant classroom space and teacher time, and as a result the so called "exam week" where students were not required to attend regular classes came into practice. The "exam week" was not established for class or school exams.

Now that students are required to take 3 provincial exams in grade 10 (English, Math and Science) spread over two semesters, 1 provincial exam in grade 11 (Social Studies) and 1 provincial exam in grade 12 (English/Communications 12) the call on human resources to schedule and invigilate the provincial exams and the requirement for large portions of the school's classroom space, is no longer required.

Class or school based exams can be taken prior to the traditional exam week and may be eliminated as schools develop current or alternate assessment practices.

For the January 2012 "exam week" school schedules will have classes proceeding as usual up to and including Friday, January 20, 2012. January 23 and 24 are also instructional days. School-based exams may occur during the block in which the class is scheduled. For students who do not have a final assessment on these days, the blocks may be used as "I-Blocks" for students

who are not meeting learning outcomes or a continuation of the instructional program. January 25 and 26 would also be used as "I-Days" for a student who is not meeting learning outcomes for the course. Provincial exams are also scheduled on these days.

Our school district had set aside 11 days (4 in January and 7 in June) for provincial exams. Other school districts in the province have also done the same. With the change in Ministry of Education direction regarding required provincial exams, these days can be lessened or eliminated and our students will benefit from additional days for learning!

	SUBJECT	Administration Mode	TIME *
January 23 – 27, 2012 Monday – Friday	Apprenticeship and Workplace Mathematics 10 Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 Maths: métiers et milieu de travail 10 Maths: fondements et pré-calcul 10	E	Schools may schedule these sessions at any time during the week from 9 am through to final start time of 3 pm
January 25, 2012 Wednesday	English 10 BC First Nations Studies 12 Études des Premières Nations de la C.-B. 12	E+P E E	9:00 am - 11:00 am
	Social Studies 11 Sciences humaines 11	E+P E	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
January 26, 2012 Thursday	English 12 Français langue première 10	E+P E	9:00 am - 11:00 am
	Science 10 Sciences 10 Communications 12	E+P E E+P	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

January 27, 2012 Friday	Français langue seconde-immersion 12** Français langue première 12** English 12 First Peoples	E E E	9:00 am - 11:00 am
	Civic Studies 11 Éducation civique 11 English 10 First Peoples	E E E	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

E=electronic only P=paper only E+P=electronic and paper available

Please contact School Administration/school website/newsletters/schedules given to students for information specific to your child's school.

3. Kindergarten Registration Dates

Wednesday, February 1, 2012; 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Reference Policy: 5119 (School Catchment Areas, Registration and Student Transfers)

4. Online Transfer Process

Begins 9:00 a.m. on Monday February 6th and runs through to March 2nd at 3:00 p.m. Students wishing to transfer to another school for September 2012 must apply during this time.

Reference Policy: 5119 (School Catchment Areas, Registration and Student Transfers)

5. Items of Note:

- a. Transition 7-8 – information/programming/activities – happening now or in the near future
- b. Trustee Committee and Liaison Appointments – public January 24th Board Meeting
- c. School Organization for 2012-2013 – discussions beginning now
- d. Secondary Semester 1 Reporting – see LRB ruling attached.
- e. Superintendent's Report on Achievement – public January 24th Board Meeting

6. Policy Input: Draft Policy 5145.4 (Child Protection)

On November 22, 2011, the Board of Education approved this policy for distribution to reference groups for input.

The deadline for submissions is February 22, 2012.

7. As you think about programming for fall 2012: Career Technical Centre

This program allows students to graduate from secondary school while at the same time completing one year of college. During grades 11 and 12, students complete two semesters at high school and two semesters at the College of New Caledonia (CNC). Areas of study include one of: Automotive Service and Collision Repair, Carpentry/Joinery, Dental Studies, Electrical/Electronics, Heavy Duty/Commercial Transport Mechanical Repair, Industrial Mechanic (Millwright)/Machinist, Natural Resources and Environmental Technology, Plumbing, Professional Cook, Welder Level C.

In addition to the School District-College of New Caledonia partnership for learning, many local businesses support the program through scholarship, bursary, awards and employment priority.

Contact your school administration or counseling department for further information.

8. Fall 2011 Policy Revisions

POLICY	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION
6145 Student Transportation and Travel	November 22, 2011	Minor Revisions.
3541 Student Transportation - Home and School	November 22, 2011	Minor Revisions.

<u>8310 Policy and Policy Development</u>	November 22, 2011	Minor Revisions.
<u>5123 Student Promotion and Reporting</u>	October 25, 2011	Minor Revisions.
<u>6179 Acceptable Use of Networks</u>	October 25, 2011	Minor Revisions.

Labour Relations Board Summary (Order B132/2011)

Following is a complete list of work that teachers need not do, as defined by the BC Labour Relations Board Order B132/2011:

- Participate in meetings or interviews with parents/guardians and/or district teaching staff outside of instructional time, or during instructional time unless coverage is provided
- Participate in meet the teacher activities outside of instructional time, or during instructional time unless coverage is provided
- Prepare or distribute report cards
- Provide any student assessment data to Administrative Officers or the school office, except Grade 12 marks required for graduation, post-secondary applications and scholarship purposes
- Complete and submit student referral forms outside of instructional time
- Attend staff meetings
- Attend staff committee meetings
- Attend any meeting called by School District management
- Participate in any standing or ad hoc District committees
- Attend school based meetings called by an Administrative Officer, unless the meetings are related to an emergency
- Provide Administrative Officers with any routine printed, written or electronic communications
- Accept any printed, written or electronic communication from an Administrative Officer, unless it relates to an emergency
- Participate in the preparation or the organization of assemblies outside of instructional time, or during instruction time unless coverage is provided
- Participate in any accreditation activity
- Participate in any School District or Ministry in-service
- Participate in any professional development that is not teacher directed
- Participate in any school photo organization.
- Provide coverage for a teacher who is absent, except for a Teacher on Call hired specifically for that purpose
- Administer or supervise FSA or any District or Ministry test
- Collect money from students or participate in fund raising
- Order supplies, textbooks, etc., unless needed immediately to effectively maintain ongoing instruction
- Assist the Administrative Officer in administrative tasks like building timetables or computer organization
- Do inventory
- Organize textbooks.
- Answer school office phones
- Supervise detentions before, during or after instructional time
- Prepare overviews or previews for the Administrative Officers, except when associated with a teacher evaluation process
- Distribute School District or administrative letters, newsletters, memos or announcements to students, unless it is health and safety related
- Pack up classrooms to facilitate painting, renovations or maintenance
- Perform department head/position of responsibility duties except during allocated time in the time table.