



Board Highlights

May 2011

Happening this Month!

May 4-8

Senior Super Soccer!

May 5

Enhanced French Info Night at Range Lake North, 7:00 pm

May 10

Ratepayers Meeting
Regular Board Meeting

May 12

Middle School Dance - RLN
KTW DDEA Meeting

May 16

SJF Report Cards Go Home

May 17-18

SJF Spring Concert

May 18

Aboriginal Education Advisory
Committee Meeting

NJM Spring Concert

May 19

NJM & RLN Spring Concert
MHS Dance for Track
SJF PST Interviews - Drop in from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Technology in YK1

Yellowknife Education District No. 1 has adopted a detailed information and communications technology (ICT) strategy which prioritizes a number of key areas for investment which will, over future years, further the integration of ICT in learning and teaching. This e-learning will allow our students to become better 21st century learners and digital citizens.

Simply put, e-Learning is learning which takes place with the assistance of digital technology. The use of computers and other digital devices, together with online learning tools and materials, are the prerequisites for e-Learning to take place. When digital technologies are successfully integrated with the appropriate pedagogies to meet the objectives of the curriculum it can be said that a form of e-Learning takes place. Due to advances in technology and the increasing availability of good quality online resources – many interactive – the definition of e-Learning also incorporates “anytime, anywhere” learning and the opportunities for self-directed and more personalized learning.

YK1 is the only district in the NWT that offers students a Virtual Desktop environment. This allows for “anytime, anywhere” access to their school materials. Mildred Hall School has been the test school for the last two years and has successfully used the technology over that time. Virtual Desktops allow all students to connect to a Windows environment from any device with an internet connection. Students and teachers can log in from home and have access to everything they have in the school, whether it is programs, or the projects/assignments they are working on in school. YK1 will be looking to expand this technology to other schools in the district this summer so that it will be available to more YK1 students and staff starting in September.

Because of the virtual desktop environment, YK1 will also make it possible for those students and staff who have their own devices (laptops, iPads, tablets) to be able to bring them into the school and have access to their data on the network. For the last three years YK1 has had an internal and external wireless network in all YK1 buildings and this external connection will allow users to bring their own device into the schools to use. This will give students the ability to use devices that they are already accustomed to using.

The virtual desktop environment will also allow YK1 schools to get more computers in the hands of students. Because the physical labs will not need to be replaced as often (8-10 years vs. 4 years) more of our technology dollars can be spent in acquiring mobile labs. More access to computers means more access to e-learning and thus more integration of technology into the curriculum allowing students to actively work towards achieving the standards for global learning in the digital age. YK1 has been able to put 8 mobile labs into our schools over the past 2 years which has greatly increased students access to technology. YK1 will continue to do what is needed to continue to increase this student accessibility.

YK1 has also been very progressive in getting interactive technologies like SmartBoards into our classrooms as a way of engaging students in their learning. Students learn more by being actively involved in their learning. The district continues to run Professional Learning Communities with teachers to help them become better with the

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Educating for Life! Hòt'áìòò Hoghàgoetòò! Une éducation pour la vie!



Board Highlights

May 2011

May 20

SIP PD Day - All Schools
dismiss at noon

MHS Celebration Assembly

KTW Duck Plucking

SJF PST Interviews -

Appontment only, 8:30 am -
11:30 am

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May 20-23

Skills Canada Competition

• • •

May 23

Victoria Day

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May 25-26

NJM Spring Concert

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May 26

MHS Educational Showcase

• • •

May 27

JHS Multicultural Assembly

WMS Dance

KDS Duck Plucking

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May 30 - June 3

Grade 5 Earth Medicine Camp

PAC Corner

May 11 • MHS, WMS

May 17 • SJF

May 18 • EJHS

use of the new technologies like SmartBoards and as a group they write and share ICT infused projects that can be used and modified to use with whatever is being taught and learned in the classroom .

YK1 is also trying to be proactive with teaching students, teachers and parents the basics of being a 21st Century Digital Citizen. The Information Technology department offers computer exploratories in schools along with meetings and workshops with teachers. The IT Department has also met with a couple of PACs during the last two years to talk with parents about internet safety, social media and other digital technologies to help parents understand what their child is doing on the internet and how to help keep them safer. This is something that is offered to any parent group that is interested.

Recently YK1 ITS has been able to arrange computer pricing deals through the HP Academy which will give students, parents and staff a chance to purchase computers at a discount, and for every computer someone purchases, YK1 receives funding that can be used to purchase HP supplies. YK1 ITS has also been able to arrange an ongoing agreement with Lenovo and Acrodex which will give us substantially reduced prices for the product we purchase for the schools/district plus give us \$5000 in scholarship funding for students who attend post secondary education in Computer Science or related fields. We hope to work with our partners to extend this to a multi-year agreement.

2011-2012 Draft Budget

Over the past few months, YK1 has dedicated their time and efforts in preparing the draft budget for the 2011-2012 school year. The draft budget will be available to the public on Friday May 6, 2011. Please visit www.yk1.nt.ca to view it.

Enhanced French in YK1!

Are you interested in providing your child with opportunities to become bilingual? If your child has succssfully completed Grade 6 Intensive French, you need to check out YK1's Enhanced French program. This program allows students to continue to develop their French language communication skills.

May 5, 7:00 pm at Range Lake North School is YK1's Enhanced French Information Night.

For more information visit yk1.nt.ca or phone 920-7567!

Did You Know?

Did you know? Recent research shows the importance of regularly scheduled family meals:parents or caregivers and children are more emotionally healthy and closer when they eat meals together.

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