

Manitoba K to 12 COVID-19 Response Planning Team
1:30 pm to 3:00 pm, June 9, 2021
Teams Meeting

Item	Record of Discussion
Review of Minutes/Action Items	<p>Review of Minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No errors or omissions.
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall Action Plan Discussion – EDU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the February 10, 2021 meeting, Fall Planning, the key areas were discussed: Environmental Factors, Resources, PPE, Mental Health and Well-being, Learning and System response. ○ On May 27, the province announced <u>Protection and additional Millions of Dollars for Safe Schools as Pandemic Continues</u>. ○ Schools should expect some of level of public health measures to be in place for the fall, but it is dependent on many variables. The desired goal is to have all students back in class. ○ To prepare for the start of school in the fall what will schools/school divisions need to know? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Physical Distancing and size of cohorts will be important, as this will determine space and staffing needs. ▪ Time will be needed to determine the impact that the last year had on students. Would schools/school divisions be able to provide their needs to the Department approx. 4 – 6 weeks into the start of the school year? ▪ Additional days may be needed for organizing and/or professional development. Keeping in mind that teachers need a break, when would be the best time to have these days? It would be preferable for the Department to offer choices to teachers. ▪ Transportation should be a manageable task. ▪ Ventilation systems in schools will be a concern/question raised by parents. ▪ Breakfast/Lunch programs, Cafeterias, Food Handling –Detailed guidance from public health would be needed. ○ Keeping in mind that our situation is fluid and can change quickly, when should information be shared with schools? The goal is to provide clear guidance. Staff are being encouraged to take a well-deserved break when school closes. Schools are planning similar to fall 2022. If restrictions are eased, this would be welcomed. • Recovery Learning Discussion – EDU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ s. 23 ○ The Department would like to know where does the system need support. ○ What is the future role of the Remote Learning Support Centre? There will be space for 1,000 students who are medically compromised. ○ What will be parents’ options? Clear communication needs to be provided to parents. ○ Public messaging will be important when planning. ○ Supports for students facing challenges is also important. This support should involve several departments, such as Health and Justice. ○ There needs to be the flexibility to respond to local needs. ○ The discussion around teacher’s mental health needs to continue. • Items – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will there be any support for summer programming? Currently, Day Camps are not allowed. The next set of Public Health orders may change this situation. There is a desire to have programming, as funding is provided. ○ Using last summer’s plans as a template, school divisions should plan to have some form of summer programming.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School divisions need to know as soon as possible if there will be summer programming as there are logistics that have to be arranged such as hiring staff. ○ During the summer months, school divisions take it upon themselves to provide food to families in need and do check-ins with families. ○ ○ Currently, there is a media blitz taking place about students being retained in their current grade due to not completing a full course/grade level during this past school year and the fact that the province has a no fail policy. ○ This is a negative focus. There were positive outcomes in spite of the pandemic. Schools have seen many students not normally engaged in class flourish under remote learning. ○ The department should be prepared to make a response on this issue. ○ ○ Flexibility of staffing will be important to meet the next year's staffing needs, such as Limited Teaching Permits and increasing the amount of time that a retired teacher may work without hampering their pension. Conversations are currently taking place regarding these issues. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summer programming and the need for a timely decision will be shared with public health. ○ Food Security and the need for financial assistance will be brought forward to departments of Health and Families.
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To Be Announced