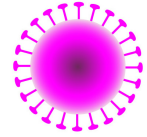




NSTU Novel Corona Virus Update



Friday May 15, 2020

Dear NSTU member,

Over the course of the past week a number of announcements have been made regarding students and staff retrieving items and returning items to schools. Today the NSTU and PSAANS were invited to collaborate with the EECD for feedback, based on member concerns, on guidelines that are in development. These guidelines respect the requirements set by Public Health and respect the instructional time that is continuing up to and including June 5th.

EECD has agreed that teacher appointments can occur starting on May 25th, but acknowledge that teachers will be teaching until June 5th and may wish to delay appointments until after that date. Teachers will also be able to book multiple appointments, on a case by case basis of need, to allow them to collect belongings and to account for staffing changes such as transfer, school realignment, or retirement.

There is agreement with the EECD that student/family member appointments do not need to occur until after June 5th. By scheduling these appointments after June 5th students can collect personal items and return school materials that may be in their possession (e.g., Chromebooks/iPads, textbooks, uniforms, musical instruments, etc.) at the same time.

Detailed guidelines will be provided to the RCEs and CSAP by the EECD early next week once they have been vetted by Public Health. The guidelines will help teachers and other staff navigate the expectations, roles, and safe practices that will be necessary to facilitate these processes safely and with confidence. The guidelines have the following general principles:

- Current public health guidelines will be followed and the plan will be approved by Public Health
- Social distancing and regular hand washing are overarching Public Health direction
- Teachers may be expected to gather/label student belongings/work that are in the classroom and place together. (Teachers would not be expected to open or empty student lockers)

Wishing you all a happy Victoria Day weekend.

In solidarity,

Paul Wozney
President, Nova Scotia Teachers Union