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## Meeting of School District 2010 Community Meetings

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### Information from Roundtable Activities

1.
  - Provincial exams
  - Making up curriculum (not a few minutes at a time).
  - Where do kids whose parents work go – assuming daycare will be an issue
  - Are the teachers willing to work an extra 1 hour/week?
  - If schools close many people planning to leave town (thus – work / volunteer force).
  
2.
  - Evenings/weekend
  - We are all excited about Olympics and many would like to attend (given access to tickets, but work / crowds are detrimental). However, we realize that going will be challenging and we will probably watch on TV like we have with past Olympics.
  - If school is in session, then we will not be taking kids out for 2 weeks, maybe for an event or two.
  - We believe that having the Olympics as almost part of the curriculum and “on” in the schools would be very great (who doesn’t remember watching a hockey game at school).
  
3.
  - We would like our kids to be involved in local activities.
  - We are concerned about having our teens volunteer as the perception is that they would get the least desirable volunteer positions.
  - Maybe give local kids tickets to watch “big events” on screens in town (adventure Centre, Eagle Eye Theatre) – somehow they could “earn” them.
  - For elementary students who could not volunteer, then opportunities would have to be made for them – i.e. places for them to go – i.e. “mini-Olympics” at Recreation Centre
  
4.
  - Why is it all or nothing? Close or not close? Why can’t there be a compromise like go to school Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and have long weekends?

(these days could be set when we get calendar). Could the kids go 1 hour longer for those 3 days?

- Spring break moved to Olympic week?
- Move some Pro D days to this time.
- It is important to us NOT to just add a few minutes a day.

5.

- If school gyms used and lots of people around?? security in and around school.
- Flexibility of teachers / Ministry of Ed re)exams.
- Emergency Preparedness if kids in school.
- If schools close where will the kids really go? Most won't be at events, many or most parents will be at work.
- Will programs that may run be funded?
- Is the decision going to be consistent? Is it fair to do one thing in Whistler and not in the other areas?

6.

- Email list (mail out)
- Send updates to schools to send out to parents at large (not just those who attend)
- Hard copies in schools/library/adventure center/Brennan Park

FYI: We have the feeling like the decision has already been made. There is also some feeling that this is all about Whistler and Squamish is a bit of an after thought. Squamish already feels a bit left out of the Olympics.

1.
  - Availability – daycare / childcare
  - Mischief – unoccupied/unsupervised time
  - Meeting graduating requirements
  - Costs associated with childcare
  - Lost curriculum / time in
  - Timetabling issues for seniors – exams
  - Lack of activities avail to families
  - Unable to travel on highway
  
2.
  - Pull children out of school to volunteer
  - status quo –to school, work, etc.
  - Go to events after school
  - Go on vacation and leave area
  - Or some combination of the above
  - Important question on SURVEY – Ask if parents will put children?
  
3.
  - Secondary (>15 yrs)
    - Volunteer
    - Employment opportunity
  - Primary (<15 yrs)
    - Fine arts programs
    - Recreation programs
    - Home school
  
4.
  - Balance time between semesters
  - Flexibility in larger holidays (e.g. Christmas & March Break)
  - No short time / “bits” e.g. +2 minutes/day
  
5. Key questions:
 

Exams – can district request district-wide change to exam dates? To Christmas Break?

What would happen to any revenues generated? What happens if there is a cost to an option? i.e. financial assessment for options

What will happen to CUPE – with letter of appointment that state “all day’s school in session”?

How will security issues be dealt with if mix of school in and Olympic gym use.
  
6. Regular release on web page (even if it says “no update”)
  - on-going public / community meetings distribute thru schools via
  - individual school email list.

Other Comments:

- VANOC, to also add pressure to Ministry for some decisions re: dates for exams / holidays
- In general, should consider mix options of open and closed. Maybe there is a mix of some schools closed others open.
- Table prefers – Secondary closed, Elementary open.

1. Concerns if NOT:
  - Concern over @ risk, special needs etc. kids
  - Make up school time
2. If in .....1 X HS, 1 X ES
  - X 3 not concerned yet? If work / curriculum avb/
  - X 2 – 2 X ES not concerned – they will not be at school
  - Key: school will not suffer but how can it be enhanced
  - X2 – 2 X HS – not concerned planning on participating
  - X 2 – S X PS, 1 X HS – not concerned
3. Participating: Somehow, somewhere... \$, volunteer, fine arts
4. HS – exams prep, no adding few minutes, no adding chunks.
  - What about Year Round School?
  - Spring Brea shift, early Xmas break, Pro D days
5. Key Questions
  - Primary students...
  - Day care
  - Academic input?
  - School cost vs. savings
  - Parents cost / savings
  - SD 48 may come out even \$, but what is cost to families
  - Squamish employees to commute?
  - Essential services mandate?
  - Labour shortage
6. Communication:
  - Email
  - PAC's
  - Meetings
  - Newsletters @ schools
  - Squamish Channel 10
  - Newspapers
  - CMS Boards
  - Digital signage
  - Public Service Announcements
  - Mountain Patrol
  - Radio