

NONA Child Development Centre

Entering the SCHOOL SYSTEM

**A Transition Planning Workbook for
Year 2012 for School District 22**



NONA Child Development Centre
2802 34th Street, Vernon, B.C. V1T 5X1
Phone: (250) 549-1281 Fax: (250) 549-3771
Web Site: www.nona-cdc.com



This is a workbook.

Use this as a guide for your child's entry into school. The transition checklist on page 2 works both as an overview of this process and as a your record of your contacts with school personnel.



A Strategy:

"The workbook helped calm me down about the whole process and go through it methodically; confident that we were not missing any important steps".



This workbook is a tool to support you as an advocate for your child as he/she enters the school system.

Your child's transition into the school system will follow a definite timeline, so the rest of the workbook is divided into months, each with an appropriate question from the checklist. There is a month by month outline of what actions you could be taking as the school district learns about your child. This timeline is meant only as a guide and can be adjusted to fit your particular circumstances. Provided are worksheets, which should prepare you for meetings and help you document their outcomes.

As you are going through this transition process, remember you are a member of a larger team that could include a Supported Child Development Consultant, Therapists, Family Support Social Worker, Child Care Providers, School District Personnel and other professionals. Draw on the support of these team members at any stage along the way.

TRANSITION CHECKLIST

JANUARY/FEBRUARY:

- Have you attended your School District informational meeting?
- Have you signed a Release of Information form to share records with the **School District?**

MARCH:

- Have you contacted the principal of your child's home school?
Name of school: _____
Date registered: _____
- Depending on your child's needs, a Coordinator of Student Support Services may observe your child his/her child care setting.

APRIL:

- Have you made the most recent report/assessment about your child available to the School District? You may wish to consult with your child's physiotherapist, occupational therapist, and/or speech-language pathologist regarding this.

This month may be a good month to think about who you want at your child's transition meeting.

MAY:

- Has your transition meeting at the school been planned?
Date: _____
Time: _____
Location: _____

JUNE:

- Have you and your child visited the kindergarten?
Date of visit: _____

JULY/AUGUST: HOLIDAY TIME-YOU DESERVE IT!



SCHOOL DISTRICT # 22 PERSONNEL PHONE LIST

Your School-Based Team:

School: _____

Phone: _____

Principal: _____

Teacher: _____

Other: _____

Colleen Lindsay
Mari Roos
Coordinators of Student Support Services
Phone: 549.9240

Don Wilcox, Director of
Instruction
Student Support Services

Other Resource Personnel:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Role: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Role: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Role: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Role: _____

School District #22 (Vernon) 2012

1401–15th Street, Vernon, BC, V1T 8S8 Phone: (250) 542-3331 Fax: (250) 549-9200

District Staff	250-542 -3331
Superintendent	Ms. Bev Rundell
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. Don Wilcox
Director For Student Learning	Mr. Joe Rogers
Director of Instruction - Student Support Services	Mr. Don Wilcox

District Schools Contact Numbers—Elementary Schools		
Alexis Park Elementary 4205-35 St Vernon, B.C. V1T 6C4	Jennifer Gardner Principal Dan Curtis Vice Principal	Tel: 250-545-7289 Fax: 250-558-3610
Beairsto Elementary (French Immersion) 3302-27th St. Vernon, B.C. V1T 4W7	Wendy Varley Principal Brendan Robertson Vice Principal	Tel: 250-542-1388 Fax: 250-542-8524
BX Elementary 5849 Silver Star Road Vernon, B.C. V1B 3P6	Brian Stevens Principal Jacquie Taylor Vice Principal	Tel: 250-542-4013 Fax: 250-545-1726
Cherryville Elementary 108 North Fork Road Lumby, B.C. V0E 2G3	Mary Takasaka Principal	Tel: 250-547-6163 Fax: 250-547-0142
Coldstream Elementary 10104 Kalamalka Road Coldstream, B.C. V1B 1L7	Tracy Godfrey Principal Jan Bradley Vice Principal	Tel: 250-545-0597 Fax: 250-545-2030
Ellison Elementary 2400 Fulton Road, P.O. Box 2400 Vernon, B.C. V1H 1S3	Bob Gardner Principal Bob Oldfield Vice Principal	Tel: 250-260-4176 Fax: 250-260-3956
Harwood Elementary 4320- 20th St. Vernon, B.C. V1T 4E3	Brian Smyth Principal Rita Tedesco Vice Principal	Tel: 250-542-5385 Fax: 250-542-2863
Hillview Elementary 1822 Francis St. Vernon, B.C. V1B 3A5	Marilyn Merler Principal Lynette Wren Vice Principal	Tel: 250-542-5465 Fax: 250-542-0545
JW Inglis Elementary 2287 Shuswap Ave, P.O. Box 369 Lumby, B.C. V0E 2G0	Maggie Badgero Principal Kathy Wickum Vice Principal	Tel: 250-547-9231 Fax: 250-547-9569
Kidston Elementary 12101 Linden Drive Coldstream, B.C. V1B 2H3	Lynne Gibson Principal Kirsten Mazur Vice Principal	Tel: 250-542-5351 Fax: 250-558-3756
Lavington Elementary 9715 School Road Coldstream, B.C. V1B 3G4	Tyler Galenzoski Principal	Tel: 250-545-1710 Fax: 250-545-7158
Mission Hill Elementary 1510-36th St. Vernon, B.C. V1T 6C8	Candy Siegmuller Principal Colleen Harvie Vice Principal	Tel: 250-545-0639 Fax: 250-545-9843
Okanagan Landing Elementary 7322 Grant Road Vernon, B.C. V1H 1G6	Tom Watkinson Principal Lance Johnson Vice Principal	Tel: 250-542-1181 Fax: 250-542-5047
Silver Star Elementary 1404-35th Ave Vernon, B.C. V1T 2R6	Harry Adam Principal Linda Spiller Vice Principal	Tel: 250-545-4409 Fax: 250-545-7680

Student Support Services

A Team Working Together for our Students

School District 22 Special Education Staff

Director of Instruction, Student Support Services

Mr. Don Wilcox

Coordinators, Student Support Services

Colleen Lindsay, Mari Roos

Schools that Colleen Lindsay follows:

Schools that Mari Roos follows:

- Alexis Park
- Beairsto
- Cherryville
- Harwood
- JW Inglis
- Lavington
- Mission Hill

- BX
- Coldstream
- Ellison
- Hillview
- Kidston
- OK Landing
- Silver Star

Secretary for Student Support Services:

Elke Lewis

School Based Mental Health Clinician:

Heidi Forgo

Substance Abuse and Prevention Counsellor:

Doug Rogers

District Elementary Counselors:

Pam Fournier, Lisa Lanaway, AJ Inkster,
Krista MacCagno

Family Life:

Christine Balfour

Teacher for the Visually Impaired:

Peter Midtdal

Teacher for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

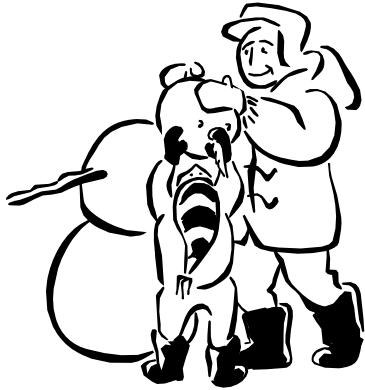
Ann Hallam, Laurel Eckoff-Mcpherson

Speech-Language Pathologists:

Karyn Lawrence; Kris Jensen; Jutta Prem-
Stein, Anita Gasparini, Louise Crowne

Occupational Therapists:

Anne Ross, Elaine Reimer



JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Have you received notification of meeting?

In January, or early February, School District personnel will meet with parents to provide information regarding services in School District #22 (Vernon). Prepare some questions you would like to ask at the meeting regarding services available that might be relevant to your child's needs.

These may include:

- Specialized schools or programs.
- Support teachers, Learning Assistants.
- Certified Educational Assistants
- Teacher of Visually Impaired
- Teacher of Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Physiotherapy Services
- Occupational Therapist Services
- Speech-language Services
- In school support programs
- Transportation

If these services are available, the School District can inform you how your child can access these services. School District representatives can also clarify how assistant time is allocated in their district to individual schools.

Should your child have some special health concerns, Colleen Lindsay and/or Mari Roos Coordinator, Student Support Services will refer you to the Student Services Program in your school. Together, an individual Health Care Plan will be developed.

Have you signed a Release of Information form to share records with the School District?



OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, the School District will gather information regarding your child from those currently involved. If your child is involved with a program at NONA Child Development Centre please contact NONA staff so that we can jointly fill out transition form. This exchange helps the School District to learn more about the needs of your child before he/she enters kindergarten. Another aspect of this process is allocating how much assistant time may be required for their District and individual schools.

If you are deciding whether to send your child to kindergarten, please speak to your Supported Child Development Consultant re if continued support will be available in his/her child care setting in September.

This information provides the School District with documentation of your child's needs. To meet Ministry of Education guidelines for funding, your School District will require a copy of this information for its files.

Have you decided to send your child to kindergarten? Will he/she be attending the public school system or a private school?

Many parents are anxious about whether or not their child has the social and academic skills to be successful in kindergarten. A good rule of thumb to remember is that your child will be accepted into school regardless of what developmental level they are at. Kindergarten teachers are well versed at welcoming children of diverse abilities into their classroom setting.

If you have concerns, we suggest that you talk to the following people:

- Your child's team; Parents, NONA staff, Child Care Providers, others
- The School Based team at your child's home school, Student Support Services.

NONA's policy about services for children who are eligible for kindergarten:

To summarize:

- The Centre encourages all families to send their children to kindergarten when they are eligible.
- If you decide to hold your child back from kindergarten, the following services are available:
 1. Family Support services
 2. Supported Child Development services (# of hours decided on an individual basis following Supported Child Development Program policy and guidelines.)
- If you decide to hold your child back from kindergarten, the following services will not be available due to scarce resources:
 1. Physiotherapy
 2. Occupational therapy
 3. Speech -Language therapy at NONA
- If you have questions about this policy, talk with your NONA staff person for more information.

MARCH

Have you registered your child at school?

A Pleasure:

“My daughter went to pre-school in our area and went on to kindergarten with some of her preschool friends. This really helped her inclusion, and it helped me as her mom, because then I knew some of the other Moms.”

Contact your School District office to find out what catchment area you live in. You will register at this school. School District Student Support Services can also inform you of any special programs.



When you do register, you may be asked to choose either morning or afternoon Kindergarten. Some schools offer full day programs. If you want your child in the same classroom with peers from your neighbourhood or child care setting, find out from their parents which class their children will be attending. Schools will attempt to accommodate requests.

Even if you are undecided, it is a good idea to register your child. Registering your child gives you the opportunity to discuss issues and ask questions of the principal. It also secures a place for your child at the school in September.



APRIL

Has your child's information been made available to the Student Support Services Coordinator? The school district is particularly interested in any diagnostic reports from a doctor or hospital that you have regarding your child.

MAY

Has your transition meeting been planned?

School District Personnel will arrange this meeting. Not all children will need an individual transition meeting. Sometimes a phone call will be sufficient. As a parent this is your opportunity to express your needs and concerns to the school regarding your child.

A Pleasure

"We told stories about him so the people would see the other side of him. Stories of his first soccer game – about how another child got hurt and he was the first there to comfort him."

We have attached several work sheets at the end of this workbook that may help you.

JUNE

Have you and your child visited the kindergarten?

Most schools have organized special days for parents and children to visit the kindergarten class. This is an opportunity for you and your child to meet the teacher, the children who will be in the class, and their parents. Your child will have a chance to become more familiar with the classroom and the school.

Please see the attached forms on the next page that you may like to use during this transition process.

Questions To Ask During The Transition Meeting:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Key Points That I Heard:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

My Child's Strengths Include:

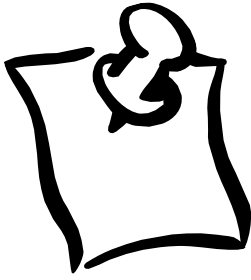
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Dreams That I Have For My Child:

Ways That Help My Child Learn:

Entering the School System Transition Planning Workbook

<i>What needs to be in place for September 2012</i>	<i>Who's Responsible</i>	<i>Date Completed</i>



NOTES

Workbook developed by NONA Child Development Centre staff in collaboration with School District #22 Student Support Services Staff.

With reference to Capital Health Region transition book.