



Pandemic Working Group (PWG)

Location: Zoom
Date: Thursday, July 8, 2021
Time: 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Agenda & Notes

Agenda Item	Notes
Emergency Child Care (ECC)	<p>ECC has ended. There are summer programs being offered throughout the community.</p> <p>Action: Alison to remove as standing item from agenda.</p>
Child Welfare	<p>No updates.</p>
Education	<p>WRDSB – 4 new Superintendents for next year as well as new Director of Education (official August 3rd). Waiting on Ministry for re-opening expectations. Expect it to come first 2 weeks of August. Expect COVID protocols to continue as is for in-person learners. Ministry might ask the Board to re-ask parents for in-person vs. remote school preference. A lot of summer work happening. Working especially with Carizon.</p> <p>WCDSB - WCDSB hiring Re-engagement Officers and Equity Officer. Specially in place to support Black, Indigenous and Racialized students. Also have a lot of work happening this summer and have also partnered with Carizon.</p> <p>Viamonde – Anti-Racism identified as one of top 3 priorities for their Board.</p> <p>Question about unaccounted for students: WRDSB shared about work to identify and connect with all students by end of school year (i.e., no unaccounted for students by end of year), as well as work to support specifically a group of un-engaged grade 8 students.</p> <p>Question about disaggregation of data for those who have selected remote learning and the implications of inequities in the system: Scott indicated breaking down of systemic barriers and equity in the systems is “everything” WRDSB is talking about now. Big focus on how they will be welcoming back to school in a different way. What does the <i>school</i> need to shift (not the students). Big success via Settlement Workers in connecting with students as well as staff that identify as part of different racial groups. Erin (WCDSB) echoed Scott. WCDSB will run a student census in the Fall to have a better understanding of the identities</p>



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	<p>of students. Viamonde does not have a sense of the identities of those choosing in-person. Will follow up at next meeting.</p> <p>Question re: safety measures in school for fall: grade 7 and 8 had highest COVID spread pre-lockdown. Most cases coming via the community. WRDSB feel confident in the safety measures that were in place to help protect kids this fall (especially the younger grades who are not currently vaccinated). WCDSB will follow guidance of Public Health. Viamonde will follow up on their info at next meeting.</p> <p>Action: Gabrielle to follow up on COVID safety measures & identifies of those who are choosing in-person learning.</p>
<p>Vaccination Roll Out</p>	<p>Grace re-introduced herself as the new Director of Child, Family and Dental Health (replacing Andrea Reist following her retirement).</p> <p>Expect August. Focusing on Modena for adults at this time to ensure there are enough Pfizer vaccines for all 12-17 year old. Mapping out second dose neighbourhood clinics for youth.</p> <p>Group discussed need to reach out further into the deepest pockets of the community. Advice to strip away anything further in the process (i.e., booking system). Focus on opportunities for walk-ins on a regular basis. Group also discussed the need to acknowledge the challenge for families with under 12 year old children and the lack of clear guidelines on how to participate safely in community.</p> <p>Further information from Grace following the meeting:</p> <p>Scheduled vs. walk in clinics: We are continuing to work with partners and the mobile vaccine teams to reach groups who experience barriers to accessing scheduled vaccine appointments and more centralised clinic. We will be offering more walk-in clinics as our rates increase. 1st dose walk ins are already available at all local clinic sites.</p> <p>Guidance for children <12 and families with children <12: Early information indicates that we may be seeing vaccines available for children ages 5-11 in the Fall, most likely provided through family physician offices. This is still preliminary and we will provide confirmed information when we have it. In terms of public health measures for families with children <12, the guidance is to follow direction based on provincial and local stage of reopening which is based on various factors including prevalence of people vaccinated with 1 or 2 doses in the community.</p>



Children and Youth Planning Table

of Waterloo Region

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<u>Trauma-Informed Work and Training</u>	<p>Update: The Continuous Professional Learning Committee (CPLC) met and discussed the possibility of a joint initiative related to trauma-informed trainings and resources across the full CYPT collective (taking inspiration from the work underway at WRDSB). CPLC would like to set a meeting with some reps of the PWG in the coming weeks (date TBD) to discuss. The team also recognizes the strong interest of the CYPT membership in both the areas of trauma-informed approaches in day-to-day work as well as the importance of centering equity and anti-racism.</p> <p>Action: Reps connected to Barb, Debbie, Erin, JoAnn and Tara seeking to participate. Alison will follow up with meeting details.</p>
Summer Programming	Barb met with Joan at United Way United Way to discuss the Youth Summer fund. Organized through organizations who put in proposals to run the programming. Joan interested in the work that is done via PWG as PWG would have been ideal group to consult ahead. If they do another round Joan will be in touch.
Shared Messaging/ Supporting Families	Alison thanked all who have shared the <u>open letter</u> with young people and families. Feedback has been positive. No input to date from families in the community via the Gmail account linked in the open letter.
Member Updates/Other	Lots of kudos for School Boards and Public Health efforts over these months in supporting young people and families.
Next Steps	Next meeting: July 22 nd , 12pm to 1pm

Future Agenda Items

- Health and wellness of the workforce
- Supports needed for children/youth/families during pandemic recovery
- FACS trends related to pandemic impacts