

NEWS RELEASE

October 5, 2020

District Introduces Volleyball, Music to Begin Indoor Extra-Curricular Activities

The Newfoundland and Labrador English School District will introduce volleyball and music to begin the return of indoor, school-based extra-curricular activities, effective October 13. These activities will be closely monitored with a view to gradually introducing other extra-curricular activities in the coming weeks and months.

Tony Stack, CEO/Director of Education, said the District recognizes the inherent value of extra-curricular activities in terms of students' physical, mental and social well-being. Many outdoor extra-curricular activities have been occurring throughout September.

“With respect to the indoor school environment, our focus has been on getting schools up and running, and monitoring health and safety protocols to avoid jeopardizing what has been a largely successful return to school,” Mr. Stack said. “At this point, we will be moving forward with after-school music programs and volleyball. If all goes well, and we are able to maintain health and safety protocols - particularly enhanced cleaning protocols - we will consider introducing other extra-curricular activities.”

The District will continue to operate schools as ‘controlled environments’, so access to non-essential personnel will be limited, and community use of schools remains suspended at this time. All visitors (e.g., non-staff coaches; officials) must have the principal’s pre-approved permission to access a school. There will be no spectators permitted for practices, games, rehearsals or performances.

“Our first priority is the health and safety of students and staff and the delivery of the prescribed K-12 curriculum,” said Mr. Stack. “The reintroduction of indoor extra-curricular activities is, of course, contingent on the continued low prevalence of Covid-19 in the province.”

The updated Protocol for Extra-curricular Activities can be viewed here: [Protocol - Extra-curricular activities](#).

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