

EPPC Meeting Report – January 18, 2011

Minutes from October 19, 2010 EPPC meeting distributed

- June 15, 2010 meeting minutes adopted.
- Learning Initiatives update – handout provided re: realignment of responsibilities for various learning initiatives as a result of district reconfiguration.
- Centre for Learning Alternatives [CLA] – update on relocation of CLA & satellite programs to John McInnis Jr. Secondary.
 - Phone & computer services not completely functioning.
 - Staff is still managing to deliver services to students.
 - Will update EPPC once moves to service centre completed.
- District Awards update – report reviewed.
- Teacher Mentorship Program – renamed “Learning Partners” Program.
 - Committee formed – role will be to administer district support for new teachers.
- 2010/11 Yearly Plan review.

January 18, 2011 EPPC Meeting

- No changes to October 19/10 meeting minutes.

1. Late French Immersion Proposal – Grades 5 & 6.

- John McLay (Assistant Superintendent) presented application/proposal.
- Madeleine Crandell (Principal – École Lac des Bois) then spoke.
 - Late French Immersion planned for September 2011.
 - Highlighted – Vision, Skills, Incentives, Resources & Action Plan.
 - Grade 6 – 100% instruction in French.
 - Grade 7 – all instruction in French except Language Arts which is in English.
 - Grade 8 – late French immersion students merge with early French immersion students.
- Discussion around conducting survey & information session with parents – “filter.”
 - Getting student input would be another “filter.”
- Madeleine Crandall advised the 1st step is a discussion package for parents.
 - Open House & information meeting for parents & Grade 5 students.
 - Notification in local newspaper & radio.

2. Student Support Services Update.

- Truman Spring (District Principal – Special Education) gave presentation – “History of Special Needs Education”
 - 3 part presentation.
 - Goal – to make something complex, simple – called it “simplexity.”
 - Truman presented some figures (%) of “typical learners” (normal students) showing how these figures have declined from 97% to between 65% and 70% since the 1960s.
 - Posed question if 35% to 45% of students who are not “typical learners” are really special needs students.
 - Additional “labels” being added to students every year.
 - Truman spoke about many factors that affect the expansion of “special education” and the dwindling of “regular education.”
 - Current system is not sustainable.
 - 1 factor is complex needs of both students & parents.

- Other factors - # of experts are shrinking when the present system is built on “expertise.”
 - Also – a funding structure that is “categorical.”
 - New system – “Education for All” that incorporates “Special Education.”
 - Teacher focused versus TA focused.
 - Emphasizes the needs of the student – not the “category” of student.
 - Increased collaboration.
 - Truman described the two sides of the “School-Wide Instruction Continuum.”
 1. Academic Systems.
 2. Behavioural Systems.
3. **Yearly Plan** – review & update.
 - CTC update moved to March 15th (***not sure about this one – yearly plan already shows March 15th. Will check with Wendy De Marsh***).
 - Everything else same as previous plan update.
 - Suggestion made to schedule the update on Aboriginal programs in SD 57 before June 21st.
 - Proposed putting Aboriginal programs update on March EPPC meeting agenda.
 - Proposed putting Aboriginal Choice School update on April EPPC meeting agenda.
 - Proposed putting Aboriginal department update on February EPPC meeting agenda.
 - Re: Ongoing initiatives & items to be revisited.
 - Elementary report cards – meeting with interested teachers & administrators on January 24th.
 - Not waiting for further information from provincial government (***not sure what this information is –will check with Wendy De Marsh***).
 - Proposed providing update on status of online awards applications at May EPPC meeting.
 - Application deadline is end of April.

Meeting adjourned.