

Education Policies Committee (EPC)
Report to the Annual General Meeting 2021-2022

Members

PTU: Matt Wilson (Chairperson), Ann Granger, Pasquale Machado, Annie Sabourin, Marie-Pier Michaud, Christina George

LBPSB : Alana Quinn-Leroux (Secretary), Anne-Marie Lavoie, Deborah Dixon (replacing Colleen Galley), Mathieu Canavan, Patrick Oliphant, Lisa Baylis

The committee meets once a month to review recurring topics such as upcoming workshops; technology; programs and innovations.

Workshops

Most workshops offered by the school board were again held virtually this year.

LBPSB Online Academy

LBPSB offered an Online Academy once again this year. While the other English school boards offered a joint venture, LBPSB offered the online program for students exempted from COVID to be given locally and regrouped under the LBPSB Online Academy. Status, staffing and enrollment were discussed at EPC on a monthly basis.

EDDI Working Group

The EDDI working group's progress and offerings were presented at EPC meetings. The professional development opportunities, the creation of their resource kits and many more were shared with the committee.

Elementary Marking Centers

Questions arose and were discussed regarding the abolition of release time for elementary teachers for grading centers. As a result, grade 4 exams were made optional for 2021-2022.

Bimodal Technology

The installation of bimodal technology in Youth Sector classrooms was discussed and concerns were raised. Both ESD and the LBPSB Directorate mentioned that even though the installation of the technology has taken place, there is no expectation for any teachers to use or even turn on the technology. No bimodal teaching is expected or required.

Evaluation

Different discussions took place over the course of the school year regarding evaluation. We discussed the new Ministry policy for French Second Language which is no longer offering French exemptions to International students. We also discussed and commented on criteria for the evaluation of certain competencies in elementary schools which has proven to be difficult with only two report cards this year and all competencies needing to be evaluated for each term.

Online Pilot Projects

MEQ is offering some monies to school boards which would decide to create particular online projects. Options selected by the LBPSB were Sec. 4 and 5 Option classes as well as short-term distance education. Implementation of such programs will depend on the funding received. It might be possible to do both or only one; declining could also be an option. A clear timeline was not provided to the committee as it was not available.

Terms and Ministry Exams (Mark Submission Deadlines)

2022-2023 - Going back to 3 terms for next school year - 20% for first term, 20% for second term and 60% last term. The MEQ submissions deadlines were shared.

Presentations

A presentation by Jason Ferris from Beurling Academy and Sarah Macaskill, also a teacher from Beurling Academy and Project-Based Learning Coordinator was held in September.

Two presentations were shared with the committee regarding the DELF program by school board consultants. Sophie Piquette came to present to the committee in November, while Marc-Albert Paquette and Sylvie Campeau came to our April meeting.

Submitted by
Marie-Pier Michaud