

Report of the Educational Policies Committee (EPC)
Meeting of October 24, 2022

Presentation by Kurt Binnie

Projet FAD - formation à distance is a MEQ initiative by which 375 devices were sent to the school board to be installed in classrooms for cycle 2 High School classes, and each Elementary school has one on a portable device. They are called “Rally Bar”.

This is not a security camera. No one can access what is happening in the classroom remotely. The device can pick up sound at about 15 feet on the microphone; camera changes can happen. The Bluetooth is only accessible for the remote and not for the speakers.

It does not use WIFI for conferencing but is using HDMI for sharing the feed. This means that it is impossible for anyone to access the camera remotely. 15-20 devices still need to be installed. There is no expectation of having to use it at all as the school board still has some reservation concerning the use of the Rally Bar regarding privacy, confidentiality, and security concerns.

EMSB Online Academy

Quebec Virtual Academy is the name of the online school. At the moment, 6 students from LBPSB are enrolled in the school. A few others had started the process but withdrew or did not complete the registration.

Online Project for 2022-2023 School Year

The project is for students opting out of Sec. 5 Chemistry and Physics options. There are no students registered so far. PTU and HR are going through the process and discussing the parameters. The class would take place online after school. Each school would have to come up with a location for the students when they should have been in their Chemistry and/or Physics class. At the moment, two classes of 4 credit courses are being considered. However, a school could still make a local decision. Around 25 students were attending this program the last time it was offered as an online class.

CWA Consultation

Under Article 240 of the Education Act, a consultation went out to all teachers to enquire about their position on CWA’s Special Project. Me Dugré sent an email to all principals - which should then have been sent to all teachers. The consultation is based on the school board’s Enrollment Policy - this allows CWA to select their students and can completely disregard proximity enrollment. Eight (8) teachers answered the survey. It should have been shared with all teachers at the school board last year.

Upcoming Workshops

The Create, Collaborate and Innovate (CCI) conference in Laval will take place on November 11th. Anyone interested in going could inform Educational Services that there are still some places available.

Evaluation

Elementary school exam dates should be sent to the schools soon. High School Exams have been received and should be reviewed by Math and Science dates - once this is done, it shall be shared with the schools.

Technology

Mozaik

Concerns were shared regarding Mozaik. Deborah Dixon will share some of the concerns with IT.

Scolago

Concerns regarding Scolago were mentioned and will be addressed to Shannon McNulty. She is replacing Kate Doe.

EDDI Working Group

The group is looking to continue the development of their literacy programs and tools. Grants from the Ministry are being asked to be able to complete the documentation. DARE group is being formed with white educators wanting to be allies. A grant was asked to support this program through measure money.

Ukrainian Student Support

43 students are spread out all-around the schools. Students need ESL programs and LBPSB is not offering a *classe d'accueil*. Students can stay in the English system until 2025. John Leblanc- the English language consultant - is working on a shared folder to be able to share some materials to help the teachers. It could be possible to give a NE grade for some of them - a conversation should happen with the resource department and administration in order to do so. There is no extra money attached with the arrival of these students so there is no extra support and there is no extra allocation available either.

Bi-Modal Project at Place Cartier

A bi-modal pilot project was launched at Place Cartier with little information about it being shared. It never made it to EPC either for a discussion or as an information item. Pasquale Machado shared some information and raised some questions with the committee. Mathieu Canavan, Director of Educational Services did not know about it and apologized for the oversight.

Submitted by

Marie-Pier Michaud