

Educational Policies Committee (EPC)
Report to the Annual General Meeting 2022-2023

Members

PTU: Matt Wilson (Chairperson), Ann Granger (who was replaced by Erica Lamothe), Pasquale Machado, Marguerite Prince, Marie-Pier Michaud, Christina George

LBPSB : Alana Quinn-Leroux (Secretary), Anne-Marie Lavoie, Deborah Dixon, 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

Workshops were offered by the school board both virtually and in person. Some board wide workshops were offered on Regional Days. Dave Melnick was the speaker, and the topic was Transforming Trauma: How Schools Become Healing Places. Some pedagogical days workshops were also used by schools to create their upcoming educational projects following the template provided.

Technology

IT Department Communication Concerns

PTU brought up the fact that little communication takes place when a problem arises board wide. Teachers are not being informed that the problem is not only affecting them but taking place on a larger scale. It was the case this year for Smart Technology. PTU requested that IT disseminate information when major glitches occur and affect teachers.

Google/Wi-Fi Restrictions

PTU brought up the fact that the school board server is restricting many pedagogical links as well as some programs, like Google Earth. The school board removed the restriction on Google Earth during the school year. The school board will modify the security settings to be less restrictive as of Secondary 1; when students will log in with their specific ID, the system will adapt the filters. Teachers, upon logging in with their credentials, shall also have less restrictive access and have better access to pedagogical materials. The implementation is underway. In the meantime, teachers are invited to share the link of a blocked video or content with the IT department.

EDDI Working Group

The EDDI working group's progress and offerings were presented at the EPC meeting. Patricia Blackett is the consultant. The group covers programs such as anti-racism, development of literacy programs and tools on EDDI subjects. The Indigenous portion is being covered by David Emory and Tania Tabet and some

other consultants, like Mylène Cardin who oversees the sexual diversity component. Some toolkits were received in a few schools for Black History Month.

Mozaik

Several discussions were held on the problems and glitches experienced while using Mozaik. Problems were identified and reported; four consultants: M. Gabe, S. Dunwoodie, S. Connery and B. Hanna were trained to be able to answer questions. A vast majority of the problems were identified as coming from the incompatibility of the two systems (Google vs Outlook) being used within Mozaik. Those issues were addressed to GRICS and (hopefully) the system will become efficient in the near future. In the meantime, GPI and ISM will continue to be accessible for teachers for the next school year.

Online Course Option Project 2022-2023

An application was made for Grade 11 students dropping Physics and Chemistry and having an online option course instead. The class would have taken place after school; PTU and HR discussed the project and the parameters. However, the timeframe expired, and the project did not take place. The idea is still on the table for 2023-2024.

Bi-Modal Project PACC Adult

A bi-modal pilot project was launched at PACC this year. It is a hybrid model - the teacher teaches from the classroom and the students can decide to go to the classroom or take the class online. 119 devices were provided to students. A fully online model was delivered at Place Cartier as well. More information was received during Maggie Soldano, Regional Director's presentation to the committee. PTU commented on little information being shared prior to the launch of the program and not being consulted or informed. The item remained a standing item at EPC and LRC agendas for the remainder of the school year.

Ukrainian Students Support

LBPSB welcomed some Ukrainian students who were spread out over the schools. Consultants worked to develop materials and shared a folder for teachers to access materials, as these students were requesting more English second language instruction and "classe d'accueil" type materials from French classes. Concerns were raised about the accessibility of the materials : requests for turn-key materials were made.

A survey was sent to schools to assess their needs in this particular situation. Two schools were selected from the survey to be part of a special project for 2023-2024 at the High School Level. BHS and LCCHS will host *projet novateur* initiatives; conversations took place at both schools with consultants and teachers to create a local project to better prepare new immigrant students for their French class. The project should be in place for the 2023-2024 school year.

Term 2 Mark Submission Dates

Conversation took place regarding Term 2 term marks submissions which did not seem to be aligned with the Ministry' dates. LBPSB schools tend to want to have the second report card in for CEGEP applications. However, conversations need to happen at the administration meeting to decide if LBPSB wants to have one or two report cards for SRAM in the future.

Presentations

Kurt Binnie came to present the **bimodal technology** which had been installed in classrooms. This technology is not being used at the moment and there is no plan for its implementation either.

Maggie Soldano, Regional Director of Adult Education and Vocational Sectors presented **New Program Delivery Models in Adult Education**. Each centre is piloting a project, but the format is different.

The **Culture and Citizenship Education in Quebec** program was presented by Tania Tabet, consultant and Erica Lamothe, formerly ELA Consultant. Draft program was presented and is available online. The final version has not yet been published. Training sessions have been and will be available for teachers. Since the presentation, the Ministry of Education has put a hold to the program. LBPSB is not imposing the implementation of the course in any of their schools.

Submitted by

Marie-Pier Michaud