

**Educational Policies Committee (EPC)**  
**Meeting of September 27, 2021**

**DELF/DALF**

Sophie Piquette is the consultant in charge of DALF/DELF at the school board level. DELF is for the students, whereas DALF is for teachers' certification to get French teaching eligibility. Therefore, DALF will be dealt with at LRC.

**Virtual Campus and Online Instruction**

There are currently only 82 students from K4 to secondary 5, all from the LBPSB. Groups are separated by cycle, except for cycle 2 in HS. Some advanced math and advanced science courses are being taught by LEARN because of low enrolment. There are 14 teachers currently working at the Online Academy, of which 6.1 teacher posts are coming from the regular teacher allocation. No additional funding comes from the MEQ.

A bilingual program is being offered for all elementary students and teaching is offered by cycle. If the program should increase, changes could occur.

Materials offered are different this year, as it is more structured. Technology and materials have been pre-decided. PTU looked at scheduling and had no issue at the moment.

**Anti-Racism Working Group**

Patricia Blackett has been hired as an EDDI (Equity, Diversity, Dignity, Inclusion) consultant this year to further develop the work she had begun last year.

Two teacher groups were created last year: one group of BIPOC teachers and one group of non-BIPOC teacher allies. These groups will review 10 English novels throughout the year and will create scaffolding guides to help support teachers working with these novels.

**Upcoming Workshops**

EDDI will be the focus of workshops. The objective is to look at the 6 Cs throughout the EDDI lens. The school board would like teachers to start asking questions about their curriculum.

**Evaluation**

The secondary 4 History exam will not be a uniform exam. The school board would like the schools to reduce the value of exams - this needs to be discussed and approved by the staff council and should not be imposed through school-board recommendations.

Documentation will come from the school board with the recommended value of non-mandatory exams. As usual, schools and departments are able to make local modifications as needed.

### **Technology**

Smart Board and Smart TV installations should be a local decision. Smart TVs are a cheaper and a better value for money option.

### **Continuing Education**

Pasquale Machado asked questions about CEMEC updates and the school board did not have any updates. Pasquale will share information again for a future update.

### **Presentations – Beurling Academy: Jason Ferris and Sarah Macaskill**

The principal from Beurling Academy, Jason Ferris, and Sarah Macaskill, a teacher and the Project Based-Learning (PBL) coordinator, presented to the committee.

The school wanted to increase student engagement and perseverance, to provide more real-life learning experiences and to provide class time for developing life skills, study skills and contributing to the community.

The presentation was informative and included some examples of projects achieved.

### **Report Card Submission Process**

The standardized timeline for report card submission is no longer in effect. Each individual school and centre should approve their dates at staff council, as long as the parameters provided by the Ministry are respected.

ESD recommended March 18th for the second parent communication while the Ministry sets the limit by April 22nd. The school board feels that April is too late for communicating with parents about certain programs. Schools are free to make their own decision as long as it respects the Ministry's deadline.

### **Definition of At-Risk Students**

Teachers' professional judgment should be the sole indicator of which students are at risk of failing.

### **Procedures During COVID Isolation**

When a student is withdrawn because of COVID, teachers are expected to send the work the same way they would if a student was sick for a long period of time. Minimal contact is being required, provided that the information is given to teachers. Class closures, although less frequent than last year, are still happening and may require a period of online instruction.

**Procedure for selecting and approving novels and instructional materials**

A draft document requesting teachers to present their materials for approval by the principal, at staff council and at governing board meetings (as a point of reference) was presented.

PTU raised many issues and concerns about such documents being presented at schools, through administrators and through staff council.

Proper School Council procedures should be in place – if needed, teachers are to propose what they will use as materials and the staff council will approve. If the principal disagrees, a written notice should be sent to the Regional Director and to PTU. The list of instructional material should then be presented at the Governing Board for information purposes if needed.

Submitted by  
Marie-Pier Michaud