

Connecting GTA Teachers
Regional Planning Team Meeting
 Monday, November 24, 2008
 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 Humber ITAL, Residence Conference Room

MEETING NOTES

Participants:

Joe Andrews, Humber	Tina Cotrupi, Toronto CDSB
Chris Coleman, (Coordinator)	Cesare DiDonato, Halton CDSB
David Coules, Dufferin-Peel CDSB	Rosa Duran, George Brown
Ron Dorcas, York CDSB	Ken Harrison, Humber (Chair)
Christine German, Halton DSB	Jane Jenner, Sheridan
Greg Hurst, Upper Grand DSB	Dave Lewis, Halton DSB
John Lavelle, Peel DSB	Catherine Moynihan, Toronto CDSB
Elizabeth MacGregor, Peel DSB	Michelle Ouellette, Dufferin-Peel CDSB
Greg Murray, Halton IEC	Carol Ray, Humber
Michelle Rao, Georgian	Kim Taylor-Reed, York Region DSB
Laura Rogers, Toronto DSB	Mary Vesia, Humber
Dale Thorington, Centennial	

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ken Harrison welcomed participants and a round of introductions was made.

2. Agenda Check

A check of the Agenda was made.

3. Review of Previous Meeting Notes

A document will be created and circulated identifying various *Policy and Operational Issues* that need to be addressed. Meeting notes is posted at <http://cgtat.org>.

4. Dual Credit Program Updates

- The Project Leads were thanked for completing the updates and submitting them on time. They will be in the *SCWI Annual Newsletter*. SCWI has been asked to include, in future, the budget updates along with the *description updates*. How the budget updates will be handled this phase is still unclear.
- Discussion ensued regarding how best to clarify and facilitate the communication process between Program Leads, their Project Partners, and the CGTAT Coordinator. There is one Lead per project. It is imperative that Project Leads communicate and coordinate with their Project Partners; that is, with the other people, either at colleges or boards, who are involved.
- More advanced notice in future would be helpful.
- Discussion ensued about the possibility of forming subcommittees.
- An effort will be made to clarify process when it comes time to submit the Mid-Phase 12 Report.

5. Provincial Partnerships Conference

- Sunday April 5 To Tuesday April 7
- See Appendix A (Handout from Dave Lewis)
- Suggested workshop topics -- Transitions, Cooperative Education, Differentiated Instruction.
- Next meeting Tuesday December 16, 8:00 - 11:00 am, Burlington. Conference calling will be available.

Action: Update at our next meeting.

6. Planning for Phase 13 RFP

- RFP for Phase 13 expected by the end of December. Which projects should be continued? Which should be dropped? What should be new projects? Discussion ensued.
- Ministry looking for CGTAT's participation in developing a *Math Exemplars* document.
- Is there a way of prioritizing projects so we don't lose some good things we've got started?
- Perhaps this is the year to align and consolidate our efforts around some core themes or set of goals?
- Concerns were expressed about trying to do too much and over-extending resources.
- Suggestion we look at student success rates to determine where we want to focus energy and resources. From a Ministry perspective, which projects are making a difference?
- Indications are that interest in Dual Credit is increasing; maintain but don't cut back.
- Suggestion we increase the number of students needed to run a course, e.g. from 10 to 15.
- Moving away from the GSN model for funding the Designated Teacher and towards the Con. Ed. after-school/weekends model.
- Need to focus on the Activities that are really positive for students and that are changing the culture, e.g. Humber's Camp Choice.
- The Orangeville DCP reports Union backing, partners on side, increasing numbers and high success rates. Stressed need to consolidate.
- Suggestion we share models that are working and make a selection (e.g. team teaching of a Tech credit in a seven-week compressed model) The Provincial Partnerships Conference will be important in this regard.
- Courses that are day time definitely have challenges, but there is great benefit for students to be on a college campus, in a college course.
- Important to recognize different boards have different issues, depending on location, etc.

Action: Chris was asked to send out a copy of the recent Updates Report so that Reps and Leads could review models that others are using and bring forward to our next meeting models that seem to be working best.

- We need a clear directive/document clarifying whether or not students over 21 will be funded in Dual Credits.
- When we share models, particularly in a public forum like the Provincial Partnerships Conference, it is important we are confident that we are in compliance with Ministry policy.
- Emphasized we focus on and consolidate what were are doing before coming up with new projects.
- Not clear yet if there will be a "Technical Briefing" before the RFP is released.

7. Budget: Phase 11 Expenditures Report

- The Expenditures Report for Phase 11 has been closed off and submitted to SCWI, and in return they have provided the last 10% of the funding for Phase 11.
- Phase 10 surplus monies will be rolled into their Phase 11 projects, Project Lead will be informed on how much is left and the Lead work out with the Project Partners how the money is to be divided up. Remaining funds from Phase 11 Pilot A and B will be rolled into their Phase 12 Dual Credits or Activities projects.
- New template for Phase 12 that include the detail that was asked for in the Phase 11 Expenditure Report. These new templates are at <http://cgtat.org> in the "Resources" section. There is one template for Activities and another for Dual Credit Projects (College, School Board and Apprenticeship submit

individual invoices). Please make sure when you are invoicing for costs that you use the appropriate template and that you provide the detail that will be required for the Expenditure Report for Phase 12. CGTAT can no longer accept invoices for lump sum amounts.

8. Other Business

- Email received Friday from Ministry of Education, a job call for an Education Officer.
- New Course Codes have just been released and are on the CGTAT website.
- CGTAT is in discussion with SCWI about another symposium coming up in May 2009 probably at Humber.

9. Next Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2008

Humber ITAL, North Campus ([maps and floor plans](#))

Room: Governor's Board Room, Block B

12:00 – 2:00 Main Meeting

2:00 – 4:00 Room available for pre-arranged board/college partnership meetings

For parking, go to Main Parking Information Kiosk (Lot 10) and say you are attending the CGTAT meeting. They will give you a parking pass and further instructions. Parking is free.

Appendix A

Pathways to Partnerships Conference

SCWI Conference Committee Meeting: Monday November 10th, 2008

SCWI Pathways to Partnerships Conference: April 5th to 7th, 2009 at Fern Resort in Orillia

Purpose of the Conference:

- Building Relationships between school boards and colleges
- Program sharing and looking towards the future for sustainable programs (with or without funding)
- Conference Report with key recommendations to SCWI on how to move forward from the perspective of the GH and CGTAT Regional Planning Teams

Participants:

- Propose that each organization has the opportunity to send 4 – 5 people whose costs are paid from the project
 - 1 who sits on the RPT (2 if decided by organization)
 - 3 – 4 from various positions from classroom teachers / instructors, to administrators, guidance, coop (committee will provide recommendations on who to send)
 - Ultimately, organization can decide who they would like to send
- Cancellation fee will be charged to participants who register but do not come to the conference (in lieu of a reasonable explanation), to ensure people take attendance seriously, since it is a free conference
- Organizations (within CGTAT and GH or part of another planning team) may pay for extra attendees, \$400 per person (which covers transportation, registration, accommodation and meals) – supply coverage not included in cost
- Also need to confirm number of spots available at Fern (120 single accommodation, 180 double accommodation)
- Registration Process to be determined by conference committee, based on budget, including spaces available to each organization (both covered by project or additional attendees), waiting list if organizations do not use all spaces, registration forms and how to register

Transportation:

- Transportation will be provided via two chartered buses that will run from Niagara Falls to Orillia (QEW to 401 to 400 to 11), and from Oshawa to Orillia (401 to 400 to 11)
- Participants will be asked to select a pick up location when they register (3 or 4 stops per bus), pick up locations will be at the car parks along the highways
- Volunteer will have list of participants to be picked up to be sure that we don't miss anyone
- Participants who wish to drive themselves are free to, but they will be on their own for mileage
- Save a significant amount of money that can be used to bring more people, also environmentally conscious

Conference Agenda:

Potential Key Note Speakers:

Sunday before dinner:

- Ministry of Education Big Picture Perspective: Barry O'Connor (chair of the Learning to 18 Working Table, "godfather" of Student Success), to provide big picture perspective of MOE and where they are going, how does SCWI fit into the Student Success initiative, direction for school boards and working with colleges
- Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities: Colleges to recommend a key note speaker who will give big picture for colleges and how they would like to work with school boards to ensure students are properly prepared for college
- Potential suggestions from David Armstrong, Mary Smart, etc: Patty Edmonds from MTCU, a bit more of an apprenticeship focus – could we potentially get Patty's boss?

Monday before Dinner:

- Dr. Bill Daggett (Founder of the International Centre for Leadership – www.leadered.com), to speak about the skills students will need to prepare for the future:

Preparing Students for the 21st Century

The skills, knowledge, and attitudes 21st century learners bring to our schools and the skills, knowledge, and attitudes they will need to be successful in the technological, globally driven world in which they will live and work have changed dramatically. Dr. Daggett will describe what schools must do to meet these challenges in order to prepare students well for the future rather than the past.

Tuesday Morning:

- Dr. Bill Daggett, presentation on "Rigour and Relevance"

Rigor and Relevance for ALL Students

Highly successful schools have academically rigorous curricula that also incorporate real-world relevance. These schools understand that rigor, while essential, is not adequate to lead all students to high levels of achievement. This presentation will provide an in-depth look at the Rigor/Relevance Framework, created by the International Center for Leadership in Education, which has become a cornerstone of curriculum and instruction for schools throughout the country and abroad. Two additional R's, which are also critical to maximizing student success will be described: the importance of the relationships between student and teacher, student and student, and teacher and teacher and the need to provide opportunities for reflective thought on what is being taught and learned.

- Dr. Daggett also presents on a number of other topics relevant to education and preparing our students for the future
- Cost for Dr. Daggett to be our keynote is roughly \$10,000, which was secured through forum funding at our last CGTAT RPT meeting
- Dave and Christine will be attending a conference where Dr. Daggett is the key note to determine if his message is ideal for our conference, and to speak with him about what are needs would be, and to ensure that his message would be relevant to our Ontario education system and the Canadian perspective

- We will report back to the conference committee on our findings and decide if we would like to go ahead with our booking

Other General Conference Agenda Suggestions:

- **Program Sharing Lunch on Monday:** Match people at tables by background and programs, including purpose of programs (such as early leaver programs, subject focus, etc.), lunch meeting with by facilitated to guide the discussion
- **Key note speaker on Monday night,** push back timing to begin at 5:30pm (so people have a sufficient break to do activities and freshen up), serve wine and cheese (potentially sponsored / provided by Niagara College?)
- **Small Group Discussions** (Tuesday morning): To include discussion of “Effective Practices”, “Key Issues” and “Key Recommendations” on how to move forward in the future, to be shared at large group discussion, and key recommendations compiled in a **Conference Report**
- **To assign seating at a couple of meals, and discussions** to ensure a good mix of networking with local organizations with similar backgrounds, as well as other representatives from other RPT, so people are able to create relationships and learn about different programs, etc.
- **Keep in mind, funding decisions for next year’s programs will likely be released shortly before the conference** – therefore we will want to make sure people have some time to discuss the decisions with their partnering organizations, etc.

Workshop Ideas:

- **Introduction to New High School Curriculum (Technology, Math and Science)** and how they link to college programs and students preparation for college
- **College Math Project:** Key learnings, how to ensure our students are taking appropriate math courses, and gaining appropriate skills for college
- **College-Delivered Dual Credit Program Frameworks:** How do colleges recruit, deliver and monitor college-delivered dual credit programs, Potentially have three college-delivered dual credit programs presented to learn from each other
- **Evolution of Dual Credit Programs and School Board / College Partnerships:** How boards and colleges are working together to deliver dual credit programs, discussion of effective practices and how partnerships have evolved to ensure sustainability and new opportunities
- **Dedicated Secondary School Teacher Role:** Potential panel to discuss options for determining the role of the dedicated secondary school teacher, how this is tied to school board funding of dual credit (GSN), learning from effective practices across our RPTs, key recommendations to be included

in the report in addressing and problem solving some of these challenges (recommend a strong facilitator for this session to focus on constructive problem solving)

- **Colleges to discuss articulation agreements with high schools**, how this might lead to sustainable college pathways for students, applied degrees, destination information
- **Teacher Candidate Project (Golden Horseshoe RPT)**: How we are working with Brock University teacher candidates and university counsellors to provide an orientation about the college destination and the opportunities it has for students to help re-culture new teachers before they reach the classroom
- **Pathways Re-Culturing of our System** around the apprenticeship and college destinations, and all destinations being equal opportunities for students as a fundamental purpose of the School-College-Work Initiative (potential link to activity projects and marketing strategies currently being implemented i.e. Reaching Parents Reaching Students project in the GHRPT)
- **Specialist High Skills Major Programs and how these promote the pathway to college** programs, reach ahead opportunities in colleges, ongoing projects to connect the SHSM to the SCWI, SHSM / Dual Credit programs, a big picture provincial perspective of what is happening both across Ontario and in local communities
- **Bridging the pathways into college for students who do not have proper pre-requisites**, such as those who have completed workplace level courses, the support and programs that colleges are offering to students who do not have the correct pre-requisites to enter college programs (i.e. Academic upgrading programs), specifically targeting English and math courses, helping guidance counsellors understand the support available for students in the transition to college
- **Promising Activity Projects: Promoting college programs** and opportunities to Grade 7 and 8 students (i.e Destination College, Camp Choice), to parents, and professional development for high school teachers (i.e. George Brown College healthcare conference for teachers and students)
- **Workshop for guidance counsellors in understanding dual credits, the course codes**, how dual credits are being recognized by OCAS and by specific colleges (Phil Hedges to present?), also could be part of the Introduction to College on Monday morning for all high school / school board participants

Tuesday Morning Sessions:

- Small Group Discussions: Tuesday morning, participants will be divided into groups with a mix of backgrounds to discuss, “Effective Practices”, “Issues” and “Key Recommendations”
- Facilitator to guide discussion and note taker to record discussion
- Second session large group report back
- Work together to compile report of “Key Recommendations to SCWI” , how to move ahead, build sustainability and maintain partnerships, from our two regional planning teams

- Participants will be given sheets to take notes throughout conference, handout that will be handed in to contribute to the overall report
- Report from conference to be presented at the following RPT meetings, feedback and suggestion for revisions, submission to SCWI with recommendations

Display Area:

- Provide an area outside of our main meeting room for school boards, schools and colleges to showcase their programs and initiatives
- Have Monday's pre-keynote wine and cheese in the lobby, people can visit displays

Conference Committee Volunteers:

- We will require volunteers to help with the conference in the following areas:
 - Bus Volunteers (to take attendance)
 - Conference Registration and General Help at Fern
 - Social Activity Planning
 - Workshop Planning and Recruitment of Speakers for Workshops
- Please let us know if you are willing to help with any of these areas

Next Conference Committee Meeting:

- Tuesday December 16th, 8:00am – 11:00am location to be determined
- Teleconferencing will also be provided (and will hopefully work better this time!)