

## High School Science Advisory Committee Meeting Summary – Fall 2008

A summary of the meeting.....includes an update of various initiatives since the meeting.

Items in bold and italics align with requests to offer sessions using emerging technologies to deliver sessions – or sessions about using technologies in supporting student learning.

### Connecting the Dots/Comprehensive PD planning

- Overview of role of ERLC in supporting implementation and connecting the dots based on your district direction, the consortium goals, and grant deliverables.
- **District sharing** highlighted approaches used to support teachers understanding about the new high school science programs. Conversation about the issue of asking high school teachers to leave their classroom for professional development and as a result the need to explore ***emerging technologies to deliver learning opportunities – including offering after school or archived***
- **ERLC programs planned and requests to offer programs**
  - **Dan Leskiw** – High school Science assessment approaches [www.eric.ca](http://www.eric.ca) – under science theme ( and attached)
  - Hays Lantz has agreed to come in May or June next year (any advice about booking in June during exam time? – please let me know if you would like that session at that time –it would be specific to physics, biology or chemistry) His focus will be Assessment.
  - Gizmos – www. Interactive online tools to share in your program. Sessions will be offered on December 4th with Janet Bell as facilitator. [www.eric.ca](http://www.eric.ca) and registration flyer attached. This session can be offered in the new year as well – if any district would like it offered in their region during exam break in January please call. We would open it to the entire region based on your requested date for offering.
  - Online communities of practice – via vc or other online tools for biology, physics and chemistry focus. ( plan for new year)
  - Art Bauer ( and Frank Jenkins) will offer a session about the oil sands that align with changes in the organic chemistry unit. The session will be offered after school via VC sites in the region. ( to be planned)
  - Explore CMASTE after school study group sessions, with programs that are posted early and available to access via VC. (Bob and Frank are interested in offering learning opportunities via vc and the CMASTE format and will update us on session ideas that most align with the program of studies.)
  - Find someone to identify all of the pd sessions available for high school science teachers – ***post links to other sessions on ERLC site*** and plan
  - Plan a session with Learner assessment about changes to the diploma exam (coming soon!)
  - Explore offering ***sessions with teachers that model using DL (emerging technologies)*** in their classrooms.
  - Kathy Nunley will share a session on differentiated instruction and layered curriculum. The session flyer is attached and we have asked her to model ideas for high school science teachers.

I did meet with the ATA science regional contact Dan Leskiw and will explore support for the work the regional has done in developing the lessons related to the May session they offered. Great work has been done related to the Science Regional session focus in May related to “Traditional Medicines” and a “Foods lab” that align with content changes in the new program of studies. The intent of being involved with this project would be to “Support implementation of the new program of studies” and to:

- Support/collaborate with the ATA science regional in providing materials for teachers/departments heads that model alignment with changes in the program of studies.
- Provide a pd session, following development of the materials, for department heads and science leaders about the materials.
- Sharing the materials with the potential for them to be posted and available to all via the ATA science council website.

To do this work ERLC will contract a project manager. We would also seek science leaders involvement – leaders such as yourself that have the knowledge and intent of the new program of studies. Involvement in reviewing the materials would be focused on:

- alignment with the program of studies
- potential inclusion of assessment materials
- potential inclusion of instructional strategies that provide for student engagement. (e.g., potentially differentiated instruction approaches)

If you are interested in this review I would anticipate a one day commitment with either sub day coverage or a daily stipend (for evening and weekend work). A template for reviewing the document is yet to be developed and the timelines would be to have this work done by December holiday break. Please let me know if you are interested in being involved with this project.

We did not set an additional meeting time for the science committee and will anticipate a gathering in the spring. We will continue to plan programs based on the direction you have provided – thanks!