

The purpose of professional development is to improve student learning. What specific changes will you make in your practice as a result of this learning opportunity?

Suggestions for future professional development topics and/or ideas to support your further learning on this topic or other topic.

Workshop Name: Aboriginal Awareness

Workshop Code: 09-AB-023

of Participants: 19

Speaker: Debbie Mineault

Date(s): October 15, 2008

- Better understanding of approach needed
- Engage with students and parents to build relationships (x3)
- Involve parents in school community (x2)
- Use differentiated learning and instructions to connect with FNMI students
- Better understand culture to better understand students and their needs
- More in-depth discussion of socio-economic factors and effect on education
- Mentoring with FMNI students
- Monthly staff meeting focuses on FMNI resources
- Use new resources/websites
- New program that addresses all cultures in multicultural school
- Encourage staff to be more open-minded

- Further develop understanding of Aboriginal traditions/customs (x2)
- Daily struggles facing FMNI students, helping them cope at school
- Using Learn Alberta website in classroom as teaching tool
- List of contact info for reserves in Edmonton area
- Connecting with elders
- More ideas for working with social issues
- French immersion, Social Studies 7-8-9, technology that pertains to the graphic arts
- Helping create sense of belonging in aboriginal youth

Workshop Name: Our Words, Our Ways

Workshop Code: 09-AB-022

of Participants: 20

Speaker: Debbie Mineault

Date(s): December 2, 2008

- Share info with my colleagues
- Focus on building relationships with students
- None
- Involve community, make community connections (x2)
- Create an executive summary and presenting the data via Powerpoint at the next staff meeting
- Better able to communicate with FNMI students
- Be more knowledgeable teaching Social Studies
- Allow more space for learners to talk and express themselves

- How FNMI see the world as related to math
- How to bring parents into classroom as educators
- A session on the Aboriginal concept of family and the impact of death
- More FNMI (x2)
- Further discussion about what is really happening out there and what to do and where to go
- How to engage First Nations student through school
- I would like to have a copy of “Our Words, Our Ways”

Workshop Name: FNMI Protocol
Workshop Code: 09-AB-024
of Participants: 21
Speaker: Debbie Mineault
Date(s): January 28, 2009

- Approach Chief and Council. Encourage school staff to go to the community. Encourage bridging at the administrative level.
 - Taking a look at resources available to identify some of the best practices for FNMI.
 - I need to reflect more and to assimilate ideas and strategies into my work.
 - Build better bridges for inclusion of families and community.
 - Respect and awareness when dealing with FNMI.
 - I will incorporate my greater understanding of aboriginal values and beliefs into my everyday work (x3).
 - I am now aware of some resources – texts and program of studies.
 - Continue to collaboratively engage the community.
 - Continue to meet with parents, elders and community members and encourage them to become engaged with teachers and students (x2).
 - Do more professional reading and become a better listener.
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- How to recruit aboriginal staff.
 - It would be great to have a facilitator come into our school to educate and enlighten all staff on FNMI protocol, perspectives, needs, historical significance, etc.
 - A storytelling session or a hands-on type of session with elders would be quite interesting.
 - Tie it to the new Social curriculum for elementary (this was very secondary focused).
 - Ideas on resources for teaching.
 - How to interact politely with aboriginal people in an urban setting.
 - I am interested in the summer program at the U of A on indigenous languages.
 - Workshops that actually incorporate the youth as participants or presenters to share their experiences, wants and needs.