

Teachers at Langley's D.W. Poppy Secondary champion standards-based gradebook

A small group of teachers at D.W. Poppy Secondary is leading a big change to the way students are assessed in Langley School District. Part of a pilot of MyEducation BC's standards-based gradebook, the teachers were seeking to move to formative assessment practices, which focus on where students are in their learning and help guide them to where they need to be, in order to better align with B.C.'s new curriculum. They needed a tool to support the approach. That's where MyEducation BC came in.

"The teachers in our pilot already believed that... traditional assessment practices had our students too focussed on grades rather than learning," said Dean Pacheco, vice principal at D.W. Poppy Secondary. "When we presented the opportunity for a standards-based gradebook, these teachers were excited about the possibilities for our students as learners."

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MyEducation BC's standards-based gradebook is connected to the Province's curricular competencies and helps teachers track evidence of student proficiency and growth. Three views give teachers insight into individual students, trends across a class, and evidence to guide planning.

Langley decided to begin in 2017 with a pilot of six teachers at a single school. To ensure the teachers were supported, administrators also attended a workshop with Judy Smith, MyEducation BC school district liaison, to learn more about the standards-based gradebook and how it supports formative assessment practices.

"This small group (of teachers) played with the gradebook... with support from administration. By second semester, most of these teachers began to implement



the standards-based gradebook with at least one class. We then invited Judy Smith to present to our entire school staff in May. The result was a strong desire from our staff to continue and grow the implementation the following year," said Pacheco about the progression.

The success of the pilot is the result of having teachers leading the change, says Pacheco. Additional supports were also implemented, including moving to a single-term definition report card, developing new rubrics, offering support sessions to assist with gradebook setup, and inviting additional speakers to present about curriculum and assessment. The administration is committed to supporting teachers as much as they can.

From the original six champions, interest in the MyEducation BC standards-based gradebook has grown to 90 per cent of teachers in grades eight and nine, and a second school has been added to the pilot. More importantly, teachers have reported seeing positive impacts on their students in the classroom.

According to Pacheco, "(The teachers) have seen their students focussing on learning—not on grades. They have seen student conversations focussed on improving their proficiency level, with better understanding of what is expected of them as learners. This is a huge success."

Want to learn more about the standards-based gradebook?

MyEducation BC's school district liaison is available for demos, presentations, or workshops online or in-person at your school or district. Sessions are tailored to your needs and audience. Other topics also available. Email myedbc@gov.bc.ca for more information.

Ministry welcomes new director of MyEducation BC

The MyEducation BC team is pleased to welcome Christine Lervold as the new director of MyEducation BC operations. With a background in technology service leadership, change, transformation and planning roles at ICBC, and a former teacher in Sooke School District, Christine will focus on onboarding new districts and schools, adoption of new and existing functionality, data and analytics, and delivering innovative and strategic priorities and services.

"Attending the CSISC conference during my first week provided valuable insights and a great opportunity to

meet the many knowledgeable, passionate, and dedicated people that make up the MyEducation BC community," she says. "I look forward to working together to leverage the new and existing capabilities derived from a provincial student information service."



Meet your SMC: Dave Sands, new SMC chair for 2018/19

Dave Sands understands how technology can play an important role in the classroom. Principal of Technology Implementation in Coquitlam School District and a certified Digital Coach, he works to empower students, teachers, and administrators with technology-based tools to enhance and deepen the learning process. MyEducation BC is one of those tools.

"In the future... data and technological literacies will combine with systems and critical-thinking capabilities. The definition of 'professional' will include 'knowledgeable, educated, and high-capacity humans working alongside powerful machines,'" he explained. "I see MyEdBC as one of those 'machine resources'."

With 28 years of experience in education, Sands has taught students from K-12 and worked in administration at the elementary, middle, and district levels. He has a Master's degree in technology and curriculum from Simon Fraser University, and is a member of several district and provincial committees focused on technology. A proponent of the development of Digital Citizenship among youth, he regularly presents to educators and parents to encourage them to guide their children's use of technology.

He was recently involved in the implementation of the K-9 computational thinking and coding components of the new Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies curriculum, and as a result took up coding. "I really love seeing students' creativity and critical thinking emerge when engaged in the design process used by visual coding-based platforms," he said.

"I have always believed that if you are truly committed to your work you not only master what you do, but also serve to make it better for everyone," he replied when asked why he decided to become involved in SMC leadership. "With my involvement in the SMC, SMC Executive, and as the SLC Committee Co-Chair (in 2017/18), and now in the SMC Chair position,



it has been my personal commitment to support MyEducation BC users not only in School District 43, but across the entire province."

As the new chair of MyEducation BC's Service Management Council (SMC) for 2018/19, he aims to continue to empower and support the work of the SMC's subcommittees, and to facilitate and support the connection of their work with the efforts of the Ministry and Fujitsu teams. "MyEducation BC is a valuable data resource that we all need to embrace and utilize to its fullest potential."

SMC Committee Corner

The Service Management Council (SMC) is comprised of representatives from each school district appointed by each superintendent. The SMC has four standing committees: Operations and Standards Committee, Student Learning Committee, Software Enhancement Committee, and Data Integration Committee. These

committees provide guidance and input on the evolution of MyEducation BC. Brief updates from the SMC's committees are below. For more information, contact your district's SMC representative, which is listed under "MyED BC Contact" on the [School Districts - Basic Information page](#).

Group	What We're Up To	Contact(s)
Data Integration Committee (DIC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting email import development Trying to identify third party applications districts use in order to identify data for an API 	Sean Cameron
Operations & Standards Committee (OSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several updates to the MyEducation BC Standards Manual Taking requests and submissions: please read the "About" section on the Standards Manual website, then click on the contact form 	Phil Luporini
Software Enhancement Committee (SEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five items from the 2017-18 approved enhancement list will be completed in 2018/19 Completed first sprint of new agile process for approved 2018/19 items Sorting and organizing 2019/20 requests received prior to Nov 15, and will begin reviewing shortly Welcome aboard to Alain Pigeon and Josh Porter, who just joined the SEC 	Surinder Brar
Student Learning Committee (SLC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the Ministry of Education Reporting Pilot with documentation and training materials 	David Vandergugten

MyEducation BC Academy returns April 25-26, 2019

Mark your calendars! MyEducation BC Academy returns April 25-26, 2018 to the Delta Grand Okanagan Hotel in Kelowna, BC. This annual learning event features sessions and workshops with experts from school districts across the province, the Ministry of Education, and Fujitsu and Follett, as well as abundant opportunities to connect, collaborate, and network with colleagues and peers.

If your district has MyEducation BC knowledge or

innovations you'd like to share, send a session proposal to myedbc@gov.bc.ca. Registration, hotel booking, and agenda information will be released in the new year.



Contact

Have a great story related to MyEducation BC? Have a comment about something you've read? Email myedbc@gov.bc.ca with your ideas and feedback.