Connecting GTA Teachers

Regional Planning Team Meeting

Monday, February 22, 2010
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Humber ITAL, Seventh Semester (KB111)

MEETING NOTES

Participants:

Linda Alati, York Region DSB	Joe Andrews, Humber
David Armstrong, SCWI	Chris Coleman, (Coordinator)
Tina Cotrupi, Toronto CDSB	Lawrence Cotton, York CDSB
Rosa Duran, George Brown	Christine German, Halton DSB
Sharon Goodland, Dufferin-Peel CDSB	Ken Harrison, Humber (Chair)
Lina Hasserjian, TDSB	Lina Iacobucci, Dufferin-Peel CDSB
Dave Lewis, Halton SB	Catherine Moynihan, Toronto CDSB
Greg Murray, Halton IEC	Chris Pearson, Dufferin-Peel CDSB
Michelle Rao, Georgian	Carol Ray, Humber
Laura Rogers, Toronto DSB	Ed Sedlak, TDSB
Craig Shelswell, EDU	Pat Tait, Humber
Mary Talamo, York CDSB	Dale Thorington, Centennial
Mary Vesia, Humber	Victoria Warbuck, Seneca

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

Meeting Notes for Monday, January 18, 2010 were accepted. Meeting Notes are posted at http://cgtat.org in the "Open Meetings" section.

- The college faculty strike has likely been averted. 51% voted to accept the contract, but 400 votes need to be mailed in, and that has delayed the final results.

4. Interim Report 2009-2010

- A sample of SCWI's form/template for the 2009-10 Interim Report was distributed.
- On these sheets, all the purple columns (except the expenditure column) are to be filled in, if indeed information is available. For example, it may be that a particular Activity has not yet occurred, in which case you would just enter a 'T' in the first purple column (for "To be completed") and you're done.
- Toward the right side of the worksheets there are columns for Actual Expenditures. **Mary Vesia will enter the data in these columns based upon the invoices she has already received.**
- The form/template has been pre-populated and should reflect all the Contract Change Forms that have been approved. If something you expect does not appear please let us know asap.
- Where exact data may not be available, please enter your best estimate. The Dual Credit Programs are broken down by Courses.
- We will try to submit our report by March 1st.
- Chris Coleman will send each Main CGTAT Rep a template containing the Activities and Projects for which the Rep's organization is the Lead. The Reps will be responsible for gathering the information from their Project Leads and returning just one report to Chris. Then Chris will compile all the reports into one report for SCWI.

- Please do not change any columns or rows.
- On the dual credit worksheet, the first purple column asks for Interim Number of Students as of January 31st. The intent is the actual number of students who completed the program first semester, whether or not they passed or failed on the final day.
- Appendix D asks us to report by board and by college. Discussion ensued about how this section is to be completed.
- SCWI will fund "actual costs" for an approved program that runs, up to the approved amounts for all students taking some or all of the course.
- SCWI will be collecting further student numbers later in the year in two reports: the Final Expenditure Report exactly the same as the current report but with second semester numbers added in) plus the "Student Data Report". This latter report will look at the numbers of students who entered the program, the number who finished, as well as the number who were successful, etc.
- This said, there will be questions if a course is run with many fewer students than were originally approved. SCWI hesitates to specify an exact number since there may be very good reasons to run a course at 65% or 70% of the approved number. Since we are still in "project mode" and trying to grow these programs, SCWI knows that there will be situations when you are trying to start a program and don't have 100% enrolment. The Dual Credit Work Group has raised this issue as well, and there may be a more definitive guideline in future. For now, we enjoy a degree of discretion on this issue.

5. RFP 2010-2011 – status/update

- We received some preliminary feedback on CGTAT's Proposal for 2010-13. As you know, we submit on four areas: the Regional Planning Team itself, Forums, Activities, and Dual Credit Programs.
- The only concern that came back regarding our submission was that the number of students in Dual Credit Programs was too high. So, we were asked to reduce the numbers. It was decided to reduce the numbers by cancelling one of the Dual Credit Programs which was an OYAP Landscaping program between Humber and Halton CDSB. Therefore, all of the other proposals now stand as they were submitted originally.
- Likely we will receive formal approval for a little over 2,000 students in our DCPs.
- Our submission for Activities totaled over two million dollars which was way over what we will actually be allocated (i.e. about $900,000). As we did in this current year, we can use the Contract Change Form to shift money from one Activity to another. We **cannot** shift money between Activities and Dual Credits.
- As soon as CGTAT receives the formal notification in the next two weeks, it will be distributed to members.
- This year SCWI approved 9,757 students in DCPs in the province. In the proposals for next year they received requests for 14,356 students.
- This year CGTAT is approved for 2,039 students. For next year we've requested 2,238 students be involved which is a 9.76% growth rate. For 2010-11, CGTAT asked for about 3.4 million for dual credits alone, and the total RPT funding will be close to 4.5 million dollars.

6. Dual Credit Working Group (DCWG) – Issues priority ranking

- A report on the first meeting is available in the previous CGTAT Meeting Notes.
- Dual Credit Working Group Priority Ranking Form, was distributed which lists ten major issues identified by the Working Group. With each issue there are a number of specific considerations. All these issues are going to get addressed and probably get articulated into government policy.
- The Dual Credit Working Group is asking members to rank order the issues in terms of priority – the highest priority being 1 and the lowest being 10 and submit the completed form to Ken Harrison as soon as possible. If you are unable to fill in the form immediately, it will still be valid a few months from now.
- In order to bring up any 'burning' issues at the next DCWG meeting (Wednesday, February 24), members were asked to fill in just their top three priorities and leave their more long term ones until a later date.

- The issue of "Registration Process of Dual Credit Students" was identified as a priority that is not on the list... Item 7, "Regularization" and Item 3, "Reporting and Recording of Student Achievement" were also identified as priority issues.
- We are spending a huge amount of money on Dual Credit Programs, dealing with thousands of students, yet we don't know enough about the outcomes and how successful these students are and where they end up. Are we having a positive impact?
- The Working Group plans to meet about four times a year.

7. Activities Sub-Committee Report and Discussion

- Met by teleconference on February 16th with good participation.
- Started by defining what is an Activity. They discussed how to measure impact, quality and success and the possibility of merging any replications.
- Pat Tait was thanked for providing an excellent spreadsheet analysis that shows the costs per person participating, projected numbers, etc. It was interesting to look at the long list of categories, some of which we don't use at all. There is quite a large range in terms of costs. The analysis spreadsheet is available at http://cgtat.org in the "Activities" section.
- The Sub-Committee is in the process of bringing out a survey using *Survey Monkey* to see if there was any consensus between colleges and boards regarding priority issues. From the results, they are hoping to get some direction in terms of what types of Activities should be continuing, what types we should be offering. A draft of the survey has been sent to sub-committee members for feedback.
- Some questions arose out of the meeting:
    - What is the focus of the SCWI with regard to Activities?
    - What are the defined criteria of an Activity? What qualifies as an Activity?
    - Should Activities be defined to feed Dual Credit Programs?
    - How do other Regional Planning Teams handle their funding for Activities?
    - What is the "Greater Toronto Area"? How is it defined?
    - Could there be a two-tiered submission process? Projects which have run successfully in the past as opposed to those that are new?
- SCWI has been in existence now fourteen years. Dual Credits have been only in the past four years. The early years of SCWI were all about Activities. Activities in the early years were quite different from what they are today. Their emphasis seemed to be on curriculum? Today it is more on bringing young students onto college campuses, and on supporting dual credits. More students are identifying themselves as needing assistance with their disability.
- Provincially, there is going to be strong interest in what the Activities Sub-Committee comes up with.
- The dual credits are becoming regularized. The DCWG is helping to massage dual credits into the regular program of the two ministries. Activities and Forums will likely stay in SCWI approach for a while longer.

8. Apprenticeship/Dual Credit Programs Sub-Committee Report and Discussion

- CGTAT looks forward to some feedback at its next meeting.
- At the last sub-committee meeting, more questions were brought up indicating a need for discussion and information sharing. If the sub-committee could come up with a list of questions / issues / priorities, SCWI would do its best to provide answers and/or resources.
- There was a lot of discussion about the process for reporting OYAP students when they're involved in dual credit. Various boards/colleges have different strategies, e.g. OYAP Coordinator or an assigned Dual Credit Teacher. We need to get feedback on what's working and what's not.
- This is an issue that needs to be addressed at the ministry level for the sake of apprenticeship in this province.
- Ministry restructuring is still going on. The new person responsible for OYAP is not up to speed yet. But, the will exists at the ministry level to come to grips with apprenticeship issues. For example, we have OYAP students sitting in the same classes as students who are taking exactly the same program but are also getting dual credit.

- The two York boards were asked to marshal a presentation at the next CGTAT meeting. The topic would be the registration of OYAP Dual Credit students and the recording and reporting of their grades.

9. SCWI Annual Symposium (May 4)

A reminder that the Symposium will be on May 4th. Members were asked to submit suggestions to the Symposium planning team.

Next Meeting

Monday, March 22, 2010 (St. Patrick's Day)
Humber ITAL, North Campus
Note Change to: Seventh Semester
12:00 – 2:00 Main Meeting
2:00 – 4:00 Room available for pre-arranged sub-committee meetings and pre-arranged board/college partnership meetings