

# EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE PROJECT

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The purpose of this monthly newsletter is to provide a brief update about the projects undertaken and the tools developed by the Evidence-Based Practice Project (EBP) team for the benefit of the Anglophone community.

## CURRENT PROJECTS: CHARLEMAGNE

### Extraction of June 2009 exam results in Charlemagne

*A project to address NEEDS*

Sometimes changes in the system will generate questions and needs common to all members of the community. As a result, individuals will develop a solution which in turn, could benefit the Anglophone community. The recent implementation of Charlemagne is a good example of a change that has an impact on all boards.

Using procedures originally drafted by Commission scolaire des Affluents, Claudia prepared a support tool called "**Guidelines for the extraction of exam results in Charlemagne**". However,

the outputs of these extractions are quite cumbersome and complicated to read. For this reason, a template in Excel was prepared for the school boards. All members of DEEN-CARE received the guidelines.

In addition, the EBP team offered to produce the results by school for individual school boards. The following boards accepted the offer:

- EMSB
- LBPSB
- SWLSB
- ETSB
- COSB
- NFSB (assistance)

- Riverside had already compiled their own results.



Estimated time for the extractions of exam results in Charlemagne by school. This includes the coordination as well as the actual production

- ⇒ Small boards: 20 hours
- ⇒ Large boards: 40 hours

Note: Only results of UNIFORM exams are available for extraction in Charlemagne. Results on local exams have to be compiled locally and manually.

### Upcoming Conferences

<p><b>Making DATA matter:</b> Tools to accelerate achievement. www.edweekvents.org</p>	<p>April 2010 Washington, USA</p>
<p><b>ACFAS-QUESCREN:</b> Quebec's English-speaking communities: current issues and future trends. www.acfas.ca/congres/2010/pages/inscription.html#O7</p>	<p>May 10-14, 2010 Université de Montréal</p>
<p><b>Cochrane &amp; Campbell Collaborations:</b> Bringing Evidence-Based decision-making to new heights. www.regionline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=76689</p>	<p>Oct. 18-22, 2010 Keystone Resort, Colorado, USA</p>

### Upcoming projects

- March-April 2010

**STATS on... EHDAA and Qualification:** In collaboration with Riverside School Board, outline the procedures for extractions in Jade to connect the registration of EHDAA students and qualification and certification. These will be useful to document Goal 3 of the Partnership Agreements.

- May 2010

A survey of the lists that could be extracted in Charlemagne for Adult Education and Vocational Training sectors.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & ACCOMPANIMENT\*

- October 2009  
Invitation by COSB to give a workshop about Evidence-Based practice for school principals and their success teams during their board-wide ped. day.
- December 2009  
With the Partnership Agreement Support team a workshop for school board administrators and their teams entitled *Partnership Agreements: Data Analysis for Decision Making*.
- January 2010  
In preparation for a presentation to commissioners (NFSB), individual support about the interpretation of data and statistics.

### COMMUNICATIONS\*

- January 2010  
In collaboration with the members of the Partnership Agreement Support team, an informal presentation to SSCAAA staff working on projects or dossiers that could be affected by the Partnership Agreements.
- February 2010  
Invitation by the Advisory Board on English Education to present a paper on the relationship between Student Success and Evidence-Based Practice. The main question of the presentation was *What is student success and how do we measure it?*

\*Papers and workshop documents will be available on the Sir Wilfrid Laurier website shortly

### THE TEAM



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# CURRENT PROJECTS: CYCLE 3 RESULTS

## Production of data kits for Cycle 3 ELA results.

### *A project to share EXEMPLARY PRACTICES*

Another focus of the EBP Project is to identify exemplary practices currently in place in boards and share them with the community. The end result is to develop a common practice with regards to the use of evidence to support student success.

One key source of information about the learning of students is certainly the results of the **Language Arts exam at the end of Cycle 3 Elementary**. While these evaluation situations are compulsory, results do not have to be transmitted to the MELS. Consequently, school boards do not receive an official portrait on how well their students are doing. In the context of the implementation of the Partnership and the Management and Success Agreements, this evidence will certainly be useful during the discussions about student success and school perseverance.

## What is the outcome of this project? What will you get?

Previous experience has shown that the compilation, validation and production of these results are labor intensive, cumbersome and challenging to produce in a timely fashion. In addition, the use of these results to inform teaching practices and to support decision making in the school boards and schools could be developed further. The objectives are then:

- To improve the efficiency of the production of the results
- To foster a community of practice using those results as a starting point

The contribution of the EBP team is not to produce the results of the cycle 3 exams for all the boards. The **Cycle 3 results data kit** will rather be a set of tools that will facilitate not only the data collection and the compilation, but also the use of the results by school teams and by pedagogical consultants while supporting the work of teachers. The data kits will include:

Suggestions and questions are welcome!

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### A) Tools for data production

- ⇒ Data collection: Tool for teachers to enter results using the evaluation rubric
- ⇒ Data entry: Procedures to enter data in order to obtain reliable and valid results.
- ⇒ Data compilation: A database framework (ACCESS) to enter the data
- ⇒ Data production: Graphs and tables templates (presentation of school and board results)

### B) Guidelines for using results

- ⇒ To support the analysis and interpretation of results (beyond graphs and tables)
- ⇒ To support Language Arts consultants with the presentation of results to school teams
- ⇒ To foster an inquiry approach for school administrators using evidence as leverage
- ⇒ To communicate results

### Proposed Timeline

- **March 2010**: Pilot project for data entry in Access in collaboration with SWLSB.
- **April 2010**: Data collection tools ready for use by teachers (modifiable excel sheets)
- **Spring 2010**: Progress reports to DEEN-CARE and the Language Network.

## EVIDENCE-BASED PROJECT & PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Geneviève Légaré is a member of the Partnership Agreement Team for the Anglophone sector. Along with Sam Boskey, the coordinator of the dossier for the SSCAAA, she attends professional development and information sessions offered by the "Equipe Nationale des conventions de partenariat". Both share the information with the three 'sages' Giordi Rosa, Tony Lacroce, Don Taylor, whose main role is to assist the school board teams in the development of their partnership agreements. Other tasks include the support with the interpretation of data; the development of tools and templates to facilitate the review of strategic plans; participation in the board meetings and workshops and instructional design of workshops.

## EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE PROJECT: ACTION PLAN (IN PROGRESS)

The action plan of the Evidence-Based Practice Project is currently being drafted. The detailed action plan will be available in May 2010. Once the project is completed, we expect the following results:

### Result 1

The adoption of an evidence-based model by the school boards and the schools of the Anglophone community of Québec.

### Result 2

An established community of practice in the Anglophone school community to exchange expertise about the use of evidence in their respective milieu.

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

- *Where to find what?* Update about the sources of data
- Update on monitoring tools
- AduJade tool at SWLSB
- Bio of the team members
- Interesting books

