

TRUSTEE 101 ORIENTATION SESSIONS

Providing the new Board with insight into a variety of governance and operational matters

Item	Topic	Date	Time
1	Evidence-based Practices	Thurs Feb 2	3:00 - 4:00 pm
2	Ed Tech	Tues Feb 7	Lunch (Committee Day)
3	Individual Learning Centre (ILC) programming	Wed Feb 15	5:00 - 6:00 pm (Board Mtg day)
4	Indigenous Learner Success (Local Education Agreement)	Tues Feb 28	2:00 - 3:00 pm
5	Inclusive Education - Designations / Ministry Funding / Student Supports	Tues Feb 28	3:00 - 4:00 pm

Recommendation: *That the Board approve the calendar for the remaining Trustee 101 Orientation Sessions as presented by the Superintendent.*



GETTING BETTER

“Being better tomorrow than we are today”

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
JANUARY 2023







A NEW YEAR A RENEWED COMMITMENT

HOW DO WE CONTINUE TO GET BETTER?

WHAT DOES 'BETTER' ACTUALLY MEAN?

WHAT SHOULD WE FOCUS ON TO IMPROVE?



BETTER SCORES

- Student Attendance
- Grade Transitions
- Graduation Rates
- FSA Results
- Literacy & Numeracy Results
- Post-Secondary Transitions



BETTER also means ENHANCING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT ...

- Ensuring Safe learning spaces to explore Innovation & Creativity
- Providing a variety of Learning Opportunities and Entry Points
- Honouring Diversity by tackling issues like Personal and Systemic Racism
- Seeking Truth on our shared obligation towards Reconciliation
- Failing Forward



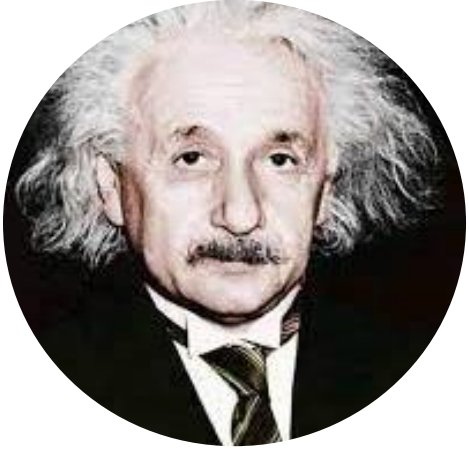
“Imagination is the source of all human achievement”

“Creativity is as important as literacy”

SIR KEN ROBINSON

LEARNING IS ...

- Dynamic and Complex
- Most successful when tied to Emotion and Passion
- Individualized and Unique to each person
- Context and Experience dependent
- Non-Binary
 - A Process of Trial & Error / Ups & Downs / Success & Failure



“Imagination is more important than knowledge”

“I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious”

ALBERT EINSTEIN

LEARNING REQUIRES ...

- An Emotionally Safe Space
- Patience
- An Open Mind - A willingness to Unlearn
- An Understanding that not all parts of the learning process can be Measured

DO WE NEED TO MEASURE EVERYTHING?

IT'S NOT ALWAYS
ABOUT PRODUCING
THE RIGHT ANSWER



“We can’t value only what is easy to measure; measurable outcomes may be the least important results of learning.”

Educational researcher, Alfie Kohn

“The focus on achievement can easily turn learning from something natural and enjoyable to something stressful and forced.”

Educational researcher, Linda McNeil

“Isn’t curiosity the basis for understanding, creativity, and critical, innovative thinking?”

Educational researcher, Melissa Hughes



Mosher, Hartwell, Brown - 5 factors that contribute to students finishing high school (May 2021)

REVIEW OF >130 STUDIES:

- STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
- STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
- SCHOOL COMPLETION



5 FACTORS THAT MATTER MOST

1. EXPLICIT INCLUSIVITY

- Inclusive school climate essential for those historically marginalized
- Celebrating diversity isn't enough

2. STRONG RELATIONSHIPS

- Balance high expectations with empathy – listen, use humour, foster dialogue, and show interest in students

3. COMPREHENSIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Instruction that promotes complex thinking over memorization
- Collaborative, interdisciplinary, active and problem-based learning

4. TRACKING & TRANSITIONS

- Monitoring attendance and achievement over time

5. FLEXIBLE SYSTEMS

- Systems that allow for various completion options



BEING BETTER

Focusing on the 'MEANS' to the end ...

- Making **Personal Connections**
- **Respecting Diversity & Tackling the Barriers**
- Enhancing **Equity of Opportunity**
- Ensuring **Creativity & Innovation** thrive
- Providing various **Entry Points** to the **Learning Journey**
- **Celebrating Failure**

... will make us **BETTER**

GETTING BETTER

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