

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

September 11, 2001

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Acting Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Blueprints for Supporting Teaching and Learning

ORIGINATORS: Karen Bardy, Jenise Bidulock and Susan Burghardt-MacNeill,

RESOURCE
STAFF: Corinne McCabe, Louise Osland, Narinder Riar

INFORMATION

The district has focused extensively on improving student achievement for the past six years. Many effective strategies have been implemented and there has been some improvement in district achievement results. The district is now beginning to implement Blueprints for Supporting Teaching and Learning, which will provide a strategic framework to assist schools in developing an instructional focus and in concentrating their efforts on improving the achievement of all students. Twenty-five schools began implementation of the instructional focus work approximately a year ago. As of this month, there are nearly 180 schools participating in this work.

The Blueprints work will enable teachers in the district to focus on what is most critical in terms of improving the achievement of all students. It will enable schools to successfully share and implement best practices school-wide through ongoing professional development and collaboration. It will assist schools in focusing their practices and resources effectively on helping students acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the curriculum. Principals will be spending more time in classrooms providing support to teachers in terms of the instruction provided. In addition, principals will be acting as coaches for principal colleagues in order to provide collegial support regarding the implementation of the instructional focus work.

The principal and a teacher from Harry Ainlay High School and the principal Braemar School will be making a presentation regarding :

- what it means to develop an instructional focus in a school
- how this focus may be implemented
- what the benefits of this work are for teaching and learning
- what it means to be a principal coach in this work

AMcB;jh