Title and a brief description of L4All K-12 Regional Project

Goal:
In response to a need identified through a 2011 OCSB system survey and board focus group, the goal of the OCSB L4A project is to build the capacity of classroom and special education teachers from elementary, intermediate and senior divisions to better support students with a slow learner profile or identified with mild intellectual disability. The information shared through this project would address personalization, Differentiated Instruction, and the “knowing your student” elements of Learning for All K-12.

Description:
- Keynote speaker, Dr. Steven Shaw from McGill University addressing teachers and administrators about strategies to support students with a slow learner profile – Fall 2012
- Input from keynote participants and strategy sharing that will develop the foundation of the project product
- Presentation by Spec Ed department psychologists who share key points of Dr. Shaw’s presentation to OCSB resource teachers at Resource Teacher Networking sessions.

Promotion of inclusive practices to build capacity with all staff who are engaged in teaching and supporting students with MID/slow learner profile through developing an understanding that knowing your student, personalization, DI, and effective instructional strategies are effective tools for students success.

Alignment with board priorities and initiatives:
- From OCSB multi-year strategic plan:
  - Deepen implementation of Learning for All resource document with awareness of the inquiry model in regard to student achievement K-12
o Project product with Mild Intellectual Disability information and strategies will be posted to Blackboard, OCSB’s information sharing technology.

- From BIPSA
  o Goal 4 – Increase awareness of specialized pathways and opportunities for experiential learning
  o Differentiated Instruction- ensure student indentified with special needs and at risk have personalization

Connection with the previous L4A, Inclusion Coordinator Resource Model Project from 2010-1:
Data indicated requests of teaching staff to support the modification of curriculum and to provide differentiated instruction that taps into the strengths of kinesthetic learners who require means other than text to demonstrate their knowledge. This project will further inform staff of strategies to effectively accommodate, modify and differentiate in order to support the student with a Mild Intellectual Disability.

A brief description of 2011-12 and 2012-13 Teacher-Led L4All K-12 Projects

Project Product:
- Document created by attendees outlining best practices and strategies to use with students with a Mild Intellectual Disability profile. This will also include information gleaned from the keynote speaker and other sources about slow learners and students with a Mild intellectual Disability as well as Ontario Ministry of Education and professional learning resource links. Information will be available to teachers on many different internal school web based resources (Prezi and Blackboard)
- A connection with this year and last year’s project will be made through the Inclusion Coordinator website that was developed during last year’s L4A project.

A brief description of L4All K-12 professional learning activities

- Classroom teachers from grade 6 English Language, Grade 7/8 Science and Grade 9 Geography as well as Psychology department staff, resource teachers, classroom teachers and administration came together for the Dr. Steven Shaw presentation in October 17, 2012
- This L4A project aligns with our Board’s Differentiated Instruction initiatives as well as our Board priorities of inclusion; job embedded and inquiry based professional learning that builds capacity, informs instructional practice and contributes to a culture of learning; and collaborative instructional leadership that builds capacity to strengthen and enhance teaching and learning.
- Supporting Slow Learners and Students with MID: Building Academic and Meta-academic Resilience presentation for classroom teachers in collaboration with OECTA Working group to summarize and link resources
Assessment

- Sharing will be multi-level and all information will be compiled in resource document that will be available online.
- Collaborative Presentation tool was created by teachers to share with the system – this is a working tool, the working group will continue to add and refine this presentation
  http://tinyurl.com/lxh2rzb
- Regional Sharing at RSEC In service and information sharing will occur as part of the audience’s participation

Additional Comments

Thank you very much for this opportunity to work with our classroom teachers in order to focus attention on building system capacity for supporting students with an MID/slow learner profile. Everyone involved has expressed appreciation for their own learning and growth. We intend to look for ways in which we can continue to shine a light on the importance of using specific strategies to support this group of learners. As Dr. Shaw reminded us, this is a group without an advocacy group. We are their advocates. Thank you for supporting us in this work.