MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education 
Secretary-Treasurers and Supervisory Officers of School Authorities

FROM: Sue Durst  
Director  
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

DATE: September 16, 2009

SUBJECT: Training sessions for the Revised Grades 9-12 The Arts Curriculum Policy Documents

This memorandum is to provide you with information about implementation training sessions for the revised The Arts, Grades 9-12 curriculum policy documents to be implemented beginning September 1, 2010.

Implementation training will occur in two parts with one online Adobe Acrobat Connect training session (Part I) and one two-day face to face regional training session (Part II). Board teams are invited to attend these sessions in preparation for implementation of the curriculum policy documents at the local levels.

Adobe Acrobat Connect is software that provides online web conferences and multi-person online meeting rooms. We are using this software to conduct online training sessions in our own virtual conference space. By using this technology to hold the first part of the training sessions, we will be able to make more effective use of our time in the face to face sessions to more deeply explore some of the major revisions to the revised The Arts, Grades 9-12 curriculum policy documents.

Attached to this memorandum (Appendix A) are details regarding selection of school board teams, content of the different parts of the training, details regarding the session selection and a registration form for the Adobe Connect training session, Part I. The appendix also includes dates for Training Session Part II which will be held later in the school year. We are providing these dates in order to secure them in your calendars and to allow you lead time to plan for local board follow up and training to support the implementation of these curriculum policy documents. Information regarding the face to face regional training sessions (Part II) will be sent from the regional offices later in the fall 2009.

Each district school board is being given one connection or “one seat” to take part in the Adobe Connect training session. This means that all team members participating in the session must sign in to the session at the same location from one computer. Please note that in order to access the audio portion of the conference you require a telephone connection. Where a group of participants are involved, there should be speaker phone capability. A variety of times are available so that board teams can select one session at the most convenient time. Board contact people are asked to make arrangements for their implementation team to participate in the selected training session together so that as many members of the team as possible can take part. Reimbursement for expenses for travel and/or occasional teacher coverage is not available for the Adobe Connect session. It may not be...
possible for all team members to attend the Adobe Connect session. Boards may choose to
designate a few team members to attend the live Adobe Connect session. For those unable to attend
the live session, a recording of the session will be available afterwards. Information and a link to this
recording will be sent to board contacts to share with their team. It is expected that any team
members who are not able to attend the live Adobe Connect session will review the recording of the
session before attending the face to face regional training sessions.

A limited number of connections are available for each session. Sessions will be filled on a first come,
first serve basis. If a board signs up for a session that is full, the board contact person will be
informed regarding selection of an alternate.

A completed registration form for the Adobe Connect Training Session Part I should be returned to
the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch, Ministry of Education by Wednesday, September 30,
2009 to the attention of Lilibeth Alagar by email (lilibeth.alagar@ontario.ca).

After submission of your registration form for the Adobe Connect training session, the board contact
person should expect a call from Curriculum Services Canada (CSC) to participate in a mandatory
technical run-through prior to the team’s virtual session. This is to ensure that your computer is
compatible with the web conferencing environment and to explain the features that will be used
during the actual session.

Your continued co-operation and support is appreciated as we move together in implementing the
revised Ontario Curriculum.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Sue Durst

Encls.

cc: K. Rankin, Director, FSB
A. Bigwin, Director, AEO
B. Davies, Director, PSB
Regional Managers
Appendix A

The Arts, Grades 9-12

There are two parts to the Implementation Training for the revised The Arts, Grades 9-12 curriculum. Part I is an Adobe Connect session which will happen online as a web conference. Part II is a two-day face to face regional training session.

District School Boards are asked to identify representatives who will be able to participate in both parts of the training. As noted in the attached memo, for team members who are unable to participate live in the Adobe Connect session, a recording of the session will be available for team members to view before coming to the face to face session. A link to this recording will be included with registration information for Part II of the training.

Boards are invited to identify up to eight (8) participants for this training. It is recommended that the team of eight includes:

- one board representative (consultant/coordinator),
- one administrator,
- one representative with special education expertise, and
- 5 Arts specialist teachers (representing a combination of dance, drama, media arts, music, and visual arts where possible).

Training Session Part I: The October 15 or 21 Adobe Connect online sessions will address:

- an overview of the curriculum review process;
- major changes in the revised curriculum;
- implementation plans;
- connections to assessment for learning.

Training Session Part II: Details regarding the face to face regional training sessions will be sent to school boards from the regional offices later in the fall 2009. For planning purposes, please note the dates for the face to face sessions in the regions:

- November 3-4, Ottawa
- November 9-10, GTA/Toronto
- November 17-18, Thunder Bay
- November 24-25, Sudbury
- December 1-2, Barrie
- December 3-4, Stoney Creek
- December 7-8, London