

Terms of Reference: Transformation Steering Committee

Purpose:

At the request of the Minister of Education, Ken Thurston and Marilies Rettig will serve as co-facilitators of the Transformation Steering Committee, to secure sector and broader community based input to inform the transformative changes announced for the next three to five years in education, outlining the guiding principles, elements of implementation and providing ongoing oversight and feedback.

Scope and Outcomes:

The Transformation Steering Committee (TSC) will inform, monitor, and guide coherence across the broad and transformative changes (i.e., three to five years) announced by the Premier and the Minister of Education.

Specifically, the TSC will:

1. Establish the guiding principles for transformation,
2. Scope the key elements of implementation, and
3. Provide ongoing central oversight and feedback on the process.

The TSC will focus on the following longer term, transformative elements:

1. Curriculum Refresh,
2. Renewed approach to Grade 9,
3. Assessment practices aligned with the refreshed curriculum,
4. Reporting on student progress to students, parents and the public, and
5. Enhanced parent and community connections to school.

In addition, the TSC will provide input into two of the shorter term processes:

1. The assessment review with focus on large scale assessment led by Dr. Carol Campbell and her five colleagues advisors, and
2. Revisions to student report cards through the inclusion of transferrable skills.

Appendix 1 provides a preliminary overview of specific tasks, which will be reviewed at the first meeting of the Transformation Steering Committee, and timelines for those tasks will be identified.

Guiding Principles:

The Transformation Steering Committee's work and advice will be informed by and aligned with the four goals of "Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario":

1. Achieving Excellence
2. Ensuring Equity
3. Promoting Well-being
4. Enhancing Public Confidence

The approach of the Transformation Steering Committee will be consistent with the vision and conditions of collaborative professionalism:

- values all voices and is consistent with our shared responsibility to transform culture and provide equitable access to learning for all;
- takes place in and fosters a trusting environment that promotes professional learning;
- involves sharing ideas to achieve a common vision of learning, development and success for all;
- supports and recognizes formal and informal leadership and learning;
- includes opportunities for collaboration at provincial, district and school levels;
- leverages exemplary practices through the communication and sharing of ideas to achieve a common vision.

Composition and Timelines:

Transformation Steering Committee will be composed of education stakeholders and representatives from groups and agencies representing broader community interests. Membership will strive to include diversity of all kinds. Appendix 2 provides an overview of the organizations that will constitute the membership of the Transformation Steering Committee.

Recognizing the immediate and longer term issues upon which the Transformation Steering Committee will address, co-facilitators will convene the first meeting as soon as possible. Meetings will be held on a monthly and then bi-monthly basis thereafter.

Proposed 2017/18 Meeting Dates* of the Transformation Steering Committee:

November 8th, 2017

December 6th, 2017

February 7th, 2018

April 4th, 2018

April 25th, 2018

*These dates and the workplan of the committee will be developed in consultation with and confirmed at the first meeting of the Transformation Steering Committee

Sub-committees of the Transformation Steering Committee

It is anticipated that some sub-committees will be established to consider specific areas of transformation thereby allowing broader input from the public, practitioners and experts in the field to consider principles, substance and recommendations regarding implementation and ongoing monitoring. Subcommittees will report back to the TSC.

Consultation and Outreach

Through the co-facilitators of the TSC, there will be a close connection with Carol Campbell and the Advisors who are undertaking the Independent Review of Assessment and Reporting.

Through the co-facilitators of the TSC, there will be ongoing communication with and feedback from the Initiatives Committee.

The TSC will liaise with and seek input from relevant standing committees including but not limited to the First Nation Lifelong Learning Table, Minister's Advisory Council on First Nation, Metis and Inuit Education; the Curriculum Council, the Minister's Student Advisory Council, the Minister's Principal Reference Group and the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education.

It is anticipated that there will be additional consultations to secure feedback and input allowing broader outreach across the province and including a wide array of representational groups.

Liaison with the Ministry of Education

Staff from the Ministry of Education will operationally support the work of the co-facilitators and the Transformation Steering Committee. It is understood that once the TSC has completed the various dimensions of its mandate, the Ministry will be responsible for the development of relevant policy and curriculum documents and supports for implementation based on the principles and implementation guidance provided.

The TSC will retain a monitoring and advisory role with regard to curriculum documents and policy changes, as well as implementation throughout the transformative period (i.e., up to five years).

APPENDIX 1: Anticipated Tasks of the Transformation Steering Committee:

Review Terms of Reference

Establish committee working norms

Discussion and identification of general principles for transformation

Advice to Independent Committee reviewing assessment (Carol)*

Advice re transferable skills on report cards *

Advice re curriculum renewal (general) through equity, wellbeing, achievement lenses

Specific advice on curriculum by division and subject area (ongoing) *

Advice on renewed approach to grade 9 *

Advice regarding assessment *

Advice regarding reporting to parents, public *

Advice on enhancing parent and community connections *

Monitoring and ongoing advice on development and implementation

* includes advice on implementation

APPENDIX 2: Transformation Steering Committee Membership

Ken Thurston and Marilies Rettig - Co-facilitators

Parents – PIC (6 in total regional representation including public, Catholic and French)

Students – (3 students, Catholic, public, French)

EQAO

Ontario Association of Deans of Education

Minister’s Advisory Council on First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education

OTF

Planning and Partnership Table – 1 Representative

People for Education

IC members:

ACÉPO

CUPE

ADFO

ETFO

AEFO

OECTA

AFOCSC

OSSTF

AGÉFO

OPSBA

CODE – ECODE/PCODE/CODELF

OPSOA

CPCO

OCSTA

OPC

OCSOA

EWAO

OCEW