



# RTU-SER Newsletter

**•88 AND LOCAL EVALUATION FRAMEWORK: TAKE THE BALL AND RUN!**

**88 AND LOCAL EVALUATION FRAMEWORK: TAKE THE BALL AND RUN!**

There are many important issues currently being discussed at the School Board and by school administrations, and they have landed on teachers' laps virtually all at once. Such issues include not only the **new requirements associated with Law 88**, but also the renewal of the **local evaluation framework**. There is, however, a nuance: the requirements of Law 88 are mandatory, whereas the **renewal of the local evaluation framework is not**, at least according to MELS. This is a good opportunity for teachers to take the ball and run with it by requesting changes that might actually improve the teaching conditions. Here are 2 examples:

1. Teachers could propose to their principal to only report on one **cross-curricular competency per year**. Moreover, in the **end-of-cycle report**, only one competency has to be assessed, by way of comments. It should also be noted that there is no requirement to evaluate or report on all cross-curricular competencies by the end of grade 6.
2. A proposal could be made to the principal to reduce the number of terms on the school calendar to three, as it is currently being done in most elementary schools in Québec. The following example is taken from an elementary school under the **English Montreal School Board**, but it could have been drawn from many public or private schools. In defining their standards and procedures on evaluation, schools have the authority to decide when and how the reporting is to be done.

THREE-TERM SCHOOL CALENDAR	NUMBER OF TEACHING DAYS	YEAR 1 OF CYCLE	YEAR 2 OF CYCLE
<i>Around mid-October: meeting with parents regarding the students' progress</i>		<b>Communication 1<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Communication 5</b>
<b>Term 1 (September 1 - November 19)</b>	61 days	<b>Communication 2 (report card)</b>	<b>Communication 6 (report card)</b>
<b>Term 2 (Nov. 24 - February 26)</b>	61 days	<b>Communication 3 (report card)</b>	<b>Communication 7 (report card)</b>
<b>Term 3 (March 9 - June 23)</b>	78 days	<b>Communication 4 (report card)</b>	<b>Communication 8 (end-of-cycle progress report)</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Basic School Regulation (section 30) stipulates that teachers communicate with parents 8 times during the cycle, including sending 5 report cards and one end-of-cycle progress report.

• **LAW 88  
CONTRACTS**

**LAW 88 CONTRACTS**

As you are undoubtedly aware, most clauses in **Bill 88** regarding the governance of school boards have been in effect since last July. The MELS has decided that **Riverside School Board must increase its graduation rate from 81% to 88%** by 2020. Therefore, RSB is under the obligation to sign a partnership agreement with MELS outlining how that goal will be reached. School administrations have been calling meetings to discuss the schools' **Success plan** and, in the near future, **Management and educational success agreements**, outlining how schools will contribute to the attainment of these goals. Or, as MELS puts it: everyone in the school system will "*act in a concerted manner and feel united by an obligation to produce results*". In effect, schools will have to sign these contracts with the board to commit themselves to reaching the measurable targets currently being defined at the board level. Interestingly, 4 of the 5 school boards in the province with graduation rates over 80% are English-language boards.

The summary table below lists the documents to be generated this year in relation to LAW 88:

DOCUMENT	CONTENT	DEADLINE
<b>5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN</b> (school board)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integration of the MELS's <i>measurable objectives</i> (including a graduation rate of 88%)</li> </ul>	Spring 2010
<b>SUCCESS PLAN</b> (schools)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every school must include these <i>measurable objectives</i> in its <b>Success plan</b> and describe how they will be achieved</li> </ul>	Spring 2010
<b>MANAGEMENT AND EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS AGREEMENT</b> (schools)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A contract between the school and the school board in which the school commits to achieving all of the <i>measurable objectives</i></li> <li>This document lists the resources the school will need to achieve the <i>measurable objectives</i></li> </ul>	June 2010
<b>PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT</b> (school board)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school board is required to sign an agreement with the MELS in which it commits to achieving the <i>measurable objectives</i></li> </ul>	June 2010

• **OLYMPIC  
TORCH**

**OLYMPIC TORCH**

**Heritage Regional High School** has been chosen to carry the Olympic torch—one of only two Quebec schools (one of 16 in Canada) to have been awarded this honour. Congratulations to the entire team! The event will take place in Laval on December 10, at 11h 51 at the Hôtel de Ville on Chomedey Blvd. 20 participants from HRHS will be there, among them 3 teachers: **Payal Grover, Ryan Payne and Julie Rouette**. Congratulations to HRHS !

Enjoy the Christmas break ! Happy Holidays

Michel Gagnon  
President



<sup>1</sup> *L'école , j'y tiens: Tous ensemble pour la réussite*