

Small Group Discussion

Where do we want to go?

Groups 1 & 2 - Parents

- Parents need to be recognized seriously as partners in community based education. If parents are not recognized how can they be looked at as part of a community?
- Parents need to be better educated on Community Education based initiatives so they can have solid input into their Schools and the education of their children.
- SCCs need to have some direction to have better insight to make logic and sound decisions in their community Schools.
- Better clarification on issues needs to be put forward from Trustees and Administration so joint decisions are being made from a total picture not a partial one.
- Parents need to be able to get involved in more school activities in the schools with the teachers and the kids.
- Would like to see more involvement from Community organizations in the schools.
- Would like to see SCCs sharing info with other SSCs from different schools.

Group 3 – Community Programmers and Organizers

- Each community should be able to decide what is done as extra- curricular activities at school or between different schools.
- Initiatives and information needs to be put in plain language so everyone can understand it.
- Communities should be able to evaluate how things are going in their schools.
- Multidimensional and intergenerational events and sharing of information.
- Use existing community services when possible. Do not duplicate services.
- Increase the ability to bring in people from outside the school.
- Increase the amount of EAs
- Integrate society and provide assistance though EAs to the kids.
- The budget should be control by the community.
- Government needs to change the funding methods

- Better distribution of information from the Ministry to the Boards of Education.
- A collaborative approach needs to be taken.
- Education and training needs to be given on how to teach and work with Aboriginal and the Immigrant populations.
- Teachers need to have more P.D
- Use “experts” such as Aboriginal Elders to work with the community.
- Localized culture integrated and taught instead of one size fits all.

Group 4 and 5 – School Staff

Policy Goals and Objectives

- Yearly update on the Community School Model from the Ministry to educate Trustees, Administration, Staff, and CAC Boards. Also the Community it self.
- Job descriptions of the people in the community schools as per model 2004 Building Communities of Hope
- Clarification of the role of the SCC and what their focus is.

Community Education

- Quality and equality for all students
- More community involvement
- Empathy earned
- Standardized tests miss what is truly learned
- A stop to culturally and social misrepresentation

Group 6 – Researchers, consultants and administrators

- Make use of the funds of knowledge available through the children and community (share power) for the children and community
- Professional development on Community schools policies for Principals, Vice Principals, teachers, and parents
- Teacher education should include knowledge of accessing community information and working with the communities.
- Relationships between schools and university.
- Align alternative and authentic assessment to Saskatchewan curriculum