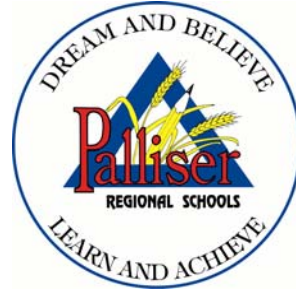


AISI Cycle 3

Palliser Regional Schools

December Newsletter

**Site Based Proposals
Approved Soon**



December 2006

Volume 1, Issue 4



AISI Proposal Approval Meeting – December 15, 2006

Your AISI Team met on Friday Nov. 24 to examine, clarify and make revisions to the Site-Based AISI Proposals submitted. It was exciting to see the innovative and refreshing ideas being proposed for projects from various schools and groups.

Our Team will now make recommendations to the Approval Committee which consists of some selected Administrators and ATA PD Representatives; their meeting is set for Friday Dec. 15.

We will announce before Christmas which projects have been approved.

PD Calendar

As announced in the November Newsletter, the Calendar Committee met in early November. From the input at that meeting, a draft 2007-2008 Draft School Year has been circulated and discussed with the intent of attempting to create a more universal/common calendar that facilitates as much site-based and district wide pd as possible.

The Calendar Committee will meet again soon in the New Year and hopefully a calendar will be set soon after.

For further details, contact Mr. K. Gietz, Associate Superintendent.



1 to 1 Wireless Proposal

Responding to a Call for Proposals, Palliser Regional Schools has submitted a proposal to Alberta Education requesting in excess of \$300 000 to initiate a wireless laptop project in the schools of Coalhurst. If successful, the 3 year initiative will undoubtedly be the first step in integrating wireless technology in all of our schools

For further details, contact Mr. G. Smith, Technology Integration Coordinator





"What's Happening"

PD Activities in Palliser Regional Schools

Assessment for Learning - November Activities

I started the month of November by attending the AAC Pre-Conference and Conference in Edmonton on November 2, 3 and 4. Vulcan PrairieView staff also attended the conference and suggested to me that every staff should attend the Assessment Conference.

Two of the main messages I received from attending the sessions were:

1) **We need to bridge the gap between knowing and doing.** Having information about Assessment for Learning is important, but more important is actually implementing assessment for learning strategies and watching the difference they make in your classroom.

2) **Sharing assessment for learning experiences with colleagues is essential.** There is so much we can learn from each other if we have the opportunity to share what we are doing and experiencing in the classroom.

I had the pleasure of spending time with the staffs of Champion, Vulcan Prairieview Elementary, County Central, Arrowwood and Brant Christian Schools. I even obtained a strategy that may be useful for other schools in encouraging "**doing**" and "**sharing**" from VPE. Teachers have written the strategy that they plan to implement on a recipe card and these cards have been posted in the staff room. What a great idea for ensuring that assessment for learning is happening and for encouraging professional discussion about assessment for learning experiences!

I have also had the privilege of spending some one on one time with teachers developing rubrics to accompany assessment tasks they developed.

Thanks to all of the schools that I have visited, not only for making me feel welcome, but for showing an interest in assessment for learning! **Clarice**

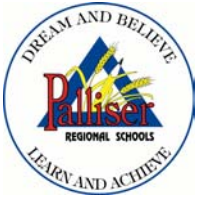
Assessment for learning - During the past month I have had the good fortune to visit Huntsville School, Noble Central School, Kate Andrews High School, and Picture Butte High School. The initial reason for these short meetings was to chat about assessment for learning but conversations often also included the Cycle III AISI project, proposal writing, and first steps in math. Thanks for making me feel welcome in your schools.

A couple of items of note: All consulting and K-3 teachers, with LA assignments, should now have access to Reading A-Z. If you are having trouble accessing this on-line resource please let me know. Also, Palliser Regional Schools continues to support the Atlas curriculum mapping program through AISI dollars..

Please let me know if there is something the AISI team could do to make this a more



MERRY CHRISTMAS



"What's Going On"

PD in Palliser Regional Schools



First Steps in Math

Donna has been very busy and presently there are seven schools involved in this intensive 18 hour professional development activity.

What is it? First Steps is a professional development program, with supporting resources, designed to help teachers with teaching assignments K-8 plan, implement, and assess mathematics teaching and learning. The program describes the key mathematical concepts that children need to understand in order to achieve learning outcomes in Math.

I would be happy to come and talk with any staff that might be interested in learning more about this PD opportunity.



Your Palliser AISI Team



Palliser AISI Website

Clarice Gilbert: Assessment for Learning
County Central High School: 485-2335
cell: 485-0495

Donna Dalby: Assessment for Learning
Jennie Emery Elementary School : 345-2403
cell: 894-5100

Rob Cowie: Leadership, School Climate, Priority Schools, Technology Integration
Vulcan Prairie View Elementary: 485-1928
cell: 485-1482

AISI Website

In an attempt to change the look somewhat as well as update the site, the **Palliser AISI Website** has undergone substantial revision.

Check it out at:

<http://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/sites/aisi/index.htm>

PD Reminders

PD Days for 2006-2007

February 21/06 – District PD Day

March 23/07 - ATA PD Day

