

**NETWORKS OF INQUIRY AND INNOVATION  
2011-2012**

**RANDERSON RIDGE ELEMENTARY  
#68Nanaimo Ladysmith**

**Leadership Team**

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**Contacts**

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**School Context/Community Involvement**

Randerson Ridge Elementary is located in Nanaimo on central Vancouver Island, British Columbia. The area is north Nanaimo consisting primarily of middle class families with children coming well prepared for school. Parents are largely involved in their child's education. Our overall population is 322 students with the Aboriginal population being approximately 22 students.

Our school is a learning centre for Vancouver Island University (VIU) so we regularly have students visiting our classes to observe current research in practice. We have been collaborating with VIU professor, Dr. Paige Fisher, on the development of an engagement rubric. For the purpose of this year's inquiry project we decided the engagement rubric would work well with our inquiry questions. Therefore, we have pilot tested the tool and are making recommendations for further implementation of the assessment tool next school year.

**School Inquiry and Action**

**School Question**

How will learning together across disciplines about assessment for learning support diversity and deepen engagement of learning for all students?

**Strategies**

Co-taught and had older students peer coach the community of learners process with two classes. Afterwards, those same classes taught two more classes the same way. We explored implementing an Aboriginal component into the design of the process. We continued to embed the community of learners concept through peer leadership initiatives that were connected to the students' personal inquiry projects. In addition, we began to explore various technology tools to build on assessment for learning practices through e-portfolios, skyping and blogging.

**Partner School**

Dover Bay Secondary, #68 Nanaimo Ladysmith

**School Findings**

Grade 4/5 class and Grade 3 class Combined Results Using Engagement Rubric

	Emerging	Developing	Applying	Extending
Fall 2011	9	29	10	2
Spring 2012	0	3	14	33

**School Plans for 2012-2013**

Continue to build on use of electronic tools to support student engagement and begin to deepen the use of assessment for learning practices by peer coaching, peer assessment and having well defined criteria for learning through the use of technology. Time will need to be dedicated to 'play' for students to become

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familiar with technology tools such as blogs, wikis and prezis. Parallel criteria for building knowledge through use of tools, and for academic content will be used. We hope to use blogging as a way to further develop e-portfolios for students.

### **Reflections, Advice**

We have been using power points and a private account on flickr for our portfolios. This year we realized that there are better, easier tools to use to accomplish the same purpose. A focus was given to authentic power points including personal photographs and events. We are going to use blogging or weebly website design next year and firmer criteria to ensure quality representation of learning. We would like to have the portfolio less cumbersome in the making and more focused on time put into the content. We realize that technology tools engage students, but sometimes the quality of the work is weak. We are hoping the use of clear criteria and structured feedback opportunities will ensure the quality is improved next year. We notice when we use technology we are often caught up on criteria that outlines how to use technology but not the deeper intention of the learning. This is going to take some rethinking to combine the criteria and intentions for learning with regards to using technology tools and perhaps the content area we are focusing on.