

Memorandum To: Directors of Education
Superintendent of Program/Curriculum

From: Sue Durst
Director
Curriculum and Assessment Policy Branch

Date: November 27, 2009

Subject: Interdisciplinary Studies Grades 11-12 Curriculum Review

As you know, in 2003, the Ministry established a curriculum review process that focuses on a small number of subjects each year. The review is not a development of a completely new curriculum, but is intended to ensure that the curriculum remains current, relevant and grade-appropriate from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

The review of the curriculum policy document for Interdisciplinary Studies, Grades 11-12 began in September 2009. You may recall that this curriculum is unique in that it allows students to apply concepts, methods, and language of more than one discipline to explore topics, develop skills; and solve problems. For this reason, course offerings including titles of courses and course descriptions, under the approved codes, may be quite different from school to school.

The review of each curriculum policy document includes a series of processes whereby the Ministry gathers data from schools and school boards to help make informed decisions on how best to support the review process for each subject. School enrolment data for Interdisciplinary Studies has been collated for the school years 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008. This data lists all of the schools in the province that have offered Interdisciplinary Studies courses over this three year period. Within your board, schools have been selected to participate in a short information gathering survey. We ask that you forward electronically the attached link (www.curriculumreview.ca) to the principal of the selected school(s) so as to help facilitate further research on the specific course names and content of each course.

The data gathered from this survey will help us to plan further consultations and a review process for Interdisciplinary Studies.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Maureen Callan, Education Officer at maureen.callan@ontario.ca or 416-327-9074.

Original Signed by:

Sue Durst

Encl.

cc: Regional Manager