



ÉCOLE GLENMORE SCHOOL

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April 1, 2017 - Learning Log

Dear GME Parents and Guardians;

RE: Element Hour

Have you read the book, Element, by Sir Ken Robinson? Our whole staff was given a copy of the book to read. The main message of the book is that we all have passions and talents and once we find out what they are we will contribute in meaningful ways to make the world a better place.

"School" has not always been the place that learners find their passions and pursue them. We are hoping to change that with the redesigned curriculum in BC. Until the end of this school year, we are going to experiment with our intermediate students by giving them an opportunity to select an area of learning that may be or become their passion guided by an adult who is passionate about that area.

After scanning the entire school population with the four questions, there were some common themes about what students wanted to learn. When the adults were asked to describe what they wanted to offer for the Element Hour, the areas that the students expressed interest match what the adults describe as their interest area. I have recruited adults from the community to come in and offer some of the Element hours. I have also used some of the money infused by the provincial government in the past month to purchase some equipment required to offer sessions for the Math Element hours. We are hoping that this experiment goes well and that next year we can expand.

The first Tuesday back at the assembly, we will pitch the idea to our students. Some examples of Element Hour sessions are: 3 options for cooking, sewing, chemistry experiments, at least 4 sport skill opportunities, at least 4 art sessions, music jam session, writing poetry and stories, building and fixing opportunities, and more. Sewing and cooking are real life examples of challenging Math in action. We now have 12 sewing machines and 3 kitchens. We also have a new 3D printer. Our library learning commons will have 15 laptop computers to help it morph into a modern learning commons with digital literacy options. If you have something that you are passionate about, let me know and maybe this fall you could help us out. The sessions will take place April 21, April 28, May 5, May 26 and June 2 from 10-11am. We are trying to listen to your children and meet their needs. They are wise beyond their years. They are talented. They deserve opportunities to develop, serve and create!

In next week's learning log, there will be an invitation to have fun with your child creating a protected egg to drop on April 13! There will be specific criteria, so do not start yet!

With passion,

Wendy Briggs
Principal