

Celebrating Success in District 9

Technology Enhances Teaching and Learning

Avalon West School District is celebrating the establishment of information and communications technology (ICT) as an effective tool for teaching and learning through the creation of Professional Learning Centres at nine district schools.

The purpose of the initiative was to use new technologies to support holistic learning, reflective problem-solving exercises, collaborative grouping, and social

interactions that promote higher-order thinking and meaningful learning. High-end technology resources are important in advancing cutting-edge skills for all members of the learning community.

Each teacher who has a learning centre is encouraged to provide monthly lessons and activities that highlight the centres. Teachers are also encouraged to reflect on their existing practices and say how these learning centres have affected their teaching and learning.

District 9 Profile

	2003-04	2002-03
Schools	31	32
Students	9140	9571
Teachers	658.4	689.8
Pupil-Teacher Ratio	13.5	13.5

“Our class has the latest information on whatever we need to know. It helps us with all our subjects. We all love our technology centre. We are better able to learn the ‘fast way to all our questions’.”

Grade 5 student
St. Edward's School, Placentia

The future goal of the Professional Learning Centres is to bring the resources back to the classroom level. By giving students access to technology, the integration of technology into a teacher's lesson becomes seamless. The district hopes to have implemented a Professional Learning Centre in every school within the next two years with the ability to roll this initiative out to all classrooms over time.

“As we move into the age of multi literacies, computers will continue to assume a very important role in teaching and learning situations. It is important that we instruct our children and give them strategies in using these resources effectively.”

A Teacher at
St. Edward's School, Placentia