ARC ThoughtMeet

A Focus on Review of Progress and Looking to the Future

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Review of Progress and Looking to the Future

Key themes

ARC systems reflected upon and reviewed their progress on issues since they last met at the ARC Summit in Oslo and at the last ARC Thoughtmeet on A Focus on Identity in November 2023.

Systems reported that they are working on issues that include:

- Education system transformation
- Drawing from crisis management knowledge to address pressing issues
- Student engagement and student voice
- Secondary school reform
- Applying an explicit equity lens on policies and processes
- Leveraging AI to positively impact student learning
- Working collaboratively with teachers and students to increase the quality of learning experiences for young people

Progress in System-To-System Initiatives

Systems shared successes and challenges with pilot projects, the creation of centers and/or the design of new ministries.
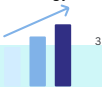
Student voice: Ireland created an expert group to promote student participation in policy formulation and in inspection.

Democracy: The Ministry of Education and Children in Iceland and the principles of the Senior Cycle Reform in Ireland focus on student participation in society.

Equity: Nova Scotia implemented an equity lens to the development of new policies and processes.

Leading from the middle: The Centre for Teaching Excellence in Scotland is a project that includes a research-based co-production group with all educational stakeholders and teacher feedback to foster high-quality learning experiences.

AI: Scotland, Wales and Ireland across-system collaboration on AI on the potential, the use, the role and the impact of AI in curriculum design, innovation, research, leadership, teacher working conditions, students with additional learning needs and individual learning journeys.

LearnLab Interaction to Guide Discussions in Breakout Session

Delegates used LearnLab to pose questions to colleagues during the presentations.

- How do we evaluate the impact of the structural changes implemented?
- In what ways are teachers involved in system reforms?
- How do we engage with students? What platforms are used?
- How is equity addressed in student use of AI?
- How are teachers being supported in the use of AI?
- How can we ensure that our curriculum is at the center of the teaching and learning process?
- How are democratic practices being integrated into the curriculum?
- What will be the main priorities in understanding what excellence looks like, the current state and how to move it across the system?
- How is our system adapting to immigration and asylum seekers?
- How do ensure that the curriculum is in the centre of learning?

Presentation of ARC New System Member: New Brunswick

Overview of New Brunswick

Overview of New Brunswick

- New Brunswick is in a period of tremendous growth. Our population grew by 9.6 per cent between Oct. 1, 2018 (772,800) and Feb. 6, 2024 (846,700). This represents more than 74,000 new people. Additionally, for the first time in about 50 years, we are getting younger as a province.
- We're seeing soaring enrollments at 6,000 new students since 2019, and we expect 6,000 or more over the next five years. We've got 14 new school projects underway and expect more.
- Employment grew at its fastest rate since 2002, adding 13,000 jobs in 2023. As recently as November, the province hit an all-time high in employment.
- New Brunswick is Canada's only bilingual province (English and French); more languages are being welcomed
- More than 100 languages are spoken by learners from immigrant backgrounds admitted to Anglophone schools. They come from over 150 different countries.

Inclusive education in New Brunswick

New Brunswick, Canada is recognized as a global leader in inclusive education.

In 1986, the New Brunswick Government passed a unanimous bill in the Legislative Assembly. The Inclusive Education Bill, was passed by all legislators who represented all political parties of the day.

The amendment required that students with disabilities and other special needs be educated in community schools, in regular classes with their non-disabled peers.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN NB
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System areas of improvement

Collaborative work

Innovation initiatives

Andy Hargreaves Closing Remarks

Andy shared an anecdote about meeting with elementary school students to discuss what it means to be an author. He showed the designs of three book covers one yellow, one orange and one purple. When he asked which cover was their favourite, one student said, "the purple one because it has a colour for everybody." Andy hopes that ARC is a group that has a colour for everybody since ARC members share concerns about diversity, belonging and democracy, excellence and quality.

- How can we help each other as neighbours?
- ARC member systems are engaged with students, teachers, policy, teacher and student engagement, and want to have an impact.
- How can we help with planning and creativity?
- The goal of ARC is to work on common themes with applications for everybody so that we can help one another. There is a lot of work to do, and we need to think about how to work more promote and/or strengthen our local and regional collaboration.

ARC Summit 2024
Attendance, Belonging and Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Thought Leaders:
Lee Elliott Major and Mary Gordon

Edinburgh, Scotland
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