

PDIG Final Report – 2018

1. Project Description

The first two days we immersed ourselves in spoken word poetry so we could have a good sense of the variety of possibilities in this genre. We examined online resources, especially the Literacy Today website. We created lesson plans, following the production process and discussed where this could go at each school and even if next year we would like to have a competition at the school board level. On the third day, we attended a spoken word competition and then met to discuss and plan for next year. The project went very well as we had decided at the start of the project that we would try out some lessons in class, with a view to creating a strong plan for next year. The teachers seemed excited to be bringing something new to their students and were grateful to have compiled a shared folder with resources and lesson plans.

2. Project Goals Describe/show to what degree the goals of the approved project were met.

The teachers did not complete a whole unit, instead they tried a few lessons in class with a view to teaching a complete unit next year, and participating in a school board poetry slam. Time constraints were the reason for this.

3. Project Outcomes

Participating teachers were excited at bringing a totally new genre to their students. They enjoyed presenting poetry in a novel way. The teachers enjoyed the chance to work and plan with other teachers from across our school board. We had interesting discussions about what competency spoken word poetry addresses and what aspects of the Progression of Learning we were addressing in the lessons we were developing.

4. Reinvestment

The lessons and resources that we collected in a shared folder can be shared with teachers at a board wide ped. day workshop. The Poetry Slam that we are planning for next year will offer other teachers and students a chance to be exposed to this genre. The participating teachers will be teaching the full unit next year and have offered to have some of their students videoed. These videos can then be shared boardwide. This was an exciting project that perhaps could have used one more planning day.