

GRBA Formative Assessments and Tracking Tools Project

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Project description and goals

The primary objectives of this initiative were to design and implement formative assessment and tracking tools aimed at providing timely feedback and enabling students to monitor their own progress effectively. This project release time allowed us to create tools for teachers and students to track and monitor the students' progress. Teachers identified a competency needing improved oversight and either developed new assessment tools or refined existing ones to better assess each learning objective within the program of study.

What went well:

- The educators involved were already proficient with the platforms used to create the assessments and tracking tools, such as Quizlet, Google Forms, Word, Excel, and others, facilitating a smooth implementation process.
 - The implementation of the tracking tools allowed for precise monitoring of student progress, facilitating the design of targeted enrichment activities that kept students engaged and challenged throughout their learning journey.
- The project successfully promoted an environment where students could take charge of their learning through tools that allowed them to reflect, self-assess, and regulate their progress. Students' ownership of their learning was achieved using the self-evaluation grids containing specific, observable criteria tailored to each competency element.
- The tools helped teachers align their teaching strategies more closely with the educational objectives outlined in the program of study, enhancing the overall learning experience by providing a clear roadmap for teaching and learning.

Challenges:

The project team encountered challenges in time management, as the creation of meaningful and effective assessment tools required more time than initially anticipated. This meticulous approach to ensuring the relevance and efficacy of each tool meant that a significant portion of the project timeline was devoted to development rather than immediate implementation.

Project Outcomes

The team has collectively achieved the expected deliverable of 20 tools – formative assessment and tracking.

The profound gains were the following:

- ✓ The participating teachers gained a profound understanding of the various elements within each competency, achieved through detailed analysis and collaborative work focused on the program of study.
- ✓ The deployment of these tools demonstrated significant benefits, particularly in terms of effective tracking that facilitated highly targeted enrichment activities, leading to observable student improvement and engagement.
- ✓ The collaborative effort enhanced pedagogical strategies and deepened understanding of the program of study, leading to improved identification of learning objectives and more precise feedback mechanisms.
- ✓ We became proficient in creating assessments in support of learning and tracking tools that
 directly reflect the program of study, and the collaborative work was tremendous in ensuring the
 success of this project.
- ✓ The development and utilization of assessment tools have positioned the teachers as catalysts for change within the teaching body, improving pedagogical practices and focusing on student retention and success rates.
- ✓ The implementation of the tools has facilitated student-centred learning and continuous improvement in teaching methodology.

Reinvestment

The success of this project within our center has set the stage for broader implementation and sharing of these practices. Despite some challenges in adoption, particularly with teachers less familiar with the digital tools employed, we are committed to refining these strategies and ensuring their accessibility.

We are eager to share our insights and methodologies with other English centers across the province and potentially showcase our achievements during the following upcoming conference:

- Leadership Committee for English Education in Québec-LCEEQ
- Quebec Advisory Council on Vocational Education QACVE
- The Provincial Organization of Continuing Education Directors English PROCEDE,

We are also eager to share our tools and acquired expertise with other vocational centres.

Please contact Samar for further details.

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