

“Schools that focus on getting the basics right produce pupils with higher academic performance”. – New Zealand Study

Exemptions

Once upon a time, Island students who maintained high marks and met school standards, could be exempted from writing some exams – at least this was the case for students in Colonel Grey High School prior to 2012; having the option was considered a student motivator. Although I recently re-read media reports of the time, I am still not clear why the practice was dropped.

Exemptions and other credit arrangements are widely available in schools across the country, except in PEI; in addition to exemptions, some schools allow students to take courses on-line, challenge courses for credit and recognize prior learning and self-study.

I was not able to find the number of students opting for exemptions, although I did find the results of a survey on Prior Learning Assessment Review (PLAR) at the post-secondary level which showed the numbers to be growing and the experience to be positive. The few students I’ve spoken with on PEI favour the practice.

Recommendation No.6 in the report of the Senior High Working Group in 2013, refers to “flexible learning credit options” and credit options was the focus of a recommendation to the English Language School Board by Education 20/20 Inc. in 2014.

Three years ago, when exemptions were discontinued in PEI, we were told that new initiatives were under consideration. We owe it to our students to unveil them soon.

Act now

For more information on the following, please see our website at www.education2020.ca:

1 Excellence Award – nominations are still open for the Excellence Award and, they will close on May 25, 2015.

2 A Call for Action – a series of recommendations, seven in all, designed to improve the public education system in PEI.

3 Preparedness – provides a brief report on a series of public gatherings across PEI convened by Education 20/20 Inc. with the discussion focussing on Vital Signs, the findings of a survey conducted by the Community Foundation of Prince Edward Island.

4 Eight-Year Study – provides a brief overview of the findings of a longitudinal study of high school students and the relationship, if any, of high school programming and success in college.

Unless you inform us otherwise, we will continue to send you our newsletters.

Guest Editor – Don Glendenning

Education 20/20 Inc.

101 Kent St., PO Box 624 / 101, rue Kent, B.P. 624
Charlottetown, PEI / Charlottetown (Î.-P.-É.) C1A 1M0
Canada

Tel./Tél. : 902-892-2060

Email/Courriel : pei@education2020.ca

URL : www.education2020.ca