

Hi Colleagues:

I recently facilitated a workshop with PD chairs in Langley and pulled out two videos to compare and contrast personalized learning methods in Finland vs. Corporate USA. The link I attached below regarding the Finnish system is different than the one I used but a better resource.

To put it all together, we looked at the Ministry description of the BC Education Plan and it was evident which direction the Ministry wanted to go. Standardized tests, fundamental skills, and no additional funding mean that corporations will have to provide the resources as the classes will remain large and they will be prescribed programs based on Ministry "core standards".

In Finland, teachers can differentiate instruction because of small class sizes and are treated with respect.

Focus on the part of the video where the Finnish teacher noted how the textbook company changed the textbook as directed by the teachers (professionals influence or directs program over corporate or state interests)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntdYxqRce_s&feature=results_main&playnext=1&list=PL96BCC522F25FE198

This Pearson ad promotes personalized learning as offering a corporate program because teachers cannot attend to individual student needs. The program also meets core standards (so standardized personalized learning?)

(the corporate or state interests direct the professional)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uO3ch2q1u7k>

BC Education Plan video (Has the US corporate plan written all over it).

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uE7DLIAd3UY>

All of this was worked into a message that essentially is contained in this letter to the editor:

<http://www.kamloopsnews.ca/article/20111124/KAMLOOPS0303/111129883/-1/kamloops0303/corporate-influence-coming-to-the-classroom>

Just some ideas and resources you may want to use regarding the BC Ed Plan.

David Komljenovic
BCTF EC
Member at Large