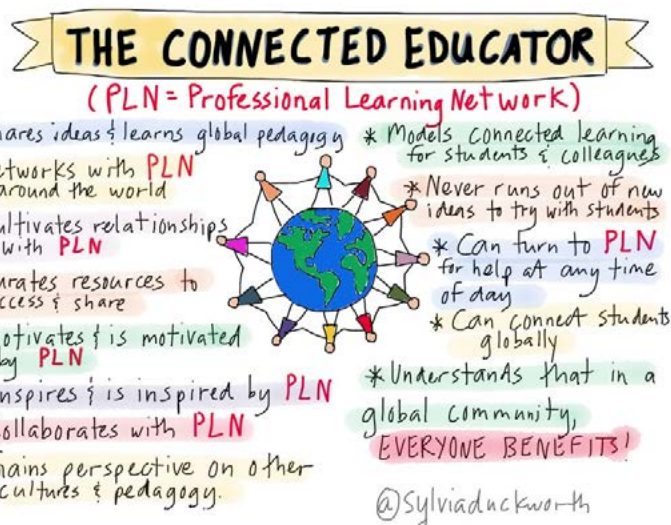# Connect Collaborate
Coding pour Apprendre

Team Members:
Robert Wright, Stacey Dahmer, Monique Boivin, and Trish Thompson

School District: Bruce Grey Catholic DSB

What We Did

Our journey as a Team began with a focus on expanding our own professional learning around coding and creating opportunities to share this knowledge with other colleagues. Myself, in collaboration with one other Lead Teacher - Stacey Dahmer, met to organize and plot the vision for creating a professional learning network to support other group members learning. We decided early to anchor our initial learning and discussions around two books - Codebreaker (Brian Asphinall) and Mindstorms (Seymour Papert). The former was used to quickly jumpstart Teacher thinking and implementation of coding activities - both unplugged and plugged. The later has become the focus of regular weekly meetings after school where we we discuss the readings and share additional resources (eg.lynx coding activities), and activities and successes around coding activities we have tried. In my role as instructional coach I was able take my learning and knowledge of Lynx and introduce it in a number of classrooms with Teachers we felt would embrace the new learning and join the core group. Our initial group of four built up our learning around computational thinking and coding platforms, and we then began to reach out to other colleagues to share our learning and invite them to participate in our learning journey.

We created some quick partnerships and invited these *Teachers be part of our weekly Wednesday Bookstudy of Mindstorm and resource sharing:

Junior	Robert Wright and *Jordan Melfi - Religion and Coding - Lynx and Storyboard
Intermediate	Monique Boivin (FI) and *Crystal Young (FI) - Math and Coding
Primary	Stacey Dahmer (Core French) and Trish Thompson (Core French) - Unplugged Coding en Français
Junior	*Daniel Walters (FI) and *Turner Ruetz (Music) - Music and Coding - Ear Sketch

The above members were encouraged to participate in this year's BIT conference as well as become members of ECOO. We plan to continue to meet as a group to pull from the resources available through ECOO and BIT.

I have been able to arrange release time for another Teacher and I to meet to do some planning around our weekly meets. The dates are listed below;

February 11th	March 11th	March 19th
½ day Collaboration/Planning	½ day Collaboration	½ day Planning

The upcoming March 19th date will be used to explore options for creating a virtual school coding day - VIRTUAL CODING FAIR - Connecting with Community Partners NPX.

What We Learned

We built learning around a number of areas relegated to coding and also some professional learning around how to navigate and adapt to achieve goals. Teachers became comfortable with coding platforms - LYNX, Earsketch and a variety of unplugged coding activities. We learned through a variety of these activities to build rich learning experiences for our learners. We connected coding with curriculum to achieve learning outcomes. We also saw student growth connected to their mindset - perseverance and resilience being two major attributes often highlighted as we worked through a number of coding challenges.

How We Shared Our Learning With Others

After meeting as a team to discuss ideas and to set goals for the project, we decided that we wanted to support colleagues who wished to engage in professional learning and implementation of coding in their classrooms.

As a result, we offered a book club to discuss and increase learning around coding that they were then able to implement using a variety of subject areas and coding programs across the primary, junior and intermediate divisions.

Links to Our Work

Weekly meetings - **OTF Coding Connections**

Earsketch - "Your voice is power"- Students from a number of classes coded compositions to be entered into competition.