

## WHY CHANGE?

### 21st Century Skills Students Require:

- Personal and social responsibility
- Planning, critical thinking, reasoning, and creativity
- Strong communication skills
- Cross-cultural understanding, both for interpersonal and presentation needs.
- Visualizing and decision-making
- Know how and when to use technology and choosing the most appropriate tool for the task.



*“Students will gain more knowledge, retain more information, and perform far better when teaching styles match learning styles.”*

*(Lage, Platt, & Freglia, 2000)*

## CHANGING THE WAY TEACHERS TEACH!



*“I am so thankful for having the opportunity to have a B.A.T.L. classroom. I am giving new life to all my lessons by using new teaching strategies and technology tools that I have never used before. And this excites the students.”*

*Grade 6 Teacher*

*“The BATL Project has had a significant impact on the programs that I am currently teaching and for other teachers that are using my classroom.”*

*High School Teacher*

*“At first I felt that I did not know enough about the technology to use it effectively in my classroom however through inquiry based learning my students and myself have come up with various exciting ways to utilize the equipment within the existing classroom activities.”*

*Grade 3- 6 Teacher*

*“The students are instantly motivated when the board is in use and when they use it for individual or group presentations, it enhances their learning experience.”*

*Grade 1 Teacher*

### **Rolling River School Division**

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ROLLING RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION

*B.A.T.L.*  
*Blended Approach to*  
*Teaching and Learning*



**“In a Technology-rich classroom, students don’t “learn” technology. Technology merely provides the tools to be used for authentic learning. It is a means, not an end.”**

## **PURPOSE:**

The Rolling River School Division implemented a “B.A.T.L.” project (Blended Approach to Teaching and Learning) in the fall of 2007. The basic direction is away from the “old” pedagogy of teachers “telling” (or talking or lecturing, or being the “Sage on the Stage”) to the “new” pedagogy of kids teaching themselves with the teacher’s guidance, a combination of student-centered learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning, and the teachers being the guide on the side. Technology will be provided to each classroom that will enhance the learning environment and to support the concept of students teaching themselves.

- To change the way teachers teach
- To address the 21st Century Learning Skills
- To engage students
- To promote life long learning
- To empower students and have them responsible for their learning
- To address the various learning styles in all classrooms
- To provide the tools students use and understand

This is a 5 year project where the division is addressing the teaching styles of staff and working to make changes to the way teachers deliver curriculum to students. The goal is that ALL teachers will use a variety of teaching strategies that address the needs of the 21st Century Learner. Teachers will design lessons which meet the learning styles of all students and engage students in the lesson.

The use of technology is part of the Blended Approach and thus ALL classrooms will have standard equipment installed. (i.e. Ceiling mounted digital projector, Electronic WhiteBoard technology, laptops, scanner, digital cameras)

Administrators are required to attend workshops during the school year so that they are prepared to work with teachers in their schools to insure that the Blended approach is happening.

## **PROJECT OUTLINE:**

### **2007- 2008**

- Working with Administration to create the Blended Classroom
- Revisiting the teacher evaluation form to better reflect a Blended Approach to teaching and learning
- To revisit student assessment in all grades
- Giving the principals the skills and understanding to work with teachers to change teaching styles

### **2008- 2009**

- Create 12 classrooms in the division that will be the model classroom for the Blended Approach.
- Professional Development with a focus on changing teaching styles to better reflect to needs of the Digital native and address the 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning Skills. Move away from the LECTURE based classrooms.
- Focus is on Engaging students.
- Evaluation of Classrooms and technology in the classrooms.
- Using FirstClass as a communication tool, teachers and students will share success in the classroom.
- Creating a mentor program for new classrooms
- New Teachers and Administrators will attend a 2-day workshop on the B.A.T.L. project.

### **2009-2010**

- Creation of 10 additional classrooms
- Matching new classrooms with classrooms from 2008
- Professional Development for classroom teachers
- Revised Teacher Evaluation
- Revised Student Assessment

### **2010 -2011**

- Creation of 10 additional classrooms
- Matching new classrooms with classrooms from 2008
- Professional Development for classroom teachers
- Revised Teacher Evaluation
- Revised Student Assessment

### **2011-2012**

- Creation of 10 additional classrooms
- Matching new classrooms with classrooms from 2008
- Professional Development for classroom teachers

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**I hear, and I forget.**

**I see, and I remember.**

**I do, and I understand.**

**- Confucious**