

Start UP! Your Class Successfully Workshop. Intro Page.

Please read this introduction from p. 5 my booklet “First Week of School’.

Identify the 3 reasons for the booklet I give below - - and select the most important one for you. Please write them down on the jotform site at the bottom of this page as you go.

Introduction- To ‘The First Week of School’ booklet by Ray Myrtle

This booklet is part of the Start UP!* Program to support Early Career Teachers (ECT) which was begun when I was President of Provincial Intermediate Teachers’ Association (PITA). You are not alone. Your colleagues, your principal, your district and PITA are there for you. PITA is just one of the groups that want to help you succeed in being the best teacher you can be. This booklet is not intended to replace any of those other people or groups. In fact, we hope that we can help you connect with other people. It’s the best way to survive and grow as a professional.

Our purpose is to help you begin your teaching career successfully by providing you with ways to start the first week successfully. Teaching is a complex task, and as you proceed, your colleagues will be able to suggest other ways of doing many of the things listed here.

This booklet is meant to ‘present, not prescribe’. There are usually many ways to teach well. Our goal is to show you one of the possible ways to approach the first few weeks of school, and to highlight the main things you need to consider. Then you can adapt the suggestions to suit your style.

Experienced teachers find it very demanding to teach and differentiate for a classroom full of today’s students. **No early career teacher can do a perfect job of teaching a class and adapting for every student. ALL teachers know this.**

When we begin something complex and new, we ‘don’t know what we don’t know’. Many early career teachers find themselves overloaded in October and November. Curriculum and resources are the most common sources of overload for ECT. The first step is to keep ahead of the ‘time crush’ by **preparing before you need it.**

The best way to prepare is to link up with other new teachers, for example, through the startupyourclass.ca site, as a member of PITA and within your school and district.

This booklet and the Start UP! workshops are all designed to help you prepare ‘before you need it’, so that once you know just what you need, you will already have a foundation and can act quickly to tune your unit planning and lesson preparation.

Sharing and connecting with others is essential, so that if you get an unexpected assignment, you can use the shared resources, such as this booklet, and contact those who have already used them, like me. That’s the role of the web based resources. While in the workshop we will concentrate more on understanding the rationale for the suggestions.

After you’ve seen the video on the startupyourclass.ca , please go to <http://form.jotform.ca/form/21114219419244> and list the reasons that you found and the one that was most important for you...

Then watch the rest of the YouTube video. See you at the workshop! -Ray