

BELIZE LITERACY PROGRAM

ROTARY DISTRICT 5370 &
BELIZE ROTARY CLUBS

www.belizeliteracy.com



The following is a summary of activities and future program directions:

- The TRF 3-H grant one year extension has been approved;
- CRCID audit has been completed and spending plan for 2011-2012 approved;
- Evaluation and Monitoring Team from Committee (Jerome Martin, Stan Bissell, Steven Lindop) visit Belize in February and recommend program directions as outlined below;
- Curriculum Development, Professional Development and Distributed Learning teams met with partners in Belize to further develop specific plans;
- Dr. Eve Aird, San Ignacio Rotary Club will chair Belize Program in Belize; Eve, will be assisted by Rotarians Sheree and Aki Fukai.
- Members of the D5370 Belize Literacy Program include: PDG Ross Tyson, chair and members Jackie Hobal, Harry Buddle, Jerome Martin, David Taylor, Jennifer Lawley, Stan Bissell, Randy Billey, Steven Lindop and Brenda McCullough. DG Jackie will assume chair of BLP and PDG Ross will be TRF Chair July 1st. We will be looking to expand this committee, please let Ross know if you are interested.

Update: The Curriculum

- The mathematics and science curriculum documents (in development for three years) will be completed in



early May – PDG Ross Tyson and chair of BLP will present Hon. Minister Patrick Faber with completed curriculum at District Conference in Athabasca;

- Curriculum packages will be printed and distributed to teachers, principals and Ministry leaders throughout Belize during summer workshops;
- A four year staggered implementation plan for introducing/mandating these curriculum documents is being developed in cooperation with Ministry of Education (MOE);

Update: Professional Development

- Summer workshop team will be reduced in size (12) to accommodate November and March professional development follow up visits; this change was deemed necessary as the gap between visits was not conducive to ownership and follow through by teachers in Belize;
- Teacher teams (D5370) will be assigned to each district and will customize professional development according local needs;

- Teacher professional development will focus on science and mathematics implementation as well as classroom management;
- Teacher Professional development support will be provided to schools in technology integration.

Update: Distributed Learning

- Plans are underway to connect the 292 primary schools in the next 3 years using wireless and mobile technologies; a website in Belize has been developed to monitor and track success
www.primary.edu.bz

Note: this is a significant shift in direction for this component of the BLP and builds on the success of introduction of labs into 6 classrooms/schools across the country. Changing technologies and the shift to portable net books, iPods, and tablets will reduce issues of expensive cabling installations, servers, security and air-conditioning; the plans include providing teachers and schools with technology units in which they personally invest. School websites will be developed and posted that include a comprehensive survey and profile of school; this will enable clubs who wish to “adopt a school” a better idea of infrastructure needs; Professional development will be provided to school sites to assist with technology integration; Professional development will include ‘action research’ projects where teachers engage in 6-8 week projects and share results with other teachers in Belize.



Club Donations to Belize Literacy Program

In Lieu of the Governor's Walk at the District Conference in Athabasca, DG Jackie is supporting the Belize Literacy Program by encouraging clubs to donate increments of \$300 to access mobile devices for students and for connecting the 292 Primary Schools in Belize; these donations will be matched up to \$42,000.

Thank you for supporting this District Program!

Please forward club donations c/o Belize Literacy Program, Rotary International District 5370, 16030 104 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T5P 0S3

