

TO: OCT

CC: OTF and all presidents of all members of the Curriculum Forum

Subject: Response to "Who Does What in Education" Pull-Out

FROM: The Council of Ontario Drama and Dance Educators

The Council of Ontario Drama and Dance Educators (CODE) would like to thank you for this useful template. Our experience with young teachers joining our Management Board is that they benefit from an overview of "Who Does What in Education."

Having said that, we are completely taken aback and very disappointed that you did not include Subject Associations anywhere on this page.

We could have been included as part of the bubble for TEACHERS' FEDERATIONS associated with the OTF Curriculum Forum.

We could have been included as part of the TEACHERS bubble. Teachers from across the province run these organizations as volunteers, bringing their expertise and experience to each and every subject area.

We should have merited our own bubble as SUBJECT ASSOCIATIONS. This would have added more agency and credit to teachers on this page focused primarily on organizations, administrators, and elected officials. Surely, the Ontario College of Teachers should always centre the roles and responsibilities of teachers, especially our front-line key role serving students and families in the most direct, authentic, personal and professional manner.

We would very much appreciate respectful inclusion in any future charts you create outlining "Who Does What in Education," but we would be especially grateful for an edited version of this pull-out to be shared with all OCT members during this pandemic.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Sheahan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew Sheahan
CODE President

Summary of key CODE work and other Ontario Subject Associations since March 2020

Currently:

- Working for OCT revising/editing AQs in both Drama and Dance. Our sister subject associations are doing similar work in many subject areas.
- Focusing on Culturally Relevant and Reflective Pedagogy, and the decolonization of our resources and our teaching practices with the development of new resources, ensuring that we include resources written in French to add to our existing resources for French Immersion teachers that we began posting slowly over the past couple of years.
- Three members of our Board are delivering a summer institute - “Embedding Process Drama in French as a Second Language Context: Exploring Authentic Communication,”
- Two Board members are working with Prologue to the Performing Arts on a grant we received together from the Trillium Foundation to work with artists and arts teachers in the Algoma DSB, focusing on Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding smaller towns.

Recently:

- Contributed a Dance and a Drama writer to the elementary “Big Ideas” project spearheaded by the Ministry of Education and administered by the other CODE (The Council of Ontario Directors of Education....25 years younger as an organization than our CODE). This document will be released soon.
- Consulted with Indigenous and Black members about AQ Guidelines and best practices for addressing anti-black racism in drama and dance classrooms
- Completed a five year review of all our online resources, identified those which needed to be revised, rewritten, or permanently removed and archived, and informed teachers about those resources that, while they remained online with wonderful drama and dance lesson ideas, needed deeper awareness of avoiding cultural appropriation and/or critical thinking about gender, race, culture, orientation, mental health and other relevant important areas of focus, and would be revised in these areas as soon as possible.

In the past year and a half, CODE has created and/or shared:

- Resources for parents
- COVID -adapted resources for both online and classroom distanced learning
- Comprehensive overview document August 2020
- Webinars: *Dance In The Virtual World*; *CODE - Fireside Chats*; *Making Sense of Stories Through Drama” and Playwriting*
- Videos: *CODE Conversations*; *Addressing Anti-Black Racism in the Dance and Drama Classroom*
- Online AGM - October 2020
- Online Tribute to Dr. David Booth - October 2020

- Online launch of our 50th anniversary celebration year in October 2020 which will culminate in October 2021 with a one day virtual conference
- Feedback to OCT in the creation of new AQ courses, new policies, and specific issues and concerns whenever asked to do so. We take your work very seriously and support it fully.