**Action Plan**

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The assistive technology course has opened up new opportunities in my job as a Special Education Teacher (SET) for helping students with special learning needs. It is exciting to think of the ways in which students will benefit from assistive technology in their daily lives. Using assistive technology (i.e. Kurzweil, Boardmaker, Classroom Suite 4, and Clicker 5) is making it easier to adapt and modify the programs for students. Having an understanding of these programs will allow me to teach other classroom teachers, support staff, and students how to use them to benefit their daily work.

Looking ahead to next year I am changing schools within my district and I want to share the knowledge I have gained so far this year before the end of the year. I have organized in-service opportunities for teachers and educational assistants on Kurzweil, and Clicker 5. These were designed to help staff understand how the programs worked, and to discuss which students would benefit the most from the programs. I also collaborated with the Librarian to find out which books in the school library were also available through SET BC’s accessible books. We have since catalogued our accessible books for students with perceptual difficulties. The challenge program students (gifted) are now beginning to create their own accessible book following the SET BC guidelines. I was quite familiar with Boardmaker prior to taking this course, but I have spent some time teaching the program to a practicum Educational Assistant. Moving into June, I am starting to organize materials and programs for students to be able to use in the first weeks of school in September. For many of our students who have written output difficulties, I have used Clicker 5 to create customized Daily Journals.

After our in-school in-service on Kurzweil, I created a technology binder using the “How To” step by step guides that were handouts from this course. This binder has been used by the staff and has actually been added to by others as well. Other staff members have been able to use to help themselves become more familiar with these programs. As more staff members use the programs they are adding more information and tips to the binder in order to help others.

Next year, I hope to continue to use technology to meet the needs of my students. I would like to create personal Wikis for students. I hope that the structures that are in place at Parksville Elementary will continue, and that I will be able to re-create similar successes at my new school.