

A Call for Participation in a 12 hour Education VC Marathon for Afghanistan: “Video Conference for Hope”

Organized by Edmonton Public Schools - Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Lead Schools and Teachers:

Queen Elizabeth High School: Terry Godwaldt, Sherrie Ritchie, Bette Ilich

Northmount Elementary: Duane Schade

Rosslyn Junior High: Mike Prokopiw, Harmony Thachuk

District Technology: Nurit Reshef, Kirk Davis, Myron Samycia

Goal:

On Friday November 24th, students from around the Globe will be gathering via Video Conference to help raise awareness and funds for the building of the Godah Primary School for Girls and Boys , in Afghanistan. (For more information about the school and a video visit: http://www.us-arc.org/education_godah.asp.) Our goal is to bring together students from over 40 schools to listen to experts, debate issues, share personal stories, sing, dance, and celebrate the opportunity we share to have an education, free of persecution and hardship.

Description:

Starting at **8:30 AM MST** and running until **8:30 PM MST** that evening, there will be a large number of Video Conference sessions, including guest speakers, collaborative workshop in the areas of band, choir and dance, a story telling session and culminating with a Global Concert at the end of the day.

To register, please fill out the attached form and send it back by November 10!

Three Ways to Participate:

1) Participant :

- a. participate as an observer in one or all of our sessions
- b. participate as an observer but also interact by asking questions, sing, or dance with the presenters. Basically, participate in the activity that is taking place around the world.

2) Presenter:

As one of the purposes of the conference is to celebrate education, there are a number of opportunities throughout the day for schools to present an aspect of their school worth celebrating! Examples of this might include a class presentation on Afghanistan and Education, a performance from a choir, band, or even dance ensemble or a drama presentation. The sky is the limit! Just show us, and the world, what is worth celebrating at your school!

3) Fundraiser:

Besides raising awareness to the plight of Children and Education in Afghanistan, we would like to go further. We recognize that in the Western countries we have a privilege unimagined by most of

the world. We can come, in safety and security, to a school within minutes of home for 8 hours a day, 200 days a year. In Afghanistan, many of the children don't even have a school to go to.

In light of that, we are hoping to raise \$10, 000 to contribute to the building of the Godah Primary School for Girls and Boys , in Afghanistan. Students will participate in activities for 24 hours, raising their awareness of the state of education and poverty throughout Afghanistan and the world. (The first 12 hours be made up of the 12 hour Video Conference for Hope.)

The participants will receive the necessary sponsor sheets and information in the next couple of weeks. Before the Education Marathon, students raise funds through donors and sponsors to help build the school in Godah. For those schools looking to participate in the fundraising aspect of the project, we are going to be extending the celebration by another 12 hours.

Technical Information:

We are going to use the Alberta Education's MCU. Here is the process you need to follow:

- 1) When you register, please fill out all the required technical information (IP, URI, contact info etc.). As well indicate in which of the sessions you request an active participation. **Please note, we may have a limit on how many schools can get rights for active participation at the same session. You may be able to join some of the sessions as an Observer only.**
- 2) Before the event we will email you the MCU - IP number you need in order to connect to the sessions.
- 3) If you **are not** an EPSB school, a week before the event (**February 20-23**) you must coordinate a test with Alberta Education to check if you can connect to the MCU. To schedule a test you will need to email:

1) Tyler Heaton-- Tyler.Heaton@gov.ab.ca - (780) 427-0246 (780) 717-4073 Cell

2) Qin Chang - qin.chang@gov.ab.ca , Tel: (780) 427-1382

We Thank Alberta Education for their Support!

To register, please fill out the attached form and send it back by November 10! More information will follow. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Godwaldt at terry.godwaldt@epsb.ca

Registration for Participation in a 24 hour Education VC Marathon for Afghanistan: "Video Conference for Hope"

Fill out this Form and email it back to Terry Godwaldt no later than November 15, mail to: Terry.Godwaldt@epsb.ca.

- 1) Name of School: _____
- 2) Grade/s level: _____
- 3) Name of Teacher/s: _____
- 4) VC Information- IP /URI number) _____
- 5) Details on VC equipment _____
- 5) Email _____
- 6) Contact Information (Phone numbers, ITS tech etc.)

- 7) We would like to participate as a:
 - a) Participant
 - b) Presenter
 - c) Fundraiser

For Presenters:

- 1) Please provide a short description of your program:
 - a. **Open Session** (20 to 50 minute block) -
These are open for group decision. You may have a speaker, game, discussion. School/Class/Teacher/Students decide content they wish to present to the conference. These are distributed on a first come first serve basis.
 - b. **School Group** session (10 minute highlight of school activity: choir, band, class presentation, etc.) These are distributed on a first come first serve basis.
- 2) Below are the times we have available for school presentations. Indicate when do you prefer to present (Please give us 2-3 options)
- 3) Please indicate which sessions you would like to join as a participant:
- 4) Fundraiser – Please describe your plans and activities related to the fundraising part of the program. We will provide you with the necessary sponsor sheet.