

## Good night of BRE – BSP 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### Salesian School Group

#### ➤ Introduction

The Salesian School Network (known as the RSE in portuguese) has 12 years of existence, with national coverage in more than 112 schools (54 SDB, 49 FMA and 09 Partners), 95,000 students and 5,000 teachers.

This project was carried out through a joint effort of SDB and FMA, who decided to join forces in order to build their own teaching and pastoral project, certain of the challenges and confident about the future of Salesian Education in Brazil.

As a guideline, the Pedagogical Project of the RSE maintains a common teaching material for schools (printed and virtual) in accordance with Brazilian legislation and the educational goals of Salesian education, besides the continuing education programs for educators that aim at the Preventive System and the pedagogical-pastoral proposal.

The RSE also offers its courseware to other schools that have shown interest and are not maintained by FMA and SDB, "Partner Schools" as they are called. In São Paulo Center, there are 03 partner schools. In Brazil, there are 09 partner schools currently.

From its regional centers, the RSE maintains a close relationship with the school units or the educational communities as a means to monitor the Educative Pastoral Project and other relevant actions. Considering the size of Brazil, the RSE is represented by six Centers: Belo Horizonte, Campo Grande, Manaus, Porto Alegre, Sao Paulo, and Recife. Each Center includes a number of schools and provinces. It is coordinated by a manager hired by the RSE, who has all the support from the Animators (SDB + FMA) and the effective service of a secretary hired by the RSE. The management staff of the Center holds a monthly meeting to discuss, plan, evaluate, and define actions and procedures concerning the schools.

#### Educational Program

The RSE, based on the philosophy of Don Bosco, follows a common training program at national level.

The courses take place in distance and face-to-face modalities

For the year 2014, the training program in virtual mode offers specialization courses and educational discussions, whose focus is on the pedagogical, managerial and pastoral actions.

In face-to-face mode, there is focus on training how to use the technology, since the RSE is innovating once more as it enters the digital era. Publisher EDB was entrusted with the preparation of the Digital Courseware, believing in the use of media as a tool for further consolidation of the learning in a context that is quite usual. Moreover, it provides the integration of academic data with the full use of the Essemia platform.

#### Face-to-Face Meetings

##### *Meeting with New Educators*

Meeting held at the beginning of each year, focusing on Spirituality and Salesianity for new educators from schools of SDB and FMA. Many Centers already perform this action annually or every two years.

### *Seminar*

The Seminar addresses many areas of the learning process as well as the use of new technologies (digital materials).

### *Training Meetings*

They take place at a national level: ENARSE - promotes discussions on the actions of the RSE and it is intended for principals; ENEL – focus on economic, administrative and financial issues of educational institutions and it is intended for officers and administrative managers; ENCPOLOS - aligns the RSE actions and projects and consolidates the Centers' action plans, it is intended for leaders and animators of the Centers; ANEC - aligns and supports the projects of ANEC – National Association of Catholic Education of Brazil, and it is intended for the RSE Schools, especially in terms of student evaluations.

### *Training for use of the Essemia Platform*

Training provided for educators, administrative coordinators and IT technicians on how to use the Essemia platform, action that will enable data integration, further qualify academic management, and, consequently, monitor and improve learning outcomes.

### *Training for Digital Courseware and Interactive Notebook*

It was designed in 2013 for teachers of the 6th grade and the 1st year of High School, it is meant to gradually reach all students as the interactive school material progresses to the following school years. This meeting qualifies for a teaching performance allied to the use of technologies for the consolidation of learning.

### *Pastoral Meetings*

Pastoral Meetings provide moments of reflection on the relevance of the Salesian Pastoral Teaching Project. These meetings aim at training teachers of different segments of the educational process, contributing to the dialogue on the visibility of a confessional religious education in a school context marked by cultural diversity and the strengthening of our charismatic identity, guided by ethics, respect and solidarity.

In addition to the meetings, the Training Program includes two other objectives: training for MDD - Digital Courseware and Pastoral Training directed towards deepening the spirituality of Don Bosco as ongoing preparation for the Bicentennial.

### *Other face-to-face trainings*

Training for Inspectorate Coordination on technical guidelines for Administrative Management, as well as managers and animators of the Center as a means to deepen the educational design of the RSE, introducing MDD and the Essemia platform.

## DISTANCE MEETINGS

### *“Diálogos de Formação” Online – Training Dialogue*

These meetings take place throughout the year with specific and previously arranged themes, via web, for educators of all the RSE schools. The Training Dialogue is an enriching tool because it allows interaction and the sharing of knowledge and experiences with the simultaneous mediation of a trainer. There is considerable involvement of educators and the encounters are assessed and monitored by the management team of the RSE.

### *Post Graduation Course – EAD (Distance Learning)*

In partnership with Universidade Católica de Brasília – UCB, this course provides content designed specifically for the Salesian schools. In 2012, 131 openings were distributed to educators indicated by schools of the São Paulo Center. The EAD courses were very well received by The Centers. Some SDB and FMA members also take this post-graduation and MBA courses. Today, the number of participants has doubled throughout the country.

#### *Objectives of the Centers:*

- Perform technical visits in each school of the Center.
- Promote the actions proposed by the RSE.
- Follow up the RSE Courseware and evaluate its material.
- Collaborate with updated research content for the In Service Training Program.
- Promote integration among the schools of the Center.
- Motivate the culture of evaluation in the schools.
- Strive so that Pastoral is the core of educational actions.
- Continue the training of new educators.
- Mediate the relationship between the RSE and the educational unit.

#### Objectives of the Pastoral training:

- “Form good and honest citizens” and “evangelize by educating and educate by evangelizing” as the maximum of Don Bosco.
- Create/Build the Educational and Pastoral Project in each school.

The school has always got to think of Pastoral, one cannot think of educational project without pastoral project, because Pastoral is the heart of the school.

The Pastoral team organizes youth volunteering works, “Pastoral da Juventude Estudantil”, “Semana Missionária”, Training Meetings for Young Leaders, “Bom Dia” and “Boa Tarde” preparation, “Jornada Mundial da Juventude” (World Youth Day), Kairos, Class Meeting, presence on the patio (interaction with students), thematic celebrations (Easter masses, Marian celebrations, masses and confessions for employees), students with admissions, theater groups, dance groups, GAM, groups of missionary animation, musical band, sports and exchange among colleges.

#### Accomplishments

- Printed and digital material.
- Structure of new schools.
- Generous environment and spaces.
- Institutional Evaluation (AVALIA).
- Essemia platform.
- Efficient use of technological resources.
- In Service Training Meetings.

#### Potential

- Effectiveness of teaching towards developing competences.
- Improvement of management.
- Harmony, agreement, dedication, and commitment of the pedagogical staff.
- Effective use of courseware, emphasizing creativity in the adjustment of contents to the social context, and the participation in Training Meetings.
- Increase in the number of students.
- Search for excellence in Education.
- Participation in National Knowledge Olympics: Math, Physics, Astronomy among others, with significant results.

- Entrance in Public, Private and Federal Universities.
- Possibility of a unified management Project, since the RSE is undergoing an evaluation process in all schools. A company has been hired for that purpose since 2011.

### Challenges

- Raise faculty's awareness to the need of in service training as a means to empower teaching competence in each Professional-educator that works in Salesian schools.
- Cultivate the loyalty of students in 9th grade and High School.
- Prove to students the importance of participation and good results in ENEM, both for them and for the school and family.
- Review the salaries of educators-teachers in our schools
- Understand, reflect, discuss the issue of inclusive education in all its legal parameters, relating and adapting them to the Pedagogical Proposal of the RSE.
- Raise students' awareness to the importance of participation in Mock Tests and "Tirando de Letra", both offered by the RSE.

### Tendencies

- Appreciation of what has been done in some regions with training meetings, sharing of experience and in service training.
- Increase in the number of full-time schools.
- Construction of a project that leverages our actions in Marketing

### Vision for the future:

By the end of 2016, the RSE wants to be a benchmark in sustainable management of school education, with a focus on training educators and school managers to enable them to fulfill our mission, that is to "provide reasons for life and hope to new generations through knowledge and culture developed critically, based on the conception of person and of life inspired by the Gospel values", and contribute positively to the quality of the school education of children, adolescents and young adults throughout Brazil.