Making a Difference – Positive Parent Pupil Participation

At the VALBEC Conference in June 2010 Dr Kaye Scholfield, Melissa Collits and myself spoke about the Adult Community and Further Education funded Community Learning Partnership.

We continue with the presentation today with how the project progressed and lessons learnt along the way.

Kaye is unwell and unable to be here today and Sean McDermatt from RMIT will provide the Action Research perspective that Kaye had planned to share today.

From an ACFE perspective, the purpose of the project was to bring learning opportunities to communities in a new way ….

Through involvement in their children's learning it was hoped that parents of a lower socio-economic school in Hamilton (George St Primary School) would become involved in learning and subsequently become in improving their skills/learning – skills enabling adults to prosper economically and socially

The ultimate aim of the project from SGAE's perspective was therefore to re-engage (Or engage) parents in formal education and training within a school setting specifically to enhance their literacy and numeracy skills as such developing a "Learning Community"

There was a perception that a number of parents had disengaged early from their own education and this had in effect affected their attitude and ability to engage in their children's school education which is likely in turn to lead to the extension of generational poverty cycles