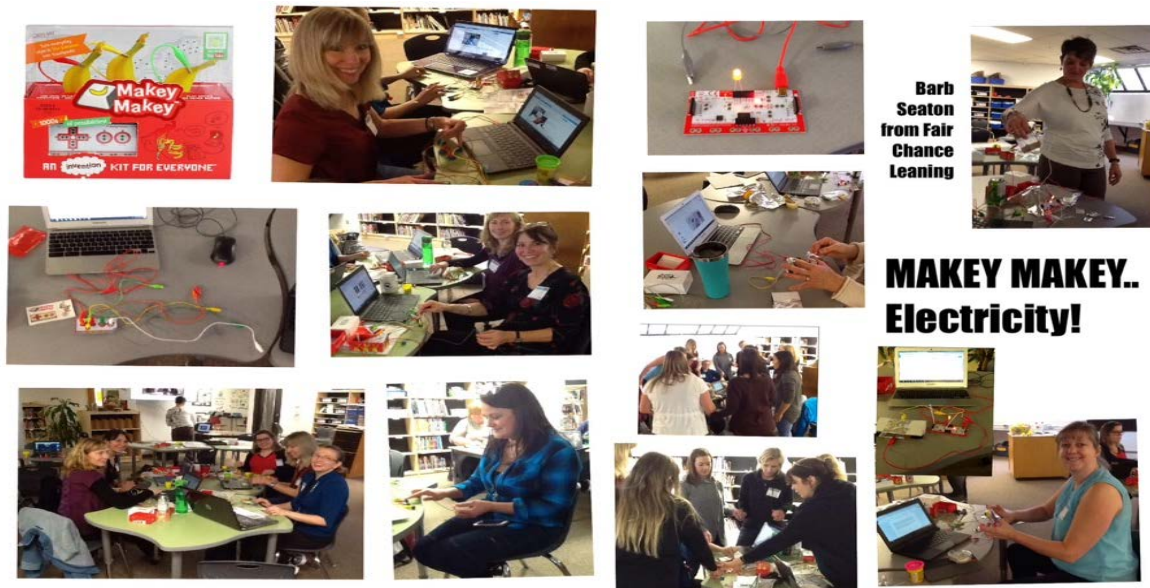


TEACHERS GO TO SCHOOL

With our TLLP grant money we had Fair Chance Learning come to the school to develop our understanding of computational thinking. We will be able to use this knowledge with our renewable energy inquiry and school wide maker movement. All of the teachers who attended became certified in "Makey Makey". This is an invention kit for the 21st century. Students can turn everyday objects into touchpads and combine them with the internet. The teachers also learned more about coding with Scratch, which helps children learn to think creatively, reason systematically, and work collaboratively.



WHERE CAN WE FIND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CURRICULUM TO BE IN OUR INQUIRY?

Currently the Grade One class is doing a unit on "Structures" and the Grade Two's are developing their understanding of "Simple Machines". We are always seeking opportunities to embed the inquiry in curriculum. At the beginning of the unit the students were given the questions "What structure can you create to make Fergus fossil fuel free?" or "What machine can you create to make Fergus fossil fuel free?". They will use their THOUGHT BOOKS throughout the unit to record their ideas. The culminating task will be for the students to make their creations. This will be a great prototype for their final product at the end of the inquiry.



This bulletin board is being used to document the student's learning about Simple Machines. At the beginning of the unit they were asked "What do you think you know about simple machines. Amazingly, many of their initial responses made reference to machines being fossil fuel free. One child stated, "We need fossil fuel free machines because oil hurts trees". The children have developed a mindset about renewable energy. There are references to solar panels and wind turbines in their initial thoughts about this topic. Being fossil fuel free is becoming a part of the culture of our school!!

