

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY INSTITUTE OCTOBER 2013

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

1. What are Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), and how do they help us achieve instructional and other educational goals in our schools and districts?
2. What do we need to know and be able to do to create, and sustain effective Professional Learning Communities in our schools and districts?
3. How do we move from small inconsistent pockets of implementation to school-wide implementations of PLCs in our schools and districts?
4. How can we leverage our work in PLCs to truly impact change in instruction and assessment and ultimately student achievement?

INSTITUTE GOALS:

1. To develop the knowledge and skills needed to create and sustain effective PLCs, including setting a vision for the work, and using protocols to collaborate with team members
2. To experience facilitating protocols and participating in a PLC group that use protocols effectively
3. To develop some concrete goals/benchmarks that will help drive the PLC work
4. To share successful PLC practices with other schools and collaborate to solve problems of practice together

HOW WE WORK TOGETHER:

- We use **norms** to create safe spaces for working together
- We make use of **protocols** to structure discussions and keep the focus on student and teacher work as a means to improving teaching and learning
- We **model** tools and practices for PLC implementation, group activities to promote learning from each other, gradual release of responsibility as we go through the work, and sharing of our learning through presentations and peer critique
- We use the **website**: <http://plcexpansionproject.weebly.com/> to share our work, and resource tools to facilitate PLC work.

INSTITUTE NORMS:

- Active Listening
- Recognize that everyone is a learner
- Check your assumptions
- Trust the process
- Respect all voices
- Start and end on time

Participants Agenda October 2013

- 8:00 Registration, Gathering
- 8:30 Welcome & Framing
- 8:40 Connections – Dyad Reconnections Protocol
- 8:50 Artifacts share
- 9:10 Attributes of Effective PLCs
- 10:00 Break**
- 10:10 Facilitating the Future Protocol (visioning)
- 11:10 PLC Structures – Agendas and Communication (how we support PLC)
- 11:50 Debrief and Morning Reflections, Norms Process Check
- 12:00 Lunch**
- 12:45 Connections – continuum, how are we alike?
- 1:00 PLC Protocols Practice:
-Looking at Student Work Protocol
-Consultancy Protocol
-Descriptive Review of a Child Protocol
-Text-Based Discussion Protocol
- 2:00 Break**
- 2:10 Debrief Protocols
- 2:20 Team Time – Action Planning
- 2:50 Whole Group Debrief Action Plan Share
- 3:20 Reflections, Norms Process Check, and Institute Evaluation
- 3:30 Closure**