2015-2016 PLC Themes per School AT A GLANCE

School 2015-2016	Portfolio	I can/Imaginal/New Curriculum 21st C, PBL, X-curricular	Numeracy	Literacy	Social Emotional/Self Regulation	Community/culture inclusion	Assessment (AFL) Student self assess	Outdoor/nature/garden learning	Assistive Technology Differentiated learning
# projects	11+	23	14	18	22	29	18	6	17
Airport						How can we incorporate the virtue values mandate in Airport Elem? VirtuesProject.com	In what ways will AFL strategies increase student engagement and performance? Assessment for Learning/8 successful traits		
Arden		How can we increase the implementation of First People's Principles of Learning and 7 innovative learning principles into new curriculum?	Can an RTI model support student improvement in mathematics and language arts?	Can we increase student knowledge of sounds/reading by working in smaller RTI target groups? (2) In what ways will an RTI model support writing improvement?	*addressing social emotional needs through sense of belonging	In what ways will student social emotional states improve if a child feels a sense of belonging, connection to Arden? School wide initiatives			
Aspen	What are the best practices using portfolios that will support new curriculum implementation, improve student self-assessment and communicate needs within a 7 Habits umbrella?	*exploring new curriculum implementation			*7 Habits	*7 Habits	*exploring student self assessment with portfolios		
Brooklyn	*Portfolios - Self assessment	What makes a quality project-based inquiry that engages students in active learning? How can we design meaningful inquiry and integrate effective teaching practices that generate deeper levels of engagement among students?		How can we better support diverse students struggling in early literacy? Daily 5/RTI/Jolly Phonics speaking skills & speech arts	What is the effect on the school community when self regulation skills are explicitly taught? Addressing anxiety Zones of Regulation (2) Will coaching specific students on "Socially Savvy" behaviour help them regulate themselves within school play groups? (3) Exploring various methods in helping students self regulate - Mind Up, Zones of Regulation	*Design for Change projects.	How will using a writing continuum help our students engage in writing, build awareness of their own development and take ownership of their assessment? (Portfolios)	Nature-based outdoor learning space developed; School Garden club	
Courtenay El		Imaginal learning team exploring implementing competencies, developing I can statements		How can we use therapy dogs to support our students with anxiety, help them self-regulate and boost their reading confidence? Students Reading to therapy dogs	How can we use our knowledge of trauma and stress response system to better understand and support our school communities? Bruce Perry, Self Regulation (2) What lessons, tools, and strategies can we use to help students develop self regulation skills in real-life situations?	Students will learn to be self aware of individual abilities (self and others) by using a different language (ASL) in order to communicate with others.		How can play base learning be used to increase student engagement and comprehension? (2) Outdoor School garden	

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Cumberland	How can we go about implementing E-Portfolios and get parents and students involved in the assessment process?	How can we make project-based learning work for a group of diverse learners to enhance critical thinking, communication, and independence?	*Mathletics and multiple assistive tech tools to address learning plan/IEP objectives	Will multi-leveled literacy hands-on games improve early reading skills when incorporated into classroom instruction? Sandra Ball, Eagle Eye reading, stations and games.		Implementing Chatter board - school wide discussion on community and world topics.			How can having a common base of knowledge and set of assistive technology tools benefit students with IEPs and Learning plans, addressing their challenges in social, emotional, and academic learning? Mathletics, Google Apps, mini iPads.
Denman									
Ecole Puntledge		Become more knowledgeable about the best practices - what are the essential skills in the new curriculum K-3? Daily 5, VandeWall math entry tasks	*K-3 Numeracy essential skills VandeWall	How can we better develop oral language skills in the early primary classroom? (2.)Will using a "Right hemisphere reading" intervention improve reading in CNRs?	Exploring strategies to help understand and help improve mental health - Resiliency, Anxiety - with parental components. Mental health day, class dialogue, resources	Will web based tools increase parental engagement in French/leading to student achievement? Building online tools, supports for parents to help kids with homework		Will spending time outside enhance student engagement and outdoor experiential literacy, attitudes and knowledge? Learning kits, trails, slide shows, projects.	
Ecole Robb Road	*E-Portfolios for communicating Self assessment and parent engagement	How do we use Project-based learning to engage 21st Century learners in a primary French Immersion classroom? Passport of learning/I can statements French vocab (2) *Using French Successful Learner Traits as a means to explore competencies			What is the best way to teach "friendship" skills so they transfer to students' daily life? (2) Does yoga, meditation and mindfulness reduce anxiety and improve self regulation?	How can continuous reporting and regular home communication reinforce explicit classroom instruction to improve student learning? mysite, portfolio, newsletters parent engagement	How can we better engage and empower students to use criteria to self-assess and include them within their e-portfolio as part of their learning journey? Rubrics (2) How can we weave the Successful Learner Traits into our current practices to increase student self assessment and ownership of learning?		How can we, as Learning Assistant teachers, best facilitate the use of technology in an inclusive way to meet the needs of students with learning differences in reading and writing?
Glacier View			*Academic Transitioning developing resource library of modified curriculum for Jr to Sr academic programs	Will developing a resource library of modified curriculum for Jr to Sr academic programs enhance Academic transitioning?		Will building a strong School Community help students feel more connected to their school and improve academic success of our students? clothing, dryers, games room, medical wellness centre, bell for student successes, theme days		Creating an Outdoor Education Club. Staff raising funds ($3000) to buy used raingear, tents, sleeping bags, backpacks, stoves. Taking students into the outdoors for bonding and engagement in learning.	*Working with Navigate to improve completion rates (See Navigate PLC)
Highland		Can we use the new curriculum and Learning Adventures (Imaginal learning cross curricular activities) to increase Grade 8's connection to learning, engagement and sense of belonging to new school? Zombie Sci/Eng/Soc mystery project	*using technology, mobile phones and games to engage in Math	Will using the Sports Leadership model improve students' engagement and enjoyment of PE? Developing leadership		"Heart" Assemblies - celebrating students engaging in community	Does the use of Indigenous Teaching strategies like wait time, question ownership and narrative approaches to regular classes increase student engagement, success, and ownership of learning? Creating learning environments for all types of learners		Can we use students' mobile phones to engage learners and teach Math and Science? Using technology, incorporating gaming platforms (2) Does enhancing awareness and understanding around learning designations lead to greater student success? Supporting at risk students now and in future, using assistive technologies.
Hornby	Portfolios - continuous student self assessment						What continuous assessment strategies can we use to support students in learning about learning?		

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Huband		*developing I can statements (in math group)	With an 8 grade span in math achievement, how can we address strategies that meet K-8 needs? Number sense K-7, VandeWall, connecting real life problem solving in math. Math continuum model		What strategies can be used to reduce anxiety in students? How does teaching common language and strategies surrounding anxiety prevention help students be mentally present in school? Mindfulness, Mind Up. Calm and Alert, Zones of Regulation	How can we best integrate an autistic child into the classroom? Inclusion - integrating students			
Isfeld	Can the use of portfolios to gather daily learning activities, regular self reflection and goal setting improve student learning outcomes? (2) Students using portfolios in PE	Exploring and integrating new curriculum and core competencies using inquiry and cross curricular projects for Socials 8-12 "Big Six Ideas" to increase engagement in and valuing of Social Studies (2) How is Home Ec helping students take responsibility for their own learning? Home Ec district team exploring new curriculum, engaging students in using skills at home and documenting their learning with multi media options. (3) Science team exploring new curriculum and competencies following strands of each topic and how they can be taught in each class. (4) Will a combined Grade 11 Sci Fi, Physics & English project-based course help engage students? (5) Band - What are the Sd71 "Band traditions" and are they still relevant. What are the established criteria for student evaluations in band? (Music teacher PLC)	Can a student curated online website data base help improve engagement and independent learning of senior mathematics? Blended learning for Math. (2) PLC team looking at new math Curriculum and competencies	Can a Blended model (using online digital learning materials) in English improve student engagement, increase choice and success? (2) How can we co-create new English curriculum (Eng 11 and Law 12) that incorporates more Aboriginal content, addresses Residential Schools, FN novel studies and materials on Native Land Claims and treaties, Truth and Reconciliation?	How can we effectively teach Social Skills for students with cognitive impairments - identifying behaviors instead of speculating/managing (2) At Risk Group - looking at engagement in our at risk students, using Thomas Haney and PBL Hybrid to look at ways to make it happen inside the schools and/or personalizing learning.	How can we better bridge the gaps for our incoming Grade 8s? Will communicating with FI elementary teachers help us better understand, prepare and receive our students? And how can we co-create a stronger French Culture in our school? (2) How can Isfeld Alumni assist our current students with post-secondary decisions? How can post-secondary planning become more meaningful for students? Building Alumni mentors to help students to accomplish goals, utilizing Facebook as a means of connecting and giving feedback to students. (3) How does a district wide musical production improve students' learning experience in performing arts? - How does providing an out-of-timetable option for students in performing arts enrich our programs, foster artistic learning communities, support new curriculum philosophies and create connections between schools?	Student Self Assessment in PE - increasing engagement and personal responsibility for learning, students choose a topic daily in PE and track their participation, assessment. 3 teachers with 90 students. (2) Engaging students in daily self assessment and reflection for Portfolios		Why are academic students that want to be engineers not spending time in Shop Classes for practical experience? (2) How can we use technology to better support our Gr 10, 11, 12 International learners (ISP) specifically in their academic writing abilities? (3) Will creating a more interactive classroom using "ClassCraft" role playing games and Interactive notebooks help students be more involved in their learning?
Lake Trail Jr							How do we increase Grade 8 student self responsibility, self assessment as part of the learning process - Math 8, learning logs, self and group assessment as part of reporting period. (2) How can we increase Grade 9 student accountability for managing their own responsibilities so they are prepared for Grade 10? completions, homework club, communicate with family, tough love, engaging meaningful assignments.		How can we differentiate Grade 7 instruction to improve learning and engagement - math boost, homework club, parent calls, adapted lessons.

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Miracle Beach	**Portfolios - hard copy for primary/E-portfolios for intermediate.	**How can Design Challenges (PBL) stimulate collaborative student involvement over multiple/mixed grades - communication skills, collaboration, sportsmanship** I Can statements developed		*self assessment - creating student writing continuum	**In what ways do therapy dogs benefit students in a learning environment? Can having a therapy dog in school decrease anxiety and promote positive self identity?** increasing confidence, change behaviour, decrease anxiety		**How can we enhance student engagement and awareness through use of self-assessment?** Growth mindset, share with parents, Students' ownership to improve their learning.	**In what ways would using outdoor activities help to calm and focus learners and increase engagement and work completion?** Nature deficit hyper and disengaged kids. Health, experiential learning	
Navigate	**How can we use E-portfolios to enhance student learning and communicate individual learning to parents?**	**How can we best organize, plan, conduct iClass in order to support personalized, inquiry and project based learning?** New curriculum in Math 9 and Science 9; I Can statement (in portfolio group) **(2)** developing core competencies via PBL, blended and Inquiry	**How can we incorporate new curriculum as well as increase student engagement with Gr 9 Science and Gr 9 Math curriculum to improve student success as measured by course completion, unit marks, and individual test marks?**	**What are the base writing skills that lead to success in ELL students and how can we fosters them in students?** How can development and implementation of basic writing skills class improve success rates of our online ESL/ELL students taking English courses?	**How can SEL programs, such as Go Zen, Mind UP, improve students' social emotional self regulation?**	*How can using Inquiry/PBL build community connections	*E-portfolios to improve how **students self assess**, communicate their learning and determine learning intentions and steps		**What strategies can be implemented to help students progress and attain timely completion of courses/ graduation.** Blended Learning - increasing student completion rates. Vanier/Glacier View eDynamic electives, Rubrics, lab/text questions, and 1-1 support **(2) How does a blended learning classroom impact second language acquisition?**
Queneesh	**How can we use E-portfolios to enhance student learning and communicate individual learning to parents?** Exploring language used in portfolios, artifacts of learning		Will utilizing RTI for math help students make improvements. Addressing the needs of "Tier 4" students.	**How can we support each other in our efforts to teach Joyful Literacy activities to children who are ready to be independent while addressing the needs of students still requiring direct support in order to be successful?** RTI & Joyful Literacy part II & Writing Assessment		**Which communication strategies help deaf and hard of hearing students avoid exclusion by peers and improve language skills?** Promoting communication skills, self advocacy and self identity. (ASL) increasing parental involvement. **(2) How can we strengthen our connections with families with the intent of supporting their children's educations?** engaging students in caring for school culture/community **(3) How can we encourage students to buy into school community without resorting to punitive systems?**	**Using technology to help students self assess their progress in music, using video,** which can also be shared with parents. **(2) How will using different writing strategies engage and improve student writing -- how can we bring student voice and self assessment into the reporting process?**		
Royston	**Will creating and using student portfolios provide voice for students to accurately reflect their learning and improve student ownership of learning?** E-Portfolios - student assessment and building student voice and ownership of learning; exploring ways to engage parents in portfolio reviews - story time, "my book", parent feedback.	*portfolio group creating Ican statements.	**Will creating leveled math groups and creating math *centres improve students' number sense? ***Math Work station by Debbie Diller, Kim Sutton, deBoise math cards			*engaging parents with portfolio response sheets	*portfolio group creating templates, self assessment/rubrics for students to use		

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Valley View	How will assessment and involvement in learning Portfolios increase students self awareness and knowledge of next steps?	Core competencies		Do picture books improve student attitudes and skills in writing?	How does explicit teaching of self regulation affect learning in the classroom? teaching Self Regulation - mindfulness, Mind Up, Zones of reg, EQ to increase student commitment to learning.	In what ways does providing service to communities impact a student's personal and social responsibility? (2) In what ways can we provide assistance for students to find community in school - will a Buddy bench increase inclusion?	How can we encourage students to take greater responsibility in their own learning and communicate this effectively with parents, teachers and peers? (2) How can we use our knowledge of trauma, the brain, and the stress response system to better understand and support our school community (students, teachers, and parents)? (Counselor group) Dr. Bruce Perry		
Vanier (20+ PLC projects)	*exploring portfolios - part of Student Self assessment in multiple subject areas	How can one adopt new curriculum with a focus on Individualized student learning and assessment with new curriculum? (PE dept) (2) Is a concept-based competency-driven (know, do, understand) curriculum compatible with social cohort based learning environment? Grade 10 cross curricular core competency based cohort study (3) How can we foster ownership, engagement and intrinsic motivation in students who are hands-on learners using cross disciplinary inquiry and project based learning - Bike Build	Can we effectively remedy what appears to be significant innumeracy on basic numerical operations (+-x/) of students into Gr 8 without impacting on time required for Gr 8 & 9 curriculum? (2) Can we improve Gr 11 AW Math student engagement and performance by developing relevant, meaningful activities for some of the New Content/curriculum area? (3) Can online math exploration tools improve learning in the areas of coordinate geometry?	How would use of technological adaptations increase independence, productivity and success of students with learning challenges in written output, reading, attention deficit? using video social stories to increase engagement and learning for special needs students (2) How does a Blended learning classroom impact on second language acquisitions (Gr 8 with Navigate)	Will participating in an organized Boys Club empower learners towards greater individual success in their social lives and translate into achievement of better grades? (2) Would the opportunity for students to create and consume healthy traditional food increase attendance, performance, sense of belonging and confidence in leadership - addressing Aboriginal Education principles and program goals (3) How does being able to self advocate improve student self esteem and lead to overall success?	Will working in the school store increase verbal and non verbal communication and cash handling skills in Prep students? (2) Will recognition and encouragement of positive behavior increase the positive culture of our school? "Making a difference in your own space" (3) With our ISP student sharing, connecting and promoting their experiences at Vanier with their home schools, using various mediums at Vanier, how can we foster stronger cultural connections? (4) Teaching social skills to secondary special needs students through audio-visual aids (5) How does engaging in a district wide musical improve students' learning experience in performing arts? How does providing out-of-timetable options for students in P. Arts enrich our programs, foster artistic learning communities, create connections between schools?	How can we incorporate audio-video social stories through structured classroom programming to increase classroom engagement leading to increased learning opportunities for Autistic learners. Showing students progress in face recognition, social skills, body language and reciprocal conversation via time line of video captures. (2) Will an exam prep resource package enhance student success on provincial SS 11 standardized exams? (3) How can we encourage Home Ec students to increase attendance, learn methods of measurement and understand foods with the intention to have them cook at home? How can we revise assessment based on home cooking examples?		How and to what degree does teacher collaboration in the form of MySite website development help to support student learning, start conversations with students that would not take place in formal classrooms, and engage students in critical thinking skills beyond classroom. Using MySite simulations to increase learning and engagement. (2) Will introducing Gr 9 and 10 hands-on learners to "try a trade skills exploration" program earlier engage them in learning and pursuing dual credit programs, like AceIT trades in 10-12? (3) How can we use technology to better support ISP English language learners in their writing abilities? (4) Will using simulations help improve student engagement, learning and application of learning? (5) Will the use of independent lab kits develop lab skills and student independence in Chemistry 11 and 12?

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Student Services				Ecole Puntledge: Increasing oral language skills/early primary	**Does an intentional, structured group learning approach for social skills development result in the formation of friendships and relationships between students who have communication differences? (2) What impact does direct social skills instruction have on student performance during unstructured times - lunch break, choice time activities?** (Cross district team) **(3) Do yoga practices help reduce anxiety and improve self regulation and availability to learn if done once a week?**	**How will the method of providing more (accessible) information and resources for recommendations made impact the level of implementation?** Increasing access to information, more support in implementation of specific recommendations for specific learning needs			**How to engage and empower students to use Text to Speech and Speech to Text to support their learning in reading and writing**
Librarian PLCs				**Does genrifying the fiction collection increase the breadth of student reading?** **Does genrifying the fiction collection make it easier for students to find the books they are interested in reading?**					