

PLC Share Out 2016

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Filled Wednesday, June 01, 2016

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PLANNING

Sharing what we have learned in our 2015-2016 professional learning collaborations with colleagues helps us all...• improve student learning for all students,• identify valuable resources and tools now available to help educators• reflect upon and enhance our collaborative practices• celebrate and share our learning and our students' growth and successes. Please take some time with your team over the next few weeks to complete this PLC Share out template. The deadline is JUNE 8, 2016. Responses will again be posted on Learn71 PLC sorted by "Themes" and "Schools"

1. In which school is this PLC team based?

Miracle Beach Elementary

2. Who is/was in your group? Please provide names of your team members for the purpose of finding peer contacts for future projects. If possible, please include grade or subject each member teaches, separated by commas: (i.e Chris Brown, Gr 8 math, Sue White, LST)

Variable

Response

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Corrine Gailloux,
grade 4/5; Warren
Biegler, grade7

3. If possible, please provide a key contact person(s) who would be willing to answer questions about your project in the event that another educator or group wants to pursue a similar inquiry.

Variable

Response

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Warren Biegler

4. Planning: What is/was your Inquiry Question?

How can Design Challenges stimulate student involvement over mixed grades

5. To what student need are/were you responding? What student learning issue did your team focus upon or seek to improve?

Diverse student population in terms of behaviour challenges/low functioning kids to be more engaged and integrated into the learning environment. We focused on communication skills/collaboration, and perhaps most importantly, sportsmanship.

ACTING

6. What actions/interventions/strategies did you or will you implement or explore?

Front-end loading (primer pep-talks) to create good mindset (based on previous Design Challenge experiences); this was followed by post activity debriefs and possibly, a repeat design challenge to ensure success.

7. What resources, materials, links, tools, experts, or research did you use?

Please provide details so others may easily access those same resources in their similiar inquiries.

TED talk (Marshmallow Challenge); Float a boat challenge; Design Challenges from a link I got off of the Genius Hour that was connected to Andrew Ferneyhough's Inquiry Fair. RESOURCES: (BOOK) LAUNCH: Using Design Thinking to Boost Creativity and Bring Out the Maker in Every Student; MAKE MAGAZINE.

7a. Did your team or school co-create any new tools, assessments, learning resources or materials as a result of your inquiry?

Yes, Battle Jenga. A complex physical activity/strategy challenge.

7b. If yes, for what grade level or subject area are they best suited?

Intermediate grades through to high school.

7c. If these tools, assessments, rubrics or materials could/will be made accessible for other educators, where will they be located? (i.e. LRC, online links, at your school?)

You'd need to talk to Warren or Corrine.

OBSERVING

8. What are/were the results of your inquiry/implementation/project on student learning? What changes, if any, did you see in student learning, behavior or engagement that correlates to your team's interventions?

Results: Full engagement; less bickering and whining; better sportsmanship; leadership and role modeling (from gr7's to the 4/5's). Front-end loading + Debriefing = higher success rate going forward

9. What types of information/observations/data did you monitor or collect to confirm whether or not your intervention is/was working? (i.e. qualitative, anecdotal, quantitative sources: surveys, student journaling or student work, changes in attendance or behavioral incidents, before/after videos, test scores, DART, observational checklists, student self-evaluations, interviews, completions rates.)

Direct observations of the classes + Social Responsibility Quick Scales + student self-evaluations.

10. What were some of the student learning highlights that your team shared that could be shared with others? What student successes/stories stood out for you?

Highlights: Kids who have control issues (control-freaks) learned to work autonomously. More pro-social behaviours (less crying/whining/"Hey, no fair" type of comments). Success story: One boy constantly was antagonizing another student and basically having that "Let's start a problem" attitude. With the intervention of both teachers (being like-minded with goals/expectations) the student turned it around and rose to the challenge.

11. If you feel your initiative did not improve student learning at this point in time, why do you think that might be? Can you identify any impeding factors? What advice would you give peers who are exploring similar issues to help them avoid these impediments?

We feel that we have improved student learning.

REFLECTING

12. What are/were some of the highlights experienced in your Professional Learning Community journey so far? What worked well?

Collaboration between two dedicated professionals. Being willing to try more by supporting each other in terms of: preparation of material; planning the ideas, sharing the costs, rolling with each others energy.

13. What are/were some of the challenges experienced in your collaborative learning community? (By sharing this information, we are better able to identify needed resources or solutions.)

Having a student teacher interrupting the general flow of our weekly challenges.

14. What do you believe would be helpful to have/know/do next time in order to improve results or help you or your learners move forward?

I believe more readily available funds would help.

15. What are your next steps, moving forward?

Continue with same inquiry

Thank you for your time and for sharing your insights, resources and learning with your colleagues and the educational community.

The results of these Share Out templates will be sorted and posted on the Learn71 website by July 2016, so all educators will have access to the information in time for fall 2016 planning. If you have any questions or concerns about the questions in this template, email SD71PLC@gmail.com. If you have technical difficulties, please contact the IT help desk. Thank you