PLC Share Out 2015

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Filled Wednesday, May 06, 2015

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In which school is this PLC team based?

Valley View Elementary

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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Jane Dunnett, Yolanda Lehton, Alicia Thompson

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.

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Yolanda Lehton Professional Learning Communities often take up to three years to fully mature and produce consistent results in student learning. The next 2 questions seek to determine where you feel we are on the spectrum of PLC development. Please consider the STAIRS model and following quote, and choose a category below that best describes where your team/school was situated in relation to the definition at the beginning of the year?

"An effective professional learning community has the capacity to promote and sustain the learning of all professional and other staff in the school community with the collective purpose of enhancing pupil learning." (Creating and Sustaining Effective Professional Learning Communities, Louise Stoll et al, 2005, p 181)

starting the journey to become a professional learning community (have plans to achieve the steps)

Where do you feel your group fit on this continuum at the end of the year. At the end of the year our team was:

a mature/established professional learning community.

Where would you say your team is currently located on the Action Research wheel? (See Action Research model above:

6. Planning next phase

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PLC INQUIRY

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

How can we use technology to motivate and enhance student learning?

2. To what student need are/were you responding?

We used three different situations as we all work in different positions in the school. The first one was to evaluate performance in the he music classroom. The second was in small group work to improve reading fluency skills and the third was in class support of students to show expected and unexpected behaviour.

3. ACTING: What actions/interventions/strategies did you or will you implement or explore?

We all recorded students performing using the iPads and then showed the students their performances to self-evaluate and respond.

3a. 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.

We used iPads and the video camera for all three of the situations.

3b. Did you co-create any new tools, assessments, resources or materials?

We created a seven step program where students and teachers were able to identify a learning need, create an opportunity to record learning, evaluate the performance, reflect and create strategies for improvements.

Variable	Response
i. If so, for what grade level or subject area are they best suited?	All grades and all subjects
ii. If they are accessible for other educators to use, where are they located?	(No response)

4. OBSERVING: What are/were the results of your inquiry/implementation/project?

The students really enjoyed being recorded and watching themselves perform. Giving them the opportunity to watch themselves performing created a greater awareness of their abilities and gave them an opportunity to own their learning and create strategies to improve their goals.

5. What types of information/observations/data did you monitor or collect to confirm your intervention is/was working?

The small reading fluency group teacher recorded her students reactions and reflections while they were watching themselves. She noticed that initially they were awkward and almost embarrassed but then they were able to recognize the areas they needed to improve and suggest strategies to improve their reading. The music class group had a discussion after viewing the recordings are we're able to give valuable feedback as a class on their overall performance. The in class support group EA was able to show her students immediate feedback on their behaviour and discuss ways to be more successful. She then followed up by re recording the students making the changes.

6. How did your project improve student learning? If you are just starting, in what ways do you anticipate your project will improve student learning?

Student thinking is one of the three core competences and in our groups student thinking particularity meta cognition was increased and students felt empowered in their learning.

7. REFLECTING: What are/were some of the highlights of your PLC journey so far? What worked well?

The positive growth and watching students respond to seeing the recordings and become more engaged in their learning process.

8. What are/were some of the challenges? (By sharing this information, we are better able to identify needed resources, guides or solutions)

One challenge we had was time, another was having the opportunity to do the recording and reflection. Lastly, technology, we often didn't have the basics we needed such as access to iPads and cords to show the videos on larger screens.

9. What might be helpful to have/know/do next time in order to improve results or move forward?

Technology, time tabling and many more opportunities may exist at the beginning of the year versus starting to record mid year.

10. What are your next steps, moving forward? (i.e. Continue on same project, adapt or expand the project or start on a new focus area/project)

We are going to continue the process in our own teaching as the opportunities arise.

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

What's next? We will keep you informed as to where the collection of responses may be accessed, ideally by late May or Early June. It was asked that we have the results of this form sorted into a key-word searchable format, which requires working with IT to develop an appropriate platform or platforms. Themes will also be pulled from the data and shared district wide. Thank you.