



Proposal to attend the  
PLCs at Work Conference  
Seattle, WA  
August 9-11<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Washington State Convention Center

# Bryant Strengths

- Some of the highest SBAC scores in the school district
- Tremendous enrichment opportunities for students
- Neighborhood school
- Amazing parent support and incredible PTSA
- Strong teaching staff
- Most students enter with high skill levels and are eager to learn much more

# Bryant Building Goals-2015-2016

1. One year's growth for every student in math
2. Challenging and engaging our advanced learners in math
3. Deepening our understanding of PLCS (Professional Learning Communities)

# Challenges

- Lack of district resources to support professional development
- Time in the instructional day to plan and do this work
- Meeting SPS and TPEP expectations regarding collaboration and data analysis
- How to continue and develop the amazing gains we have made with PLCs and intervention and extension efforts at Bryant

# Why this Conference?

- Team planning and development sessions about PLCs which has been our identified area of building development for two years
- Directly addresses our building goals
- Creates more aligned direction and foundation for our growth as a school
- Will facilitate that we provide even richer, deeper and more direct supports for our students and their learning
- This work is about accurately and skillfully differentiating instruction to meet the specific needs of students where they are in their learning
- Opportunity to learn from some of the very best and most accomplished researchers and educators in our field
- Host of options and sessions to choose from, tailored to specific needs and interest

# Four Critical Questions of an effective PLC:

1. What is it we want our students to learn?
2. How will we know when they have learned it?
3. How will we respond when they don't learn?
4. How will we respond when they already know it?

# Dan and Julie: Conference Takeaways

- Best professional development either of us has ever had – Rachel Friesen, Debbie Nelson and Kim Whitworth have attended in the past and also agree
- Leadership lens – many districts have already adopted this model – lots to learn from them
- Over 40 options for hour long breakout sessions and the opportunity to hear top educational researchers and strategists present as key note speakers and session leaders
  - Aligning the collaborative work of teams: top-down or bottom-up?
  - Are the students learning and how do we know? Data-based decision making in high-performing, collaborate teams
  - Common formative assessments: the lynchpin of the PLC process
  - Using digital tools to facilitate the work of PLCs
  - Making your current site interventions more effective

# How many? How much?

- 23 teachers confirmed; with Julie and Dan included = 25
- Would like to provide a cushion of 2 additional slots if 2 more teachers are able to attend
  - 27@ \$649.00 each
  - Total: \$17,523



Hearing from our teachers...