

Professional Learning Communities at Bryant

What we are working so hard to
achieve and why....

The Big Ideas That Drive the Work of a PLC

PLC work is captured in three big ideas:

1. A purpose of our school is to ensure that all students learn at high levels.
2. Helping all students learn requires that teacher teams collaborate to support all their students.
3. To assess our effectiveness in helping all students learn, teachers must focus on results-evidence of student learning and use results to inform and improve our professional practice and respond to students who need intervention or extensions.

4 Questions

1. What knowledge and skills should every student acquire as a result of this unit of instruction?
2. How will we know when each student has mastered the essential knowledge and skills within this unit?
3. How will we respond when some students do not learn?
4. How will we extend and enrich the learning for students who already know the essential knowledge and skills?

Why are we doing this work?

- Teaching students to grow intellectually and challenge themselves is a gift for life
- For our own professional growth as educators
- It is proven to be best practice
- Team work is more efficient and effective than isolation
- It will make a significant and positive difference in the culture of our school
- Our efforts should be good enough for our own children
- It is the right thing to do

What does an intervention/extension teacher do

- These teachers support the work of Professional Learning Communities (grade level teams)
- Our team has 2 half time teachers, 1 full time teacher, 3 tutors and an ELL (English Language Learner) teacher.
- They plan with teachers to determine the best ways to support students with interventions (for students that may need more support in learning).
- They also work with students that need extensions (more challenge or opportunities to go deeper in the work).

What the Intervention/Extension Team has achieved in the first 8 weeks of school

- Worked with teachers to create an aligned schedule for math and reading
- Helped set up two intervention/extension blocks per week per grade level (Reading (K-2) would receive support 5 days a week)
- Worked with teachers to help design student groupings
- Created partnership with tutors and specialists
- Helped with screening/and testing
- Partnered with our ELL instructional assistant to align schedule for services so students get services in class at the best times
- Helped grade level teams set up Math assessments to show 1 years growth

Bryant Goal Areas for 2015

- One year's growth for every child (Math)
- Challenging and engaging our Advanced Learners (Math)
- Deepening our understanding of PLCs

Our work this year...

- Professional development and moving forward with our PLC work
- Develop a sustainable source of funding for additional staff and professional development
- Aligning supports for all students