

Missouri PLC Project Newsletter

2013 Powerful Learning Conference

Missouri CSI: Continuous School Improvement

NEW THIS YEAR:

Powerful Learning Conference registrants will be allowed to access presentation materials electronically through a password protected webpage. Registrants will receive an email with the password approximately one week before the conference begins.

What a great way to go green and maximize the conference learning opportunities!

At this year's conference we are pleased to have two highly engaging, nationally acclaimed keynote presenters. On day one, Dr. Anthony Muhammad, author and one of the most sought-after educational consultants, will present the keynote address entitled, "Collaborative Cultures -- the Will and Skill of School Improvement." On day two, Dr. Brian McNulty, Vice President of Leadership Development for The Leadership and Learning Center and author and coauthor of numerous articles and books, will present, "Research to Results -- What Works for School Improvement?" Many attendees will be extending their conference experience by signing up for the post-conference session with Dr. McNulty as he goes more in-depth into the "visible learning" strategies that have the greatest impact on student achievement.

We are also pleased to feature one of Missouri's own dynamic school leaders, Dr. C.J. Huff, superintendent of Joplin School District, who will share the message, "Leading and Learning During Challenging Times" as a special luncheon presentation. Principals, superintendents, central office personnel and teacher-leaders will learn how to keep your focus on kids when disaster strikes.

Follow the Powerful Learning Conference on Twitter: #mopl2013

During the 2012-13 school year, the Missouri PLC Project is actively engaged with 246 schools.

Year 1	72 buildings
Year 2	69 buildings
Year 3	66 buildings
Year 4+	39 buildings

2013 Missouri PLC Exemplary Schools

Benton Elementary, Neosho
Central Park Elementary, Monett
East Elementary, Waynesville
Partridge Elementary, Waynesville
Festus Elementary, Festus
Festus Intermediate, Festus
Festus Middle, Festus
Gratz Brown Elementary, Moberly
North Park Elementary, Moberly
South Park Elementary, Moberly
Ozark Upper Elementary, Ozark
(To be recognized at the
Powerful Learning Conference).

The MO PLC

Benchmark Assessment Tool

The MO PLC Benchmark Assessment Tool is an online, whole staff perceptual survey that provides data on the implementation of the PLC process. All instructional staff in PLC buildings are invited to complete the survey each year. The BAT addresses three domains: collaboration, teacher learning, and student learning. Three sets of data are collected and analyzed for areas where consensus of implementation is identified. This data is then used to identify strengths, as well as areas in need of further attention.

As an example, educators respond to the statement: "Our mission and vision guides the decisions and actions of the school, focusing on student learning." Staff responses to this question are then compared to administrator and leadership team responses within a building. Look for an email link to the survey this winter.

PLC and the Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled

The MO PLC Project has engaged with MSSD on multiple levels to assist the district in implementing PLCs and increasing leadership capacity. MSSD's central office staff and building administrators are engaged in leadership development work specific to developing people, implementing effective processes, and selecting appropriate tasks. This work has resulted in a new mission statement: *Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled will ensure students learn authentic skills in a safe environment to be productive and integrated into their home, community, leisure and work.* In the coming months, buildings will develop visions and collective commitments which are aligned to this mission.

Additionally, ten buildings are implementing the PLC process. These buildings have established leadership teams, and are receiving onsite support from PLC resource specialists. In these buildings, regular meeting times have been established for collaborative teams to meet. These teams are focused on common goals for improved student outcomes. Ongoing work includes using data to drive decisions, networking with colleagues in other schools, and monitoring changes in adult behaviors.

Our mission is to support Missouri schools in building and sustaining professional learning communities where collaborative cultures result in high levels of learning for all and increased student achievement.

Visit our website for more information, including contact information for our resource specialists located in RPDC offices around the state.

www.moplc.org