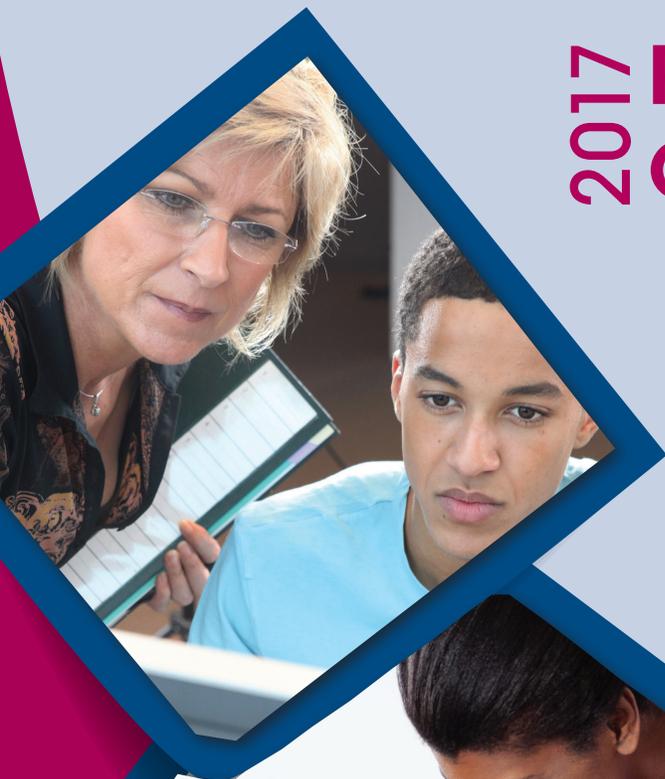


2017 POWERFUL LEARNING CONFERENCE



professional learning communities



JANUARY 30-31
TAN-TAR-A RESORT
OSAGE BEACH, MISSOURI



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Please wear your name badge to all meals and sessions.

Session hosts will collect tickets at the door of each session. Stop by the ticket exchange to check availability to attend alternate sessions.

Save the Date!



**2018 Powerful Learning
Conference
January 29-30, 2018**

GREETINGS!

WELCOME TO THE 2017 POWERFUL LEARNING CONFERENCE!

We are delighted that you have chosen to join nearly 1,600 other conference attendees to learn, network and share best practices and stories of success. This year's conference theme is "Engage – Professional Learning Communities." In order for Missouri to rank in the top 10 states by 2020, leading continuous improvement must be a shared responsibility designed to impact the learning of all students. This conference has evolved over the past 19 years from the Accelerated Schools Networking Conference to the Powerful Learning Conference and is sponsored by the Missouri Professional Learning Communities (MO PLC) Project. School leaders, both teachers and administrators, will receive a powerful learning experience that will provide strategies designed to help you engage in school improvement efforts.

The Powerful Learning Conference's nationally and internationally acclaimed keynote speakers are educational leaders on the cutting edge of school improvement efforts and reform. Additionally, practitioners who have found success in their own schools will present in breakout sessions on a variety of topics appropriate for schools of different demographics and levels. Regardless of your interests or the needs of your school community, there are sessions that will provide powerful learning opportunities for you.

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education supports the MO PLC Project and the work of PLC resource specialists in the regional professional development centers located throughout the state. On behalf of the dedicated staff of MO PLC and the conference committee, thank you for choosing to attend the this year's Powerful Learning Conference. The conference committee works diligently throughout the year to provide a quality conference, and we always welcome your feedback on ways to improve the conference.

Perhaps you will consider being a presenter for a breakout session at the conference next year. Sharing professional experiences and best practices epitomizes the goal of professional learning communities!

If we can be of assistance to you during the conference or throughout the school year, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Cathi Rust, Ed.S.
Supervisor, School Improvement
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Phone: 573-751-6830
Email: catherine.rust@dese.mo.gov

January 2017

Dear Powerful Learning Conference attendees:

Welcome to the 2017 Powerful Learning Conference.

On behalf of the Missouri State Board of Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, I want to express our appreciation for your outstanding work with Missouri's children.

I hope you find the conference breakout sessions meaningful and informative. These sessions include best practices, effective school reform and evidence of successful school improvement efforts.

Have a successful, productive conference as you participate in professional development sessions designed to encourage continued excellence in your daily instruction of students.

Thank you for your vision and your dedicated service.

Margie Vandeven
Commissioner of Education



CONFERENCE AGENDA

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

4:00 – 7:00 p.m. **Registration** (*Salon Foyer*)

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

6:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration** (*Salon Foyer*)

7:00 – 7:45 a.m. **Breakfast Buffet** (*Windgate Plaza*)

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Opening and Welcome** (*Salons A-C*)
Stacey Preis, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Learning Services
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

General Session (*Salons A-C*)
Keynote Speaker: Luis Cruz
“PLCs: Engage Everyone”

9:45 – 11:00 a.m. **Concurrent Session A**

9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Luncheon for School Leaders** (*Crystal Ballroom*)
Featured Speaker: Beth Houf
“Passionate Leadership: Transforming and Engaging Staff and Students Each and Every Day”

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Lunch** (*Windgate Plaza*)

12:30 – 2:00 p.m. **General Session** (*Salons A-C*)
Keynote Speaker: Todd Whitaker
“School Culture Rewired”

2:15 – 3:30 p.m. **Concurrent Session B**

3:45 – 5:00 p.m. **Concurrent Session C**

Enjoy Dinner on Your Own

8:00 – 11:00 p.m. **Evening Social with Karaoke** (*Crystal Ballroom*)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

7:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Registration** (*Salon Foyer*)

7:15 – 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast Buffet** (*Windgate Plaza*)

8:15 – 10:30 a.m. **Opening Remarks** (*Salons A-C*)
Margie Vandeven, Commissioner of Education
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Awards Presentation: Missouri Exemplary Professional Learning Communities Schools

General Session (*Salons A-C*)
Keynote Speaker: Mike Rutherford
“Engage in the Craft of Teaching: Celebrating and Appreciating Skillful Instruction”

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Concurrent Session D**

12:00 p.m. **Powerful Learning Conference Adjourns**

12:30 – 3:30 p.m. **Post-Conference Session** (*Salon C*)
Keynote Speaker: Mike Rutherford
“The Artisan Teacher”

KEYNOTE AND FEATURED SPEAKERS



GENERAL SESSION • MONDAY, JANUARY 30 • 8:15 A.M.

Dr. Luis F. Cruz has been a teacher and administrator at the elementary, middle and high school levels. He is the former principal of Baldwin Park High School, located east of Los Angeles, California. Cruz was a recipient of the Hispanic Border Leadership Institute's fellowship for doctoral studies, and since becoming a public school educator, he has won numerous education and community leadership awards. Cruz presents on methods from the best-selling book "Transforming School Culture" by Anthony Muhammad.



GENERAL SESSION • MONDAY, JANUARY 30 • 12:30 P.M.

Todd Whitaker is an author, a leading presenter in the field of education and a professor of educational leadership at the University of Missouri. He has spent his life researching and studying effective teachers and principals, and his message about the importance of teaching has resonated with educators around the world. Prior to moving into higher education, Whitaker was a teacher and administrator at the middle school, junior high and high school levels. He is a leading authority on staff motivation, teacher leadership and principal effectiveness.



GENERAL SESSION • TUESDAY, JANUARY 31 • 8:45 A.M.

Mike Rutherford provides high-value training and development experiences for educators and business professionals through his work as a teacher, speaker, author and consultant. His work focuses on high-performance teaching and learning, leadership development, creating and leading team-based organizations, and results-based organizational improvement. Rutherford has created and developed numerous award-winning educational programs for students, teachers and education leaders including "The Artisan Teacher" and "Requisites of a Leader."



LUNCHEON PRESENTATION • MONDAY, JANUARY 30 • 9:45 A.M.

Beth Houf is passionate about developing schools that encourage high levels of learning and empowerment for all – schools where students and staff are running to get in, not out! To do this, she seeks out fun and meaningful ways to interact with students and teachers so they are excited about coming to school. Houf is a middle school principal in central Missouri and was named the 2016 Missouri National Distinguished Principal. She also serves as a facilitator for the DESE Leadership Academy, providing monthly training to state educational leaders.

GENERAL SESSIONS AGENDA

Monday, January 30

8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Opening General Session (Salons A-C)

Opening Ceremony

Pledge of Allegiance

FBLA Officers, Eldon High School

Eldon R-I School District

Welcome

Cathi Rust

Supervisor, School Improvement

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Stacey Preis

Deputy Commissioner, Division of Learning Services

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Keynote Speaker

Luis Cruz

“PLCs: Engage Everyone”

12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

General Session (Salons A-C)

Celebrations and Acknowledgements

Cathi Rust

Keynote Speaker

Todd Whitaker

“School Culture Rewired”

Tuesday, January 31

8:15 – 10:30 a.m.

General Session (Salons A-C)

Opening Remarks and Awards

Cathi Rust

Margie Vandeven, Commissioner of Education

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Missouri Exemplary Professional Learning

Communities Schools Awards

Commissioner Margie Vandeven

Rob Gordon, State Field Coordinator

MO PLC Project

Keynote Speaker

Mike Rutherford

“Engage in the Craft of Teaching: Celebrating and Appreciating Skillful Instruction”

Announcements

Cathi Rust

During breakfast or lunch in Windgate Plaza, be sure to enter your tickets to win door prizes. Winners will be announced on the slides shown before and after the Tuesday morning General Session.

POST-CONFERENCE SESSION

Tuesday, January 31 • 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. • Salon C

“The Artisan Teacher” • Mike Rutherford

\$50 per person (includes lunch)

Artisans are not purely artists, though artistic expression is found in their work. Artisans are not purely scientists, though scientific knowledge is essential to their work. Artisans are not merely technicians, though skilled labor is the core expression of their work. An artisan is one skilled in the applied arts, a craftsperson...a unique combination of artist, scientist and skilled laborer. Excellent teachers are just like this. They are artisans – artful, knowledgeable and skilled masters of their craft.

Mike Rutherford has an incurable curiosity for teaching. For over three decades, he’s been teaching, observing teachers and studying teaching. In that time, he has observed at least 10,000 episodes of classroom instruction and has spoken with colleagues about thousands more. In this post-conference session, learn how Rutherford has identified and organized the patterns of skillful instruction that have emerged from these observations and how using these patterns will result in high levels of student engagement, success, effort, clarity, thinking and performance in your classroom.

Participants will receive a copy of Rutherford’s book “The Artisan Teacher: A Field Guide to Skillful Teaching.”

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CONCURRENT SESSION A

Monday, January 30

9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

A1: If Your Teams Cannot Collaborate Effectively, then "Forget About It!" (Repeated in Session B1) (Salon B)

Is effective teacher collaboration synonymous with collective planning? Is sharing resources with one another what collaboration looks like for the most part? Luis Cruz shares the pivotal role collaboration plays when attempting to implement PLC practices. Discover what teams must take into consideration when identifying and unpacking essential standards and how to extrapolate clear learning targets from these standards.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn the difference between ineffective “coblaboration” and effective collaboration.
- Understand the process of identifying standards all students are expected to learn at high levels and unpacking them to generate learning targets to build common formative and summative assessments.

PLC Implementation: All

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Keynote Presenter: Luis Cruz, Keynote Speaker

A2: Encouraging Argumentative Writing in Science and Social Studies (Drawing Room Terrace)

Learn how to use essays in science and social studies to promote students’ abilities to make evidenced-based claims, provide supporting principles (termed a warrant or reasoning statement) and offer rebuttals. Hear how science and social studies essays modeled after the ACT writing task promote deeper content understanding and technical writing ability.

Session Outcomes:

- Increase your knowledge of the components of an argumentative essay that includes claims, evidence, reasoning and rebuttals.
- Discover how argumentative writing prompts in science and social studies can support local and national reforms.
- Learn ways to teach effective literacy strategies.
- Understand how to construct argumentative essays for different settings and appropriate student populations.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: Urban, Suburban

Presenters: Patrick Brown, Secondary Science Coordinator; and Kathy Hopkins, Secondary Social Studies Coordinator; Fort Zumwalt R-II School District

A3: Write It Out! in the Science Workshop (Rooms 62-63)

Have you ever wanted to teach beyond simple note-taking? Do you know how to encourage your students to use science journals? Learn how to create interactive journals that will propel your students into critical science thinking while supporting them with sentence stems, foldables and constructed-response strategies.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover writing strategies in science using sentence stems and constructed-response steps as well as methods to relate concepts to world concepts.
- Receive ideas on how to scaffold written work to meet the needs of a diverse population.
- Learn how to evaluate teaching practices to determine the level of expectations for student-written work.
- Understand how to communicate scientific knowledge using scientific language to communicate learning.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Britt Bowman, Teacher; and Andrea Stauch, Teaching and Learning Coach; Crestview Elementary School, North Kansas City 74 School District

A4: One Size Fits None! (Redbud)

Receive enticing strategies designed to engage students in classroom learning through technology, games and innovative techniques.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand how to use Google Classroom to enhance student engagement.
- Discover game-based learning to motivate student interest.
- Learn innovative techniques such as novelty, color and physical activity to improve student learning.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining

Level: Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Traci Reinbott, Tammy Spencer, Brandi Lumby, Nicole Burdin and Lisa French, Teachers; Heather Wells, District Curriculum Director; and Justin Dobbins, Principal; Neelyville High School, Neelyville R-IV School District

A5: Rebooting PLC: Past, Present and Future (Rooms 72-73)

Hear how educators at a year-four PLC school with some struggles reinvigorated their classrooms by rebooting PLC. The key components of this reboot included increased collaboration to create a shared mission, vision and collective commitments, including a new motto of

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

“whatever it takes.” A new RtI process to focus on data-driven instruction to improve student learning also was developed and Makerspace Lab was added to focus on student engagement, critical thinking and problem-solving skills for the future.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to successfully reboot a struggling PLC school.
- Discover how to implement a skill-based, data-driven RtI system.
- Understand how to start a Makerspace Lab to increase student engagement and improve critical-thinking skills.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Ron Farrow, Principal; Whitney Carter and Lori Huey, Teachers; Franklin Elementary School, Cape Girardeau 63 School District

***A6: Creating a Culture for Systems of Change (Parasol I)**

Discover how one school changed its culture, which led to improved student and adult success.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn step-by-step procedures on how to have honest discussions to build a strong and united culture.
- Acquire strategies and methods to protect transparency among staff and parents.
- Understand how culture and transparency can improve results.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jerrod Fellhauer, Principal; Caron Scott, Reading Interventionist; Elise Schnarr and Erica Dodson, Teachers; Creekmoor Elementary School, Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District

A7: Transforming Learning with Tech Tools (Parasol II)

Whether you are a techie or a newbie, you can transform the culture of learning in your classroom. Discover how to use tech tools to increase student engagement and provide more meaningful learning opportunities. These strategies will provide differentiated learning opportunities and multiple ways for students to demonstrate proficiency.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn 21st century strategies to transform classrooms into student-driven learning environments.
- Gain strategies to give students multiple options to demonstrate mastery of objectives and take ownership of their learning.
- Understand the use of choice and purpose to develop creative, collaborative learners.
- Experience the power of differentiation to reach students of every level.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining
Level: Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers, Non-Core/
Specialist Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Naomi Austin, Principal; and Amanda Elwell, Teacher; Wheaton Elementary School, Wheaton R-III School District

A8: Planning Intentionally for Engagement During Workshop (Salon C)

The biggest mistake teachers make is planning thoroughly for content but not being thoughtful about student engagement. Discover how to collaboratively use data and effectively plan for high levels of engagement during the mini-lesson, independent work time and sharing.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand how to plan for effective engagement.
- Learn how to increase effectiveness of the mini lesson.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Cathy Volk, Instructional Coach; and Rene Sommers, Principal; Parkway C-2 School District

***A9: It's a Bird, It's a Plane - No, It's an A+ Tutor! (Rooms 70-71)**

Students struggling? Resources limited? Participation dwindling? Find out how one school revitalized the A+ program into a tutoring, remediation and mentoring prescription for success.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how Hollister Middle School tapped into the skills of the A+ tutors and created an amazing support for students.
- Hear testimonies from students, A+ tutors and teachers about how this program has changed their entire approach to education.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Sandra Brown, Counselor; Rhonda Rittenhouse, Teacher; and Shawn Page, Principal; Hollister Middle School, Hollister R-V School District

Use #moplc17 to share about the conference.

Follow MO PLC @moplc and DESE @MOEducation on Twitter.

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

* Presentation by a 2017 PLC Exemplary School.

A10: Making Engaging and Supporting Lessons in a 1:World Environment (Room 64)

Successful one-to-one implementation levels the playing field for all students as well as transforms how teachers teach and how students learn. A digital device in the hands of all students engages them in highly interactive and transformational learning.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to create a learning environment that promotes individualization, differentiation and personalization.
- Receive activities and ideas that can be utilized with teachers including SAMR, Twitter chats and creating a PLN.
- Gain insight into collaboration among teachers to focus on student results.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining

Level: Grades 6-8

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: Rural

Presenters: Amy Salvo, Principal, Troy South Middle School; and Kelly Briscoe, Principal, Troy Middle School; Troy R-III School District

A11: Involve! Inspire! Ignite! PD that Counts! (Rooms 74-75)

Learn about a model of district-embedded professional development that will build capacity and capability of highly effective educators, and hear how colleagues engage in research, observation and reflection to improve the practice of teaching and learning.

Session Outcomes:

- Acquire strategies to implement job-embedded professional development.
- Learn how to break down the barriers among classrooms.
- Discover a systematic process for the improvement of teaching and learning.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Shelli Baldwin, PD/Instructional Technologies Coordinator; Mike Brown, Assistant Superintendent, Academics and Continuous Improvement; Alicia Wilson, Director, Academic Services; and Aaron Duff, Coordinator of Academic Services; Platte Co. R-III School District

A12: Motivating the Reluctant Learner (Salon A)

This session will empower you with strategies to implement in your classroom setting to motivate various types of learners.

Session Outcomes:

- Acquire strategies to motivate the unmotivated.
- Discover a literacy and math workshop design.
- Gain insight into data notebooks.
- Learn about student ownership of choice.

PLC Implementation: Beginning

Level: All

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Danielle Dierenfeldt and Megan Hardie, Teachers, Minnie Cline Elementary School, Savannah R-III School District

A13: Standards-Referenced Grading in Exploratory Classes (Rooms 76-77)

Learn how to make the switch from regular grading to standards-referenced grading in exploratory classes.

Session Outcomes:

- Receive an example of a rubric as well as a blank rubric.
- Understand how to switch grades from regular grading to standards-referenced grading.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jamie Kluesner, Health Educator; Beth Chapman, Librarian/Exploratory Instructor; and Jessica Rodgers, Special Education Instructor; Montgomery Co. Middle School, Montgomery Co. R-II School District

A14: Put Me In, Coach: Winning at Data Teaming (Rooms 60-61)

How do you convince elementary school teachers to add one more thing to their overcrowded plates? Make it worthwhile! The benefits of data teams in your school will far outweigh the sacrifices necessary.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand the benefits of data teams.
- Discover the roles of all participants on these teams.
- Learn the steps needed to establish data teams and the protocols necessary to implement them.
- Gain insight into the challenges and successes of data teams including communication tools and resources.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Robyn Frame and Casey DuBuque, Teachers; Connie Epperson, Principal; and T.J. Quick, P.E. Coach; Bartley Elementary School, Fulton 58 School District

A15: Teaching Like the Terminator (Northwinds)

Reflect on classroom practices and receive empowering strategies to help eliminate obstacles of learning including missing work, forgotten materials, reluctant learners and inaccurate grading. Become more data-driven and results-oriented as you learn how to put it all together and ensure that in your classroom “not learning is NOT an option!”

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how to achieve improved teacher efficacy.
- Understand the practical implementation of standards-based grading concepts.
- Learn how to build relationships and classroom culture.
- Acquire classroom-management strategies.

PLC Implementation: Developing**Level:** All**Target Audience:** All**Demographic:** All**Presenter:** Mark Clements, Principal, McIntire Elementary School, Fulton 58 School District**A16: Four C's for Engagement: Computers, Connections, Creation and Collaboration**  (Suite G)

Students love screen time, and teachers love engaged students. Technology is the vehicle for your students to develop 21st century skills as a result of connecting with your instruction, creating projects to show mastery and collaborating to maximize learning.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to use technology to connect students with classroom instruction.
- Discover ways to incorporate technology to enhance collaboration.
- Understand how students show mastery of learning goals through the use of technology.

PLC Implementation: Beginning**Level:** All**Target Audience:** Classroom Teachers**Demographic:** All**Presenters:** Darbie Valenti, Teacher, Minnie Cline Elementary School; and Julianne Higer, Teacher, Helena Elementary School; Savannah R-III School District

Join in the conference conversation at #mopl17.

LUNCHEON FOR SCHOOL LEADERS • BETH HOUF, FEATURED SPEAKER

Monday, January 30 • 9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. • Crystal Ballroom

“Transforming and Engaging Staff and Students Each and Every Day”

Engage your leadership! Join Beth Houf as she shares how to put the little “extra” in ordinary to lead with passion, purpose and enthusiasm. Receive practical ideas on how to become the kind of leader you hoped you could be, and learn strategies that will dramatically transform the culture of your school.

CONCURRENT SESSION B

Monday, January 30

2:15 – 3:30 p.m.

B1: If Your Teams Cannot Collaborate Effectively, Then “Forget About It!” (Repeat of Session A1) (Salon B)

B2: Jump-Starting the Culture-Change Process (Repeated in Session C2) (Salon A)

Can we expedite the process of change in our culture? How can we get the changes to stick? This session will focus on ways to increase the pace of change and decrease resistance as we move our school and district culture in a positive direction.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to increase the pace of change.
- Identify strategies to decrease resistance to change in a positive way.

PLC Implementation: All**Level:** All**Target Audience:** All**Demographic:** All**Presenter:** Todd Whitaker, Keynote Speaker

B3: Schoolwide 1:1 Implementation (Cedar Cove)

Hear about one school’s journey through 1:1 implementation and how 1:1 provided access to rigorous and relevant student learning. Receive information on systems used to successfully create a supportive environment for implementation.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how increased student learning is possible through 1:1.
- Receive information on protocols and procedures to help schools implement 1:1.
- Understand the connection between collaboration and 1:1 implementation.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining**Level:** Grades 6-8**Target Audience:** All**Demographic:** All**Presenters:** Helen Porter, Principal; and Rebecca Bevel Smith, Library Media Specialist; Oakland Middle School, Columbia 93 School District

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 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

B4: High School Intervention and Enrichment that Works! (Rooms 74-75)

How do you use academic lab time to ensure learning for ALL students? Learn how to develop a program for student success using remediation, intervention and enrichment to personalize learning for students and teachers.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how to use the PLC model to develop a system of intervention and enrichment at the high school level.
- Gain insight on how to overcome obstacles to create a shared vision for personal learning.
- Receive information on system logistics and management for both administrators and teachers.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: High School

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Staci Johnson, Assistant Principal; Mike Williams, Principal; and Miriam Hill, Instructional Coach; Osage High School, School of the Osage School District

B5: Tomorrow's Leaders, Leading Today (Rooms 72-73)

Discover how to use student-led clubs to create a culture where students are given the ability to make choices, empowered to lead using their strengths and given time to reflect on how they are part of the community.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to schedule your day to allow time for student-led clubs.
- Acquire strategies to teach club design.
- Discover how to use Google Forms as a reflection piece for club leaders, students and teachers.
- Understand how to create a student-centered culture in your building.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: All

Demographic: Rural

Presenters: Angela Drake and Charlene Free, Teachers; Hollister Middle School, Hollister R-V School District

B6: Tracking the Journey of Learning (Rooms 60-61)

Student data notebooks are living documents that show progress and growth and provide a place to reflect and make goals. By engaging in this process, both teachers and students gain powerful insights into the strengths and weaknesses of the learning as well as how to pinpoint and address the needs of all students.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover the what and why behind kid-friendly data notebooks.
- Receive handouts on how to implement and sustain data notebooks.
- Acquire step-by-step instructions on goal-setting, data-tracking and reflections.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Nita Hanes, Amy Moore, Glenna Whitehead, and Jodi Esposito, Teachers; Shanna Eidson, Principal; Seneca Elementary School, Seneca R-VII School District

B7: Formative Assessments and FEEDback...Everyone Likes to Eat! (Salon C)

Understand the high need for frequent formative assessments coupled with targeted feedback within daily classroom practices in order to make informed instructional decisions. Engage in professional discussion about research-based practices as well as a variety of learning activities that can be used in the classroom.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn the importance of using frequent formative assessments within daily classroom practices to make informed instructional choices.
- Discover how descriptive feedback informs students of specific learning targets, how well they understand a target, and how to close the gap between student understanding and the learning target.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Nicole Thogmartin, Assistant Principal, Minnie Cline Elementary School; Roxanne Rooney, Principal, Helena Elementary School; and Kelly Warren, Principal, John Glenn Elementary School; Savannah R-III School District

B8: Engaging Staff to Engage Students (Rooms 62-64)

Learn how Raymore Elementary School (a 2015-2016 MO PLC Exemplary School) has purposefully and continually built a positive culture of collaboration, trust and support among staff, which allows them to build a positive culture within the classroom environment. When the adults in the building feel safe and supported to take risks, students find the confidence to do the same.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to build a collaborative community.
- Discover ways to build a community of trust among staff and students.
- Understand how engaged staff can create engaged students.

PLC Implementation: Beginning

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jennika Miller, Principal; Jenni Beck, School Counselor; and Kristin Mason, Teacher; Raymore Elementary School, Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

***B9: Celebrations Are Not Just for Kids
(Crystal Ballroom)**

Discover how to incorporate celebrations into every aspect of the school setting.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand how to improve achievement through grade level/team collaborations.
- Learn how to improve attitudes of both teachers and students.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: Rural

Presenters: JoLynn Hambach, Katrina Conway and Lauren Feldewert, Teachers; and Bobbie Russell, Principal; Warrior Ridge Elementary School, Warren Co. R-III School District

B10: Focused Leadership in a PLC (Northwinds)

Learn the value of and strategies to support the work of narrowing the focus for school improvement and staff development with a process-driven, less-is-more approach.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand that most schools have too many initiatives, and there needs to be a process for selective abandonment of some things.
- Learn a six-step process to identify the top priorities in a school building or district with a less-is-more paradigm.
- Acquire tools to facilitate focused leadership.
- Receive strategies to narrow the focus for school improvement.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenter: Kevin Daniel, Associate Superintendent of Instruction and Leadership, Lee's Summit R-VII School District

**B11: Changes, Challenges and Checklists -
Implementing Standards-Based Grading the First Year
(Drawing Room Terrace)**

Hear about one district's changes and challenges as it implements standards-based grading in grades K-5.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand standards-based grading and how it is changing the way we think about teaching and assessing student progress.
- Learn how to establish essential standards, design common assessments, create formative assessments and revise grade cards.
- Discover how to train teachers in standards-based teaching and grading as well as how to accustom parents to the new grading system.
- Receive strategies for implementing data binders to help students understand and track their own growth.

PLC Implementation: Beginning

Level: Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: Suburban

Presenter: Lara Brunk, Teacher, McIntire Elementary School, Fulton 58 School District

**B12: How Global Collaborations Transform the
Classroom (Rooms 70-71)**

Global-collaboration projects enable students to work together with peers around the world. Allowing them to communicate and collaborate with peers in other countries provides students with opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills needed for global citizenship. These projects also engage students in learning digital citizenship and Web-literacy skills.

Session Outcomes:

- Gain knowledge about global citizenship.
- Learn how to promote digital citizenship.
- Understand global personal learning networks.
- Discover the coolest thing you will ever do in education.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining

Level: Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenter: Rhett Oldham, Teacher, Ste. Genevieve Middle School, Ste. Genevieve Co. R-II School District

**B13: Attributes of an Effective Professional Learning
Community (Rooms 76-77)**

Professional learning communities (PLCs) promote collaboration among school personnel to stimulate student learning. Learn how one study used data obtained from a larger statewide initiative in Missouri to examine the attribute structure of effective PLCs, correlations between these attributes and student achievement, and the development of PLC attributes.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand the importance of collaborative leadership processes for improved student achievement.
- Discover how to evaluate your data usage to inform collaborative and instructional practices.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: June Preast, Doctoral Candidate, School of Psychology Program; and Matthew Burns, Associate Dean of Research, MU College of Education; University of Missouri-Columbia

Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

* Presentation by a 2017 PLC Exemplary School.

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Twitter @mopl**

B14: Reflection Road: Using the Rearview Mirror to Put Students in The Driver's Seat (Parasol II)

Discover a variety of reflection tools using different mediums (pencil and paper, technology, and verbal as well as nonverbal cues). Using these tools will promote collaborative relationships that increase student learning and mastery of standards.

Session Outcomes:

- Acquire reflection tools and strategies to use in your classroom.
- Learn how to create tools for student reflection.
- Understand how to implement reflection tools for increased student engagement.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining
Level: All

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers, Non-Core/
Specialist Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Shannon Waldo, Teacher, Billings Elementary School; and Jennifer Wilson, Principal, Billings High School; Billings R-IV School District

B15: Standards-Based Grading (Redbud)

Hear about one district's transition to standards-based grading.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn why you should change grading practices.
- Acquire strategies for making the change to standards-based grading.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Teresa Littrell, Teacher, Holden Middle School; Katy Stoverink, Teacher, Holden High School; and Kathy Kilgore, Teacher, Holden Elementary School; Holden R-III School District

B16: Implementing an Effective Reading RtI Program (Suite G)

Have you found implementing a reading RtI program to be far from easy? Discover one school's transformation from school improvement to reading success.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand how to effectively develop and match protocols to universal screenings.
- Discover how to devise strategies for cohesive implementation.
- Learn to monitor progress and track student success.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Melissa Hayslip, Title I Reading Specialist; and Melissa Creed, Special Education Reading Specialist; Wheaton Elementary School, Wheaton R-III School District

CONCURRENT SESSION C

Monday, January 30

3:45 – 5:00 p.m.

C1: What Are the Practices, Processes and Policies that Lead to Exemplary PLC Recognition? (Group A) (Parasol I)

Listen and learn as the 2017 Missouri Exemplary PLC Schools share their data, challenges and successes. In this round-table session, visit with several award-winning schools that have made PLC the "way they do business" and are showing positive gains in student achievement.

PLC Implementation: All

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Parkview Elementary School and Cameron Intermediate School, Cameron R-I; Clippard Elementary School, Cape Girardeau 63; Hollister Middle School, Hollister R-V; Nashua Elementary School, North Kansas City 74; Creekmoor Elementary School, Shull Elementary School and Timber Creek Elementary School, Raymore-Peculiar R-II; Warrior Ridge Elementary School, Warren Co. R-III

C2: Jump-Starting the Culture-Change Process (Repeat of Session B2) (Salon A)

C3: The 21st Century Data Room (Rooms 62-64)

Data rooms are a necessity in modern school environments due to the heavy emphasis on accountability and assessment of instructional practices, but these physical spaces often fall to disuse. Virtual data rooms are an elegant solution to the various issues that prevent data rooms from being implemented with the authenticity and integrity needed to create systemic change.

Session Outcomes:

- Reflect on your current practices of analyzing data and using data rooms.
- Understand how to move your data collection and analytic systems into a virtual world where data can be manipulated and analyzed for diverse purposes.
- Learn the tools and leadership responsibilities needed to make virtual data rooms a reality.
- Discover the power of having a systematic virtual data arena that is collaborative, persistent and able to be brought up and displayed on demand.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenter: Joshua Howard, Instructional Technology Facilitator, Fulton 58 School District

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

C4: New Standards...No Sweat! (Salon B)

Are you worried about the new Missouri Learning Standards and feeling overwhelmed with aligning to yet another set of standards? Many educators are faced with the challenge of convening collaborative teams to rewrite or align curriculum. Having successfully implemented the process with grades K-12 ELA and math, hear how one instructional leadership team designed a comprehensive, step-by-step process for writing a cohesive curriculum.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn to adapt a six-phase curriculum design cycle to fit your unique needs.
- Understand how to build a positive collaborative culture.
- Discover how to compare current written curriculum to daily instruction.
- Gain ideas on how to assess skill progression and rigor from grade to grade.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jana Thornsberry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Lisa Weiskopf, Tara Doyle and Victoria McCulloch, Instructional Coaches, Sullivan Elementary School; Lori Ulrich, Instructional Coach, Sullivan Primary School; Marcy Hutchings, Instructional Coach, Sullivan Middle School; Shannon Purvis, Instructional Coach, Sullivan Middle/High School; and Tia Marquino, Instructional Coach, Sullivan High School; Sullivan School District

C5: Tech Agents to the Rescue! (Magnolia)

With the increased use of various technologies in our schools today, student tech interns can meet the overwhelming needs of tech support while greatly elevating their own levels of learning as they become immersed in their passions.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to start the student tech intern process in your school.
- Understand how the increased demand of tech support can be met by empowering students to take the lead.
- Receive ideas about how teachers can receive one-on-one support for implementing technologies in their classrooms.
- Discover how students can receive the tech assistance they need through a student-run help desk.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades 6-8

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jan Bailey, Technology Teacher; and Sam Hrabovsky, Sierra Milligan, Robert Downing and Jacob Moak, Tech Agents; Fulton Middle School, Fulton 58 School District

C6: Google Classroom: Increasing Engagement and Collaboration (Crystal Ballroom)

Google Classroom can be used to collaborate and team with educators as well as increase engagement in the classroom. Strategies on how to build relationships while focusing on student achievement will be shared.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to collaborate with fellow educators without being in the same room.
- Understand how to build an online classroom to increase collaboration.
- Discover how to use Google Classroom to increase student engagement.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenter: Shelly Ridens, Teacher, Poplar Bluff Middle School, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

C7: Crack Open Critical Thinking (Salon C)

“Education is not the learning of facts, but training of the mind to think.” (Einstein) The aim of critical thinking is to promote independent thinking, personal autonomy, and reasoned judgment in thought and action. Learn about the characteristics needed to develop these crucial thinking abilities, discuss ways you can encourage these characteristics daily in your classroom and experience engaging strategies aligned with NEE Indicator 4.1 that can be implemented in any classroom.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand the three major pillars that develop the ability to think critically and receive a renewed vision on how to embed these into your daily instruction.
- Receive a variety of instructional strategies that implement the major pillars, and dialogue with colleagues about including these in their regular practice.
- Acquire specific strategies, including templates, that can be utilized in classrooms immediately.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Julie Steele, Tier 1 Instruction Specialist; and Sara Taylor, Tier 1 Instruction Specialist, Summit Lakes Middle School; Lee’s Summit R-VII School District

CONGRATULATIONS
to Allison Bahn of the Missouri School
for the Blind, winner of a complimentary
registration to the 2017 Powerful
Learning Conference

C8: Focus In...On Student Engagement with Assessment-Capable Learning (Rooms 74-75)

Take a snapshot view of students as they walk the red carpet. The cast and crew will share information on assessment-capable learning (ACL) and student-led conferences by using video clips, pictures and activities.

Session Outcomes:

- Receive an overview of ACL.
- Learn how to develop scales and rubrics.
- Acquire information and resources on data collection, goal-setting and practical uses of the portfolio.
- Understand how to implement a student-led conference with parents.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Chala Short and Michelle Boyer, Title I Teachers/Instructional Coaches; Amanda Simmons, Title I Teacher; and Jill Sansegraw, Teacher; Potosi Elementary School, Potosi R-III School District

C9: Collective Minds: Moving Beyond RtI (Suite G)

Move beyond data reports to impact the learning outcomes of all students. Hear how one school has embraced team data meetings to collectively provide support for students at every level. Learn how to address the needs of students both behaviorally and academically through systematic and targeted intervention.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand how to form and implement data teams.
- Discover the power of collective commitment to learning for all students.
- Receive tools to identify and monitor student growth.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Sustaining

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Doretta Fox, Director of Special Services; and Naomi Austin, Principal; Wheaton Elementary School, Wheaton R-III School District

C10: A Genius Hour in a PLC (Rooms 72-73)

Hear how one school addressed PLC Critical Question 4 through the implementation of the district curriculum within “a genius hour.”

Session Outcomes:

- Understand how to create a “genius hour” and receive strategies to answer Critical Question 4 in a PLC.
- Learn how to align this systematic process for student enrichment to district curriculum.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining

Level: Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8

Target Audience: Administrators

Demographic: Suburban

Presenters: Lezlie Waltz and Stephen Rew, Teachers; Randy Randolph, Principal; and Heather Poland, Library Media Specialist; Eagle Glen Intermediate School, Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District

C11: This Ain't Your Grandma's School: Personalized Learning Through Flexible Scheduling (Rooms 70-71)

Discover how to personalize student learning through flexible scheduling and student participation in PLCs.

Session Outcomes:

- Acquire strategies to prepare staff for change.
- Understand how to personalize learning.
- Receive ideas on how to leverage PLC capacity.
- Learn unique scheduling possibilities.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Aaron Duff, Coordinator of Academic Services; and Shari Waters, Assistant Principal, Platte Co. High School; Platte Co. R-III School District

C12: Need a Hand Shifting Culture? We Can Help! (Room 61)

Hear how one school changed the culture of a small, rural district high school to one that focuses on student learning, not only encourages but requires collaboration, and uses data to concentrate on results.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover proven methods to promote cultural change.
- Learn about strategies that were not effective.
- Acquire strategies to combat the fear that accompanies change.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: Rural

Presenters: Marteen Nolan, Jim Wall and Matt Schroer, Teachers; Heath Waters, Principal; and Mary Beth Kincaid, Counselor; Crocker High School, Crocker R-II School District

C13: From Scribblers to Scribes (Rooms 76-77)

Learn how singleton teachers in a high school implemented 6 + 1 writing traits to gain common data used in data-team meetings to strengthen and improve writing across the curriculum.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how teachers in rural schools with one teacher per content area share instructional strategies to engage students and improve writing quality.
- Receive strategies for team collaboration to improve writing across the curriculum.
- Observe examples of student growth resulting from the creation of questions, and learn how to give effective feedback through teacher/student conferences.
- Learn how to implement rubrics into daily practices.

PLC Implementation: Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: Rural

Presenters: Michelle McLaughlin, Teacher, Newtown-Harris High School; Susanne Crawford, Title I Teacher; Stephanie Oaks, Professional Development Chairperson; and Dustin Freeman, Principal; Newtown-Harris R-III School District

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

C14: Fostering a Culture of Hope and Resilience to Impact Student Learning (Parasol II)

The major goal of a PLC is to ensure student learning even in the face of obstacles. An increasing number of our students (and some of our adults) have experienced or are experiencing trauma. Learn about the types of trauma, its impact on learning, and what we can do about it.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand what trauma is, and what it is not.
- Learn the impact of trauma on the brain and learning.
- Acquire information and strategies to begin your trauma-awareness journey.
- Discover tools that promote hope and resilience in the face of trauma.

PLC Implementation: Beginning

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Kristel Barr, Director of Secondary Education; and Michelle Hofmann, Director of Elementary Education; Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District

C15: Making It Work in the World of Special Education: Standards-Based Grading and IEP Goals (Redbud)

Standards-based grading is here and making it work in special education can seem overwhelming. Understand how to use standards to develop grading rubrics, write standards-based IEP goals, and streamline the whole data-collection process to make your life easier and give you more time for instruction with your students!

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how to write standards-based grading rubrics for special education classrooms.
- Learn how to write standards-based IEP goals.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: Administrators, Non-Core/Specialist Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jessica Rodgers, Teacher/Autism Consultant, and Beth Chapman, Librarian, Montgomery Co. Middle School; and Christina Poggas, Teacher/Autism Consultant, Montgomery Co. High School; Montgomery Co. R-II School District

C16: Engaging Teachers as Learners to Impact Student Achievement (Northwinds)

Receive a comprehensive overview of the strategic planning and student outcomes of a Blue Ribbon Award-winning school.

Session Outcomes:

- Acquire action-planning tools.
- Learn collaboration techniques.
- Understand the logistics for sustainability.
- Discover implementation strategies.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Administrators, Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Doug Nielsen, Principal, Jane Cochran and Katie Johns, Teachers, Lucy Franklin Elementary School; Marissa Walsh and Corinne Arens, District Instructional Coaches; Blue Springs R-IV School District

C17: The Journey of a Turn-Around High School (Room 60)

Discover how to achieve success with a data-driven, collaborative strategy to transform the secondary school experience for students. Hear how teaching and learning has been redesigned by teams of teachers who meet weekly to engage community employers and leaders in the lives and education of students.

Session Outcomes:

- Receive information about fundamental systemic phases.
- Learn about shared responsibility for the development of students and their success.
- Understand the academy concept: what, how and why.
- Gain insight into how to have a smaller achievement gap between students of different backgrounds.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: High School

Target Audience: All

Demographic: Urban

Presenter: Brad MacLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Instruction, Van Horn High School, Independence 30 School District



 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

CONCURRENT SESSION D

Tuesday, January 31

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

D1: What Are the Practices, Processes and Policies that Lead to Exemplary PLC Recognition? (Group B) (Parasol I)

Listen and learn as the 2017 Missouri Exemplary PLC Schools share their data, challenges and successes. In this round-table session, visit with several award-winning schools that have made PLC the “way they do business” and are showing positive gains in student achievement.

PLC Implementation: All

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Bismarck High School, Bismarck R-V; Brown Elementary School, Hazelwood; Orchard Drive Elementary School, Jackson R-II; Forder Elementary School, Mehlville R-IX; Milan Elementary School, Milan C-2; North County Primary School, North St. Francois Co. R-I; Avery Elementary School, Webster Groves

D2: Math Is Messy! (Salon A)

Engage in hands-on math activities that highlight inquiry strategies. Learn embedded foundational skills as well as the eight mathematical practices to enhance student learning and risk-taking. Hear about math games, mental math strategies and planning techniques that promote positive and fun experiences with math.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn strategies that promote student ownership over math learning.
- Understand how to embed the eight mathematical practices into lessons.
- Discover how to make math fun for students while pushing their abilities.
- Acquire strategies to create a math workshop block that is intentional, student-driven and challenging.

PLC Implementation: Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jake Hartley, Teacher, and Andrea Stauch, Teaching and Learning Coach, Crestview Elementary School, North Kansas City 74 School District

D3: DOSE (Data of Student Engagement): A Prescribed Plan to Ensure Student Engagement (Rooms 74-75)

Hear about a systematic process to help ensure student engagement in a safe, trusting model accepted by all.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn what high-quality student engagement looks like.
- Discover how administrators can help teachers meet the current evaluation standards for student engagement in a nonthreatening manner.

PLC Implementation: Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenter: Chris Turpin, Principal, Union Star Elementary School, Union Star R-II School District

***D4: Believing It, Living It, Trusting It: A BLT Shake-Up (Suite G)**

Are you looking for ideas to strengthen your building leadership team and create a culture of trust among your staff? Hear about the three-year journey of one building leadership team to promote and strengthen a culture of trust and how trust will lead to open and collaborative conversations about student success.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn about activities and strategies to have effective conversations about building culture and trust.
- Discover ways to set common building norms and goals.
- See examples of common collaborative documents that can be used to promote best teaching practices and focus on student data.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Jessica Farrell, Beth Ramirez, Jennifer Milligan and Kelly Testerman, Teachers; and Lovie Driskill, Principal; Timber Creek Elementary School, Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District

D5: Knowledge Is Power! (Redbud)

Discover engaging activities and tools to empower your students to take ownership of their learning. Explore the use of assessment-capable learning (ACL) and engaging cross-curricular reading and writing strategies to prove that knowledge is power!

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how to implement various strategies that can be used across curriculums and how to develop a cross-curricular classroom setting.
- Learn to use ACL effectively.
- Understand the power of signposts.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8, High School

Target Audience: Classroom Teachers, Non-Core/Specialist Teachers

Demographic: All

Presenters: Sara Buckley, Literacy Coach/Teacher; and Regina Moyers, Teacher; Trojan Intermediate School, Potosi R-III School District

D6: Engaging All Students Through Digital Assessments (Northwinds)

Through the use of various digital-assessment tools, teachers can keep students engaged while gathering levels of student understanding to determine future student instructional needs.

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

* Presentation by a 2017 PLC Exemplary School.

Session Outcomes:

- Understand the importance of using assessment data to guide instruction.
- Learn about various types of digital assessments to gather student learning data.
- Discover which digital tools are more appropriate for certain data needed to guide instruction.

PLC Implementation: Developing**Level:** All**Target Audience:** All**Demographic:** All**Presenter:** Casey Echelmeier, District Instructional Technology Facilitator, Mexico 59 School District**D7: Unpacking Middle School Achievement: The Power of Student Participation (Rooms 70-71)**

Discover how three programs and interventions have attempted to increase student participation and achievement through a qualitative study, community partnership and data cycle.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn to appreciate the power of student participation in their own learning.
- Understand the importance of community partnership/STEAM-based instruction.
- Gain insight into the importance of the data cycle as a student support.

PLC Implementation: Developing**Level:** Grades 6-8**Target Audience:** All**Demographic:** Urban**Presenter:** Tracy Worthington, Teacher, Jefferson Middle School, Columbia 93 School District**D8: When Your School Does Not Fit the Mold (Rooms 76-77)**

If the PLC model doesn't fit your Tier 3 student-level population, there are ways to make it work. Hear about methods such as Reading Plus, advisory-care teams and vertical learning.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn methods of engagement for Tier 3 students.
- Understand how to develop a means of collaboration for the nontraditional building.
- Discover successful programs that enhance student engagement and growth.
- Gain insight into how collaboration resulted in student success through 100 percent teacher buy-in.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining**Level:** Grades 6-8, High School**Target Audience:** Administrators, Classroom Teachers**Demographic:** Urban**Presenters:** Mary Richards, Ellen McAuley, Crystal Verseman, Scott McMullen, Shea Johnson, and Dianne Lenaburg, Teachers; Central Academy, Cape Girardeau 63 School District**D9: Survival 101 - How to Survive the High-Needs/ High-Risk Student (Salon B)**

Receive information about building relationships and strategies that are centered around your Tier 3 students.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to build relationships with difficult students.
- Acquire strategies to create flexible classroom environments and assessments.
- Receive ideas for Tier 3 behavior structures and the referral process.
- Gain insight into collecting data on behaviors.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining**Level:** Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8**Target Audience:** All**Demographic:** All**Presenters:** Camille Webb and Amy Caswell, Teachers; McIntire Elementary School, Fulton 58 School District***D10: Results-Driven: How Effective Teams Work (Crystal Ballroom)**

Increase student achievement by examining the status of your team, planning and executing effective strategies, and monitoring and improving team functions.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how to diagnose and examine the current functions of your team.
- Acquire strategies to improve the focus, efficiency and effectiveness of your team.
- Learn to develop a system for continuous improvement that includes a monitoring and feedback process.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining**Level:** Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5, Grades 6-8**Target Audience:** All**Demographic:** All**Presenters:** Missy Mattingly, Principal; Melissa Kelch and Gina Garrison, Teachers; and Becky Madras, Counselor; Shull Elementary School, Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

* Presentation by a 2017 PLC Exemplary School.

D11: Using Voice and Choice to Engage Students (Rooms 72-73)

Hear about one school's journey to high student engagement by giving students voice and choice in their learning through the vehicle of problem-based learning (PBL).

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to use student voice and choice to increase engagement.
- Gain insight into designing cross-curricular learning activities with multiple solutions to engage students.
- Discover how administrators can support teachers during the implementation of PBL activities.
- Receive a sample unit you can adapt and implement.

PLC Implementation: Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Connie Cromwell, PBL Coach, and Angela Houf, Library Media Specialist/Teacher, Waynesville Sixth Grade Center, Waynesville R-VI School District

D12: LOVE Critical Thinking with LEGO BuildToExpress (BTE) Kits (Parasol II)

Looking for a way to engage students in their learning while promoting critical thinking and cognitive engagement? Make the intangible tangible by using LEGO BTE Kits designed to encourage students' expressions of thoughts, feelings and creativity. BTE Kits challenge students with building tasks related to a subject area and engage them in higher-order thinking to display a deep understanding of their learning.

Session Outcomes:

- Discover how LEGO BTE Kits can strengthen the core understanding of cognitive engagement and critical thinking (NEE Indicators 1.2 and 4.1).
- Learn to unlock the power LEGO BTE Kits can have for students when encouraged to display and discuss their learning in limitless, creative ways.
- Experience BTE Kits firsthand and dialogue with peers about ways to use the kits in your classroom.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Sara Taylor, Tier 1 Instruction Specialist, Summit Lakes Middle School; and Julie Steele, Tier 1 Instruction Specialist; Lee's Summit R-VII School District

D13: Raising the Bar for ALL! (Drawing Room Terrace)

When presented with a shocking visual representation of students not meeting benchmark goals, Bartley Elementary School raised the bar by focusing on elevating the expectations, performance and capacity of each student AND each staff member.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn to develop strategies for improved and informed decision-making.
- Discover a school culture that fosters the concept of quality education for ALL.
- Acquire strategies to improve student learning and achievement.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing, Sustaining
Level: Grades PK-2, Grades 3-5

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Helen Jarvis, Reading Interventionist; Connie Epperson, Principal; Anne Langendoerfer, Counselor; and Tracy Guse, Teacher; Bartley Elementary School, Fulton 58 School District

*D14: Gooool! Student Goal-Setting in a Digital World (Rooms 60-61)

Do you want students to take ownership of their own learning? How can you make digital goal-setting part of your classroom? Discover tools to help students successfully set and achieve goals using a digital format.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how to help students set SMART goals digitally.
- Gain access to easy-to-use digital goal-setting forms.
- Understand how to engage students in meaningful and specific self-reflection to achieve success.

PLC Implementation: Beginning, Developing

Level: Grades 6-8

Target Audience: All

Demographic: All

Presenters: Ginger Williams, Instructional Coach; and Timothy Broderick, Teacher; Hollister Middle School, Hollister R-V School District

D15: Quick, Effective Feedback for Collaboration (Rooms 62-63)

Hear how one school implemented a feedback system designed to create engagement of teachers through the quality of collaboration, acknowledging and celebrating great collaboration, and encouraging teachers to focus on effective student engagement.

Session Outcomes:

- Learn how the PLC feedback process works.
- Understand how to use the forms' add-ons to take data and send feedback.

PLC Implementation: Developing, Sustaining

Level: All

Target Audience: Administrators

Demographic: All

Presenters: James Russell, Technology Instructional Specialist; Amy Emmenderfer, Principal Intern; and Christa Turner, Director of Academic Services; Cape Girardeau 63 School District

 Participants are encouraged to bring a digital device (laptop, tablet, etc.) to this session.

* Presentation by a 2017 PLC Exemplary School.

2017 EXEMPLARY SCHOOLS

Sixteen schools met the criterion set forth by the Missouri PLC Project to receive the 2016-17 Exemplary Professional Learning Communities Award. This award is based on compelling evidence of successful implementation of the PLC process resulting in increased student achievement. Please take note of the data boards on display in the Salon Foyer outlining the goals and successes of these schools.

For more information about this year's Exemplary Professional Learning Communities Schools, visit www.moplc.org/exemplary-schools.html. This webpage is a virtual treasure trove of best practices from this year's schools as well as previous year's winners. Schools have submitted photos, videos, presentations and webpages detailing their learning to assist you in implementing professional learning communities. We hope you will take time to explore and discuss with your school staff.

BISMARCK R-V HIGH SCHOOL • BISMARCK R-V

Bismarck R-V High School began their professional learning community journey six years ago. In an initial shift toward a culture of collaboration, the building's faculty collaboratively developed its own mission, vision and values, committing themselves to sustaining a culture focused on their fundamental purpose and a compelling future. While working through the PLC process, the faculty realized that teacher collaboration and shared leadership were essential components. In addition to the building leadership team, collaborative teams were developed for each of the core areas as well as a non-core team. Priority was placed on providing collaborative teams with a sufficient amount of weekly collaborative time, resulting in a restructured master schedule with a collaborative period of 52 minutes built in for each team. This time is used to discuss student data, monitor student progress and identify areas of concern, which ultimately results in data-based decisions.

The 52-minute seminar time is also used for the tiered program for intervention at Bismarck High School. Students are assigned to a blanketed study and advisory period, which allows teachers to build relationships with students while also providing time for reading and enrichment. Students are assigned weekly to core academic areas for targeted extra help as needed, determined by data analysis through collaborative meetings. Specific interventions are defined for struggling learners and intentional nonlearners. In addition, Google Docs is used to share meeting agendas, minutes, action plans and RtI rosters. The shared-document capabilities provide seamless communication between teams and teachers.

Using ideas from Mike Schmoker's book titled "Focus," the non-core collaborative team at Bismarck High School incorporates domain-specific reading, writing and oral presentation assignments in each of their classes. The result has been significant gains in the percentage of students reading at or above grade level.

Student Demographics:

294 Students; 25 Teachers; 76 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Bismarck R-V High School
165 Campus Drive, Bismarck, MO 63624
Website: www.bismarckindians.org

Principal: Jason King
Phone: 573-734-6111
Email: jking@bismarckr5.org

Bismarck R-V School District • Superintendent: Charles Hasty

CAMERON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL • CAMERON R-I

Cameron Intermediate School's PLC was born when Parkview Elementary School and Cameron Middle School were combined in the fall of 2015. Not only were these schools coming together from two different buildings, Parkview was also designated a focus school by DESE, a designation subsequently inherited by Cameron Intermediate School. The mission, vision and commitments that exemplify the PLC were soon created.

Grade-level, content-area, vertical and leadership teams collaborate for student success. During grade-level and content-team meetings, teachers share celebrations, reflect on RtI (response to intervention) data, share instructional strategies and complete book studies. Vertical teams for math and ELA meet for 30 minutes every other week to ensure common content vocabulary and consistency of instruction as well as to reveal gaps in curriculum. The leadership team meets at least twice monthly with a focus on shared leadership roles and collaborative communication. Teams maintain consistency by using common norms and agendas.

RtI is used to ensure student proficiency in priority math and ELA standards. A 30-minute RtI time, which rotates between math and ELA every three weeks, is included in the daily schedules at all grade levels. Teachers use data from acuity or unit pretests to create SMART goals for priority standards. Google spreadsheets provide the pertinent information for each RtI session which is then used to improve learning for all students and enhance learning for those students who have mastered the priority standard.

Collaborative focus on student data and learning has resulted in academic success for students.

Student Demographics:

420 Students; 34 Teachers; 50 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Cameron Intermediate School
915 S. Park Ave., Cameron, MO 64429
Website: www.cameron.k12.mo.us/

Principal: Laurie Mefford
Phone: 816-882-1046
Email: lmefford@cameronschools.org

Cameron R-I School District • Superintendent: Dr. Matt Robinson

PARKVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • CAMERON R-I

Parkview Elementary is a preschool-second grade building located in the Northwest region of the state with a mission of "Growing and learning today for a better tomorrow." Staff at Parkview are data-driven and focused on each student achieving success and meeting their learning goals. Students set goals and then monitor their progress using data notebooks that are sent home every two weeks to share with parents. All parents are encouraged to visit and be a guest reader in their child's classroom. Parents are invited to view school data and their child's accomplishments at the end of each year during a data fair, which includes student recognition for individual and class achievements.

Learning targets for all subjects are posted in kid-friendly terms, and the schedule is designed with 60 minutes of RtI time, better known as Dragon Time. All Parkview students receive 60 minutes of intervention or enrichment. Teachers also offer an additional 30 minutes of Tier 3 instruction each day at every grade level. Every week, the Title I team has two 15-minute individual beanbag reading sessions with at-risk students.

The schedule is designed so that all teachers have 60 minutes of common planning time daily and collaboration time once a week. Teachers also meet with the Title I team before school to discuss RtI instruction and how to meet the individual needs of their at-risk students. Teachers share student data, complete lesson plans and create common assessments. Opportunities are available for teachers to observe peers and learn from each other resulting in a very positive team environment. Teachers participate in the Bucket Filler Program where all Lil' Dragons and the Parkview team strive to fill one other's buckets each and every day!

Student Demographics:

445 Students; 40 Teachers; 56 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Parkview Elementary School
602 S. Harris St., Cameron MO 64429
Website: www.cameron.k12.mo.us/our-schools/parkview-elementary

Principal: Donna Rush
Phone: 816-882-1051
Email: drush@cameronschools.org

Cameron R-I School District • Superintendent: Dr. Matt Robinson

CLIPPARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • CAPE GIRARDEAU 63

Clippard Elementary is one of five elementary schools located within the Cape Girardeau 63 School District. Serving students in pre-kindergarten through fourth grade, Clippard has been implementing the PLC process for five years. Through this process and by taking to heart the district's mission "to educate EVERY student to be a successful, responsible citizen," teachers and staff have cultivated a climate and culture where every student can be successful.

Through efficient and effective collaborative meetings, teachers and staff are the guiding force behind collaborative teams that operate based on mutual trust and respect. By using responsible, consistent utilization of ELOs, CFAs and the data-teaming process to formulate SMART Goals, new levels of effectiveness, engagement and differentiation to meet the needs of all students have been reached.

At Clippard Elementary, the RtI process is utilized to provide engaging, individualized instruction for every student, and all teachers and students participate in the RtI process. Through the exploration of many different models for implementing RtI across all grade levels, Clippard has achieved success in building a system for providing RtI that benefits all students, regardless of whether students are meeting grade-level expectations, below expectations or exceeding expectations. The district's slogan of "Every Student, Every Day" is deeply embedded in the daily structures, routines and culture of Clippard Elementary!

Student Demographics:

400 Students; 35 Teachers; 65 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Clippard Elementary School

2880 Hopper Road, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Website: clippard.capetigers.com

Principal: Dr. Sydney Herbst

Phone: 573-334-5720

Email: herbsts@capetigers.com

Cape Girardeau 63 School District • Superintendent: Dr. James Welker

BROWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • HAZELWOOD

Brown Elementary School's journey began three years ago after the leadership team attended a presentation by PLC consultants Richard and Becky Du Four at a PLC conference. During the three previous years, scores from the grade level assessments (GLAs) were stagnant despite efforts at raising overall achievement. Following this conference, the leadership team embraced the concept of focusing on PLCs as one of three school improvement plan goals, with a long-range goal of full implementation in three years.

Brown's first activity was to get its entire school community together to revisit values, vision and mission. Staff, parents and community members collaborated to come up with values they could believe in and a vision and mission that matched those values. With these in place, the journey began! The next task was to focus attention on academics and ensure that everyone in the building could be involved in the PLC and RtI process. A master schedule was created so that all building aides, teacher aides and special area teachers could attend collaborative meetings and participate in the PLC process.

The next part of the journey was to create a road map of the big rocks – those things that have a clear and substantial impact on the well-being of staff and students. Through collaboration, each grade level created a power standard for each quarter, which was the learning that was required for everyone to master by the end of the quarter with no exceptions. Vertical team meetings were used to ensure alignment so the learning was seamless from one grade level to another.

Once these were in place, the PLC calendar focused on assessing these power standards, developing strategies to teach the standards and then interventions for those students who did not master them at post-assessment. Through this focused attention, Brown Elementary saw its GLA scores continue to rise over the next three years.

Student Demographics:

379 Students; 31 Teachers; 56 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Brown Elementary School

3325 Chicory Creek Lane, Florissant, MO 63031

Website: hazell.schoolwires.net/Domain/11

Principal: Matt Phillips

Phone: 314-953-4100

Email: mphillips1@hazelwoodschoools.org

Hazelwood School District • Superintendent: Dr. Nettie Collins-Hart

HOLLISTER MIDDLE SCHOOL • HOLLISTER R-V

The foundation of Hollister Middle School (HMS) is a collaborative vision created by students and staff. It is how they do business every day. The student-centered culture is evident through daily activities both in and out of classrooms. With a focus on relationships and student achievement, students are busy setting goals, becoming leaders, mentoring peers and making choices to affect their future.

The vision embeds the four corollary questions to ensure success every day. Student learning goals are determined by teachers using a backward design with power standards to develop assessments based on what students need to understand to be successful.

In our 1:1 school, we are committed to using technology at a level that changes learning. Teachers use collaboration to discuss and analyze data from students they share. Conversations are focused on what best practices are supporting success for every student. Students pre- and post-test and use data to build instructional goals. Reflection on data determines if they need more assistance or have met the mark. Students present data and learning goals to their parents during student-led conferences, proudly sharing successes and what support they need from home.

Teachers and students use individual data to decide how to extend learning or set intervention goals based on student performance. When learning goals aren't achieved, they haven't met the mark of proficiency, so we move on to guided reading, guided math and science remediation based on needs. Our intentional nonlearners or students needing additional time gain support and mentoring from A+ tutors. When learning goals are achieved, students meet the mark of proficiency or beyond, and they receive opportunities to explore other interests through student-led clubs, Makerspace or other instructional opportunities.

Student Demographics:

326 Students; 31 Teachers; 61 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Hollister Middle School
1798 State Highway BB, Hollister, MO 65672
Website: www.hollister.k12.mo.us

Principal: Dr. Shawn Page
Phone: 417-243-4035
Email: shawnpage@hollisterschools.com

Hollister R-V School District • Superintendent: Dr. Brian Wilson

ORCHARD DRIVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • JACKSON R-II

Orchard Drive Elementary is one of seven elementary schools in the Jackson R-II School District. The school's mission, implemented through a partnership of staff, students, parents and the community, is "Orchard recognizes that children have the ability to reach their dreams."

Orchard Elementary has a deeply implemented intervention process for students in need of additional assistance. All students are able to participate in the READ program that focuses on letter sounds. High school A+ students have received training and volunteer their time to work with children four days a week. Over 98 percent of participants leave kindergarten reading at grade level.

Formative and summative assessments in reading and mathematics power Pow-Wow time (a response to intervention strategy) at Orchard Drive. Reading groups are based on the Developmental Reading Assessment, which is given throughout the year to determine students' achievement levels. Mathematics Pow-Wow groups provide additional instruction and mastery of foundational skills. At Orchard Drive, i-Ready is utilized as a universal screener in math and reading to determine student progress.

Each staff member embraces the motto of "Every child is OUR child," and they take care of students' basic needs to make sure they are in a safe place to learn. Staff firmly believe that children learn best from people with whom they have positive relationships, so establishing connections with students and families is a top priority beginning on day one at Orchard Drive Elementary.

Student Demographics:

430 Students; 30 Teachers; 45 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Orchard Drive Elementary School
1402 Orchard Drive, Jackson, MO 63755
Website: [www.jacksonr2schools.com/
Orchard-Drive-Elementary-School/Home/](http://www.jacksonr2schools.com/Orchard-Drive-Elementary-School/Home/)

Principal: Shanna Kelley Wilson
Phone: 573-243-9555
Email: swilson@jr2mail.org

Jackson R-II School District • Superintendent: Dr. John Link

FORDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • MEHLVILLE R-IX

Forder Elementary is a K-5 building in St. Louis, Mo., in its fourth year functioning as a PLC community. The PLC process is used at all grade-level team meetings and in building-level teams and has enabled students, staff and parents to create a learning community where all students can succeed. Its mission and vision were developed to support student academic and social-emotional learning. Their mission statement, “Fostering academic excellence and acceptance for learners to be productive citizens of character in our nurturing and safe school,” was established during their first year.

Strategies used to support the mission focus on assessing student performance, analyzing data and using that information to drive classroom and individualized instruction. Teams use common formative assessments to collect data and identify students’ strengths and weaknesses on a weekly basis. Teaching strategies are identified in team meetings, on team agendas and through data workbooks based on identified challenges, and teams revisit instructional practices to address student needs. Teachers are consistently working within this cycle to make informed decisions and to utilize the best teaching practices to develop student skills in a specific curricular area.

To enhance the PLC process and to increase student voice and ownership in learning, Forder teachers have embedded continuous classroom improvement into their classrooms. Teachers collaborate with students to target specific learning objectives through the data cycle. Class goals are established, and students choose individual goals based on their performance and needs. Student data binders have been introduced, and teachers use these binders to encourage students to track their progress on a selected goal. This empowers students to take ownership of their learning and develop their ability to speak specifically to their accomplishments as well as areas of focus to improve on.

Student Demographics:

430 Students; 20 Teachers; 51 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Forder Elementary School

623 W. Ripa Ave., St. Louis, MO 63125

Website: www.mehlilleschooldistrict.schoolfusion.us/

Principal: Dr. Scott Clark

Phone: 314-467-5600

Email: sclark@mehlilleschooldistrict.net

Mehlville R-IX School District • Superintendent: Dr. Chris Gaines

MILAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • MILAN C-2

Milan Elementary School is located in rural northeast Missouri. Milan’s student population is diverse with 49 percent of students being ELL and 68 percent receiving free or reduced lunch. The school has a family atmosphere and believes all students are capable of learning at a high level. The Milan Elementary building improvement plan guides the school year as well as the use of the goal wall, the building curriculum map, visible priority standards in each room and the posting of student work.

Staff and students strive for improvement and excellence every day in academics and behavior. The PLC team establishes success indicators that drive their goals and teams for the year. Staff collaborate using data from various tools and knowledge from colleagues. Grade-level teams meet weekly to write and review SMART goals, and teachers meet vertically to identify gaps and devise a plan to close those gaps.

Students are made aware of goals in their classes by using data notebooks, which they share with their parents at parent-teacher conferences. Sharing achievement scores and behavior data helps hold students accountable for their academics and behavior. Student-led conferences and the practice of giving information back to students has brought the PLC full circle. Strong parent involvement provides another data piece for monitoring student expectations and has given students the drive to succeed.

Milan Elementary School celebrates all the great things happening at the school because every day is a great day to be a Wildcat!

Student Demographics:

243 Students; 26 Teachers; 68 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Milan Elementary School

373 S. Market St., Milan, MO 63556

Website: www.milan.k12.mo.us/

Principal: Ashley Pauley

Phone: 660-265-1403

Email: apauley@milan.k12.mo.us

Milan C-2 School District • Superintendent: Dr. Ben Yocom

NASHUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • NORTH KANSAS CITY 74

Nashua Elementary School, home of the Stars, is one of 21 elementary schools in the North Kansas City 74 School District. Its vision, “Nashua Elementary: Cultivating character in an innovative global community,” helps students understand the importance of focus and success from day one.

Nashua Elementary’s PLC journey began in the 2014-2015 school year with a new administration. Faculty and staff committed to this process by creating a schedule that included an hour of collaborative PLC time for every grade-level teacher. This allowed teachers to initiate conversations about students, assessments and instructional practices.

The following year, Nashua refined the data protocols utilized for PLC work which helped to make data more meaningful. Teams began to look at grade-level student data along with common instructional practices that directly impacted student achievement. They participated in professional development on the PLC cycle, which resulted in more effective data-driven teacher collaboration. The PLC cycle begins with pre-assessments or benchmark data. Based on that data, teams begin projecting units with common formative assessments and then meet to look at the common data. Results are shared with the students. Teachers and students work together to create standards-based proficiency scales using student criteria. These scales help students gauge their level of understanding and set formative goals throughout a unit of study. Finally, the teams analyze the post-assessment data to determine achievement and academic celebrations.

Nashua staff are excited to continue the PLC process. They can speak to the effectiveness of the collaborative practice because they have seen their students continue to achieve at high levels. As they say every day at Nashua, “Be a Star wherever you are.” The PLC process has enabled faculty, staff and students to shine brightly wherever they are!

Student Demographics:

409 Students; 24 Teachers; 23 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Nashua Elementary School

221 N.E. 114th St., Kansas City, MO 64155

Website: www.nkschools.org/page.cfm?p=1944

Principal: Heather Stukey

Phone: 816-321-5160

Email: Heather.Stukey@nkschools.org

North Kansas City 74 School District • Superintendent: Dr. Dan Clemens

NORTH COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL • NORTH ST. FRANCOIS CO. R-I

North County Primary PLC teams consist of classroom teachers, Title I reading teachers, a literacy coach and the administration. Teams meet weekly during planning periods to focus on student achievement using student data to drive their meetings and discussions. PLC meetings are based on their norms, mission, vision and the four corollary questions. Teams collaborate at each meeting and share strategies using student data to help struggling students and provide students with interventions. North County Primary’s grade-level data rooms display data throughout the year that teachers can use to help students master the curriculum.

To help students succeed, North County Primary has implemented a multitiered intervention program. Interventions for students are determined by PLC teams using student data. Students are placed with different classroom teachers to work on specific skills as determined by the results of a common formative assessment. Some students receive interventions while other students receive enrichment in Tier 2. Following a second common formative assessment, students who have not mastered the curriculum receive additional interventions from classroom teachers through tutoring and small-group lessons in the classroom.

Students who continuously do not master common formative assessments may be placed in Tier 3 interventions with special area teachers and/or Title I reading teachers who are trained to work with students to improve their skills. These students are monitored continuously, and communication occurs among all stakeholders. Every week, PLC teams discuss students that may need placement in a Tier 2 or Tier 3 intervention. Data drives the decisions made so students have an opportunity to achieve academic and social success.

Student Demographics:

735 Students; 52 Teachers; 62 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

North County Primary School

405 Hillcrest Drive, Bonne Terre, MO 63628

Website: www.ncsd.k12.mo.us/?page_id=62

Principal: Dr. Chad Lynn

Phone: 573-431-3300

Email: clynn@ncsd.k12.mo.us

North St. Francois Co. R-I School District • Superintendent: Dr. Yancy Poorman

CREEKMOOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • RAYMORE-PECULIAR R-II

Creekmoor Elementary, home of the Cougars, is located in the northern portion of the Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District. The district started its PLC journey nearly 10 years ago, and Creekmoor is currently in its third year of training from regional specialists.

The mission at Creekmoor is to “prepare EACH student for a successful and meaningful life.” The school culture revolves around the premise that when teachers establish meaningful relationships with students and partner with parents, all students will achieve at high levels. Teams work together to provide students with opportunities to experience success, and they routinely conduct intentional collaborative dialogue answering all four corollary questions. To remain focused and productive, teams partner with their students and teach them the importance of learning and tracking their own progress.

All students participate in a schoolwide intervention program that focuses on missing and foundational skills. These skills are identified through layered collaboration sessions with key stakeholders by following specific meeting structures and collective agreements, commitments and norms.

Creekmoor continuously monitors the effectiveness of its PLC process. Though student scores have continued to grow, Creekmoor remains proficiency-driven for all students. It is understood that teams must continually challenge the status quo and hold one other accountable professionally.

Student Demographics:

508 Students; 43 Teachers; 22 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Creekmoor Elementary School

1501 Creekmoor Drive, Raymore, MO 64083

Website: creekmoorelementary.weebly.com/

Principal: Jerrod Fellhauer

Phone: 816-892-1675

Email: jerrod.felhauer@raypec.org

Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District • Superintendent: Dr. Kari Monsees

SHULL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • RAYMORE-PECULIAR R-II

Shull Elementary, home of the Sharks, is located in Peculiar, Mo., about 30 miles south of downtown Kansas City and has a population of 278 students. The smallest school in the Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District, Shull is known for its family-like atmosphere and student-centered philosophy.

Having undergone a significant transformation in culture on their three-year journey to achieve exemplary status, Shull teachers and students have made impressive achievement gains. The percentage of students achieving proficient and advanced levels in ELA on Missouri Assessment Program tests has more than doubled, increasing from 38 percent in 2014 to 79 percent in 2016. The percentage of students achieving in the top two tiers in math has grown from 27 percent in 2014 to 62 percent in 2016.

Teams engage in intentional collaboration for a minimum of 90 minutes each week using systematic procedures for recording and communicating progress, analyzing and responding to student data, and monitoring the ability of the team to collaborate at high levels. Teachers hone their instructional expertise by utilizing the double-planning model, placing priority on Quad D questioning and selecting and executing the use of instructional strategies with intention. A multitiered approach and universal screening process ensure that students who need intensive academic or behavior intervention will be identified early.

Focused on understanding how trauma affects the brain and explaining functions of behavior in children and adults, members of the school family practice and use Conscious Discipline’s 7 Powers for Conscious Adults and the 7 Skills of Discipline. Students’ needs are met through offering flexible learning spaces with yoga balls, one-legged stools, wiggle pads, standing workstations, fidgets, proactive breaks and sensory tools. Kindness Trees, Wish You Well and School Family boards, calm spots, school family jobs, Brain Smart Starts, and rituals connect and unify the school community.

Student Demographics:

278 Students; 28 Teachers; 29 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Shull Elementary School

11706 E. 211th Street, Peculiar, MO 64078

Website: www.raypec.k12.mo.us

Principal: Dr. Missy Mattingly

Phone: 816-892-1600

Email: missy.mattingly@raypec.org

Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District • Superintendent: Dr. Kari Monsees

TIMBER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • RAYMORE-PECULIAR R-II

Timber Creek Elementary is one of six elementary schools in the Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District, and its motto is “Jaguar is our name, learning is our game.”

Timber Creek began a culture shift two years ago while working with its PLC regional consultant. The staff was challenged to look at the culture of their building as a whole. They implemented several PLC activities to help change that culture. The big-change moment happened when staff took the PLC culture survey. Reflecting as a faculty on the results led to constructive conversations and the development of a plan, and faculty and staff made a joint effort to change their culture in a positive way. Because of this shift, teachers are able to collaborate openly regarding student data, effective instructional strategies, student behavior needs and vertical progressions.

Other effective strategies included setting norms, establishing roles, using common forms for collaboration, setting regular meeting dates and creating specific agendas. They worked collaboratively on building initiatives such as positive student reinforcement, growth mindset, brain-based learning, effective data evaluation, protocols for data-cycle collaboration and vertical teaming. Through PLC and building collaboration, teachers evaluated current instructional strategies to determine if they were best practice. They learned how to identify misconceptions in order to determine instructional strategies needed for student growth.

The Timber Creek culture now is “what is best for our kids.”

Student Demographics:

335 Students; 27 Teachers; 29 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Timber Creek Elementary School
310 E. Calico Drive, Raymore, MO 64083
Website: timbercreekjaguars.weebly.com

Principal: Dr. Lovie Driskill
Phone: 816-892-1950
Email: lovie.driskill@raypec.org

Raymore-Peculiar R-II School District • Superintendent: Dr. Kari Monsees

WARRIOR RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • WARREN CO. R-III

Warrior Ridge Elementary is one of three elementary schools in the Warren Co. R-III School District. By living its school motto “Hand in hand, we learn together” every day, staff and students have created a strong learning collaborative culture.

This learning collaborative culture is evident in all of its school practices. During collaborative meetings, teams utilize documents to collect and chart reading data and to determine results indicators. Student data is color-coded to show students proficient or higher, close to proficient and below level. Teams focus on prioritizing steps, selecting effective reading instructional strategies, adult behaviors, student behaviors and “look fors” in student work. This has been effective in increasing student reading achievement. The school motto is evident when teachers are collaborating as teams to help all students in the grade level.

Teams study grade-level standards by utilizing a data-analysis worksheet during data-team meetings. Teams study the standards taught, pick two or three standards to address, decide how the standards will be addressed, assign new strategies for reteaching and embedding the standards, and then decide when and how the standards will be assessed. Student goal-setting has been effective in students monitoring their own learning. The school motto is evident here as well when students and staff are setting individual and grade-level goals to achieve high levels of success.

Warrior Ridge Elementary ensures high levels of learning for all students by planning, monitoring student and staff SMART goals, assessing the four corollary questions often, allocating time, honoring, and celebrating. Frequent celebrations reinforce work and values, which lead to continued effort as well as recognizing students’ learning results and adult behaviors that advance the vision, mission, motto and goals. At Warrior Ridge Elementary, “Hand in hand, we learn together” is more than a motto – it is a way of life!

Student Demographics:

520 Students; 36 Teachers; 47 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Warrior Ridge Elementary School
800 Warrior Ave., Warrenton, MO 63383
Website: www.warriorridgeelementary.warrencor3.org/

Principal: Dr. Bobbie Russell
Phone: 636-456-6906
Email: russellbl@warrencor3.k12.mo.us

Warren Co. R-III School District • Superintendent: Dr. James Chandler

AVERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • WEBSTER GROVES

Avery Elementary is in its fifth year as an effective PLC. When the process began in 2012, it was decided that the schoolwide focus would be math. One of the first steps was determining a buildingwide schedule that would provide each team daily collaborative planning time and allow each grade level to have a daily 20-minute intervention block. The schedule for grade-level intervention times was strategically planned and staggered in order to ensure an optimal teacher-to-student ratio in each group during this twenty-minute time period. This continues to be an integral part of the process and model.

Math at each student's individual level is the focus of intervention at Avery Elementary. Students are progress-monitored weekly so that instructional strategies can be determined, and students can participate in the process of tracking and monitoring their own growth. This growth is celebrated daily with immediate feedback during intervention sessions, weekly with successful exit slips and at the end of intervention cycles as a grade level.

All Avery Elementary teachers are leaders, and leadership capacity is built in many ways. Because the leadership roles rotate every two years, each teacher has the opportunity to lead the grade-level collaborative meetings. Teachers are familiar with and participate in the PLC process and can effectively lead conversations about instructional strategies as well as how to analyze data and prioritize student needs. This system ensures the sustainability of the PLC process.

Student Demographics:

517 Students; 44 Teachers, 20 Percent Free/Reduced Lunch

Contact Information:

Avery Elementary School

909 Bompert, St. Louis, MO 63119

Website: avery.webster.k12.mo.us/pages/avery

Principal: Dr. Anthony Arnold

Phone: 314-963-6425

Email: arnold.tony@wgmail.org

Webster Groves School District • Superintendent: Dr. John Simpson

2016 EXEMPLARY PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES SCHOOLS

Bismarck R-V Elementary School – Bismarck R-V
Blanchard Elementary School – Cape Girardeau 63
David H. Hickman High School – Columbia 93
McIntire Elementary School – Fulton 58
Garrett Elementary School – Hazelwood
Russell Hawkins Junior High School – Jackson R-II
Southview Elementary School – Kearney R-I
Highland Elementary School – Lewis Co. C-1
Montgomery Co. Middle School – Montgomery Co. R-II
Eagle Glen Intermediate School – Raymore-Peculiar R-II
Raymore Elementary School – Raymore-Peculiar R-II
Reeds Spring Intermediate School – Reeds Spring R-IV
Reeds Spring Primary School – Reeds Spring R-IV
Julia Goldstein Early Childhood – University City
Martin Warren Elementary School – Warrensburg R-VI
Warrensburg High School – Warrensburg R-VI

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Beccy Baldwin, Director

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CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE



Front Row: Michele Stichler, Cathi Rust, Susan Feedback
Back Row: Lori Colvin, Tom Okruch, Lori Ladwig, Vicki Robb

THANK YOU!

It takes many people committed to a common goal to provide a quality learning experience as large as the Powerful Learning Conference. On behalf of the MO PLC Project, I thank our keynote presenters, Luis Cruz, Todd Whitaker and Mike Rutherford; our featured luncheon speaker, Beth Houf; and the many session presenters who shared their knowledge, expertise and successes.

My thanks to each member of the conference committee for the many months of dedicated service spent planning this conference – selecting the hotel, choosing the presenters and attending to many aspects of the conference that may seem trivial but can make a huge difference in the overall outcomes of a conference. It has been a true pleasure to work with this conference committee!

There are many behind-the-scenes people as well who have provided support and assistance. I especially acknowledge and thank Tammy Bagley and her associates at Custom Meeting Planners for attending to every detail to ensure that the 2017 Powerful Learning Conference truly reflects our conference vision; Wanda Fischer, our graphic designer, who responded to our requests with such flexibility and diligence to meet our deadlines with highly professional conference materials; Michele Stichler, our administrative assistant, for her yearlong help in organizing and supporting various committee tasks; and all my colleagues in the Office of Quality Schools and the Office of Educator Quality for their assistance. I am so appreciative of the help and support from so many!

Thank you! Thank you!
Cathi

Special thanks to the Missouri Powerful Learning Conference Planning Committee for allowing us to serve as your conference planner.



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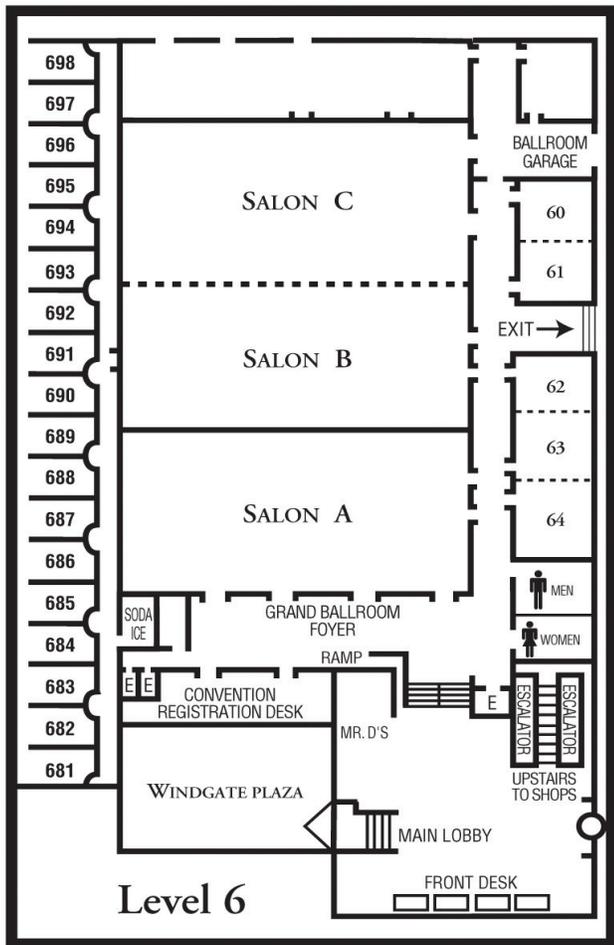
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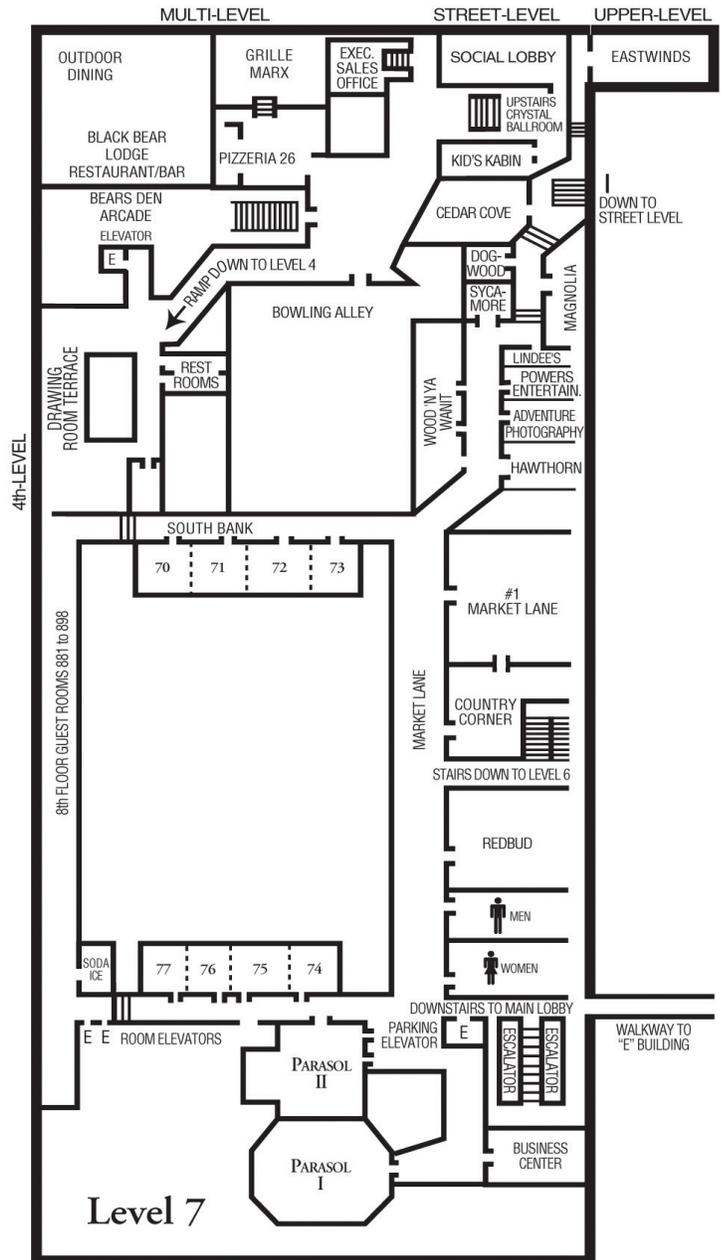
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FACILITY LAYOUT

BUILDINGS A AND B



CRYSTAL BALLROOM: Go down Market Lane, past all shops, down three flights of stairs, to our Social Lobby. At the Social Lobby take the short flight of carpeted steps up to the Crystal Ballroom, which is on your left.



NORTHWINDS AND SUITE G: Take escalator or elevator from the Main Lobby up to the catwalk to Building E. Cross the catwalk to the third level of Building E. Go left at Building E's main corridor and proceed out the side door into the stairwell where you will exit through the door on your left. Go across the road and into Building D, entering through the double glass doors on your left. Northwinds and Suite G are in Building D, next door to each other.

LAKE OF THE OZARKS

TAN-TAR-A RESORT
GOLF CLUB, MARINA & INDOOR WATERPARK

Having trouble with stairs? Take the connecting corridor from Building A to Building B. From Building A, go to the double elevators where the guest rooms are located and ride to level 4. Go through the guest room hallway, exiting at the end. Turn left and follow the hallway to Building B.