PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (PLC) MODULE
Module Outcomes

- Definition of a PLC
- What PLCs are NOT
- PLC Basic: 3 Big Ideas
- Characteristics of a PLC - Strategies for Successful Implementation
- PLC Team Cycle
- Agenda Components
- Sample Agenda
- A PLCs Impact on Instruction - video
- Resources
What is a Professional Learning Community?

Professional learning community (PLC)
An ongoing process in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve. Professional learning communities operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for students is continuous job-embedded learning for educators.

ALLTHINGSPLC
PLCs are NOT...

- grade level meetings
- programs
- run as committees
- book studies
- professional developments
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY BASIC: 3 BIG IDEAS

FOCUS ON LEARNING

COLLABORATIVE CULTURE

RESULTS ORIENTATION
FOCUS ON LEARNING

1. What do we want students to know and be able to do?
2. How will we know if they’ve learned it?
3. What will we do when they don’t learn it?
4. What will we do when they do learn it?
COLLABORATIVE CULTURE

- Unity
- Common Goals
- Accountable

“When you’re surrounded by people who share a passionate commitment around a common purpose, anything is possible.”

Howard Schultz
RESULTS ORIENTATION
CHARACTERISTICS OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

- Shared Mission, Vision, Values, Goals
- Collaborative Team Focused on Learning
- Collective Inquiry
- Action Orientation and Experimentation
- Commitment to Continuous Improvement
- Results Orientation
The Team Cycle

PLC Meets

Focus
- Using data, the team creates a lesson plan and a common assessment.

Strategies
- Teacher instructs using effective strategies from the team’s focus meeting.

Assessment
- The team conducts common assessment then meets to analyze data and discuss strategies.

Response
- Teacher remediates or enriches based on the pre-determined proficiency level.

Arrow flow: Focus → Strategies → Assessment → Response → Focus
PLC MEETING AGENDAS

Key Components

- Meeting Norms
- Members
- Roles
- Outcomes
- SMART Goal(s)
- Four Critical Questions
- Topics of Discussion
- Who and Estimated Time
- Minutes
SAMPLE AGENDA

Second Grade PLC Agenda

Date: April 8, 2020

Materials to bring to meeting:
- Data binder and lesson plans

PLC Members:
- John S., Sally J., Kim H.
- Lisa K. absent

Meeting Norms:
1. Begin and end on time
2. Stay fully engaged throughout the meeting
3. Listen respectfully
4. Maintain student focus in all work

Goals/Outcomes:
- Identify next standards to be taught
- Develop a common assessment

Roles:
- Facilitator: John
- Recorder: Kim
- Timkeeper: Sally
- Norms/On Task: Lisa

Questions that should guide our work:
1. What do we want students to know and be able to do?
2. How will we know if they've learned it?
3. What will we do when they don't learn it?
4. What will we do when they do learn it?

SMART Goal(s):
- Reading achievement for all students will increase by 33% moving from 33% proficient or highly proficient on 2019
- AYP/Exempt to 33% proficient or highly proficient on 2020 AYP.
- Math achievement for all students will increase by 33% moving from 33% proficient or highly proficient on 2019.
- AYP/Exempt to 33% proficient or highly proficient on 2020 AYP.

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<th>Topic for Discussion</th>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Estimated Time</th>
<th>Minutes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify/Discuss Essential Standards for math and reading</td>
<td>Whole Team</td>
<td>5.0 minutes</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop Common Assessments for both identified standards</td>
<td>Whole Team</td>
<td>1.5 minutes each</td>
<td>15</td>
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Topics for next meeting:
- Discuss outcomes and what do we do for the students who did not learn it and/or did learn it.
- If time allows, identify the next standards for ELA and Math.
- Materials to bring to next meeting: Bring student work scored and rubric filled in for both standards.
What is a Professional Learning Community?

What makes an effective PLC?

Creating a Professional Learning Community at Work: Foundational Concepts and Practices

6 Essential Characteristics of a PLC
Thank you

Visit [www.azed.gov/improvement](http://www.azed.gov/improvement) for all grant resources, guidance documents, webinars, and training modules.

If you have any questions, feel free to message [SchoolImprovementInbox@azed.gov](mailto:SchoolImprovementInbox@azed.gov) or contact your assigned program specialist for support.