

A green chalkboard with two pieces of pink chalk and faint white chalk drawings. The chalkboard is the background, and the text is written on it. The chalk is pink and the drawings are white.

Stop Having Meetings !!

***Creating Change Through
Professional Learning
Communities***



Des Moines, Iowa Schools Counseling Grant Counselors

Presenters

- **Rick Miller, Garton School Counselor**
- **Jan Stribling, Monroe School Counselor**
- **Emily Janssen, Monroe School Counselor**
- **Penny Bisignano, Grant Coordinator**

A Professional Learning Community Defined

- “A systematic process in which we work together, interdependently, to analyze and impact our professional practice in order to improve our individual and collective results.”
- Rick DuFour



YOU and a PLC

- What experience have you had with a professional learning community?



Professional Learning Community Research

“learning communities offer an avenue to build the momentum of shifting the paradigm in the professional development of teachers and learning of students”

successful collaborative efforts include strategies that “open” practice by encouraging sharing, reflecting, and taking the risks necessary for change to occur

Dufour, Dufour, & Eaker 2002, Rasberry & Mahajan, 2008, Vescio, Ross & Adams, 2006

PLC Outcomes

- Gains in student achievement-attendance-behavior
- Higher quality solutions to problems
- Increased confidence among peers
- Support each other's strengths and weaknesses
- Ability to test new ideas
- Support for new staff
- Expanded pool of ideas, materials, methods
- Adapted from Judith Warren Little

Process

- Discuss and share current practices
- Action Research: Create/experiment with delivery approach
- Collect Data: Pre/Post tests
- Evaluate data and share experiences
- Continue to create/experiment until delivery approach/product is best practice

Structures in our PLC

- **Shared Goal/Vision/Purpose**
- **Ground Rules**
- **Established meeting dates and time**
- **Meeting Agenda**
- **Meeting Logs**
- **Electronic Communication Tool**

VIEW EDIT

☆ FrontPage

last edited by Penny Bisignano 12 hrs ago

Page history

Welcome to the Elementary Counselor PLC wiki.

Our PLC Guiding Purpose is: "to provide supportive peer coaching and a reflective process for counselors continuing to implement the ASCA National Model"

The purpose of the Wiki is to provide a place to post documents, links and resources that support elementary counselors as you participate in Professional Learning Communities this year.

This PowerPoint is designed to guide elementary counselor plc sessions as we begin this year. [DMPS Elementary PLCs guide.ppt](#) It reminds us of our guiding purpose for the PLC; helps us in creating a focus for our PLC; guides us in steps for the PLC to follow and gives us some ideas for a possible focus in the career domain.

** Link To 4th Grade Focus Group**

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PLC Resources

- “Professional Learning Communities: Educators Work Together toward a Shared Purpose” by Shirley Hord National Staff Dev. Council. Journal, Winter 2009
- “The Principal’s Role in Supporting Learning Communities” by Shirley Hord and Stephanie Hirsh Educational Leadership Feb. 2009
- “Supportive Learning Communities and the Transformative Role of Professional School Counselors” by Sink and Edwards The Professional School Counselor Dec. 2008
- Read Rick DuFour

How do I get started?

- **I will need**

- *Data to drive the focus of the plc*
- *Know who will participate in the plc*
- *Establish the plc logistics*
- *Define the resources needed to support the plc*
- *Support for making it happen and ongoing development- where will that come from?*

Contact us

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