Combining Professional Learning Communities with Instructional and Peer Coaching

Steve Barkley







Professional Learning Community		
Teaching is a Team Sport	Teaching is a Public Act	
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Professional Learning Community

Teaching is a Team Sport



In the schools where you are currently working, to what extent do teachers function as individuals, franchisees, or teams?

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Professional Learning Community

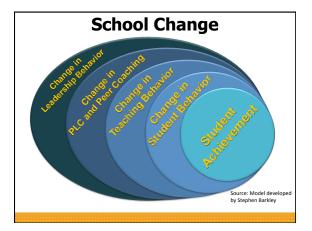
Teaching is a Public Act

In the schools where you are working, how much teaching is being observed by colleagues? How often are teachers observing each other's student work?



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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GOALS

- ACADEMICS knowledge and skills to be successful in school and life.
- LIFE SKILLS aptitude, attitude and skills to lead responsible, fulfilling and respectful lives.
- RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY attributes that contribute to an effective and productive community and the common good of all.





Big Idea A Focus on Results

Professional Learning Communities judge their effectiveness on a basis of results. Working together to improve student achievement becomes the routine work of everyone in the school. Every teacher-team participates in an ongoing process of identifying the current level of student achievement, establishing a goal to improve the current level, working together to achieve that goal, and providing periodic evidence of progress. (DuFour)





Initial Program Assessment

Pre Program Standards End of Program **Assessment**

Standards

6 4 Advanced 30 3 Proficient

_ 4 Advanced 3 Proficient

10 2 Basic

2 Basic

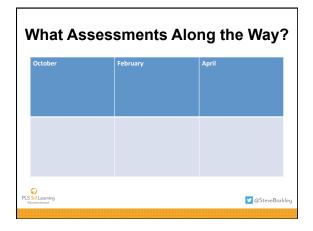
2 1 Intensive

____ 1 Intensive





Initial Program Assessment Pre Program Standards Assessment Goal-Focused Learners Compliant Participants Inattentive in Class Poor Attendance Poor Attendance Standards Compliant Participants Inattentive in Class Poor Attendance



Looking At Student Work

With a colleague or two at your grade level or within your department,

...flip through the student work, point out what you notice about students overall, in groups, individually.



...what questions emerge?





Looking At Student Work



Considering your current assessment of the student work/performance and the importance of the learning standard, what goals would you be setting for groups and individual learners? (Shorter term/longer term)





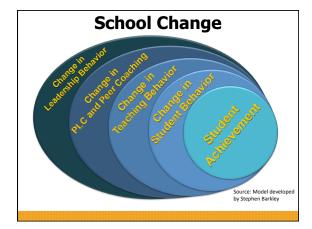
Looking At Student Work



In your current situations, how much goal setting is currently being done in PLCs, by individual teachers, and/or involving students?







Big Idea Ensuring That Students Learn

The professional learning community model flows from the assumption that the core mission of formal education is not simply to ensure that students are taught but to ensure that they learn. This simple shift– from a focus on teaching to a focus on learning– has profound implications for schools. (DuFour)







Teaching

(Can be)

- Neat
- Orderly
- Sequential
- Managed
- Documented

Learning

(Often is)

- Messy
- Spontaneous
- Irregular
- Non Linear
- Complex

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Student Behaviors

What student behaviors need to be initiated or increased to gain the desired student achievement?



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Student Behaviors

- · Reading as choice
- Writing
- Finding problem to solve
- Researching
- Asking Questions
- Following a Passion
- · Persevering/Effort
- Working independently and collaboratively
- · Taking risk in learning
- Using technology to research and produce
- Adapting to change

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Teacher Changes

What changes in individual teacher practices are most likely to generate the changes we seek in students?



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Teacher Behaviors



- Teach the desired student behavior.
- Model the desired student behavior.

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Planning for Learning

From a whole class perspective..... What is important for students to experience or do to gain the desired student outcomes?

What teacher actions will instigate, promote, support, etc. those student behaviors and experiences?



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Planning for Learning

What student behaviors and experiences are critical for the more advanced students? For the students whose skill level is less developed?

How will we as teachers individually and collaboratively provide for these learning opportunities?



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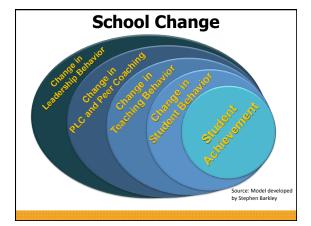
PLC or Team Meeting

Do any of you find that time set aside for PLCs gets hijacked to accomplish "teaching work"?



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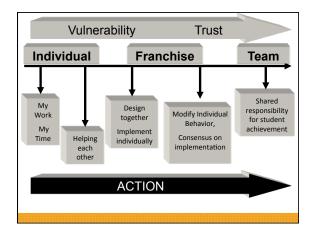
Big Idea A Culture of Collaboration

Educators who are building a professional learning community recognize that they must work together to achieve their collective purpose of learning for all. Therefore, they create structures to promote a collaborative culture. (DuFour)



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Collaborating Beyond Grade-Level

Partner with a teacher who works with students before or after you (up or down a grade level). Share your thoughts on what you explored today. Seek his/her insights and input.



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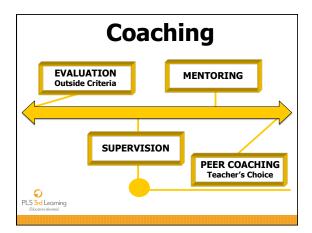
Collaborating Beyond Grade-Level

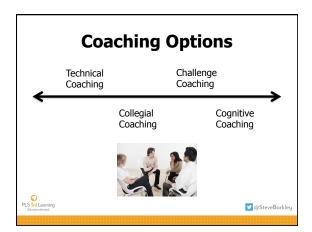
Now partner with someone from outside your grade group or department. Share your thoughts on what you explored today. Seek his/her insights and input.



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