

PBL Science Leaders Meeting

Summary and Updates

December 4th, 2014

Science PBL leaders continued their work on project based units. Colleagues conversed, planned and collaborated toward completing, refining and adding resources to their PBL units.

Ms. Keebler reviewed the NEWLY established PBL Blog format, THANK YOU Ms. Keebler for establishing and maintaining the blog for the group.

PBL group decided ALL PBL units, forms, links and resources will be housed on the blog and remain independent of DEC. PBL Blog may be shared as a resource with all staff.

Blog URL: <http://iblog.dearbornschools.org/pbldearborn/>

Staff recommends the following guidelines for **introducing** PBL concept to All elementary staff:

- 1) All PBL leaders introduce PBL concept to fellow staff members during the January pd using the same PBL power point. During the introduction the focus will remain on introducing the eight PBL components to colleagues. The minimum time required is 45 minutes - 1 hr for ice breaker, PBL Power Point and brief review of Blog. January PD agenda and planning requires finalization between building administrator and PBL leaders. It was recommended schools participating in vertical articulation consider collectively introducing PBL concept to staffs, decision to be made by leaders and administration.
- 2) All PBL Leaders agree we must embrace going slow to go fast enabling the PBL concept to take root so we may realize long term

benefits from this evolutionary approach to instruction. PBL leaders noted the importance of not making this a “mandatory”, initiative but instead introducing and implementing the PBL concept in a systematic fashion. Furthermore ensuring systemic adoption will require sustained professional development, dialogue and sharing of resources among district and building administration, PBL Leaders, and colleagues.

Units of Instruction Updates By Grade

Staff is submitting units with resources to Ms. Keebler to post on blog. Amy Gwizdz is looking into creating google docs to attach to blog so continuous revisions and addition of resources may be added over time.

K – ¾ done with calendar

1st Grade – Finished waiting for trial, requires rubric both spring units.
Created outline for second unit

2nd - Completed first scheduled for spring, Other calendar completed and not being implement until the third and need to complete calendar, rubric and schedule for spring classroom implementation.

3rd – Complete with unit and implementing in class, engineer and designers, project and part of the calendar is completed in spring

4th - Completed and implementing currently

5th Grade – Complete, implementing in the classroom students excited, some pacing concerns

Consider/Concerns by Members:

- 1) Consider delaying introduction of PBL beyond January
- 2) Consider 20 – 30 minute, pair down presentation, 8 elements and article talk

- 3) Consider time frame to introduce PBL Concept to colleagues during January professional development
- 4) Consider establishing communication amongst SS and Science PBL leaders allowing planning and dialogue opportunity, Social Studies leaders didn't know anything about presenting together and introducing PBL
- 5) Consider focusing on presenting the basics
- 6) Consider time frame of 45min – 1 hour presentation time
- 7) Consider discussing and dismissing PBL misconceptions during presentation
- 8) Consider 21 Century learner ice breaker
- 9) Consider showing successes if available, power point and videos.

Millennium Science Education Project (MESP) Grant Summary – Dearborn public Schools establishes a partnership with Madonna University. Kevin Hankinson and Hakim Shahid offered details of the grant which would be submitted next year for the 2016 – 2017 school year. Possible benefits of the grant would range from \$220,000 - \$240,000 in resources to be spent on providing a cohort of 30 individuals 13 days of professional development, teacher training, and resources in an effort to improve teacher effectiveness in science instruction. Monies may be used in a capacity decided by the cohort and district leadership. All attendees completed and submitted online survey, will follow up with an email Friday to entertain the possibility of pursuing for Friday's deadline.

Millennium Grant Notes:

Good News: Future potential partners for future cycles. 30 applicants required 17 respondents. Email was misinterpreted clearing up any misconceptions.

Teachers concerned about their commitment and obligations? Answer: 90 hours over 18 months what that looks like is decided by district leadership and grant participants.

Are we done with PBL after this year is this a possibility to continue our PBL learning through the millennium project. Answer: yes consecutive grants may be pursued.

Participation in workshops and observation are a component.

Non-degree College credits and SCECHS available.

Workshops and road map is decided by the cohort.

What other school districts have you partnered with, Answer: Dearborn is the first to partner with Madonna.

What is the deadline to commit, initial letter release October 18, 2015? Announcements for February or March. File next year for 2016-2017 school year.

Resend out link and email to survey

Grants awarded in February, monies released the summer following grant awarded. Grants may be spent over an 18 month period.

Ajourned