

PLC Initiatives Continue For 2008-2009

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), initiated last year, will continue in 2008-09. PLC time occurs the second Wednesday of each month (September through May, except April, which will be the last Wednesday) being a half day for students in the morning, and a half day for PLCs for staff in the afternoon. The premise of PLCs is that “adult learning precedes student learning.” Teachers and other staff members learn together so that we can assist students in their learning. The following corresponding statement and questions will guide our PLC work during the upcoming year: **If we believe ALL students can learn, then:**

- What do we want students to learn?
- How will we know they are learning?
- What are we going to do if they don't learn?
- What do we do if students already know it?

If we apply these questions to everything we do, we will see increased academic growth. These guiding questions will be applied by our staff, students, parents, and Board of Education as our framework for action as we talk about teaching and learning every day, every hour.

The district believes that teacher learning and collective work that strives to answer these questions will raise the achievement scores and make sure all students are reaching their potential. During PLC early release days, teachers have been doing book studies, looking at student assignments, analyzing MAP data—all to improve teaching and learning. PLC time provides each school as a whole uninterrupted time to work together—an opportunity not present during the regular school day. During the early release time, teachers are becoming experts in finding solutions to make improvements in teaching and learning.

The PLC early release day student schedules will be:

- All Elementary Schools 9:05 am to 1:05 pm
- Middle Schools..... 8:15 am to 12:15 pm
- CAIR 7:00 am to 10:30 am
- Grandview High School..... 7:35 am to 11:35 am

