



*Excellence in Academics, Activities, and Character*

**District Improvement Team**

(Assessment, Curriculum & Instruction, and Staff Development)

**Southwest Initiative Foundation**

**15 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave NW, Hutchinson, MN (corner of Hwy 7 and 15) entrance on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave**

Thursday, May 1, 2014

7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

**MINUTES**

**Leadership Team Updates** - Social Studies, Electives, Literacy, Math, Science

**Assessment**

- I. Applying the *15 Fixes for Broken Grades* to our assessments, grade books, and report cards

Action:

Discussion on what each fix would “look like” at each building.

Each building selected five (5) of the *15 Fixes for Broken Grades* to focus on for the upcoming school year

Resources:

1. *15 Fixes* described in a video by Ken O’Connor (Pearson) at

<http://www.pearsonschoolsystems.com/products/powerteacher/ken/fix12/>

2. How to Grade for Learning by Using 15 Fixes for Broken Grades © Ken O’Connor, 2012

Presented by Ken O’Connor, Assess for Success Consulting, [kenoc@aol.com](mailto:kenoc@aol.com), [www.oconnorgrading.com](http://www.oconnorgrading.com)

<http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/sites/default/files/Ken%20O%27Connor%20GFPS%20Aug%2013,%202012.pdf>

- II. Formative Assessment – How are we transferring lessons learned recently from Dr. Margaret Biggerstaff (presenter at our last DIT meeting) and from discussions of EL articles within the leadership teams to the broader classroom?

Action:

Viewed a Prezi on Formative Assessment (attached) and available in part or whole for viewing at staff meetings or in PLCs.

[http://prezi.com/cjme-khwjwl3/?utm\\_campaign=share&utm\\_medium=copy&rc=ex0share](http://prezi.com/cjme-khwjwl3/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share)

Provided a list of 60 formative assessments with brief descriptions to use in classrooms. (attached)

Provide a Teacher Academy sessions on formative assessments and moving from the what formative assessments are to how to use them effectively and what to do with the data and forming our future instruction.

## Curriculum & Instruction

Homework: presented a Power Point and distributed Guiding Questions. Next?

### Action/Resources:

Read and discussed the article *Student-Owned Homework* by Cathy Vatterott, *Educational Leadership* (March 2014) available for reading, discussion, and application in classrooms through PLCs (attached)

## Staff Development

Share examples of how PLCs have answered the Four Guiding Questions:

1. What do we want students to know?
2. How do we know they know it?
3. What do we do when they don't know it?
4. What do we do when they do know it?

### Action/Resources:

There is continuous learning and professional growth potential within PLCs.

Still need to focus on questions 1 and 2 before being able to move forward with 3 and 4.

**Please continue to suggest topics for Teacher Academy sessions for August 19, 20 and 21, 2014.** There are two sessions each day from 8:30-11:30 AM or 12:30-3:30 PM or both. Include: Course title, brief description, presenter(s), date and time. The goal is to offer pre-registration for ISD 423 employees as soon as May 19.

PLC Conference June 11-13, 2014 (flyer attached)

This information is being circulated around the region.

Hutchinson may be designated as an optional site for participants who do not get into the Minneapolis Conference.

### Action:

It is not too late to sign up.

New teachers to the District will be made aware of this opportunity and encouraged to participate.

A day in the beginning of the school year may be designated for teachers who have not participated in a PLC training and do not participate in the June PLC Conference in Hutchinson to receive professional development on PLCs.

## Communication

New Content Area Leadership Team Members and DIT Members

**Applications are due to your building principal on May 5 by 4 PM** (application and job description is attached)

Next DIT meeting: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 at the HMS Media Center, 9 AM to 3 PM