

# Wichita Public Schools

## PLC Best Practices

Professional Learning Communities (PLC) are a structure or framework that supports the development of a learning organization that results in collaborative application of the district's curriculum, instruction and assessments.

### Framework

- The core intent of this time is to improve teaching and learning with an explicit focus on students using the following four questions:
  - 1) What do we expect students to learn?  
Curriculum, academic goals, etc.
  - 2) How will we know students have learned?  
Monitoring, data analysis and use, etc.
  - 3) How will we respond when students do not learn?  
Intervention, adjustment, etc.
  - 4) How will we respond when students do learn?  
Rigor, enrichment
- Individual planning of lessons, grading papers, and other similar individual tasks shall not be undertaken during PLC time.
- Building leadership teams, representative of the entire staff, will collaborate to provide general direction for PLC based on building priorities and feedback from building staff.
- The make-up of PLC Teams should include the following structures:
  - Cross curricular
  - Curriculum area
  - Grade level
  - Vertical
- All teachers, administrators and paraeducators will participate in PLCs in a professional manner.
- For the 2010-2011 school year, the teacher work day will be increased by forty (40) minutes for seventeen (17) days of the school year for PLC with the following exceptions:
  - PT Conference week in both Fall and Spring
  - January 5, 2011 - start of second semester

### Agenda

- PLCs will determine their own agenda based on one of the four questions and the general direction provided by the building leadership teams.

### Accountability

- Accountability reports for PLC sessions can be electronic or paper, should be brief, and should not result in additional work outside PLC time
- Use of data must support PLC work.