

## CFI Network Meeting #1

October 1, 2009

Present: Alex Moore, Scott Hughes, other network teachers and administrators

### I. How will the Quality Review change in 2009-10?

- The Quality Review is about seeing that the school is making informed, data-driven decisions where schools ask, “Is this working? Is this not working?”
- There will be more emphasis this year on the following:
  - **Teacher Team collaborative inquiry**
    - meeting with two Teacher Teams
    - asking the Principal and Cabinet about the number and areas of focus of the school’s Teacher Teams
    - Teacher Teams must be able to articulate how instructional changes will be made in the future based on research.
    - (“Teacher Teams” appears thirty-eight times on the new Quality Review Criteria Rubric.)
  - enhanced SSEF
  - modified school visits schedule
  - meeting with parents
  - greater focus on coherence and alignment in terms of goals and teaching strategies
  - greater focus on differentiated instruction
- The format of the report will be abbreviated.
- Reviewers will only observe twenty minutes of a teacher’s lesson. Each observed teacher will explain for ten minutes the thinking behind his or her lesson. The Reviewer will be impressed by contextualization in terms of previous and future lessons, reference to school goals, and mention of differentiated instruction.
- There will be no discussion or examination of student goals.

## **II. What will be the new role of the CFI Team?**

- The CFI Process should exist even in schools without a Review. This will benefit the school and also prepare it for next year's Quality Review.
- "Teacher Teams" are now required. Although Teacher Teams are supposedly not required to partake in the Inquiry Process in as regimented a fashion as the CFI Team does, the new Web interface and expectations for Quality Review meetings make it clear that it would be wise for Teacher Teams to follow the same process and be familiar with the Inquiry vocabulary and methodology. These include the following:
  - selecting a "target population"
  - identifying a sub-skill that assessments demonstrate must be further developed in those students
  - developing a S.M.A.R.T. goal
  - research ways of teaching this sub-skill to students
  - administering a baseline assessment
  - creating lesson plans and corresponding assessments
  - revising plans in response to assessments
  - sharing results and planning for the future
- Network meetings are now held in alternating months. Scott Hughes will visit schools and work with Teacher Teams and CFI Teams in individual schools.
- ARIS Connect features a new online interface on which Team profiles will be created. This will replace the previous Inquiry Team Interface.
- All Teacher Teams must have uploaded their profiles by mid-December.
- Mark Twain, Wadleigh, Madison, and other schools have already experienced success with multiple Teacher Teams.

## **III. How can teachers prepare themselves for the Quality Review?**

- The article "Professional Learning Communities" helps people understand the ideas behind the Quality Review and can be distributed to teachers. The main idea is that teachers themselves have the answers to problems within the school.
- Scott recommends that we share with all teachers the rubric that will be used in the Reviewers' assessments of individual teacher lessons. This is *not* the one with small font but rather the rubric found at the back of the packet.
- Teachers who are not on the CFI Team should further familiarize themselves with ARIS and ACUITY.

Submitted respectfully by Alex Moore on 10/2/09