PLC Participation: Roadblocks, Speed Bumps, and Detours

“On the other side of your roadblock lies your freeway.”

Robin Sharma (Beautiful Thoughts, 2014)
The **goal** of this presentation is to provide participants with information and resources to employ **facilitation skills**, **create trust among colleagues**, **develop collective wisdom**, **build ownership**, and **take action** to support student learning.
PLC at Work
Roadblocks

No time for a bathroom break!

No Instructional Assistant!

No common planning!

I just don’t have time!

What are some roadblocks you have experienced?
Roadblocks

I’m the only teacher at my school who teaches my subject and grade!

My colleagues teach other subjects and/or grades!

I’m am on an instructional island!

I would need an alternate way to collaborate with appropriate colleagues!

What are some roadblocks you have experienced?
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PLC Self Reflection

What are your thoughts?

What is a PLC?

How often do you meet in PLCs?

How do you promote buy-in and collaboration among your colleagues?

How do you think participating in a PLC affects student achievement?

How do you encourage colleagues to participate in PLC meetings when they lack understanding and/or are resistant to change?

How often do you meet in PLCs?
Is lack of knowledge about PLCs your roadblock?

What is a PLC?
A PLC is a group of educators who work interdependently to achieve common goals linked to student achievement.
Guiding Principles of PLCs

• Focus on Learning
• A Culture with a Focus on Learning for ALL
• Collective Inquiry into Best Practice and Current Reality
• Action Orientation
• Commitment to Continuous Improvement
• Results Orientation
A Focus on Learning
What does it look like?
What does a collaborative culture with a focus on learning for all look like?
What does collective inquiry into best practice and current reality look like?
Action Orientation: What does it look like?
A Commitment to Continuous Learning… What does it look like?
What does results orientation look like?
Is your roadblock a lack of collaboration or buy-in?
Start slowly...
The Diverse Classroom
The Four Pillars of Adult Learning

Teaming
Leadership
Collegial Inquiry
Mentoring
Is time your roadblock?
Are there ways to engage in PLCs other than face-to-face?
## Deerfield High School
### Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle 100</th>
<th>Cycle 78</th>
<th>Cycle 56</th>
<th>Cycle 34</th>
<th>Cycle 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Period EB</td>
<td>7:22 - 8:05</td>
<td>Period EB</td>
<td>7:22 - 8:05</td>
<td>Period EB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>8:10 - 8:52</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
<td>8:10 - 9:08</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 7</td>
<td>1:45 - 2:27</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
<td>2:16 - 3:14</td>
<td>Period 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 8</td>
<td>2:32 - 3:14</td>
<td>NO 7/8</td>
<td>NO 5/6</td>
<td>NO 3/2</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Cycle 100 Lunch Schedule Periods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle 100/Lunch A</th>
<th>Cycle 100/Lunch B</th>
<th>Cycle 100/Lunch C</th>
<th>Cycle 100/Lunch D</th>
<th>Cycle 100/Lunch E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per 4/Class 11:16 - 12:02</td>
<td>Lunch 11:02 - 12:02</td>
<td>Lunch 11:22 - 12:02</td>
<td>Per 5/Class 11:22 - 11:48</td>
<td>Per 5/Class 11:22 - 12:08</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Cycle 78/56 Lunch Schedule Periods 3/4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle 78/56 Lunch A</th>
<th>Cycle 78/56 Lunch B</th>
<th>Cycle 78/56 Lunch C</th>
<th>Cycle 78/56 Lunch D</th>
<th>Cycle 78/56 Lunch E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per 4/Class 12:10 - 1:08</td>
<td>Per 4/Class 12:10 - 1:08</td>
<td>Per 4/Class 12:10 - 1:08</td>
<td>Lunch 12:04 - 12:34</td>
<td>Lunch 12:33 - 1:08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cycle 34/12 Lunch Schedule Periods 5/6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle 34/12 Lunch A</th>
<th>Cycle 34/12 Lunch B</th>
<th>Cycle 34/12 Lunch C</th>
<th>Cycle 34/12 Lunch D</th>
<th>Cycle 34/12 Lunch E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per 6/Class 12:10 - 1:08</td>
<td>Per 5/Class 11:36 - 12:05</td>
<td>Per 6/Class 12:10 - 1:08</td>
<td>Lunch 12:04 - 12:34</td>
<td>Lunch 12:33 - 1:08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Change

Is this your roadblock?
Change Principles
Measuring Change

One-Legged Interviews

Open-ended Concerns Statements

Questionnaires
So you question whether PLC participation can really affect student achievement...
Three Big Ideas

1. Focus on Learning
2. Create a Collaborative Culture
3. Focus on Results
1. Focus on Learning
2. Focus on Learning

1. Identify the Problem
2. Analyze the problem.
3. Design Instruction and Intervention
4. Respond to the Instruction and Intervention
3. Focus on Results

There MUST be evidence of learning!
The ultimate goal of PLCs is to implement collaboration and sharing of professional knowledge and experience to help each other grow both personally and professionally.
If you want more information on roadblocks to PLC implementation, visit our online module...

What if I Can’t PLC?
http://cantplc.weebly.com/
The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary.

~Vince Lombardi

Thank you for spending this time with us.

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