



Group Meeting Notes

TEI Group: Instructional Facilitator
Date/Time/Location: 6/08/2017
Members in Attendance: Mark Bowers, David Holbert, Kate Muir Welsh, Keather Pierantoni, Kathy Vetter, Keren Meister-Emerich, John Weigel
Support in Attendance: Jeanette Joyce, Rebecca Watts, David Yanoski, Anaya Yates

Information Reviewed:

1. Review of introductions and tasks of RWG
2. Review of the role of Marzano facilitators
3. Review of current program offerings and structure of COE at UW

Discussion: The group began with the response from Rebecca to the following two questions:

1. Is there a role/need for a research group on Instructional Facilitation, given the legislative changes, particularly in regard to budget?
2. If so, should the RWG remain narrow in focus or broaden beyond Instructional Facilitators?

Rebecca had the opportunity to share these concerns with the State Superintendent as well as other district leaders. The overall response was “stay the course.” There is a need and a role for instructional facilitation in the future. However, if the RWG wants to expand its focus and possibly change its name, Rebecca is happy to take this to the board and imagines that they will be open to rebranding. Also, Rebecca mentioned that in a recent meeting with the Daniels Group, there was a strong call to think outside the box and create new evidence of what’s needed. Finally, Rebecca mentioned that joint proposals with other RWGs are a possibility, and reminded the group that the first deadline for a completed proposal is mid-September and that the next date after that would not be until mid-January. Proposals are on the website, but somewhat hidden during the review process. Successful proposals will be posted to the landing page.

The group then engaged in a discussion of the possibilities for both name change and joint proposals. There was some concern expressed about using the term Leadership, as that has a particular meaning at U of Wyo. Connections with the Elementary, Secondary, and College-wide Group were considered, especially in terms of adding on to the MURSION proposal. RWG was encouraged to strive for the mid-September deadline at least in terms of “low hanging fruit.” RWG requested information on proposal budgets to date and time commitment for members of the RWG. It was agreed that

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now until the proposal deadline would be fairly intensive.

Group then brainstormed and discussed all the roles that Instructional Facilitators take on, whom they serve, and the potential future for the field. In addition, a definition of teacher leadership was discussed. This led to a discussion of creating “stackable modules” that would address each of these skill sets, and potentially lead to badges, course credit, or certification. No formal list was generated, but data literacy, adult relationships (or how to lead without being a jerk), ethics, how to host a student teacher were all mentioned. It was also discussed that these modules or badges could be also used by preservice teachers.

The group discussed the current types of credit used by teachers for salary advancement, granted by the university and accepted by PTSB. In addition the group discussed the role of UW in providing professional development for teachers.

RWG worked on an activity to brainstorm the dreams that would eventually become the strategic goals of the group by responding to the question “What could this group accomplish?”. The group then clustered these as follows:

Key Themes: **Overall Connection to Student Learning**
(Student success is directly related to teacher learning).

Relevance

- Aligned to School/Teacher/University Needs
- Market Broadly
- Fill a Need Beyond Wyoming
- Create Further Career Opportunities for Teachers
- Increase Teacher Retention
- Clearinghouse (Repository of Available Resources)
 - Wyoming Instructional Network
 - Available PD programs throughout the State

Educator Professional Growth

- Advocacy Skills
- Build Capacity
- Best Practices
- Research-based Practices

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- Potential Bridge from Teaching to Administration or Other Teacher Leadership Roles
- Stackable Modules

Votes/Actions: RWG changed the group name to Educator Professional Growth, pending governing board approval.

Deadlines / Tasks /

Responsibilities: Kate will share her proposal idea with David and Jeanette so that it can be put on the agenda for next meeting.

David will send name change proposal to Rebecca for board approval.

Next Meeting Details: Monday, June 19th, 2-4pm(?). Kathy Vetter cannot attend.