WHAT IS A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY?

In the Missouri Professional Learning Communities Project, any school or district, at any level, can begin the professional learning communities process. The state PLC school-improvement model focuses on increasing student achievement by building the capacity of school personnel to create and sustain the conditions that promote high levels of student and adult learning. Commitment to and participation in trainings by school leaders is a vital component of becoming an effective professional learning community.

WHAT DOES A SCHOOL THAT IS A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY LOOK LIKE?

1. The daily work of the school is driven by common purpose, shared vision and collective commitments.
2. There are high expectations regarding student achievement and a commitment on the part of staff to accept responsibility for student learning.
3. The learning of each student is monitored on a timely basis using common core curriculum and common assessments aligned with state standards.
4. School structures support student learning and provide additional time and support for students who initially do not achieve intended outcomes.
5. Job-embedded professional development leads to the collective identification of, reflection about, and implementation of “best practices” for improved student achievement.
6. Staff members work collaboratively in processes that foster continuous improvement in all indicators of student achievement.
7. The use of data promotes an action orientation and focus on results.
8. Leadership of school improvement processes is widely dispersed and helps sustain a culture of continuous improvement.

More Information available at:
www.moplc.org
www.allthingsplc.info

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