

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SAVE THE DATE!

February Learning

Community Forum has been changed

- Many Teacher Leaders have been interested in learning more about how to use Curriculum Topic Study (CTS). The workshop will occur on **February 27th and 28th** at the Cottontree Inn in Mount Vernon. Contact your TOSA for more details.

RESOURCES

- At the December Learning Community Forum, we learned more about presentation as one of the four hats of leadership. Following is a list of resources related to the topic of presentation:
 - The Presenters Fieldbook: A Practical Guide-Garmston
ISBN: 1929024886
 - How to Make Presentations That Teach and Transform-Garmston
ISBN: 0871201992
 - Speak Like a Pro In Business and Public Speaking-Bedrosian
ISBN: 0471844675

NCOSP News

Can We Still Do Lesson Study? *Sharing ideas for District Action Plans*

For many of us, participating in Lesson Study was a profound experience. Through Lesson Study we have the opportunity to observe the learning environment first hand and engage in collaborative discussions to deconstruct the learning experience. These discussions ultimately lead to improved practice. Many Teacher Leaders have asked us, "Why has Lesson Study gone away?" It hasn't! Lesson Study is still strongly supported by NCOSP.

Lesson Study is one of the many tools we have explored. Other tools include Curriculum Topic Study, Protocols for Looking at Student Work, and Notebooks. If you are currently using these tools, be sure that is reflected in your district or individual action plan. If your completed plan does not include these activities, and you would like it to, please contact your TOSA so we can help you refine your plan to reflect these changes.

Generation IV Teaching

Concept applies to more than curriculum

This fall, NSTA published an article written by Pinky entitled "An Evolutionary Framework for Instructional Materials".

http://www.nsta.org/main/news/stories/nsta_story.php?news_story_ID=52532

In the article, Pinky identified four stages, or generations of curriculum development. Briefly, the generations are:

Generation I: Traditional textbooks. Full of content (most of which is correct), and perhaps best used as reference materials in the classroom.

Generation II: Inquiry based materials. Developed as a result of the space race of the late 50's and early 60's. Examples include SEPUP, FOSS, BSCS and others.

Generation III: Cognitive Research-based Materials. Includes constructivist applications as well as the recent findings from *How People Learn*. Interactions in Physical Science is an example of Generation III materials.

Generation IV: Teacher Collaborative Learning. Combines the best aspects from previous Generation materials with support for teachers to work collaboratively to enhance student learning. Teachers might use Protocols to look at student work, develop common assessments using Notebooking strategies, and/or participate in ongoing Lesson Studies.

Sound familiar? Using research based curricula, incorporating the findings from *How People Learn* and working collaboratively with others in our buildings are examples of Generation IV teaching.



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

NCOSP announces a new website on Notebooking: <http://www.sciencenotebooks.org/>
Carolyn Landel, Peggy Wilcutts, and other state educators developed the site to be interactive. Teachers can submit copies of work, learn how to use notebooks for assessment, find templates, and much more.

If you are already using notebooks or are new to them, this site is well worth looking into.

VISIT THE NCOSP website: <http://www.ncosp.wvu.edu>



CALENDAR

January 12—Skagit/Whatcom Learning Community Forum, WWU, Coaching/Consulting

January 16—LASER Instructional Materials Showcase

January 19—Peninsula Learning Community Forum, Pt. Angeles, Coaching/Consulting

February 27 and 28 (replaces previously scheduled LCF)—Leading Others with Curriculum Topic Study, Cottontree Inn, Mount Vernon

March 16—Peninsula Learning Community Forum, Olympic ESD Office, Bremerton

March 23—Skagit/Whatcom Learning Community Forum, Cottontree Inn, Mt. Vernon. Topic TBD

March 27—Teacher Leader-Administrator Symposium. Locations TBD

May 21-22—Learning Community Forum, All Partner Districts, WWU. Topic TBD

June 25—LASER Strategic Planning Institute, WWU

July 23-27—Summer Planning Week, WWU

WORD FROM THE FIELD

As part of our TOSA travels, we get the opportunity to see NCOSP Teacher Leaders stepping out and making changes in many ways. We thought you might like to read what is going on in some of our partner districts.

Skagit

The science reform movement is alive and well in Concrete. In Carol Barnett's elementary science classroom 15 primary education teachers and their principal attended a presentation on Looking at Student Work. Mary Janda, Matt Slater and Carol wanted their colleagues to experience the benefits of assessing student work in a deprivatized environment as well as advocate for the philosophy of *How People Learn*. To make a short story even shorter, the day was reportedly a complete success.

Whatcom

Teacher Leaders Marty Cunningham, Carol Eckloff, Paul Spring, Adrienne Somera, and curriculum director Trina Hall from the Mount Baker School District coordinated a daylong professional development experience for all elementary teachers in their district. Teachers were involved in initial kit training, learning about inquiry boards, Notebooking strategies, and using protocols to look at student work. The focus from the teachers was impressive.

Peninsula

Bremerton School District is implementing common Powerful Classroom Assessments (PCAs) across their district. Kacey Uptegraft taught the process of writing Application PCAs to 14 teachers and administrators in a full day workshop. The teams from various grade levels then enthusiastically tackled the task of producing PCAs that are directly connected to their curriculum. Their PCAs will be administered in the spring and will provide an opportunity for teams to look at common student work samples.

Chimacum's middle school teachers are working together to reorganize their curriculum....centering on density and plate tectonics using inquiry! Al Gonzalez and Brett Thomson are doing a lesson study with other teachers from both the middle and high school. They are focusing on using inquiry boards to promote mastering scientific inquiry as students move through the grades.

Well done one and all!

We look forward to seeing you in your classroom, in district meetings, and of course, at the Learning Community Forums!

REMINDER:

Teacher Leader First Quarter Activity Reports were due to your central District Office on Dec. 31st. These reports include a description of how you have been using your NCOSP release days. If you have questions, please contact Justin Galloway at Justin.Galloway@wwu.edu or (360) 650-6480.