

Vibrant Learning Communities: From Aspiration to Action

JANUARY 11, 2022

Introductions

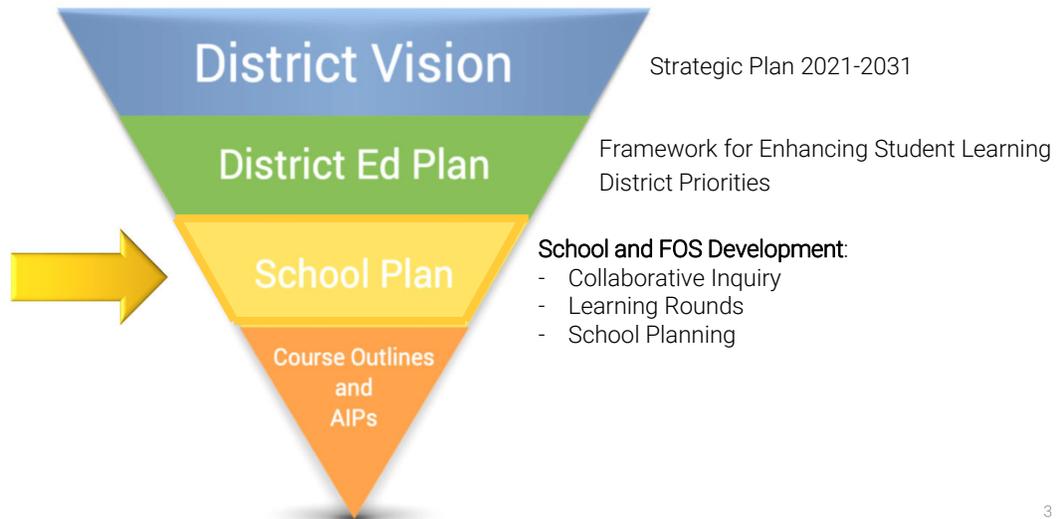
Directors of Instruction:

Arlene Martin
Adam Baumann
Vince White

School-based Administrators:

Suzette Dohm, Carson Graham Secondary
Jennifer Wilson, Queen Mary Elementary
Megan Wheatley, Sherwood Park Elementary
Jillian Gordon, Ridgeway Elementary
Julie Bertrand, Windsor Secondary

Continuum of Planning



3

Aspiration to Action

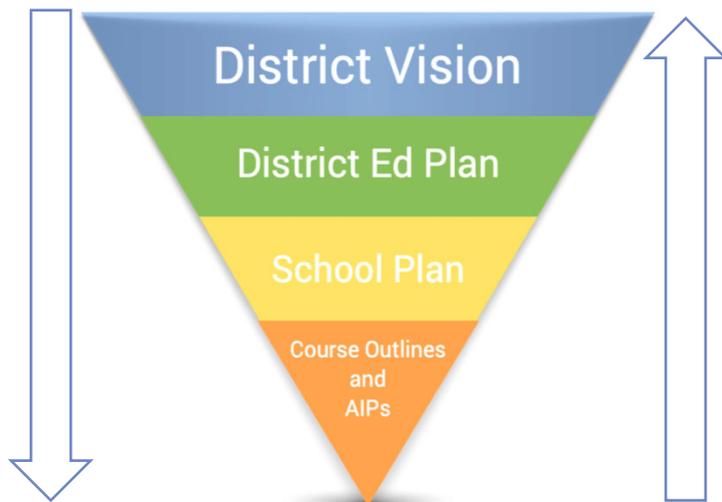


A Vibrant Learning Community is a place that has...



4

Role of Directors of Instruction



- Engage in the annual school planning cycle with schools
- Provide educators time and tools for collaboration
- Facilitate connections within and across schools
- Support and guide

5

Building Capacity



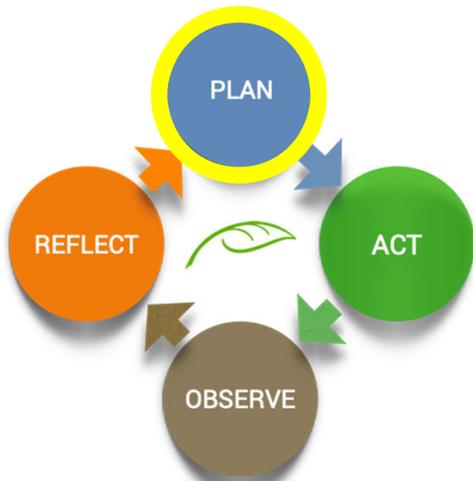
Family of Schools Planning Meetings

Learning Rounds

Collaborative Inquiry Projects

6

Collaborative Inquiry

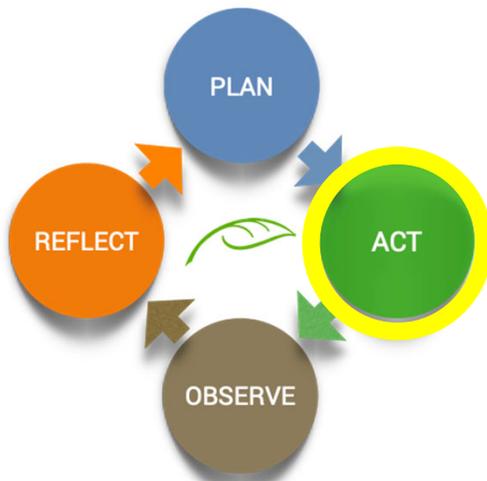


PLAN:

- Determine shared vision or meaningful focus
- Develop inquiry question and theory of action
- Decide on data (what, when, where, how to collect)

7

Collaborative Inquiry

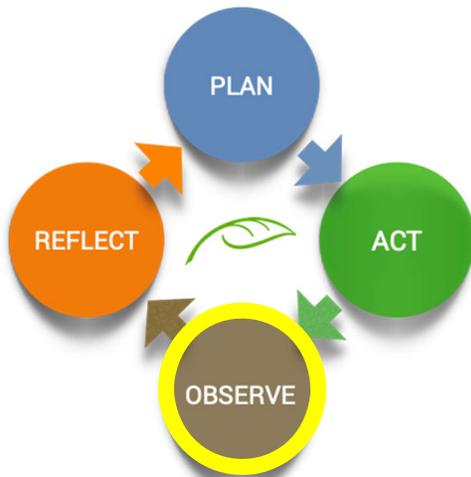


ACT:

- Research (engage in professional learning, reading) about the instructional approach
- Implement strategies
- Assess and adjust as needed

8

Collaborative Inquiry

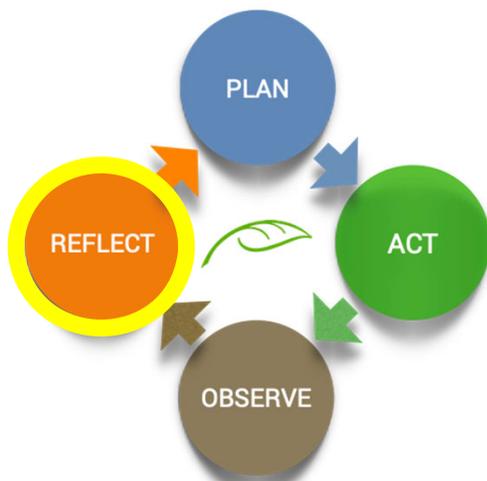


OBSERVE:

- Monitor and share observations of student learning
- Formulate next steps for professional learning
- Determine instructional adjustments

9

Collaborative Inquiry



REFLECT:

- Evaluate results
- Reflect on team learning and practice
- Identify next steps for the team

10

Collaborative Inquiry

Carson Graham Secondary
Queen Mary Elementary

11



School Planning: Goal-Setting at QM



Our Process

Assessing areas of strength and areas for growth:

- IB self-study and action plans
 - year-long self-assessment and evidence gathering process
 - Feedback from IB evaluation visit
- NVSD Strategic Plan
- NVSD Educational Priority Areas
- Staff and Community feedback
- Data (literacy, numeracy, SEL)
- Truth, healing and reconciliation



Implementation

- School goal working groups
 - All staff members involved
 - Lead facilitators
- Pedagogical Team
 - Joint Pedagogical Team
- Staff meeting (monthly)
- IB Meetings (weekly)
- Professional Days
- Budget allocation for resources
- Collaborative Inquiry Projects (CIG)

13

Queen Mary's School Goals



Collaboration

At Queen Mary we support members of our school community by collaborating openly, in order to generate a student-centered, coherent and innovative curriculum that inspires all students to take ownership of their learning.

Translanguaging

The Queen Mary school community fosters international-mindedness and inclusion.

Social Emotional Learning

The Queen Mary school community fosters social emotional well-being.

14

Collaborative Inquiry Projects at QM



Through collaborative inquiry projects at Queen Mary, we have experienced:

- Increased participation and collaboration
 - Working together on common goals / areas of focus
- Greater depth, sustained focus
 - Increased long-term commitment to the work being done (year-long, year-to-year)
 - Staff members working on initiatives and collaborating outside of instructional hours
- Quality initiatives that positively impact teaching and learning and the school community
 - Impacts are lasting
- Gradual extension to other staff members, beyond the CI Group
- Development of teacher leadership and mentorship
- Increased trust and deeper professional connection amongst staff members
 - Positive, respectful, professional culture of learning

15



School-to- School Learning Rounds

Q1. WHAT ARE LEARNING ROUNDS?

Q2. WHAT CAN THE LEARNING ROUNDS PROCESS LOOK LIKE?

Q3. WHY ARE LEARNING ROUNDS AN EXCELLENT VEHICLE FOR CAPACITY BUILDING?

16

What are Learning Rounds?



- Rooted in the medical practice of “patient rounds” where a multidisciplinary team lead by the attending physician, where the plan of care is evaluated
- Popularized in education by the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE); defined as a process that provides a disciplined, collaborative way for schools and districts to:
 - Investigate and reflect on instructional practice
 - Focus in on strength and appreciation for school development
 - Develop a shared vision of high-quality teaching and learning
 - Foster a collaborative culture that supports learning
 - Cultivate teacher efficacy and leadership

17

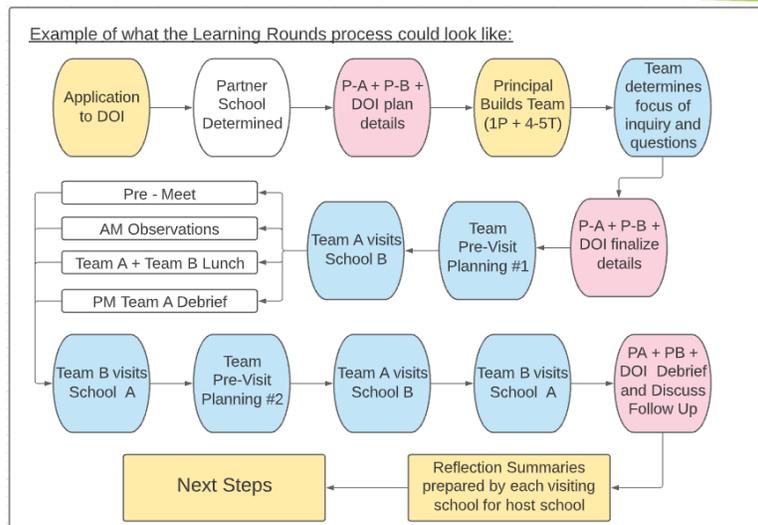
What are Learning Rounds?



Learning Rounds Are NOT ...	Learning Rounds Are ...
“walkthroughs” or “drive-bys”	descriptive, analytic, inferential
an evaluation tool	an appreciative focus on practice
an implementation check	focused on patterns of practice
focused on a program or project	designed to support an existing development strategy

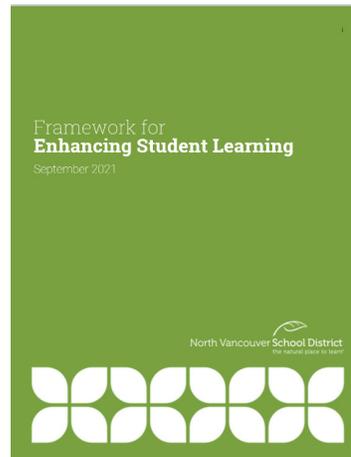
18

What can the process look like?



Excellent vehicle for capacity building

School-to-School Learning Rounds is a process of pairing up two schools for a school-to-school appreciative inquiry process designed to build team, focus learning, and highlight practice.



Excellent vehicle for capacity building



Real school reform – means adopting a set of practices that disrupts the culture of adults and fundamentally shifts the patterns of interaction between them

Roberts, Instructional Rounds in Action, 2013

21

School Planning / Goal Setting



... is a process, not an event.

... aligns AIPs /course outlines, CIGs, Learning Rounds, Goal-Setting, etc.

... represents, celebrates and supports the diversity of the school community.



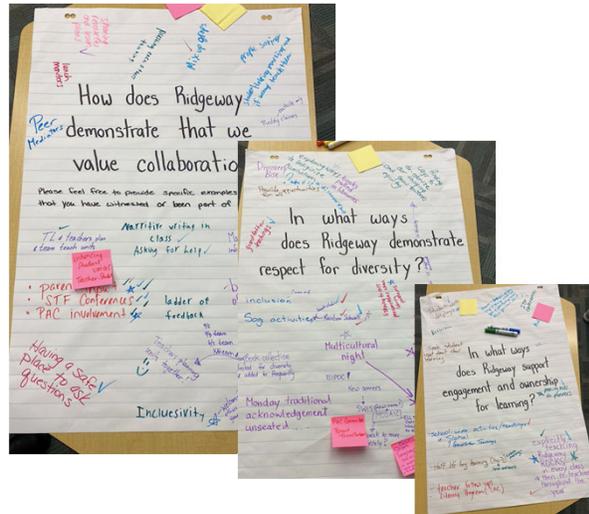
... reflects and informs what students are experiencing in the classroom and beyond.

... authentically engages the voices of a school community.

... is relatable and accessible to students, their families and school personnel.

22

Ridgeway's School Plan Journey



23

École Windsor Secondary

School Plan Journey



24

Whose voices must be captured in this process?



List of
VALUES

- | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Accountability | Ethics | Kindness | Self-respect |
| Achievement | Excellence | Knowledge | Serenity |
| Adaptability | Fairness | Leadership | Service |
| Adventure | Faith | Learning | Simplicity |
| Altruism | Family | Legacy | Spirituality |
| Ambition | Financial stability | Leisure | Sportsmanship |
| Authenticity | Forgiveness | Love | Stewardship |
| Balance | Freedom | Loyalty | Success |
| Beauty | Friendship | Making a difference | Teamwork |
| Being the best | Fun | Nature | Thrift |
| Belonging | Future generations | Openness | Time |
| Career | Generosity | Optimism | Tradition |
| Caring | Giving back | Order | Travel |
| Collaboration | Grace | Parenting | Trust |
| Commitment | Gratitude | Patience | Truth |
| Community | Growth | Patriotism | Understanding |
| Compassion | Harmony | Peace | Uniqueness |
| Competence | Health | Perseverance | Usefulness |
| Confidence | Home | Personal fulfillment | Vision |
| Connection | Honesty | Power | Vulnerability |
| Contentment | Hope | Pride | Wealth |
| Contribution | Humility | Recognition | Well-being |
| Cooperation | Humor | Reliability | Wholeheartedness |
| Courage | Inclusion | Resourcefulness | Wisdom |
| Creativity | Independence | Respect | <i>Write your own:</i> |
| Curiosity | Initiative | Responsibility | _____ |
| Dignity | Integrity | Risk-taking | _____ |
| Diversity | Intuition | Safety | _____ |
| Environment | Job security | Security | _____ |
| Efficiency | Joy | Self-discipline | _____ |
| Equality | Justice | Self-expression | _____ |



What do we care about most?

Self-expression

Growth

Community

Integrity

Kindness



What do we already do?
What do we want to see more of?

Through the lens of our identified values...



Next steps



Celebrating and Sharing



Thank You!

