Professional Learning Communities

“The term Professional Learning Community describes a collegial group of administrators and school staff who are united in their commitment to student learning.” -Dufour

Three BIG Ideas

1. Ensuring that Students Learn
* Four Key Questions
	+ What do we expect kids to learn?
	+ How will we know when they have learned it?
	+ How will we respond when they don’t learn? (Separates PLC from traditional schools)
		- Timely
		- Directive
		- Based on intervention and not remediation
	+ How will we respond when they already know it?
1. A Culture of Collaboration
* Collaborating for school improvement
* Removing barriers to success
	+ Intended curriculum
	+ Implemented curriculum
	+ Attained curriculum
1. Focus on Results
* Hard work and commitment
	+ Common Assessment – developed collaboratively by answering “What would be the best way to judge or assess student learning of the essential knowledge?”
	+ Use Shared Results (not opinions) in a specific way
		- Struggling students
		- Advanced students
	+ Drives the Learning
		- Student learning as opposed to “just getting taught”
		- Helps to guide group decisions moving forward