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