



## LRSP Status Report – June 2011

### 1.09 BHS Professional Learning Communities (PLC) SR 2011

#### Strategic Objective (SO):

1.09 Instructional Coaching, Special Education, Reading Intervention, Math Intervention, Response to Intervention (RtI), Technology, Professional Learning Communities, Indian Education for All, PEAKS (Gifted) Program, Extended Day and Extended Year Programming.

**Department/School:** Bozeman High School

**Leader:** Sarah Hays, PLC Facilitator

#### Team Members:

Perri Sherrill, Ken Gibson, Mike Ruyle, Rob Watson, Dept Chairs, PLC Leaders

#### In a year, we hope to see the following progress on this strategic objective:

Staff will have a better understanding of the PLC process and have practiced the PLC protocols while working on a topic that is both important and relevant to the future development of our school. Staff will have had the opportunity to work cooperatively with teachers from other curricular areas.

#### PROGRESS SUMMARY

In 2010/2011, all certified staff was divided into 14 cross-curricular PLC groups. The topics were narrowed down from a much larger list. Staff had some flexibility to choose the PLC topic that was relevant to their own professional goals. Below is a list of PLCs and description.

Each PLC met for 14 hours over the course of the 2010/2011 school years. The goal of each PLC was to focus on three basic questions...What do we want to accomplish with the PLC? How will we know if we accomplished our tasks? What will we do if the process is not working?

Each PLC was responsible for reporting their progress and outcomes to the entire staff. In addition, they were asked to share successes and challenges. We discovered that many staff members enjoyed the opportunity to work with teachers from other curricular areas on a topic of common interest. We also discovered that, while many were frustrated with the process, they were encouraged by their outcomes. Staff wanted an opportunity to focus next year's PLC on curriculum and content within their own department.

#### PLC Topics and Descriptors

- **Curriculum and Instruction**

1. Best Practices – understanding by design: curriculum development process and/or new process for lesson plan development.

2. Best Practices – differentiated instruction or analysis of other strategies that help to increase student understanding.
  3. Best Practices – formative assessment strategies: an analysis of classroom based assessment strategies that help guide instructional decisions.
  4. Interdisciplinary instruction/ Cross-curriculum projects/ or Team Teaching Model – collaborative teaching, what makes an effective team, what types of training to we need for staff and developing interdisciplinary projects for a particular group of students or a particular grade level or particular content areas.
  5. Technology (Curriculum) – curriculum infusion and/or analysis of which classes are awarded with technology credit. Also an analysis of e-books as an alternative for textbooks.
  6. Technology (Instruction) – how we can integrate technology into our instruction, using moodle for course development or how we can create a “BHS on-line.”
  7. Graduation Pathways / Graduation Requirements – are there alternative pathways towards graduation? Could students meet graduation requirements in other ways?  
Career Pathways / Career Transition – examining all curricular areas and suggesting how we might organize our course offerings into career clusters.
  8. Gifted Ed – strategies for differentiation and classroom extension or an examination of our course offerings that encourage students to extend their learning, developing processes and procedures.
  9. Teacher 101 – New teacher development program, induction and mentoring.
- **Intervention**
    10. Response to Intervention – school wide processes and procedures for monitoring student progress and developing strategies for all struggling learners.
    11. Drop-out Intervention / On-time Graduation – analysis of student progress towards graduation and developing strategies to help those who are not on track.
    12. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition and Intervention – strategies and programs we use to help ease the transition for students making the transition from 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> and a focus on incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders who we know are at-risk for failure, developing strategies to help all succeed.
  - **Foundations**
    13. School Safety – environmental safety, crisis response, and/or safety procedures.
    14. School Climate – assessing the school climate for both students and staff, do we have a positive/productive learning environment for all?