



Office of the Pima County School Superintendent
Southern Arizona Professional Developers

Minutes September 25, 2015

Welcome, Introductions

Members present: Altar Valley, Amphitheater, AZ K12 Center, City High School, Patagonia Public Schools, Office of the Pima County School Superintendent, Pima Community College, St. Michaels, Santa Cruz Valley, Tanque Verde, Tucson Unified

Welcome to new members, new districts, and to SAPD returning members.

LEA Updates

- ❖ As part of Introductions, district / school representatives shared upcoming professional learning opportunities:
 - Amphitheater USD extended an invitation to members to next May's Literacy Conference. The focus of the ever-growing gathering will be on grading processes and STEM initiatives. Tom Guskey will be the keynote speaker. Amphitheater is also hosting CRISS trainings and elementary science workshops this year.
 - Kathy Wiebke shared the '15-'16 Arizona K12 Center calendar of workshops, as well as a special highlighter pen and monitor cleaning cloth ... had to be there! Details of workshops at www.azk12.org
 - STEMAZing workshops can be found at www.stemazing.org Register early because they are filling fast.
 - Upcoming SAREC workshops include Cognitive Coaching, The Kinder Experience, and Teaching Reading Effectively. Flyers were available during the meeting and details can be found at www.sazrec.org

ADE Update on Professional Learning

- ❖ Special thanks to Mark McCall (Deputy Associate Superintendent in Educator Excellence) and Eric Brooks (Director of Professional Learning) from the Arizona Department of Education for driving to Tucson early and sharing with the SAPD group.
- ❖ Mark spoke of some of the changes at ADE including the hiring of Dr. James Buchanan as the new Deputy Associate Superintendent in Leadership Development overseeing ECAPS.
- ❖ Mr. McCall's department is working with Sunnyside on an equitable access pilot called Opportunity Culture. The premise stresses staffing schools for recruitment and retention of teachers who will positively impact student achievement.
- ❖ And Mark reminded us all that ADE is here for support, not just about compliance. His presence in southern Arizona supports that ... thank you.
- ❖ Eric Brooks shared several upcoming events sponsored by their division or in conjunction with other ADE departments:
 - Short Notice --- Director's Institute is next week. Sign up NOW

- The Mega Conference with a focus on federal title programs will be held November 17-19.
- Next June the Leading Change conference for LEA leaders will be followed by the Teacher's Institute in the following weeks. Both conferences will share keynote speakers and deliver consistent messages for change.
- Summit 7 is scheduled for February 28 -29, 2016. Educator effectiveness and teacher quality will be the topic of this continuing workshop opportunity,
- ❖ Eric asked the SAPD membership for feedback on ADE's new conference / workshop registration system.... new system, new glitches. Members who have used it provided valuable input which Eric will take back to the design team. Items were consistent with feedback they have received across the state. Eric stated that the system will improve over time.
- ❖ Mr. Brooks described two new initiatives from the Highly Effective Teachers and Leaders division. The first is promoting the use of Instructional Rounds (based on the Harvard model.) Cadres will be trained as observers to look for trends in classroom visits, but different than solutions teams. ADE will be looking for leaders to attend 2-3 days of training in Instructional Rounds and then be "on call" for LEA observations. Eric will let us know when this opportunity becomes available.
- ❖ The second initiative is to strengthen the affiliation between state and national associations, such as Learning Forward. Building this relationship will benefit Arizona members.
- ❖ Eric Brooks facilitated a partner discussion sharing methods used to promote attendance at Professional Learning opportunities... at the school, LEA and state level. Members shared out their techniques and concerns. Results of a recent ADE survey (that included this topic) will be shared soon and also address changes that the survey prompted.

“Teachers Teaching Teachers: Professional Development That Works”

- ❖ Denise shared an article with this title from Education World and asked members to quickly scan the topics on how schools can best use their teaching team. Members addressed the ideas presented and how they apply to their individual districts and schools. Highpoints were shared by each table team.

SAPD Meeting Dates for 2015-2016

December 11, February 19, and April 15

Next Meeting: Friday, December 11th