

Riverina Deputy Principal's Association

Minutes

June 4 2007

Murrumbidgee Rural Studies Centre

Anne-Marie Gill (DP Batlow Technology School) opened by welcoming our new Deputy Principals and Head Teachers:

- David Deitz Tumut HS
- Julie Bowen Billabong HS
- Natasha Shankleton Balranald CS
- Kath Parker Balranald CS
- Dave Talbot Lockhart CS

Session 1 Learning Styles and Levels of Thinking
Presented by Allan Barton, DP Albury HS

Allan took us through various theories on Learning Styles revealing that although the terminology may be different, the general categories are very similar. Some of the better known theories include:

- Gardiner's Multiple Intelligences which categorises 7 Multiple Intelligences
- Bloom's Taxonomy creates a hierarchy of thinking skills from Knowledge through to Creating and Evaluating
- Ralph Pirozzo has developed a grid that marries Gardiner and Bloom. Resources for classroom teachers can be found by following links at www.cap.nsw.edu.au
- Michael Pohl's Question Matrix gives us a question generator that provides a range of questions around a topic, based on Bloom's Taxonomy

Session 2 Designing Quality Teaching Action Learning Projects
Presented by Cheri McDonald, DP Balranald CS

Cheri described the process of identifying evidence that QT is/not happening in the classrooms and the blockers/enablers for this to happen.

Possible structures include:

- Timetable release time for teachers to access sharing time with other teachers
- Peer assessment is one of the strongest tools
- Get teachers to conduct their own surveys with students

- Use STLA as a team teaching model
- Focus on assessment and quality assessment tasks

Work with the group you are most likely to get success with and hope for the ripple effect.

Session 3 Here's how we do it: Variations to Routine etc
Presented by Noel Johnson DP Murray HS, Andrea Doyle
 DP Hay War Memorial HS, Greg Hodges DP Wagga Wagga
 HS, Stuart Pearsall, DP Corowa HS

Noel finds Time Chart Extra really useful for organizing day to day routines

Greg uses a hard copy system that works quite well, although with a large staff such as his, he is thinking Time Chart may be a good investment.
Life gets hectic

Andrea similar to Greg but doesn't experience the same problem with large staff absences as does Greg

Stuart uses First Class to organise casual relief timetables: has developed a Filemaker Pro database for recording casual teachers

Andy Mojsiewicz (DP James Fallon HS)
 Uses a pen and paper model

Ian Frost, Deputy Principal Cootamundra HS then shared their user friendly intranet site they have developed. Interest was extremely high and Ian extended an invitation for a Training Day to be held at Coota possibly in Term 3. Further information will come.

Minutes
 Ruth Ernest
 Deputy Principal
 Coolamon Central School