Washington Teachers’ Conference – Exit Survey
November 5, 2016 – Tacoma Professional Development Center

1. In terms of the overall conference, what are two (2) good things about today?
   - New learning was received & was creative, encouraging, & inspirational.
   - Excellent sessions and a chance to network at lunch.
   - collaboration and learning
   - I thoroughly enjoyed the first and third sessions.
   - Great keynote - set a wonderful tone for the conference.
     High quality presenters overall. I got great information.
   - 1. Material was relevant to our schools focus and current issues.
     2. The food was amazing :)
   - well organized and easy going presenters.
   - I really liked how well organized it was and the caliber of the presenters was amazing. The choir
     at the start was outstanding and a real treat. Lunch was well timed, delicious, and a good
     opportunity to digest what we had just learned. Overall a very well put together training!
   - the presenters were great, easy to listen to and interesting. The good was excellent. Everyone
     was really nice and professional.
   - I was able to garner information I can truly use.
     The presenters were well-prepared for us and answered out questions thoughtfully.
   - 1. Breakout sessions (plethora of topics, skill of presenters, and in depth of knowledge) and 2.
     Opportunity to network with like minded peers
   - content and applicability to my professional job duties - very well done - wish more people had
     been exposed to the material
   - I love the focus and variety of sessions.
   - I enjoyed getting to know more colleagues and push myself to be a better teacher.
   - More people need to come and take advantage of the great opportunity.
   - Wonderful selections of breakout sessions and eats/treats!!!
   - 1 - Outstanding session offerings. 2 - Aiming the focus at teachers
   - I came away with more knowledge of how to turn high poverty schools into higher performing
     schools.
   - Lots and lots of new resources. Love getting professional development that is interesting and
     informative
   - Loved having this on a Saturday; Good variety of sessions

2. What could be improved?
   - Nothing – all went well.
   - Make it a 2 day conference so more sessions could be attended
   - More lunch options for people who are gluten-free (perhaps salads) and more math/science
     sessions for elementary folks.
   - Provide some opportunities for longer sessions.
   - It was difficult to have to decide between presentations. I wish there were a way to still access
     the information from other presentations.
   - Weather ☀
   - I think there are some sessions that would benefit by being longer/more in-depth. This is what I
     find if I dig deep, but mostly I think the conference was awesome.
   - I think it could be longer. Especially if some people traveled for such a long distance, that it
     seems like we could make it a more robust learning opportunity by making it last for two days,
     or at least one more session. But I think overall it was great!
   - more participation by Tacoma staff - I was disappointed to not see more building staff there -
     many of the people I met were new to Tacoma. As a district we need to work on admin /
building staff relationships and a conference like this is a valuable opportunity. More session options as I wanted to see many that were at the same time.

- The keynote was hard to hear at times. Maybe a bit more movement? The lunch and breakfast were great!
- SIGNAGE! I walked all over the first building and did not see any signs indicated that the conference was in the next building.
- The content was great but I also really appreciated the organization and attention to details like help with parking.
- Parking, keynote, bags for souvenirs.
- Can't think of anything - it was a wonderful day. Hoping to bring more teachers to a conference like this in the future.
- This is really stupid in terms overall of the content of the conference. But, I have a real problem with waste. I did not like the fact that the lunches had so many paper boxes that went into the garbage and I think people should stop buying cases of plastic water bottles to distribute during conferences etc. It is wasteful and useless. I hope that next time the lunches can be served on platters and not in paper boxes. Sorry, I know you want to hear about the conference, but that bothered me. I also would like the keynote speakers to have more time to deliver their content.
- Would like to have had more people attending.

3. How did you hear about the conference?

- Email forwarded from a school or district administrator - 4
- Email forwarded from a colleague – 17
- WSASCD Website
- Newsflash – 1

4. Sessions and Comments

Gaytley - 7 Rs: Brain Friendly Fundamentals (BFFs) For All Learners

- Appreciated the review of one of the 7 R's of Retrieval & how soon & often students need to practice the new learning to help it move from short term memory to long term memory & using variety of active learning activities
- Filled with useful info. I got a lot from this session. Excellent job.
- I did the 7 Rs but also was there for the keynote. Enjoyed Gaytley BUT felt it was rushed - had questions that never got answered (which is fairly normal) but audience was also requesting her to go back to the slide to write down information.
- It was awesome! I learned so much. I appreciated how Mrs. Gayley taught us as we should teach other students.
- Gaytley's class was awesome. I really learned a lot and will look into the books she recommended.

Cowan/Haas - Fostering Resiliency in Learners

- Their session description was misleading and not at all what they presented. I was disappointed. I wanted strategies on how to help students become more resilient, not create a personal statement.
- I liked figuring out my core values.
- Great information but I had also hoped to hear more strategies.
Beeson - The ACE Study: Their Trauma, My Stress, Our Resilience

- What was new for me was creating a mission statement to ground me in the work. But a lot of this was renew, including brain in hand.
- Loved it! She was a great presenter.
- This was a good session. I already knew a fair bit about ACEs, so it wasn't quite as informative for me as it would have been if I went in without prior knowledge.
- Wow! Such a great presentation. Beeson was very engaging, and presented the information in a clear way. We did activities as a small groups that were useful and a great way to break up the session. This was my favorite session!
- Wow - every person who works with kids should hear this!!! I could have spent the entire day on this topic alone. Well presented, concise overview, left wanting to study more and encourage others to learn more!!!
- This session provided a great 'refresher' to our work with understanding ACEs and their impact on our students. Would have enjoyed diving into this topic for more than 1 hour.
- Great information I can use in my school.

Bowling - Leveraging Student Data to Inform Instructional Move

- Lots of ideas for how to collect student data. I enjoyed the calibrating activity we did, if there had been more time I would have liked to address what to do with the data/how to efficiently deal with the sheer quantity of what we collect and also what qualifies/how do other people use CFAs?
- Very well presented. I wish we had talked more about the leveraging of the data but we were all engaged and took up the time.
- Would've liked more discussion on best practices for data collection and handout examples of these data collection practices.

Budge/Parrett - Creating Poverty Literate Classroom Cultures

- How to get past some stereotypes
- It is clear they are passionate about their work. Wish they could work with my school.
- Very helpful!
- Excellent session. I felt like I was getting just the tip of the iceberg regarding the information these presenters had to offer.
- Presented a wealth of information that is very relevant to our students and school initiatives.
- I was really hoping to hear some more about what NOT to do in high poverty schools. I know that my school is doing a lot of what they talked about, but I was hoping to get some ideas about practices that we should quit.
- Really good and wanted more!
- This was a wonderful session - thanks for providing a follow-up to the keynote. Looking forward to getting having our teachers attend a workshop with Budge and Parrett...hopefully in Kent!

Coe/Berger - English Language Arts and Social Studies: Building Background Knowledge and Literacy for ALL Students

- I only wish this session were longer. I have personally experienced success in the classroom through this focus, and I was interested in additional resources.
• Excellent resources and their enthusiasm was contagious. I'd like to see more of them and learn more from them.

**Crump/Booth - Adventures in Game Based Learning**

• Very challenging, but fun!
• Very fun session! Big takeaway was that communication was key. I would've liked to see some simpler games with emphasis on content; this setup was very complex and I doubt I could recreate it during the school year.
• Very engaging class. I have a different opinion of game based learning after taking this class. I now see it isn't just using computer games but a way to take the curriculum and make the learning of those standards in a fun and engaging manner.
• I've seen them before and would like to continue learning more about game based learning. They are really fun to learn from.

**Daikos/Daikos - ACEs Informed Multi-Tiered Systems of Support**

• Took back lots of information. Wish I could have spent longer in here!
• Also excellent; I appreciated the deeper learning into a topic I am familiar with. I definitely learned more.
• Very good information, just too much for the timeframe! Great presenters, and wish it had gone longer so I could hear more specifics about interventions.
• From the business world my wondering is why haven't we taken the behavioral MTSS and used the same practices academically? These two are a fantastic team: interesting, engaging, and they practically finish each others thoughts, as well as intuitively clarify a broad statement or point when needed. Honestly, even if the topic didn't interest me, I still would enjoy any session they offered.

**Dominguez/Ballew - Creating Developmentally Appropriate, Rigorous Full-Day Kindergarten**

• These ladies are amazing. They inspire me to do more.
• Thank you to this team.
• I loved the practical information and the developmentally appropriate focus.

**Endicott et al - A Whole Child is a Hopeful Child**

• Well presented, thoughtful and useful activities that kept us engaged and thinking. I wish I had heard more research behind the framework.
• Excellent!

**Francis - Now That's a Good Question: How to Promote Cognitive Rigor through Classroom Questioning**

• Information presented was good. I would have liked a little time to try to use it to create "good questions" around my standards, instead of only hearing about how they were used in his classroom.
• This was an outstanding presentation addressing how to turn standards into thought provoking questions and some forays into practical application for PBL. Mr Francis was alert to our questions and even stayed after to address a specific concern I had. This was easily the best seminar session I attended and wish it could have been longer!
• Excellent!
• So happy to have someone of this quality presenting at the conference.

Helgeson - Reading, Movement, and Complex Text

• Wonderful session! I appreciate how the strategies were woven into the entire session. I look forward to using these reading and movement strategies in class. My only regret was that it wasn't longer because we rushed at the end in order to be on time for lunch.
• He had a variety of hands on activities we were able to learn from. He seemed rushed the whole time.
• AMAZING strategies, content, and presentation!!!
• Thank you for the strategies on movement that we can take back to the classroom and use today.

Hernandez/Puente - Changing School Culture by Empowering Teachers

• It was very informative but I feel it was better suited for admin.
• Fantastic! The presentation was well-planned and clear. It was a great opportunity to hear their story while also prompting reflection on the potential application to our site. The resources described were very useful and we had many take-aways!

Koontz - Additive Language Learning: Realizing the Capacity of Emergent Bilinguals

• Interesting presenter. I had not heard of his topic before and it was eye opening.

Macintyre/Eoff - Teaching Math with a Growth Mindset

• Really enjoyed this session - lots of great hands-on. I wanted to have more time to find out more details about this program.

Stanek/Williams - Using Microsoft Tools to Connect Your Classroom to the World

• Excellent, fun, informative!

Turner - Movement and Activity in ALL classrooms: Tools and Tricks

• Helpful to be encouraged to think outside of the box for engagement learning activities & help students plant the learning skills into their long term memory. Easy application of painter’s tape on the carpet & going to apply to ELA for sequencing & timeline & for Math for cardinal order, number sense order & number line. Thanks!
• Participated in this with two of my teachers and we will be bringing some strategies back to share with our campus and peers!
• Interesting and definitely active. Had some difficulty applying it to a middle school math classroom as the activities were all for very linear/stepped things and most of our stuff has multiple ways/methods or multiple horizontal steps to perform.
• We had a lot of fun. I got some create ideas of how to tweak the activities for my class. Keep movement classes coming!
• AMAZING examples of movement in any classroom!!!
Thank you for attending the 2016 WTC. Please indicate your role in education.

Considering Dr. Budge and Dr. Parrett's Keynote presentation "Disrupting Poverty to Meet the Needs of Each and Every…"
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