

## Feedback for 4<sup>th</sup> Annual RTI-PLC Institute – 2013

**72 Respondents**

	<b>1 Very Low</b>	<b>2 Low</b>	<b>3 Average</b>	<b>4 High</b>	<b>5 Very High</b>	<b>No answer</b>
<b>1. Overall Rating of Institute</b>	(4) 5%	(3) 4%	(28) 38%	(25) 34%	(10) 14%	(3) 5%
<b>2. Overall Rating Institute format</b>	(4) 5%	(1) 1%	(22) 30%	(30) 41%	(14) 19%	(3) 5%
<b>3. Overall Rating Institute content</b>	(3) 4%	(9) 12%	(25) 34%	(26) 36%	(7) 10%	(3) 4%
<b>4. Overall Rating of Jim Warford</b>	(2) 3%	(3) 4%	(13) 18%	(39) 53%	(13) 18%	(3) 4%
<b>5. Overall Rating of Kevin Feldman</b>	(1) 1%	(2) 3%	(9) 12%	(25) 34%	(33) 45%	(3) 5%

**6. Comments about Team Time:**

- Got great information on all the new things that are having.
- Team time is always valuable. Starting the morning this way is a smart use of time.
- Very much appreciated
- More Team Time
- The time was beneficial and appreciated.
- Nice to have, prefer on day one.
- It was very helpful to go over TPEP with our school's administrator.
- Very Beneficial
- Not enough time to connect with my team.
- Well spent
- Great to have time to meet with our building.
- Morning works best, day 1
- I loved having team time with my staff and principals...thank you!
- Always good to be with my team
- I love team time during Institute...it gets the year started off right!
- Best part of the event
- One less day was more of a struggle
- good amount of time - seemed balanced
- It was fine.
- Missed not having team time the first day
- It was difficult to find time to meet during lunch - it was loud and crowded in many places
- None
- Good opportunity to become familiar with the school
- Helpful, especially when we can share presentations we liked so that others can attend at a later session, if possible
- Valuable
- Wish our district would have prepared something and had team team time
- This was very helpful, especially since we have so many new staff this year.
- Did not have this year.
- Appropriate
- Must be the first time slot, first time to gather as a team , day 1
- Enjoy time to meet as a staff

## 7. Strengths of Institute:

- Has a lot to offer everyone and it all was very useful and related to our jobs.
- Connecting with staff not seen much during the year. 2. listening to keynote speakers who are educating while entertaining the audience. Tough to do and greatly appreciated.
- Many of the breakouts were redundant
- Intro to T-Pep.
- Presenters were good
- Facility
- Like that we can pick and choose which classes fit our needs.
- The institute was well organized and it was easy to see what was happening in each timeslot. It was also nice to have lunch provided.
- Organization
- Very organized
- An opportunity to select sessions I would like to grow in.
- Having choices for breakout sessions
- All staff hearing the same keynote
- Depth of presentations
- Keynote speakers
- As a Social Studies teacher I liked the classes on using the library resources and Mozilla Firefox...also liked the explanation of TPEP
- Great Speakers!
- Adequate break times between sessions and lunch
- Good ideas, wrong time of year. Not an inspiring/encouraging/helpful way to start the year
- T-Pep
- Kevin Feldman as a speaker and sessions
- Good Location. Plenty of space. Did not feel as crowded as last year.
- Well organized
- Lots of options to attend
- Format and overall concept
- Forms good ideas
- Variety of topics
- Very well organized. Ran smoothly without many changes
- Breakout sessions
- Keynotes were great; importance of infusing technology and the engagement of ALL students. Specific strategies and videos were quite helpful
- We get clock hours
- Finding applicable trainings teachers can use to improve instruction.
- Breakouts taught by classroom teachers who share successful strategies.
- Good variety of sessions. Keynote speakers (Feldman) were very good.
- Keynote and applicable grade level time

## 8. Which Breakout Session did you find most valuable?

- The session about the 4 PLC questions
- Read 180; Dr. Feldman; TPEP
- ELL - day two; Cultural competence - day two
- Strings in the Classroom
- C.I.A.
- C.I.A.
- CIA - Close Reading
- Flip Your Classroom
- Overview of the ccss in math - OSPI; Negative conflict to productive collaboration - Carol

Johnson; Unwrapping the standards in CCSS math - Kristina Tucker

- Ernie Chapin
- Flip Your Classroom
- I liked the preschool session. It was good to hear about the assessments that they use and what they are working on
- Working with difficult people by Carol Johnson
- Ernie Chapin's session
- TPEP
- Formative assessment using the 4 PLC questions
- I attended the strings session which was hands on and my strings class will be run differently after the sessions.
- Feldman, Collinge
- TPEP
- Dealing with difficult people
- Mozilla Firefox
- Our RHS building AVID sessions
- Digital Media in the Classroom
- Jim Warford on flipping the classroom
- Kevin Feldman was excellent!
- CIA – second day
- Learning Vocabulary Games
- Q and A about T-pep
- Both Feldman's sessions and the 4 question PLC target sheet session (Butler)
- CIA
- CIA Reading
- CIA Approach
- Ice Age Floods McBones!
- Jim Warford
- The mammoth dig breakout was very interesting
- Technology – iPads, district resources
- CIA with Sara Collinge. I would love to see her again.
- TPEP Breakouts
- Learning Games for Skills
- Working with Difficult People; Social Thinking; Positive Behavior – Clip Charts
- CIA
- Flip your classroom with Jim Warford; AVID strategies sessions taught by RHS staff
- Star2 and Common Core; iPads in classroom; Grade level session-time for discussion with entire RSD grade level is sooo helpful! ; I was glad to participate in the ACES lunch presentation for forming a non-profit.
- Amy Clements, well organized, informative
- Feldman's session
- CIA with Sarah

#### **9. Suggestions for future topics and/or presenters:**

- Everything was amazing, great use of my time before school
- Make and take for elementary teachers; parent panel for students with autism; communication support in the gen ed classroom; Fine motor development and how to help gen ed teachers know what to do / expect in the classroom; PECS overview; ELL strategies; Dibels training; data collection; how to read and decipher MAP scores; SPED law; Community agencies; Rubric making course for educators; Training for basic things like preschool DIAL-4 for preschool and support staff; Playworks games for all staff, \* sign and sing - class for simple chants / songs paired with sign for preschool and kinder staff. The list goes on :).
- Continued music track. I will think on topic and pass along to dept. chair or T&L. Tossing a few

ideas around in my head

- We want practices we can use in the classroom immediately.
- Sarah Collinge
- Safari Montage
- More for pre-k to first
- More technology related trainings, such as how to do a webcast teaching video.
- I would appreciate some sessions on teaching strategies for special education students with moderate to severe learning disabilities. It would also be good to hear about how to work with very low functioning students who may not be verbal and who have extreme difficulty learning.
- Motivating Children
- More on CCSS
- Instructional related
- I thought last year's sessions were better
- AVID strategies
- National Certification for other professionals
- Topics relating to special populations
- keep GLAD; use of data
- Offer more for special educators
- More on actually teaching high school mathematics, not just unwrapping standards
- More on CIA Approach; More on CCSS
- More SpEd topics
- Some information & updates from state college admissions would be beneficial
- Would really like some help with managing CCSS across 6 grade levels at elementary as an intervention/sped teacher
- Special education – there was very little in this area this year.
- Number Talks and Math Games for CCSS. PEAK training!
- I would love to see Kim Adsit or Shari Sloane or Deanna Jump here for our kinder teachers. Their application of the Common Core is sound and is congruent with the strategies and training we have received in RSD. They were outstanding presenters on literacy, math and science at the National Kinder Conference! I'd LOVE to have Ron Clarke come to our district to tell his story and share his book, The Essential 55. He is amazing. Watch his u-tube videos! Technology training - blogging, websites, etc. would be extremely helpful, as this is required for us in the Common Core.
- Topics for people who don't fit into regular ed
- Strategies for improving teacher-student relationships. More active engagement strategies. Could Jim Warford come back and do a half-day session on flipping the classroom?
- Continue the great work
- Grade level time

## 10. Recommendations for Improvements

- More water
- Food. Sorry to say that it wasn't as good this year. Wilted lettuce in the sandwiches and soggy cookies the 2nd day.
- Ask what we'd like to have at the institute
- Vegetarian lunches for both days.
- Allow us to sign up for the sessions we want to take through some sort of registration so that you can assure there are enough seats in each session.
- Have a balance of sessions that are designed for general education and special education teachers.
- Consider recommendations for training when they are requested.
- Bring Spudnuts back for breakfast!
- More options
- The printed program was hard to follow
- MOVE TO A DIFFERENT TIME OF YEAR!!
- Have more sessions to attend-it seemed that several of the applicable sessions overlapped

each other so there was an inability to attend a wide variety of sessions

- Separate out buildings or at least departments, use a school with better chairs.
- Continue to bring in speaker that are of Feldman's quality.
- Where were the "Spud Nuts"? The Country Gentleman was OK, but got to have Spud Nuts in the morning.
- More options for secondary science, better lunches.
- Switching rooms became confusing
- Make sure the presentations are readily applicable to education. Music therapy was interesting but few strategies were given that could be implemented in the classroom.
- Actually letting us have more time to get more information than just 1-1/2 hour sessions. Or actually have sessions that are applicable to our classrooms
- I think since the Richland School District is in Richland, we should be supporting Richland businesses, and I think we should try to get catering and other services done by a Richland company. I know it's all about money, but I think (long run) our community supports us and in turn, we should support them.
- One more thing! With the keynote's emphasis on technology, we should have had more breakouts targeting that theme. For instance, not everyone knows how to do Twitter, make a youtube video, use facebook, help kids do Voki's, use the qr codes (or whatever they're called :), navigate Teachers Pay Teachers, etc. Those things alone could add many more courses to the institute and not mean so many repetitions of the same course throughout the two days.
- More breakouts that are specialist and sped appropriate. Outside presenters for breakouts for sped instead of expecting RSD staff to teach multiple sessions.
- I miss having out of district staff
- Information on TPEP and information to help special ed (magnet program) students that are integrated into elementary specials.
- Puppetry
- More SpEd offerings; ECOM presenter was not very good

#### 11. Any other comments?

- OSPI presenters were weak
- Way to Go for putting this on for us!
- We need to stop offering the same few courses over and over. We need to quit asking Ernie Chapin and the GLAD team to come up with topics. They deserve to have a year off. We need to have more offerings, and more offerings that appeal to SPED staff (that's what I was hearing). More creative, hands on, take it with you courses interspersed with the more academic, lecture type courses. This year's lunches were not as super as last year. Last year there was too much food, this year there was hardly any meat in the wraps. Salads are good for the one day. A meatier wrap perhaps with a better fruit choice for the second day, and let's have gluten free options. Like it or not, Joe Martin was a big draw, and he would be a welcome sight again. One day of Martin, and one day of a Feldman type speaker and that would be perfect :). Shorten the courses a bit. The second day felt a bit endless. Lunch was too long on that day. I know some people might like it but really, what happens is people lose momentum after a "too-long" lunch and you lose (some literally) them
- Thanks for the hard work!
- I noticed significantly less people from other districts attending this year. Wondering why this was. I feel gratitude for all of you who worked so hard to put this on. I don't want you to think I thought this conference was a wash. It just seemed less vibrant this year. We need more varied offerings, and more of them. I think that would change things in a positive way. We need to also keep in mind that audiences don't really want to hear much from our "own". It seems more important if the info comes from "them". :)
- I enjoyed attending this conference. Thank you for the extremely hard work that it took to put on a meaningful conference.
- I think the conference went very smoothly. Good job!
- Stop wasting the districts money. We want to get in our classrooms and prepare for students and not have our time wasted. Is the institute done in order to validate the jobs of a few upper administration people?

- Time to discuss curriculum for new teachers
- Sadly the sandwiches were not good. Salad was better but then the cookie was not even edible (soggy) and I love cookies.
- Thank you for the vegetarian lunches!!
- Thanks for your efforts. I just think teaching teachers is tough and so I applaud all willing to present! I definitely got some things that will help my teaching from this so therefore totally worthwhile. Love the clock hours too!
- The 1/2 day workshop at RHS was SO much more helpful than this full institute. Why? Because of the time of year. Because it felt optional. All teachers want to do is get their classroom ready, but we can't because we are stuck in a workshop telling us how to be better teachers and why we aren't as good as we can be. How can we be as good as we can be if valuable prep time continues to be taken away from us?
- I felt the session for homeroom was poorly done. It would have been much better if we could practice using computers.
- This is my second year attending this conference and have very high and positive thoughts towards it
- I felt like this conference, as with years past has been more of a waste of time than actually helpful. Content specific outside of ELA, and middle school is severely lacking.
- 1.5" session was a bit long. Just like students it is hard to sit still for that long.
- I would like to see more breakout sessions relating to sped as there is not a whole lot for our group of teachers. There seem to be more to offer last year.
- Make sure the sprinklers don't come on while we're outside eating lunch!
- More Technology - How To Integrate it into the classroom.
- Publish the web address for handouts early. Page 35 was too late.
- Last year had far more offerings for the SpEd population and this year's conference really lacked in this area
- Thank you for this investment in us and opportunity to learn from fine educators and to have time to collaborate and learn with our staffs. Due to our limited time in staff meetings/professional development at our schools, we find this time to be very valuable! =)  
Also, the lunch caterer did a fabulous job! Salads were a nice addition with options that were dairy and gluten free or could be easily made so. Thank you! =)
- Thanks for all the work organizing the event.
- Please do not recommend the Red Lion in the future. We did not have a good experience at this hotel.