

THE POWER OF TEACHERS AS COLLABORATIVE CURRICULUM DESIGNERS

Teachers are on the front lines of education in this country every day, and are the most familiar with which student needs are not being met. As collaborative curriculum developers, they are able to directly benefit student learning as well as their own professional development.

“The most valuable resource that all teachers have is each other. Without collaboration, our growth is limited to our own perspectives.”

~ Robert John Meehan

Improves Student Achievement

Through the formal articulation of thought, students can collaborate ideas, defend viewpoints and refine their understanding.

Supports Teacher Planning Sessions for Faster Results

Authentic teacher-driven collaborative curriculum design communities improve adult learning and thus directly improve student learning.

Makes Locally-Based Lesson Writing Fun

The freedom to choose local activities students will better relate to but still base it all on required skills and standards.

Creates Curriculum with Meaning & Purpose

Starting at the end and focusing on the big picture helps students make connections and see relevancy.

Creates an Environment of Deep Thinkers

Engaging in deeper, more thought provoking questioning strategies creates college and career ready students.

Promotes Complex Discussions

Students are encouraged to read, write and discuss complex ideas.

Creates Lifelong Critical Thinkers

Promoting critical thinking and creativity in the classroom helps students prepare for success in the modern world.

Gets Students Rolling on Needed Coding Skills

Lessons can incorporate the needed basic concepts of programming, robotics and math.

10

Benefits of Teacher-Developed Curriculum

Empowers Teachers Across All Content Areas to Teach Literacy

Unites all teachers in a school or district through a common goal: to become teachers of literacy.

Improves Students' Writing Quality

Ensures a vibrant and engaging writing program to practice writing skills.

4

Teacher Competencies:

When it comes to helping teachers creating curriculum, Literacy Design Collaborative's platform offers participants the chance to:

Analyze

Assignments Aligned to Standards and Student Learning Goals

Focus on internal short and/or long-term student learning goals as well as external content standards and college and career readiness.



Construct

Quality Assignment Prompts

Choose components that encourage alignment with focus standards and/or reach student learning goals.



Develop

Quality Instructional Plans

Backwards-design a sequence of skills and/or subskills from a prompt aligned to specific focus standards and/or student learning goals.



Assess

Outcomes & Iterate Instruction

Derive data from student thinking and skill development.



So How Does LDC Support Collaborative Curriculum Development

Through a set of eight core principles, LDC creates the ability for teachers to collaboratively develop robust, interactive curriculum meeting the needs of their students and establishing a unique approach to literacy instruction by:

- Aligning with the CCRS.
- Distributing responsibility for reading and writing.
- Making tasks central.
- Connecting reading and writing instruction.
- Using back mapping.
- Fostering a responsive system that encourages teachers to adjust their instruction.
- Encouraging local choice.
- Striving to be teacher-friendly.

With the opportunities our digital world offers today's teacher, connecting to share experiences and best practices with other teachers across the district, state and even the country is easier than ever.

