

## Concept-based Curriculum and Instruction for the Thinking Classroom

### AGENDA

- 9:00-9:45 Our changing world: New paradigms for education
- Coverage centered (2 dimensional) ) vs. idea-centered (3 dimensional) curriculum/instruction
  - The Structure of Knowledge: Teaching for deep understanding and the transfer of knowledge
    - Where should we ultimately target our teaching?
  - The Structure of Process: Using Processes, Strategies and Skills to develop deep understanding in process-driven subject—English Language Arts, World Languages, The Arts and Music
  - Concepts – Key/Related (macro/micro) for breadth and depth of understanding
- 9:45-10:15 Writing clear and powerful essential understandings to guide inquiry - Table task
- 10:15-10:30 Break
- 10:30-11:15 Scaffolding thinking from lower to higher levels – Table task and feedback
- 11:15-11:30 The power of a conceptual lens (Key Concept)
- Focusing the topic
  - Stimulating “synergistic thinking” (factual/conceptual interaction)
  - Transferring to global contexts
- 11:30-12:00 DVD clip: A concept-based teacher—this is what it “looks like.” We will use the Rubric for “The Developing Concept-Based Teacher” to evaluate.
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:00-1:45 Discussion--Designing a concept-based unit of instruction: The integration of thinking in interdisciplinary and intra-disciplinary units of instruction
- The Unit Web
  - Writing Essential Understandings aligned to the provincial curriculum
  - Writing Factual, Conceptual and Debatable Guiding Questions to engage thinking from lower to higher levels
  - Encouraging student generated questions
  - Addressing Critical Content Knowledge and Key Skills (KNOW and ABLE TO DO)
- 1:45-2:30 Supporting Teachers—
- The Principal/Leadership Roles Handout and Discussion
  - Rubrics for the Developing Concept-Based Teacher: Understanding Concept-Based, Lesson Planning, Instruction
  - Rubric for the Developing Concept-Based Student
- 2:30- 2:50 Questions and Answers
- 2:50 – 3:25 Regional teams – Discussion and Planning Time
- 3:25-3:30 Close