

LAUNCH – A workshop series on “Learning authentically utilizing networks to collaborate holistically”
Presented by the Central Alberta Regional Consortium in partnership with
Red Deer College
as hosted by Brent Galloway (Coordinator of the Middle Years Education Program)

An African Proverb states that “it takes a whole village to raise a child”. In the 21st century, we could argue that it takes a whole “global” village working collaboratively to raise a “whole child”. Join this workshop series and become part of a professional learning network (PLN) and collaborate to better meet the needs of today’s learner through a holistic approach to designing teaching learning experiences in the 21st century inclusive classroom. Join other educators from other school divisions and other educational institutions to design and share best practices to help differentiate instruction in order to move towards a more “student-directed” approach to teaching. Sessions will be delivered live in the state of the art “Centre for Teaching and Learning” at Red Deer College. Opportunities will also exist for those who wish to access the sessions virtually using the “Live Classroom” tool. Participants will have access to the CARC Moodle in order to share resources, and monthly book prizes will be given to those in attendance. The session includes dinner and time to work collaboratively on a school project.

Thursday, Decmeber 1st :

*Topic: **The Launch***

Location: TBA

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Speaker: Brent Galloway (speakers for additional workshops will be introduced)

Description:

An African Proverb states that “it takes a whole village to raise a child”. In the 21st century, we could argue that it takes a whole “global” village working collaboratively to raise a “whole child”. This introductory session will introduce the “LAUNCH” workshop series on teaching and learning for the 21st Century inclusive classroom, with particular attention to the skills needed by students and teachers to thrive and be successful learners for today and in the future(critical thinking, creativity, communication, etc.). In this session we will start our journey to becoming a professional learning network (PLN). We will collaborate to better meet the needs of today’s learner by learning how to design experiences in the 21st century inclusive classroom. Best practices will be shared on how best differentiate instruction in order to move towards a more “student-directed” approach to teaching. Guided practice for individuals and teams will be provided to begin development on a school-based project, and participants will have a chance to meet future speakers who will briefly introduce topics for their workshops.

Thursday, January 12th:

*Topic: **Engaging Students with the integration of Project Based Learning, Multiple Intelligences and Web 2.0 Tools***

Location: Library Commons, Library Instruction Lab, Red Deer College

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Speaker: TBA

Description: Are you interested in finding ways to increase the level of learning, achievement and engagement for ALL of your students? Would you like to discover how to place more responsibility for learning onto students by implementing multiple intelligence theory in your classroom? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you need to discover along with other teachers how to make this happen in our 21st century classrooms. What’s most important is not how smart your students are but how your students are smart. Samples of student work and resources will be made available along with various Web 2.0 digital tools which will be helpful for teachers with their own 21st century learning projects.

Thursday, February 2nd :

Topic : 21st Century Learning: Educating the “Whole Brain” Through Interdisciplinary Curriculum

Location: Library Commons, Library Instruction Lab, Red Deer College

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Speaker: Brent Galloway (with 4th year Middle Years Education students)

Description: New directions in thinking and learning, suggest that curriculum should be presented to students in an “interdisciplinary” approach versus a subject specific manner so that students can create meaning and connect to what they are experiencing. Join with Brent in learning about new directions in Alberta curriculum, what this looks like and how it can be done. Exemplars of cross-curricular integrated units will be provided by 4th year education students.

Thursday, March 8th:

Topic: Using Web 2.0 to teach in the 21st Century: Integrating Digital Tools for Digital Learners

Location: Library Commons, Library Instruction Lab, Red Deer College

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Speaker: TBA

Description: In order to acquire the essential 21st century skills of communication, information and media literacy we need to use the multitude of 21st century teaching and learning tools that are available to us. These tools are helpful in enhancing the development of other skills such as critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, and creativity. An essential component to this concept is how to integrate digital citizenship into our classrooms so that learning can take place in a safe and responsible way.

Thursday, April 5th:

Topic : Assistance Technology to Differentiate

Location: Library Commons, Library Instruction Lab, Red Deer College

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Speaker: TBA

Description: Just in development

Thursday, May 3rd

Topic: Engaging Students Through Inquiry and Problem-based Learning

Location: Library Commons, Library Instruction Lab, Red Deer College

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Speaker: TBA

Description: There exists many challenging problems within the 21st century world, and we need to create a community of learners who will see these as problem solving opportunities. These learning experiences can be designed as inquiry-based projects where students work collaboratively to use their creativity, critical thinking, and communication skills to make a positive difference in their communities, whether that be their school community, their local community, or even their global community. Examples and resources will be shared that can be used to integrate this student-centered instructional practice throughout the curriculum.

Thursday, June 7th

Topic: Reality Bytes – A Celebration of our Learning

Location: Library Commons, Library Instruction Lab, Red Deer College

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (includes supper)

Speaker: TBA

Description: Cohort participants will gather to share the progress and evidence of their work during the past year. Following presentations, participants will be presented with a certificate for their contributions to this community of practice. Opportunities for feedback will be provided to help design the next series of Reality Bytes workshops.