

# Professional Learning Communities



- Focus on Learning
- Create a collaborative culture
- Focus on results

- Professional Learning Communities
- research-based ideas
- four questions of a PLC
- leading in a collaborative culture
- protocols, procedures, and processes
- support and monitor teams
- common assessment
- instructional planning
- high functioning PLCs
- common assessment data



## Cassandra Erkens

### Professional Learning Communities at Work™

Cassandra Erkens is president of Anam Cara Consulting, Inc., based in Minnesota. Cassandra has served as a high school English teacher, district-level director and facilitator of state programs. She is both a PLC and Assessment Associate for Solution Tree. She is also the co-author of *The Teacher as Assessment Leader* and *The Principal as Assessment Leader*.

- formative assessments
- criteria for rigour
- instruction and assessment processes
- global and information rich world
- rich and meaningful learning
- “science” of teaching
- “Pyramid of Intervention”
- protocols for student work
- examining student work
- leadership in the change process

## Saturday, May 21, 2011

### Session 1: Professional Learning Communities at Work™ – Introduction

What are “Professional Learning Communities?” How do you make them work? What would you DO if you were in one? This session, grounded in the work of Dr Richard DuFour, will provide an overview of the concept of PLCs along with some practical, **research-based ideas** for getting your own PLC started.

### Session 2: PLCs at Work™ – Creating a Culture of Collaboration

Collaboration is hard work that requires commitment, focus and consistency. How can we as teacher leaders guide our peers on the PLC journey? This session explores the tools and strategies team leaders can use to help their teams answer the **four questions of a PLC**.

### Session 3: PLCs at Work™ – Leading in a Collaborative Culture

How do leaders lead in a collaborative culture? Fortunately, the work of PLCs leads to consistency and clarity. This session is designed to help leaders at all levels, explore the specific **protocols, procedures, and processes** we can use to **support and monitor teams**.

## Sunday, May 22, 2011

### Session 1: PLCs at Work™ – Designing Common Assessments

A **common assessment** is an assessment that a team collectively owns. It is collaboratively designed, delivered and scored for the purposes of shared learning, **instructional planning** and the assessment itself. This session explores both the design considerations and processes **high functioning PLCs** use when engaged in the work of common assessments.

### Session 2: PLCs at Work™ – Delivering Common Assessments

How might the work of common assessments – which by nature require things to happen in similar time frames – work to support learners and teachers in continued learning? This session offers practical strategies and ideas for PLCs interested in creating common assessment delivery structures.

### Session 3: PLCs at Work™ – Interpreting Common Assessment Data

How do PLCs use the data from common assessments to make informed, responsive decisions? This session examines how we can use the common assessment process to not only monitor student learning but also to promote continued learning – for student and teacher alike.

## Monday, May 23, 2011

### Session 1: PLCs at Work™ – Formative Assessment – From Instruction to Meaningful Data

While the research on the use of formative assessments is compelling, the practice seems mind-boggling and overwhelming to well-intentioned teachers. This session offers strategies, tools and examples of real classroom practices in the design and effective use of **formative assessments** so that we might gather meaningful data during instruction.

### Session 2: PLCs at Work™ – Rigour Relevance in Teaching & Learning

This session explores the work of Dr Fred Newmann on Authentic Intellectual Work and highlights how to use the **criteria for rigour** and relevance during **instruction and assessment processes** so we can prepare our learners for a highly technical, **global and information rich world**.

### Session 3: PLCs at Work™ – Instructional Strategies That Achieve Results

This session will offer teachers an opportunity to dig in to the most effective research-based instructional strategies, explore the criteria and standards for **rich and meaningful learning** experiences, and identify some practical ideas for bringing the “**science**” of teaching to collaborative and unique classroom applications.

## Tuesday, May 24, 2011

### Session 1: PLCs at Work™ – How to Respond When Students Don’t Learn

This session outlines the process of creating a “**Pyramid of Intervention**” and offers examples of school schedules and sample pyramids as well as decision making criteria to support such work at the school level.

### Session 2: PLCs at Work™ – Protocols for Student Work

This session has two objectives:

- to engage teachers in the process and protocols to engage in **examining student work**.
- using that same process and protocols to support learning at the classroom level.

### Session 3: PLCs at Work™ – Leading Change

School improvement research continually highlights the significance of **leadership in the change process**, but there is no consistent, step-by-step manual. This session focuses on knowledge, strategies and skills to manage the change process.

# Registration Form

**Register online today!**  
Credit card or school account

Saturday 21 May		✓
<b>Session 1:</b> 8.30 am – 10.30 am	Professional Learning Communities at Work™: An Introduction	
<b>Session 2:</b> 11.00 am – 1.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Creating a Culture of Collaboration	
<b>Session 3:</b> 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Leading in a Collaborative Culture	
Sunday 22 May		✓
<b>Session 1:</b> 8.30 am – 10.30 am	PLCs at Work™: Designing Common Assessments	
<b>Session 2:</b> 11.00 am – 1.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Delivering Common Assessments	
<b>Session 3:</b> 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Interpreting Common Assessments Data	

Monday 23 May		✓
<b>Session 1:</b> 8.30 am – 10.30 am	PLCs at Work™: Formative Assessment: From Instruction to Meaningful Data	
<b>Session 2:</b> 11.00 am – 1.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Rigour and Relevance in Teaching and Learning	
<b>Session 3:</b> 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Instructional Strategies that Achieve Results	
Tuesday 24 May		✓
<b>Session 1:</b> 8.30 am – 10.30 am	PLCs at Work™: How to Respond When Students Don't Learn	
<b>Session 2:</b> 11.00 am – 1.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Protocols for Student Work	
<b>Session 3:</b> 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	PLCs at Work™: Leading Change	

## Rate per Person

Registration Type	Register after 1 March		Register on or before 1 March	
	Full Rate	Full Rate Group Disc	Early Bird	Early Bird Group Disc
4 Day	\$1250.00	\$1190.00	\$1125.00	\$1070.00
3 Day	\$940.00	\$895.00	\$850.00	\$810.00
2 Day	\$630.00	\$600.00	\$570.00	\$545.00
1 Day	\$330.00	\$315.00	\$300.00	\$285.00
Student Teacher	\$175.00	Confirmation copy of Student I.D. must accompany registration for price to be approved.		

Please tick registration type: 4 Days  3 Days  2 Days  1 Day  Student Teacher  I.D. No.

Name (Individual): .....

(Shared Registration)

Name 1: ..... (21 May)

Name 2: ..... (22 May)

Name 3: ..... (23 May)

Name 4: ..... (24 May)

School/Institution: .....

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Confirmation of registration will be emailed to each participant.

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**Contact:** conferences@hbe.com.au for further information.

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**Please note:** Places for this conference are strictly limited! Payment secures your registration. In the event that one or more of the advertised speakers is unable to attend Hawker Brownlow Education reserves the right to provide replacement speakers.

All prices are quoted in \$AUD and include GST. ABN: 70 495 007 372

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