THE FORUM FOR
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS
School of Education, University of Pittsburgh

We are Advocates for Children and Youth

The Spring Leadership Retreat

April 27, 28, and 29, 2016
Omni William Penn Hotel • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

THE 40TH ASSEMBLY OF THE MEMBERSHIP

WRITING AND TALKING TO LEARN.

The University of Pittsburgh • School of Education
4320 Wesley W. Posvar Hall • 230 South Bouquet Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Wednesday, April 27, 2016

8:30 a.m. Executive Board Meeting and Breakfast – Franklin & Greene, 17th Floor

11:00 a.m. New Member Orientation and Luncheon – Allegheny, 17th Floor

12:00 p.m. Registration – Allegheny Corridor

1:00 p.m. Assembly of the Membership – Allegheny, 17th Floor

Welcome ......................................................................................................................... Jerry Longo
Executive Committee Report ....................................................................................... Donna Nugent
Membership .................................................................................................................... Jerry Longo
Introduction of New Members ...................................................................................... Sponsors
CEAC Evaluation Report ............................................................................................... Cindy Tananis
40th Assembly of the Forum ......................................................................................... Val McDonald
Our History Together ...................................................................................................... John Lozosky, Historian

1:30 p.m. General Session – Allegheny, 17th Floor

Program Introduction
• Writing and Talking to Learn ............................................................................ Tony Petrosky/Allison Escher
• Story Time:
  – Michelle Miller
  – Brian White
  – Joe Clapper
  – Bill Kerr
  – Tracy Vitale
• The League of Innovative Schools
  – Bille Rondinelli
  – Tom Ralston
  – Bart Rocco

5:30 p.m. Social Hour – Sky Room, 17th Floor

6:30 p.m. Celebration and Dinner – Monongahela, 17th Floor

Master of Ceremony ........................................................................................................ Pat O’Toole
National Anthem ............................................................................................................. West Allegheny Jazz Ensemble
Introduction of Alumni and Guests ........................................................................... Linda Hippert
Introductions of Interns ............................................................................................... Diane Kirk
Educational Leadership Award ..................................................................................... Najeeb Shafiq
Kudos ............................................................................................................................. Don Lee
Voice of Advocacy Award ............................................................................................. John Lozosky
  The 2016 Recipient – Dr. Richard Wallace ................................................................. Bob Millward
Love Psalm ..................................................................................................................... West Allegheny Jazz Ensemble
The Thanksgiving ......................................................................................................... John Hansen

Dinner is Served – Monongahela, 17th Floor
8:00 a.m. Breakfast – Sky, 17th Floor

9:15 a.m. Session 1: Welcome and Overview – Allegheny, 17th Floor
Tony Petrosky/Allison Escher, Assisted by Sally Sherman

9:30 a.m. Our Goals

Big Ideas About Talk and Writing

Read, Write and Talk to get the General idea

- Read “Joyas Volardores” by Brian Doyle to get the gist
  - Quick write: What do you think Doyle is saying in this essay?
  - Share your response in pairs or trios
  - Chart your response and engage in a gallery walk
  - Engage in whole group discussion
- Reflect as learners and as educators
  - What did you do as a learner?
  - What did I do as the teacher to guide and support your learning?
  - What did the quick write do?

10:15 a.m. Reread, Write, and Talk to Study Doyle’s Craft

- Reread “Joyas Volardores” to study and imitate his sentences
- Quick writes
  - Select several sentences in a row that you find compelling. What do these sentences do?
    What’s their position, or their job in this paragraph? In the essay as a whole?
  - Imitate Doyle’s style by trying your hand at writing your own sentences like these.
- Share your quick writes in pairs or trios
- Engage in a whole group discussion: What did you learn about sentences and paragraphs from engaging in this task?
- Reflect as learners and educators
- Whole group discussion: What do you now understand about Doyle’s central idea? How is what you understand now different than after your first reading? What accounts for the changes?

11:30 a.m. Reflect on the Design and Enactment of the Lessons

- Review the sequence of tasks and reflect on your experience as learners and educators.
  Complete the following statements.
  - Writing and talking about texts…
  - Sequences of tasks work to…
  - Using students’ writing and talk formatively requires…

12:00 p.m. Lunch – Sky, 17th Floor

1:00 p.m. Talking and Writing to Learn Overview – Allegheny, 17th Floor
Victoria Bill, Assisted by Sally Sherman
1:15 p.m.  **Session 2: Developing Mathematical Understanding**

**Talk and Write to Make Sense of Mathematics**

- Engage in solving a task and writing about mathematical reasoning
  - Work privately to solve the task
  - Engage in an exploration with peers
  - Engage in a whole group discussion
- Reflect as learners and as educators
  - What did you do as a learner?
  - What did I do as the teacher to guide and support your learning?
  - How did talking and writing during the lesson shape your thinking?

2:00 p.m.  **Analyze, Talk and Write to Make Sense of Mathematics**

- Engage in solving a task and writing about mathematical reasoning
  - Work privately to solve the task
  - Engage in an exploration with peers
  - Engage in a whole group discussion

2:45 – 3:00 p.m.  **Break**

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.  **Analyze, Talk and Write to Make Sense of Mathematics**

- Engage in solving a task and writing about mathematical reasoning
  - Work privately to solve the task
  - Engage in an exploration with peers
  - Engage in a whole group discussion

**Break**

**Reflect on the Design and Enactment of the Lessons**

- Compare the tasks and reflect on similarities and differences between the tasks.
  - What features of the tasks require that we make sense of mathematics?
  - What about the sequence of the task is important?
- Compare your experience as learners and educators. Complete the following statements.
  - What about the discourse in the classroom is important?
  - Using students’ writing and talk formatively requires…….

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.  **University of Pittsburgh School of Education Alumni Reception – Monongahela, 17th Floor**

All Forum Members and Guests are Welcome

**DINNER ON YOUR OWN**
7:30 a.m.  Breakfast  – Sky, 17th Floor

8:30 a.m.  Looking Ahead: Where do we go from here?  – Allegheny, 17th Floor
Tony Petrosky

9:30 a.m.  A Conversation Among Colleagues  – Sky, 17th Floor
John DiSanti and Donna Nugent

“We think of adaptive leadership as an art that requires an experimental mindset.” and “Successful adaptations enable a living system to take the best from its history into the future… A challenge… for leadership… is to engage people in distinguishing what is essential to preserve … from what is expendable. Successful adaptations are thus both conservative and progressive.” The Practice of Adaptive Leadership, Heifetz, et al.

- What have you learned about writing, talking and learning?
- Will what you have learned about writing, talking and learning influence how you lead and manage?
- What might this experience mean for your students and school district?
- What are the risks and challenges that you may face?
- How can the School of Education and the Institute for Learning help you address issues and aspirations in your school district?

10:15 a.m.  The Kiva: Reflection & Closing the Circle  – Allegheny, 17th Floor
John Lozosky

NOTES
Spring 2016
Membership Map

1 – Intermediate Unit 1
Washington County
Canon-McMillan School District
Peters Township School District
Trinity Area School District
Washington School District

Fayette County
Frazier School District

Intermediate Unit 1

2 – Pittsburgh-Mt. Oliver IU
Allegheny County
Pittsburgh Public Schools

3 – Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Allegheny County
Avonworth School District
Baldwin-Whitehall School District
Bethel Park School District
Chartiers Valley School District
Deer Lakes School District
Elizabeth Forward School District
Gateway School District
Hampton Township School District
Mt. Lebanon School District
North Hills School District
Plum Borough School District
South Allegheny School District
South Fayette Township School District
South Park School District
Upper St. Clair School District

Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Allegheny County
City Charter High School
Diocese of Pittsburgh

4 – Midwestern IU
Butler County
Mars Area School District
Seneca Valley School District
Slippery Rock Area School District

Lawrence County
Wilmington Area School District

Mercer County
Hermitage School District

Midwestern IU 4

5 – Northwest Tri-County IU
Erie County
Northwestern School District

Crawford County
Crawford Central School District

6 – Riverview IU
Venango County
Titusville Area School District

7 – Westmoreland IU
Westmoreland County
Burrell School District
Franklin Regional School District
Greensburg Salem School District
Mount Pleasant Area School District
Norwin School District
Southmoreland School District
Yough School District

8 – Appalachia IU
Bedford County
Bedford Area School District

Blair County
Hollidaysburg Area School District

Cambria County
Ferndale Area School District

Appalachia IU8

9 – Seneca Highlands IU
Elk County
St. Marys Area School District

14 – Berks County IU
Berks County
Hamburg Area School District

27 – Beaver Valley IU
Beaver County
Beaver Area School District
Big Beaver Falls Area School District
Hopewell Area School District
Midland Borough School District
Rochester Area School District
South Side Area School District
Western Beaver Area School District

28 – Arin IU
Armstrong County
Apollo-Ridge School District

Indiana County
Indiana Area School District