



COMMON CORE TASK FORCE SCHOOL VISIT SHARE OUT



Site Visit
Presentation

A Plan for Moving Forward...

School Visit

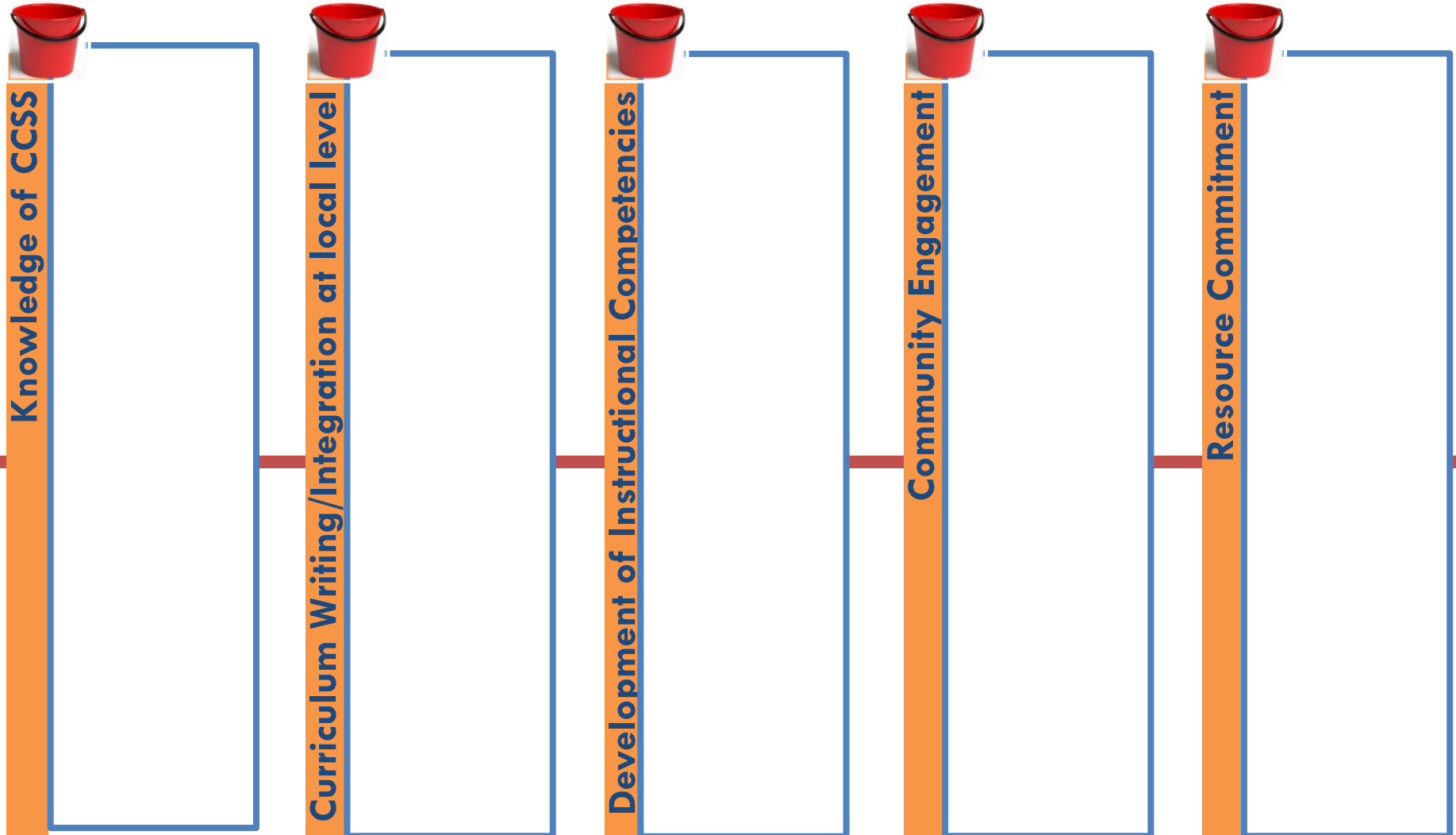
2

- School: Bethel Public Schools

- Town/City: Bethel

- Task Force Members:
Dianna Roberge-Wentzell, Liz Brown,
Jim Accomando, Diana Burns, Liz Misiewicz

3



Knowledge of CCSS

4

- Continual Professional Development
- Educated the Board of Education
- Ongoing Math/ELA parent workshops
- Developed Common Core Corps
- Created a Common Core Vision and Theory of Action

Curriculum Writing

Integration on Local Level

5

- Teachers ‘dissected’ Claims in Content Specifications
- 2011- ‘12
 - ▣ Aligned Kindergarten curriculum to the Core
 - ▣ Completed Mathematics curriculum revisions K-5 and began 6-12
- 2013- ‘14
 - ▣ ELA K-8 curriculum completed
 - ▣ Mathematics 6-8 completed
 - ▣ Ongoing English curriculum alignment
 - ▣ Continued Math curriculum alignment

Development of Instructional Competencies

6

- Student-Centered Learning
- Gradual Release Model for groupings
- Helmsley Foundation Project Grants
- Instructional Changes emphasized:
 - ▣ Understanding Text Complexity
 - ▣ Developing Text-Dependent Questions
 - ▣ Close reading across all content areas
 - ▣ Questioning Strategies, Inquiry-based learning
 - ▣ Use of guided Math K-8
 - ▣ Social Studies/Science support: argumentation
 - ▣ Research standards embedded in all content areas

Community Engagement

7

- 'Taught' the Board of Education
- ELA/Math parent workshops about the shifts
- Communicated Common Core Vision:
 - ▣ Parents, 'Parent University' ongoing
 - ▣ Teachers
 - ▣ Students
 - ▣ BOE
 - ▣ Administrators

Resource Commitment

8

- ❑ PLC meeting time across all grade levels
- ❑ Not using a set program or anthology
- ❑ Utilize achievethecore.org
- ❑ Funds allotted for resources, workshops, curriculum writing
- ❑ In need of resources, lesson examples, and funding to improve infrastructure

Important Take-Aways/New Learning's

9

- Strengths:
 - ▣ Common vision, synergy
 - ▣ Culture of risk taking and learning together
 - ▣ Significant commitment to ongoing PD
 - ▣ Focus on making time for collaboration
- Continue to reflect and make revisions
- 'Thoughtful' approach with a clear vision and understanding of the CCSS