

Minutes of 2/26 9th grade science collaborative meeting at UTC

Next session: March 25, 4:30 to 8:00 at Nokomis High School with Beth Paradis

Participation in this collaborative is open to all 9th grade science teachers. Some pretty powerful stuff goes down.

Present: Pat Buchanan (Hermon), Marc O'Clair (Hampden), Mike Morton (Brewer), Jeff Owen (Orono), Ed Lindsey (Old Town)

We met in the UTC restaurant and enjoyed a lunch prepared and served by the students. It was Restaurant Day and there was a good crowd. We discussed many teaching issues informally.

We gathered in the Biotechnology room and Pat Buchanan shared resources she had put together on teaching with oceans. An additional find that deals with oceans and much more were lesson resources available at My NASA Data, searchable by National Science Standard Category. It is a one-stop that puts Earth science data for teaching at your fingertips.

http://mynasadata.larc.nasa.gov/lesson_search_NatStd.php

Pat also encouraged us to explore the Gulf of Maine GOMOOS online data because it is easy to navigate. One attachment is Huijie Xue's package (sent previously also) that contains the access.

Marc O'Clair:

shared the unit-planning template he has used and found helpful (it works in the *Pages* program on your teacher Mac)
described the *summary notes* instruction Hampden is providing to their 9th graders and gave an example of how he had used the strategy to summarize. It comes from the book Never Work Harder Than Your Students, by Robyn Jackson (ASCD).
recommended Marzano's book: Classroom Instruction That Works
shared a reading on self-regulated learners. I read this and think it brings us back to the fundamentals of motivating students, which can be an early professional casualty of working in a high school.
Several of these items are attached.

Jeff taught us what he had learned from Kirk Maasch (UMaine Earth scientist and climate modeler) about why the wind really blows.

Next time:

Let's use Marc's unit-planning template to develop or clarify a unit of

instruction and post this as a Google Document. (More on the tech part of this soon.) Then we can call them up, share them, and work on them collaboratively at our March meeting. At the April meeting, we would invite Kirk Maasch and share our units with him so that he could bring our knowledge to a profound level according to our specific situations.

Ed

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