

**Ottawa Region- Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA)
Projects 2014-15
Teacher Collaborative Inquiry
Proposal**

**HOW DO WE KNOW WE ARE CLOSING THE GAP?
PUTTING THE EVIDENCE INTO ACTION**

The Ottawa Region MISA Professional Network Centre (PNC) will be funding inquiries that utilize evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM). Your inquiry will align with the Ministry 'Achieving Excellence' document, local Capacity Building Priorities and/or Board Improvement and School Improvement plans.

Focusing on building teacher capacity, the inquiries will provide release time for teacher collaboration to study strategies that bring EIDM to the classroom, change teacher practice and most importantly close the gap in student achievement for those subgroups identified by the Ministry. Up to \$10,000 will be provided for inquiries that engage in activities directed at using evidence-based decision-making to improve student achievement. Funds may be used for release and related meeting costs but not capital expenditures.

Inquiry teams will attend a regional session on October 30th that will outline the project, allow teams to share their tasks and find others with similar themes, as well as learn more about the collaborative inquiry process, data literacy and using data to improve student achievement. School administrators will be invited to join their teams at the orientation session and specific sessions will be provided to facilitate their role in supporting teachers.

A mid-point regional session is also planned at a date to be finalized, which will continue the learning on data analysis and also provide teams an opportunity for cross-board sharing and where necessary refocus their plan. (tentative date: January 22, 2015)

Inquiries will be shared regionally with other school boards at a May 19, 20, 2015 Symposium.

Director's Signature _____

Board Contact /Project Liaison Name and Email address: Rick Soudant
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Please e mail this Proposal, with a scanned page of your Director's signature, to David Fox, Interim MISA PNC Coordinator. Funds will be allocated once complete proposals are received and approved. Further information is at the end of this Proposal Form.

A. INQUIRY TITLE: Creating a Growth Mindset in Mathematics

B. INQUIRY ALIGNMENT

Which Ministry area does your inquiry address?

Applied Mathematics

What aspect(s) of your School Improvement Plan and/or Local MISA Capacity Building Priority does your inquiry address?

Student achievement in the Intermediate Mathematics

C. INQUIRY QUESTION

What initial ideas do you have for a possible inquiry question? This question will be refined at the regional orientation day.

Remember that this year's focus is on *How Do You Know You Are Closing The Gap?*

How do we create a growth mindset in our schools to improve student confidence in mathematics?

How will the effective use of supports in the classroom impact the growth mindset and confidence of teachers and students when solving math problems?

D. INQUIRY DESCRIPTION:

What strategies will you use to build a culture of collaborative inquiry in your work?

School leads for this project will have the opportunity to come together to work on this project at a system level. There will also be opportunities for staff in schools to collaborate through CPLCs, staff meetings and small group discussions. Google Docs will also be used for online collaboration and a space will be created on the board website for project participants to share resources related to the project.

Outline who will participate, and the activities, products/deliverables.

Students, teachers, school administrators, Board consultants and MISA Research Coach will all be involved with the project. The leads for this project will consist of a Teacher and Principal or Vice Principal from each of the seven schools involved in the project. Additional staff will be involved at each school which will be dependent upon the school and their entry point in this project.

The following are activities that will be undertaken during year two of this project:

Develop an online sharing site through the Board website that project schools can use to share resources and other materials they develop for this project.

Develop a survey to collect Teacher and Student thinking with regards to mindset in mathematics.

Develop a resource that can be used in a CPLC or as part of a staff meeting to build on

knowledge and understanding of brain development, growth vs fixed mindset and how mindset impacts student learning.

Develop a classroom unit/lesson(s) for students on brain development and mindset. Organize a one day event for project schools to come together to discuss the achievement gap between Applied and Academic students, what each school is doing to address this problem and where they are in their journey. The day will consist of presentations and workshops.

What are the entry and exit measurement indicators for your inquiry (e.g. surveys results, student artefacts, report card marks, attendance statistics, EQAO scores,)?

Schools have completed initial surveys to collect student/teacher voice on attitudes in mathematics. A survey will be conducted at the end of this school year as a monitoring piece and again in year three of the project as a post measurement. We will also be looking at report card and EQAO results at the end of years 2 and 3 to determine the effectiveness of our gap closing measures.

What data/evidence will you collect to guide your inquiry?

In Year 1 of this project we gathered data/evidence from report cards, EQAO, student/teacher surveys on attitudes in math and Resiliency surveys. The focus of Year 1 was to analyse and reflect on this information to inform the direction and actions we'd take in years 2 and 3 of the project.

How will you collect evidence of student growth? (e.g., journals, portfolios, observation, interviews, student voice)

Schools will use student artefacts, report card and EQAO results, questionnaires and observational check lists and surveys to measure student growth.

E. BUDGET PLAN

The main focus of the budget should be on teacher face-to-face collaboration. Budget items may include teacher release, along with some **non-capital materials** (not hardware) and support in developing resources and the production of a final report to support the collaboration. (Please provide itemized costs for the inquiry---funding will not exceed \$10000).

Item	Purpose	Cost
Teacher release time	Release teachers to collaborate within their schools and with other schools.	40 days @ \$250/day=\$10000

Financial Report (detailed itemized cost analysis for the project)	
30.2 PD days for group meetings at \$250/day as of April 13th	7550.00
8 days for Math Roundtable Discussion day May 12 th at \$250/day	2000.00
Teacher resource – What’s Math Got To Do With It by Jo Boaler - 30 copies x \$15.00/copy	450.00
Total	\$10,000.00

Note:

1. 29.5 supply days were used for the Math Round Table Discussion day. The eight days noted above covered the cost supply costs of the MISA team members who ran the day.
2. The teacher resource is being ordered but has not yet been expensed.

F. INQUIRY REPORTING

The final report is due no later than Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

Actual Outcomes and Measures (What changes/achievements resulted from the outputs? What data/evidence supports these results?)

Lessons Learned/Smart Practices (What lessons learned/smart practices have emerged and can be shared?)

Sharing Results

As well as providing the preceding final report, inquiry teams will present at the Ottawa Region PNC May 19, 20, Symposium. A template for the interim check-up and the final sharing, as well as guidelines for the Symposium presentation will be provided at the regional Orientation Day.

G. SUBMISSION

Please send this Proposal, signed by your Director, to David Fox, Interim MISA PNC Coordinator by e mail cedarlanesolutions@bell.net as soon as.