

**Ottawa Region- Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA)  
Projects 2015-16  
Teacher Collaborative Inquiry: Final Report**

**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.

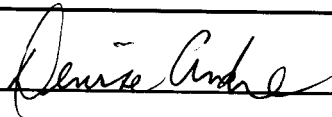
Inquiry teams will attend a regional session on October 22nd that will outline the project, allow teams to share their tasks and find others with similar themes, as well as learn more about the collaborative inquiry process, data literacy and using data to improve student achievement. School administrators 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 7, 8, 2016)

Inquiries will be shared regionally with other school boards at a May 17, 18, 2016 Symposium.

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Director's Signature \_\_\_\_\_



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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: Changing MindSet: Making Thinking Visible**

**B. INQUIRY ALIGNMENT**

**Which Ministry area does your inquiry address?**

The Ottawa Catholic School Board's TCI is aligned with the Ministry of Education's Achievement of Excellence goal that states:

*... students of all ages will achieve high levels of academic performance, acquire valuable skills and ... educators will be supported in learning continuously and will be recognized as among the best in the world.*

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

This inquiry aligns with the BIPsaw and the MISA LCB plan that includes a focus on educator leadership and building teacher fluency with mathematical processes.

**C. INQUIRY QUESTION**

*If all educators in a school implement effective math strategies, then all students will achieve the provincial standard in mathematics.*

**D. INQUIRY RESULTS:**

**Summary**

Three elementary schools focused their efforts on experimenting with the use of vertical non permanent surfaces and visibly random groupings in math classes. The math strategy was an evidence based strategy based on the work of Dr. Peter Liljedahl who presented at the PNC January lecture series.

Classroom teachers met regularly to co-teach, observe students at work and discuss student responses. Pedagogical documentation was used to highlight examples of student learning. School leadership promoted a culture of inquiry and helped to support educators as they became proficient in the use of the strategies. The school leadership team also participated in the collaborative inquiry by participating in classroom observations and meeting with other leaders to discuss and deepen their learning.

The schools plan to continue using NPVS and VRG as a method of making student thinking visible.

## E. BUDGET PLAN

*Total expenditures: \$10,000*

<b>Item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Teacher	3 schools x 3 teachers x 4 days x \$250/day =  In-class observations, small group meeting, time to prepare for and attend symposium	\$9000.
Meeting incidentals and purchase of white board materials		\$1000.

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