

**PDS Consortium Meeting Minutes**  
**February 27, 2009**  
**8:00-10:00**  
**Poplar Academy**

**Attendance:** 64 were in attendance including: 11 principals, 26 college faculty, 17 teacher candidates and others, and 9 cooperating/mentoring teachers.

**I. Welcome:** Dr. Tom McCully shared a brief inspirational video entitled “Leadership: Priorities for Life.” Leslie Day welcomed new guests to the Consortium meeting and recognized Dr. Wendy Paterson’s recent status as a full professor. Janet Barnes, principal of Poplar Academy welcomed the Consortium to the school. She stated that Poplar is still considered a SUR school, but that the students’ test scores have improved.

**II. Announcements:** Bryana Haas gave a report on the PDS website revealing that the number of hits the website receives each week is steadily increasing. Rachel Mooney gave a report on the EDU 201 Urban Shadowing assignment revealing that student surveys are showing increased interest in teaching in an urban setting following the experience. John McGowan gave a review of the article “IRA Commission on RTI: Working Draft of Guiding Principles.”

**III. Reading First Program Assessments—Mrs. Margaret Wantuk:**

Mrs. Margaret Wantuk discussed how the teaching of reading needs to be data-driven—teachers should not only gather data, but should be using it to guide instruction. Teachers can use data to identify areas for improvement, and discuss it at meetings with other teachers. Data can be gathered through DIBELS assessments (can be downloaded for free off the University of Portland website). Goals for students should guide planning. Teachers should also keep literacy portfolios on students. Recommended uses of data include setting up flexible reading groups, identifying students in need of help, and to enhance parent-teacher conferences.

**IV. Globalization and our Partnerships: The World in Our Classrooms—Dr. Paterson, Dr. Del Prado Hill, Dr. Welch, and Dr. Chicola**

After facilitating partner discussions on travel, the Elementary Education and Reading Department Essential Questions on globalization were presented. These include “What does a global society look like?,” “How do teachers become citizens of a global society?,” “Who are today’s students in a diverse society?,”

“What differences matter in the classroom?,” “What are the characteristics of the United States early childhood and childhood education system?” and “How does this system compare to the educational systems of other countries?”

**V. Next Meeting:**

We hope to see everyone at our next meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Como Park Elementary, Lancaster.

**Please print these minutes out for your PDS records. Thank you.**

Check out the PDS website: [www.buffalostate.edu/pds](http://www.buffalostate.edu/pds)

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