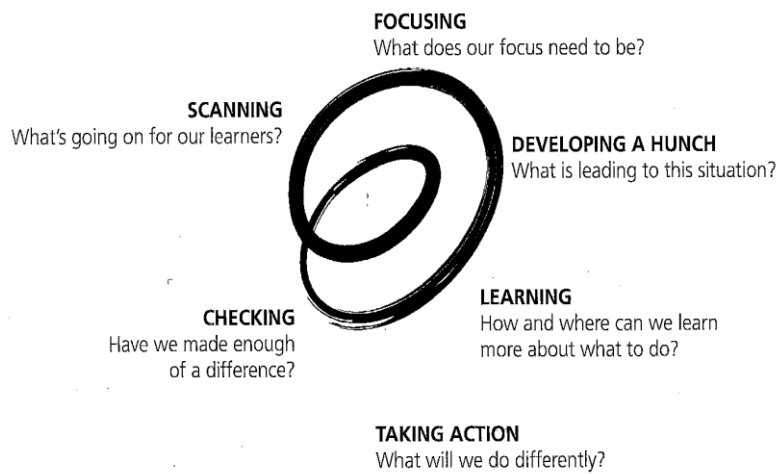


## Collaborative Inquiry:

How can we work together to design effective learning opportunities for all students across curricular areas?

*“A successful face-to-face team is more than just collectively intelligent. It makes everyone work harder, think smarter and reach better conclusions than they would have on their own.” – James Surowiecki*

What's going on for our learners?  
How do we know?  
Why does this matter?



Spiral design by Teresa Merandi, Hangar 18 Creative Group

Our Curriculum & Learning Team is pleased to support school-based collaborative inquiry projects now in our 7<sup>th</sup> year! We are grateful to be guided in this process for the 4<sup>th</sup> year by our professional learning partner, Leyton Schnellert, BC Educational Consultant and Assistant Professor, Faculty of Education at UBC, Okanagan.

This year-long inquiry project is for teams of educators (grades 4-12) who are interested in collaboratively planning and teaching a unit designed to support all learners. Teams will be supported in using the following frameworks to facilitate thinking skills across the curriculum:

- Assessment for/of learning
- Gradual release of responsibility
- UDL – Universal Design for Learning
- Inquiry
- Backward design
- Cooperative Learning
- Literature, Info, and Numeracy circles
- Open-ended strategies

### ***Who can participate?***

- School Teams: Teams of 3 or more educators, including classroom teachers, non-enrolling teachers, and principals/vice-principals

### ***What are the expectations?***

#### Teams will:

- Commit to meeting as teams throughout the year for ongoing collaborative planning to support ALL learners. District Coordinators are available to support teams throughout the inquiry process as requested.
- Celebrate their inquiry project in a visual way and share their team's learning at our year-end Teacher Inquiry Gala at Olympic View on May 22 (3:00 set up and 4:00-6:00 pm celebration).
- Participate in 2 District sessions throughout the year. (Participants new to collaborative inquiry will participate in 3 sessions.) See session details below:

**Oct. 22 (1:00-6:00 pm) at Spencer portable.** \* For participants who are **NEW** to collaborative inquiry **only**. Book study session facilitated by Deanna Brajcich and Duncan McIndoe. Participants must read [It's All About Thinking: Collaborating to Support All Learners](#) by BC educators Faye Brownlie & Leyton Schnellert in preparation for this session. (Book is provided by the District. Choice of Humanities or Math/Science edition.) Dinner is provided.

**Nov. 8 (8:45 am-3:00 pm) at SBO.** Session for whole school team facilitated by Leyton Schnellert. \* Reminder that student assessments need to be completed before this session so that the results can inform the team's unit planning on this day. Lunch is provided.

**Feb. 27 (1:00-7:00 pm)** Session for whole school team facilitated by Leyton Schnellert. Dinner is provided.

Interested school teams should fill out an "Expression of Interest" form (see following page) and submit it to **Vivian Collyer by Thursday, Sept. 26.**

Priority will be given to school teams that include a combination of educators who are experienced in and new to the collaborative inquiry process. Also, please note that funding is limited. As such, an Expression of Interest does not guarantee participation in this inquiry initiative this year.

## **Collaborative Inquiry:**

How can we work together to design effective learning opportunities for all students across curricular areas?

### **Expression of Interest**

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team: (3 or more members, including classroom teachers, non-enrolling teachers, principals, vice-principals)**

Name	Position/subject/level

**Which educators on your team are new to collaborative inquiry?**

**Inquiry question or focus:**

**\*Funding for these projects is limited. Selections will be made with priority given to experienced teams with new members.**

Principal's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit this expression of interest to Vivian Collyer by Thursday, Sept. 26**