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Training Continuous Improvement Leaders A District Priority



During this school year, more than 240 staff members will participate in a four-part series of Action Research workshops to prepare them to help lead the District's continuous improvement effort. Teams will represent elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as support staff.

This is the second year of the trainings. Over 255 staff members participated during the 2005-06 school year.

"Last year's workshops focused on setting and communicating direction for schools; implementing School Improvement Plans; learning more about the District's 4 Quality Levels; and building leadership teams, Action Research Deployment Teams and a Quality Liaison network," explained Jay Marion, Associate Superintendent for Organizational Effective and Accountability.

The 2006-07 focus is on using a School Improvement Plan to align building efforts and expand the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) cycle of continuous improvement. Sessions began on September 13.



"Throughout the workshops participants will practice the PDSA process and will learn to use the quality tools associated with each step," noted Becky Martin, Continuous Improvement Facilitator.

With a District wide emphasis on establishing Professional Learning Communities, Marino and Martin are working closely with Dr. Sandy Stephen, Director of Secondary Education; and District curriculum facilitators to develop a shared message about data analysis and the use of quality tools.



"It is great to have our District leaders partnering together to provide us useful information that will help us accomplish our school improvement goals," said one participant.



“Action Research Deployment Teams and Quality Liaisons are the leaders of our continuous improvement efforts,” said Marino. “The District is developing expertise and capacity for change at the school and department levels so we can rely less on outside capability.”

[Learn more about the District's Action Research Deployment Teams and continuous improvement efforts.](#)

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