District-wide Physics Teacher Coordination

How one SCAAPT LAN works

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Agenda

- What is a SCAAPT LAN?
- Challenges for OUHSD Physics teachers
- OUHSD PLC
- Collaboration with CLU
- Accomplishments
What is an SCAAPT LAN?

- LAN – Local Area Network
- a.k.a. PLC – Professional Learning Community
- Partnership between Higher Ed & High School
- Purpose
  - Mutual Support
  - Sharing Best Practices & Resources
  - Social Interaction
Issues facing OUHSD Teachers

- Only Physics Teacher at the School
- No one to collaborate with
- All planning, preparation & teaching done alone
- Feeling of isolation/ lack of support
- Little exposure to best/new practices
OUHSD PLC

• Nathan Inouye – Science Coordinator, paid position
• Annual Science Teacher Academy: 2-day collaboration
• Professional Learning Community (PLC)
  • Out of class time, sub paid for observation
  • Voluntary after-hours meetings paid every 3 weeks
• Teachers, Schools:
  • Don Crowell, Adolfo Camarillo High School
  • Joshua LaForge, Channel Island High School
  • Jon Wagner, Hueneme High School
  • Marjan Khoee, Oxnard High School
  • Janice Zehner, Pacifica High School
  • George Seidel, Rio Mesa High School
Coordination with CLU

- PLC approached Bob Rumer
- Asked about:
  - Level of preparation needed for Introductory Physics at CLU
  - Labs and equipment
- Established long-term, informal relationship
  - Teachers visited CLU to see/experience Labs
  - Bob attends PLC meetings
  - Lots of mutual sharing of resources, experiences, etc.
Accomplishments

- Pacing Calendar
- Common labs/ activities available (our best practices)
  - Demonstrations of many of these
- Common vocabulary established for each concept
- Group chapter-by-chapter review of R. Knight’s *Five Easy Lessons, Strategies for Successful Physics Teaching*
- Inouye creation of Physics Wiki Space
- Use of Force Concept Inventory (FCI) exam
- Exposure to Physics teaching resources, AAPT and SCAAPT
- Support of colleagues – priceless!
Thank You SCAAPT

- The OUHSD/CLU LAN was awarded a $100 grant in 2011
- We have yet to spend it but are open to suggestions!!