



Florida Online Reading Professional Development

FOR-PD Chat Transcript

Date: December 9, 2008

Time: 7:00-8:00PM EST

Topic: End-of-course Wrap-up Chat for the FOR-PD Course

Melanie >> Hi Valerie!

Valerie >> Hi

Melanie >> We can be informal for now since you're the only here and if more folks show up, we can then begin using the chat protocol.

Melanie >> My name is Melanie and I'm the Technology Specialist for FOR-PD. I will be here to answer any technical questions/concerns that may come up.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> I am Kelly Hansell and am here to answer content related questions. I am one of the Facilitator Leaders

Valerie >> I would like to know if UCF offers any other Reading Competencies aside from #2?

Melanie >> Kelly Hansell is one of our Facilitator Leaders and will be going over some common end of course information/concerns.

Melanie >> I'll hand it over to Kelly now. :)

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Not at this time :(For-Pd only offers competency 2.

Valerie >> I have learned so much, I'm wondering if the others will be as informative?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You will have to check with your district regarding other online opportunities for the other competencies.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> In my experience, this is THE course for reading and incorporating reading into the content areas.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You will have access to the resources from the home page even after you complete the course.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Just keep in mind the resources are available. You will also still have access to the literacy newsletters that update with the latest research and strategies.

Valerie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Yes?

Valerie >> How do I receive the newsletter?



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[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Do you receive it now? (Since you have been in the course?)

Valerie >> I don't think so. I receive messages in my gmail account.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You might wish to check it. Some of the school districts do kick out those. However, the newsletter is available on the home page.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You hit resources and then it is under publications.

Melanie >> Valerie, you can find the newsletter at forpd.ucf.edu/newsletter/index.html. If the sign-up form doesn't work, you can send an email to forpd@mail.ucf.edu and let us know you wish to subscribe.

Valerie >> I work for a private school so would I be able to share with colleagues?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Of course! We want to impact all students across the state and beyond.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Do you have any course completion questions?

Valerie >> Yes...

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> The course does finish on Monday, December 15th. You will be denied access the following Tuesday. I may be able to help. What are they?

Valerie >> I read something about saving my Lit Logs. Am I supposed to submit them...

Valerie >> to the district.#

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> (I mean Tuesday, the 16th around 9 am)

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Some districts require them. That is really a district question. For example, we are required to keep them, but we do not turn them in. You do not submit your logs to For-PD (You have already submitted electronically.)

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> In working for a private school, you may wish to check with your administration.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Does that help at all?

Valerie >> Yes. I'll talk to someone in the county. I don't think my school would know.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You also want to make sure your email address is correct. You will receive your completion certificate through your e-mail. This is also the e-mail address your course evaluation will be sent to.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Any other questions or comments about the course?

Valerie >> How many times can we take the Post Test?



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[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You will also probably want to print a copy of your grades (or save a copy) in case you ever need them .

Valerie >> O.K.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> The post test is taken only once. It is timed so if you leave the computer while taking it, it will continue.

Melanie >> Hi Khadija. We are going over some common end-of-course items. Feel free to ask any questions you may have.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> However, the post test is used to show growth from the pretest.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Welcome Khadija

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Do you have any questions about the course closing or content?

Valerie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Bonnie, we are just covering common questions regarding the course ending. Do you have any comments or questions?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Yes, Valerie?

[FAC] Bonnie >> !

Valerie >> What if you don't do well on the post test?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Of course our hope is 100%- :) For the post test, just do your best!

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You pass the course when you have an 80% average on the lit log, all discussions and all quizzes. So you still receive a completion certificate.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Yes Bonnie?

[FAC] Bonnie >> I was very disappointed that the favorite requirement was changed from Lesson 13. I really loved the rubistar website and the requirement to create a rubric for the discussion. Any input on why this was changed?#

[FAC] Bonnie >> Personally, I believe that we have dummed down the curriculum by eliminating it.

Melanie >> Bonnie, I will pass along your question/comment to our content team and to the Facilitator Specialist.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> We are always updating and making changes. I am not sure of this particular change, but we can ask Candace.

Melanie >> I am sure that she or Dr. Vicky Zygoris-Coe will get back to you with an answer soon.



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Melanie >> Thanks for the feedback.

[FAC] Bonnie >> You are very welcome...

Melanie >> If you have any more feedback or concerns, feel free to email them to us. :)

Valerie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Go ahead Valerie

Valerie >> Do you have any advice that would add to what we have learned?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> My advice would be to stay current through accessing the resources and to continue improving the use of technology within the classroom. Never stop learning and increasing your toolbox.

Valerie >> I intend to keep this in mine.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> It is sort of cliché', but true. You can also mark the FOR-PD home page as a favorite

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Great! That is what we like to hear :)

Valerie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Go ahead.. :)

Valerie >> My school requires SAT testing for kindergartners. I do not agree with this but I must comply. What are your views on this issue?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Personally? Are you talking about the SAT10?

Valerie >> Yes. we currently do the reading and math portion.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> We use it in 1st and 2nd grades. I personally feel it is a glimpse on one day and one type of data.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> What I do not like (again personally) is that it is more of an oral test in following directions.

Valerie >> The skills assessed are up to the middle of first grade. My students have a hard time sitting through it.

[FAC] Bonnie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Have you looked into possibly using DIBELS that would be another glimpse? I believe we are over testing, but the public (and the government) are demanding accountability so how else can we provide it?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Yes, Bonnie



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[FAC] Bonnie >> I believe that you need a combination of test scores to get a true picture of a student's strengths and needs.

Valerie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> I agree. Go ahead Valerie.

Valerie >> My training in early childhood says this is developmentally inappropriate. My students scored 5-7 on...

Valerie >> the stanines but a 4 in listening. This is considered average. I am not too concerned by it seem to be important with the adm.

[FAC] Bonnie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Much has to do with the interpretation of the scores. Since you are a private school, are you able to discuss and share these with your administration or even share work samples that show growth?

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Bonnie, go ahead.

[FAC] Bonnie >> Since you do not agree with the administration, maybe you should ask them to clarify why this is so important to them.

Valerie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Go ahead, Valerie

Valerie >> I used to do the Scholastic School Readiness which is more authentic...

Valerie >> But they want the whole school , excluding pre K's, to be on the same page in measuring progress on a bar graph that they put out.

[FAC] Bonnie >> !

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> I think this would be an admin decision. An idea is to incorporate this into your plan for evaluation and share the data/research. I find each person has different views regarding testing and its uses.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Since we only have 10 minutes left, let's review quickly:

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> The course will officially close on Monday. Access will be denied on Tuesday morning.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You will need to be sure to have your e-mail address current and also save your facilitator's contact info for any questions



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[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> This can be found in the Facilitator's Meet Me Here posting (Lesson 1).

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You should receive the evaluation and certificate via e-mail.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> The evaluation will come relatively soon. The certificate can take up to 4-6 weeks because one person covers the entire state and sometimes participants are completing.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Before the course closes, you will want to verify your grades and make sure every grade is above a 16 (80%).

[FAC] Bonnie >> I am really thrilled that each lesson's literacy log is given a grade now, rather than waiting to receive one grade for literacy logs at the end of the course.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> You will also want to keep a copy of your grades and your lit log (if needed by your district).

Melanie >> Great, Bonnie! I'll pass that along.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Of course, book mark the home page and if you would like, ask to be placed on the FFF mailing list. :)

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Am I missing anything for the review or do you have any last minute questions? (Please excuse typos- that is the only class I wish I had taken.)

Valerie >> Thank you and excuse my digression.

Melanie >> If you run into any technical issues or questions, please contact the FOR-PD help desk.

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> I love discussion :) I can just become passionate as I work a lot with the at-risk population.

Melanie >> Thank you all for joining us tonight.

Melanie >> And thank you Kelly for being our host. :)

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Thank you for coming. It is nice to hear the positives and the impact of the course.

Melanie >> Have a great night everyone.

[FAC] Bonnie >> Happy Holidays, everyone!

[FAC_LEAD] Kelly >> Have a great restful season!