

Notes from Professional Development School Planning Group Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009

1. People attending: Sue Holt, Mark Tavernier, Noris Brice, Beth Tolley, Monica Knight, Mark Faust, Peg Graham, Sarah Segrest, Kathleen deMarrais, Jamie Lewis, Red Petrovs, Hilary Conklin, Janna Dresden
2. We heard updates on the new school, Judia Jackson Harris Elementary School, set to open in August of 2009. The new principal, Xernona Thomas, has been hired and will begin interviewing and hiring teachers in February.
3. We learned that CCSD has received a \$5,000 charter school planning grant.
4. We then discussed our foundational principals and goals. We divided our ideas into a set that focused on the **PROCESS** and a set that focused on the product or **GOAL**. We came up with the following two lists:
 - a. Foundational Principles for the **process** of creating a Professional Development School
 - i. A willingness to try something new
 - ii. A willingness to listen and learn
 - iii. A belief that we can learn
 - iv. A belief that all children can and will learn
 - v. A commitment to open communication (plans and ideas are shared openly and often in both formal and informal settings)
 - vi. An understanding that community is built through relationships based on trust
 - vii. Valuing of all opinions, all members are important, a commitment to equal status interactions
 - viii. A gradual, analytical and reflective process (changes and modifications are made as needed)
 - ix. Innovation, exploration and implementation of new ideas is encouraged and rewarded
 - x. A commitment to collaborative work
 - b. Our **goals**—we are working towards a school that will be characterized by:
 - i. On-going, continuous, collaborative, inquiry based professional learning at all levels
 - ii. Recognition of the power of relationships to impact learning
 - iii. Being a community of learners
 - iv. Excellence
 - v. Student learning measured by a thoughtful and effective system of assessment chosen (and developed?) by our group
 - vi. Collaborative use of resources
 - vii. Lots of adults in classrooms
 - viii. A systemic partnership and meaningful engagement

