

Learning to Belong; Belonging to Learn: How Culturally-Responsive Pedagogy Impacts Learning (Video Transcript)

Introduction

Welcome to Learning to Belong; Belonging for Learning (#L2BB4L)--professional learning that brings educators together to examine and discuss a confluence of innovative approaches, supports and frameworks with the sole purpose of giving life to equity in the teaching and learning we do with students and one another each and every day.

My name is Chris Stewart. I am an Ontario Certified Teacher, and through my various secondments, have been afforded several opportunities to facilitate professional learning, across three districts in the eastern regions of Ontario, alongside educators and both school- and system-level administrators.

Our 'Why'

Student learning is dependent upon teacher learning: *our* learning. Without further consideration of this statement, we might continue to see our professional learning as being, largely, teacher-driven--i.e., *What do I see/we see as what needs to be done to improve student learning?*

Successful, future-oriented teaching and learning is, and will be, reciprocal in nature. I believe that our own learning is just as dependent upon the needs of our students as theirs is upon ours. This learning...this growth...is rooted in relationships and is in and of itself, a relationship. Further, I have confidence that this learning is reflexive, as to see oneself as a Dynamic Learner (Student), a Pedagogue (Educator) or as a Leader is to see yourself (and others) learning as you go...learning *alongside*.

Learning Goals

At this time, I'd like to share several, broad and anticipated learning goals for this professional learning. These goals focus on what we can accomplish within, through, and beyond our time shared together.

In our learning, we will be...

- ...supporting one another to giving life to equity in our contexts for teaching, leading and learning (Student Focus); and
 - ...deepening our understanding of practices that engage students with differences

Through and beyond our learning, we will be...

- ...informing our next best moves to supporting the growth of individual and collective teacher learning and practice (Leadership).

Beyond this learning, we will have the opportunity...

- ...to build, through a participatory model, a dynamic, professional learning resource that demonstrates examples of educator engagement with a variety of frameworks that are supporting their teaching and student learning.

Getting Ready

In preparation for our professional learning, the website you're now viewing is designed to give you access to pre-, in- and post-session tools and resources.

For the time being, let's start with the pre-session survey and the "Before You Arrive" activities. Both of these are linked to the MACPL 2019 landing page. The survey will provide *Flipping the Focus* with an opportunity to balance both precision and personalization in the design of the session, while the "Before You Arrive" activities will offer you first-exposure to the principles we'll be considering. With some of our whole-group learning moved into your time and your space, we'll be better equipped to spending more of our time integrating our thinking, building our knowledge and co-creating criteria for reaching our in-session learning goals.

Conclusion

Thank you for watching and moving into the "Before You Arrive" activities. I'm looking forward to working alongside each of you, as we seek to co-create conditions that can give life to equity in the teaching and learning we do with students and one another each and every day.

If at any time, you have questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me at *Flipping the Focus* using the "Contact" button (email: flippingthefocus@gmail.com) provided on the session website.

Sincerely,

Chris Stewart
Educational Program Lead, *Flipping the Focus*