

P-BL_{3.1}

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING CONFERENCE 3.1 5th March 2013 • Providence College, Providence, RI
Hands-On • Work with Peers • Create P-BL Concepts for Your Classroom • Meet Experienced P-BL Teachers + Students

NOW ALIGNED WITH THE BUCK INSTITUTE, AMERICA'S FOREMOST CHAMPION OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING see www.bie.org

The Need

Project-based learning (P-BL) is increasingly recognized as one of public education's more effective delivery strategies. Cited as an **essential practice for teaching 21 century skills**, it has been shown to be highly effective in increasing student engagement, providing educational rigor and relevancy, relating school to the outside world, integrating subjects, and improving teachers' satisfaction with their work. Research shows that students learning through projects **score higher in standardized testing** than those taught with traditional approaches.

P-BL is a fundamental component in the shift of the role of the teacher from "sage on the stage" to "**guide on the side.**" It is, however, a challenge to deploy, as educational traditions, standardized testing and content-based standards, and a scarcity of professional development programs often trump the initiative required to develop and launch P-BL in the classroom.

WORK IN TEAMS GUIDED BY EXPERIENCED P-BL TEACHERS + STUDENTS

The Conference

The intent of this conference is to more fully familiarize teachers with P-BL through hands-on experiences that will raise their understanding of its daily practice. We hope to make it easier for teachers to boost P-BL into the mainstream of classroom delivery in New England.

Participants will **work collaboratively** to develop P-BL concepts that align with curriculum goals and available resources.

Keynote Speaker

Judy Harris Helm, EdD will speak on **How Deep Project Work Can Shape Mind/Brain Capacity**



Dr Helm helps schools integrate research through her consulting company, Best Practices, Inc. She is a national and international speaker and trainer on project work, engaged learning and documentation and assessment. *Included in her seven books are **Young Investigators: The Project Approach in the Early Years**; **The Power of Projects**; **Teaching Your Child to Love Learning: A Guide to Projects at Home**; and **Teaching Parents to Do Projects at Home**. Her newest book, **Building Mind/Brain Capacity through Deep Project Work** will be released in the fall of 2013.*

Who Should Attend?

Teachers, administrators, school committee members. Anyone interested in engaged education, and willing to work with peers to create a **new consciousness about classroom delivery.**



Highlights

Participants will:

- Learn how educational research sanctions P-BL for its effectiveness and appropriateness, including **scoring on standardized testing**
- Understand the alignment of P-BL with **21st Century Skills**: problem solving, collaboration, interdisciplinary themes, and engaging soft skills as critical aspects of learning
- **Meet teachers** who have successfully used P-BL in their classrooms
- **Talk to students** who have learned through P-BL
- Create **P-BL lesson plans** with peers in small groups, guided by the experienced P-BL educators
- Become part of a **secure internet-based P-BL sharing network**, continuing the dialogue and support initiated in the conference
- Make new professional friends, **committed to integrating this powerful learning in daily practice**

Date and Place

5th March 2013

'64 Hall in Slavin Center Providence College, Providence

Directions will be posted on our website www.franklocker.com



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Learn

- How experienced teachers have **launched P-BL** in their elementary, middle and high school classrooms
- From **experienced students** who have learned through P-BL
- What research says about the effectiveness of P-BL



This Could Happen to You

One conference participant wrote:
“Our sixth grade team attended last year’s project-based learning conference at Regis College and **loved it!** In fact, we did a highly successful interdisciplinary project this year around the topic of microfinance in African and Asian countries. The sixth graders created completely technological presentations which were outstanding.”

LEARN HOW OTHERS HAVE LED P-BL

Registration + Fees

- Registration is possible by e-mail, fax, and phone
- \$125 per participant
- Conference fee includes lunch, coffee and breakfast snacks, plus a P-BL planning materials packet
- Payment by check or purchase order
- Conference limited to 100 participants

For Registration Forms:

- Email Denise at dw@franklocker.com, or
- Call Denise at 603.866.0974 or
- Go to our website www.franklocker.com, click on the:
 - **P-BL Conference 3.1 Registration** tab in the lower left

ALIGN P-BL CONCEPTS WITH YOUR CURRICULUM

Conference Organizer

Frank Locker Educational Planning consults to school districts on 21st century learning from a base in the greater Boston area.

See www.franklocker.com

The P-BL conference series was started in 2010 at Regis College, Weston, MA.



Conference Day Schedule

- 8:00 Registration, coffee and breakfast snacks
- 9:00 Conference starts
Keynote Address: Dr Judy Helm
- 9:30 Presentations from **experienced P-BL students**
- 12:00 Lunch with **student panel discussion**
- 1:00 Afternoon focus groups to create P-BL concepts for your classrooms
Experienced P-BL teachers will guide participants and answer questions about P-BL
- 3:30 Adjourn
- After Continued dialogue through Edmodo, a secure social media site for teachers

