



The Dynamics of Student Voice and Aspirations

Online Professional Development for Educators

The Quaglia Institute for School Voice and Aspirations is offering educators an introductory series of webinars on *The Dynamics of Student Voice and Aspirations*. The Quaglia Institute is proposing four online professional development sessions to be scheduled throughout the 2020-21 academic year. Each live webinar will be designed to address the nuances and challenges of hybrid learning, with an emphasis on student voice and aspirations.

Goals of Relationship Between Quaglia Institute and Participants

- Ensure student voice and aspirations are being incorporated in hybrid learning;
- Establish engaging online and in-person classroom environments;
- Enhance remote and in-person learning to be more purposeful for students;
- Raise student and staff expectations for success;
- Improve motivation and achievement, leading to increased attendance rates; and
- Integrate student voice to create the most beneficial learning experience within all modes of instruction.

Proposed Professional Development Online Sessions

Session I *Student Voice & Aspirations: Introduction and Application*

The Aspirations Framework brings coherence to the sometimes disparate efforts of schools to create a healthy teaching and learning environment. Educators know that when students and teachers have affirming relationships with one another, are engaged in their classes and the life of the school, see a sense of purpose in their efforts, and have a meaningful voice in the process, there is a positive impact on students' voices, aspirations, and academic motivation. This session helps educators end initiative fatigue by providing a comprehensive paradigm for assessing what works and what does not work in ways that are practical, concrete, and easy to implement.

Session II *School Voice Process: Building Relationships*

The School Voice Process provides educators a way to listen to, learn from, and act with their students for the good of the entire school. Student voice is recognized as being able to speak freely in an environment built on trust and respect, offering realistic suggestions for the good of the whole, and taking responsibility for what is said and the actions that need to be taken. In this session, participants will be introduced to the iKnow My Class and Student Voice instruments which help students and teachers reflect on the factors that impact positive learning environments.

Session III *Using Voice to Enhance Self-Worth and Learning*

In order to reach their fullest potential, students need to feel accepted as the unique individuals they are, as well as valued for the contributions they make to the collective school community. If we expect students to take more responsibility for their own learning, they must first feel like they genuinely belong to the learning community without losing their identity, have a hero they can turn to for support and encouragement, and experience a sense of accomplishment so they know they can be successful.

Session IV *Cultivating Voice: Letting the Leader in Students Emerge*

Engagement takes root when students are deeply involved in the learning process; when they show enthusiasm and a desire to learn new things, as well as a willingness to take positive, healthy steps toward the future. Through a series of high-energy exercises, participants will learn the importance of fostering Fun & Excitement, Curiosity & Creativity, and Spirit of Adventure for all students, ultimately leading to a greater sense of purpose.

Quaglia Institute Responsibilities

- Conduct four live webinars, each 90 minutes in length;
- Customize each online session to meet the specific needs of a school/district;
- Provide additional readings/resources for each session to enhance learning;
- Introduce schools around the world working on student voice and aspirations; and
- Appoint a senior Quaglia Institute staff member to lead each session.

Process and Logistics

- Four live online sessions will be scheduled during the 2020-21 academic year. (Specific dates and times to be determined by participating school/district);
- The first hour of each session will include instruction and reflection. The remaining 30 minutes will be dedicated to questions and discussions with the facilitators;
- To ensure confidentiality, only the first hour of instruction will be taped. The webinar recordings will be available to participants to watch asynchronously if they wish to review or refresh their understanding at a later date; and
- To promote growth and sustainability, instructional strategies will be provided at the end of each online session.

Cost

Districts and individual schools can offer these live, interactive webinars to staff for \$100 per person (minimum cost is \$2,500.00). Once enrollment reaches 100 participants, the cost for additional participants is \$80.00 per person. **Please note that the cost provides participation in all four sessions.**

For more information, please contact the Quaglia Institute at info@QuagliaInstitute.org or visit our website at QuagliaInstitute.org.