



## **Specialized Sessions: Student Voice & Aspirations**

### *Professional Development for Educators*

The Quaglia Institute is offering educators specialized sessions to understand and operationalize student voice in their daily interactions with students.

#### **Goals of Relationship Between Quaglia Institute and Participants**

- Incorporate student voice and aspirations into all learning environments;
- Enhance learning to be more purposeful for students;
- Increase student engagement in learning through impactful instructional strategies;
- Raise student and staff expectations for success; and
- Integrate student voice to create the most beneficial learning experience within all modes of instruction.

#### **Examples of Specialized Sessions**

*We encourage educators to request specialized sessions to meet their specific needs.*

#### **Student Voice, Learning Intentions, and Success Criteria**

Working with students to understand why, how, and what they need to do to improve their learning is a daily challenge for teachers. Providing clarity regarding the content students are learning is one challenge, while supporting students in understanding where they currently are on the learning continuum and determining the next steps to improve their learning is even more complex. Co-constructing success criteria *with students* allows them to collaborate with their teachers to design challenges at appropriate levels for all learners. This session highlights practices that activate student voice in order to support students sharing their thoughts and ideas, as well as creatively constructing ways to demonstrate their learning. By the end of this session, teachers will improve their capacity for understanding their students' current knowledge, skills, and capabilities, as well as how to work with all their students to co-design steps to improve learning.

#### **Student Voice and Feedback**

Constructive feedback is one of the most productive methods for improving student learning, but also one of the most variable in pedagogy. Feedback that is effective one day with one student may not work the next day with a different student. This variability highlights the importance of employing a range of feedback strategies and working with students to embrace these practices. This session highlights the significance of creating a classroom environment built on trust and respect, where feedback is a natural part of the culture and everyone is open to giving, receiving,

and acting on feedback. By the end of this session, teachers will have a variety of instructional strategies and ideas that can be implemented daily to encourage and support students to use their voices and work collaboratively with others to improve outcomes for all students.

### **Student Voice and Goal Setting**

Supporting students' ability to set goals for the future and take the actions required to achieve those goals is a fundamental aim of educators. One challenge for educators is responding to the diverse needs within each class and effectively supporting all students in achieving their short-, medium-, and long-term goals. Partnering with students to set and work toward their own personal goals enhances students' sense of accomplishment as they create their own pathway to success. This session focuses on how to incorporate myriad opportunities for students to create and reflect on their own learning goals. By the end of this session, teachers will understand how to listen and learn alongside students to co-create and evaluate individual learning goals and enhance students' capability to monitor their own learning progress.

### **Student Voice and Metacognition**

Students' self-awareness and ability to plan, manage, and reflect on their own learning has a significant impact on ownership of the learning process. The ability to develop metacognitive strategies and see themselves as capable learners enhances their engagement in learning. Students who are engaged in learning are 5x more likely to be academically motivated. In this session, teachers unpack the elements of metacognition through the eyes of students and consider how to encourage students to use their voices to increase their metacognitive capabilities. By the end of this session, teachers will recognize the deliberate language and actions that promote students' metacognition and strategies for awareness that enhance the learning process.

### **Quaglia Institute Responsibilities**

- Conduct specialized live webinars, each two hours in length, scheduled in consultation with the school/district/network;
- Dedicate a senior member of the Quaglia Institute staff to lead each session;
- Provide additional readings/resources related to each session to enhance learning; and
- Connect schools around the world in order to learn from each other and strengthen voice and aspirations work.

*For more information, please contact the Quaglia Institute at [info@QuagliaInstitute.org](mailto:info@QuagliaInstitute.org).*