

NEWS

Literacy for Learning: working toward enhancing practice in secondary school classrooms

Special guest Dr. Mary Jean Gallagher

Mary Jean Gallagher, Critical Friend to Secondary Colleges in Victoria and international consultant and former Ontario Assistant Deputy Minister of Education and Chief Administration Officer.

In attendance at this event:

Claude Sgroi, AED Hume Moreland

Vivienne Tellefson, SEIL Hume Moreland

Jo Simmons, Teaching Partner

Brian Dare, Literacy Consultant

Mel Quinn, Director, Primary Learning and Development Reform Executive, ECSEG

Mark Fields, Manager, Literacy for Learning Unit, ECSEG

Principal and up to 4 other staff from each of

1. Karen Harris, Brunswick SC
2. Irene Iliadis, Hume Central SC
3. Fernando Ianni, Roxburgh College

On 23rd February 2018 Brunswick Secondary College hosted an important event offering a platform for highly competent teachers and principals from *Roxburgh Secondary College*, *Hume Central Secondary College*, and *Brunswick Secondary College* to share what they did to improve literacy skills in secondary school classrooms. Brief presentations included classroom video clips followed by feedback from Dr Mary Jean Gallagher and Brian Dare and further discussions on:

1. Multiliteracies in Senior Secondary Science (M3S) Research Project
2. Subject teacher reflections on implementing Literacy for Learning in their teaching and challenges of implementation
3. Creating quality and consistency of implementation

Positive feedback on the event include comments from Vivian Tellefson (former Brunswick Secondary College Principal, now Senior Education Improvement Leader):

Ms Tellefson indicated that Dr Mary Jean Gallagher was very impressed with the Multiliteracies in Senior Secondary Science (M3S) Research Project work, and that Jess and Tamara were wonderful presenters and Tara's video was also excellent. She went on to say:

"Jess and Tamara, the work you presented on visual literacy powerfully communicated the need to have students unpack multiple representations in Science. It was well received by all in the room and especially by Dr. Mary Jean

Gallagher. You successfully showed that when senior teachers work together with focus about language and representation in Science, the benefits flow for teachers and students. As you observed Jess, this is when 'teachers get creative.' And as you reinforced so clearly Tamara, when student understanding is deepened through teachers' connection of text and diagram and when teachers take time to review and learn from their own video stories of teaching, the effect can be quite profound. As Mary Jean reflected on your presentation, 'Lifting teachers' clarity and precision about their own work has the potential to lift student achievement by a mile and a half.' We would like to thank you for your openness and generosity of ideas.

Mary Jean Gallagher uses an onion metaphor to highlight the need for both inside out and outside in views in education. A policy or strategy will not result in change at the classroom level, she argues, unless there is movement and understanding at every level of the onion. And this is what we were all about on Friday. Victoria's critical friend, principals and teacher teams from the three participating schools, DET Central and HUMA Regional staff reflecting together on how each of the schools is using Literacy for Learning and PLCs to solve problems of practice. The session was a genuine opportunity for staff from different layers of DET to see the literacy strategy 'landing on the student's desk.' It was wonderful to hear Mary Jean validate the work and for Brian to be there too. Thank you again."

Time	Presentation	Presenters
1.45- 1.55 pm	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viv Tellefson
1.50- 1.55pm	The need for explicit teaching of Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Dare Literacy Consultant
1.-55 2.25pm	Multiliteracies in Senior Secondary Science - Impact of Research Project on teacher and student learning Presentation includes key learning and impact from the Project to data and a video clip of Biology class.	Brunswick Secondary College <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karen Harris – Principal Jess Satori - e- Learning Leader Tamara Brennan – Project Investigator and Physics Teacher
2.25- 2.40pm 2.40- 2.55pm	Getting teacher professional learning to land on the student's desk Angela (Year 12 EAL teacher) demonstrating the teaching learning cycle in use. (3 minute video) Mary Jean and Brian to give feedback. Literacy Leader discussion with Mary Jean and Brian on impact and implementation challenges of embedding Literacy for Learning.	Roxburgh College <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fernando Ianni - Principal Angela Greet - Learning Specialist/English Domain 7-9 Jane Porter - Learning Specialist/English Domain 10-12 Emmaleen Oakley - LT Literacy
2.55- 3.25pm	Creating quality , consistency and setting expectations around the work Campus Principal presentation on Literacy for Learning Rubrics.	Hume Central College <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irene Iliadis - Principal Kate Mcarthur- Year 7-9 Campus Principal
3.25- 3.30pm	Closing reflections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Jean Gallagher

If you need further information about this event or the presenters, please contact

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