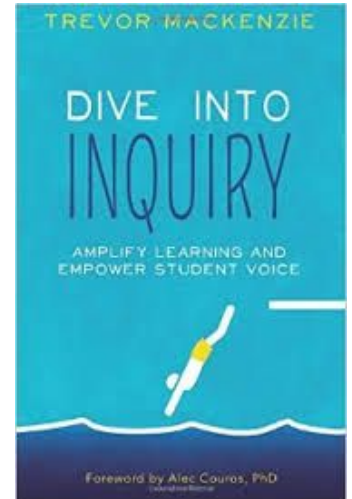


BRENTWOOD STAFF PROFESSIONAL BOOK CLUB 2017

1. What resonated with you most while reading MacKenzie's *Dive into Inquiry*?

Our group came away with many valuable takeaways from the reading and discussing of *Dive Into Inquiry*. Some words from members highlighting what most resonated with them:



- I really found the swimming pool analogy showing the different types of inquiry helpful.
- The importance of keeping the strengths and interests of the student at the centre, while still meeting curricular outcomes is possible.
- I really liked the explanation of the the different forms that Inquiry can take - **it doesn't always have to be a big event. We can build inquiry into everyday lessons.**
- I also enjoyed learning about the different forms of inquiry. I like how Trevor explains how he uses each type of inquiry as he progresses through the school year and the curriculum. Inquiry can start small and become bigger as students gain more and more skills.
- I felt less overwhelmed by the concept of inquiry when I realized that it was OK to start with a more structured inquiry in which everyone is working towards the same questions and that, in fact, this is a necessary place to begin when introducing inquiry to your class.

2. What have you tried/plan to try in your class after reading the book?

Throughout our book club meetings we had many discussion about how we would try and take what we learned from this book to use in the classroom. Some plans by participants include:

- I plan to do an animal inquiry with my Kindergarteners.

- I am currently working collaboratively with my grade 3 teaching partner and our school librarian on a Social Studies inquiry project we started last year, but have tweaked since reading this book.
- I am currently having students create probability based board games as part of a controlled inquiry.

3. What questions do you still have about the inquiry process as laid out in MacKenzie's book?

- How close to the deep end can I get with Ks?
- How can we make time for the so important one on one discussions that are such a valuable part of the inquiry process?
- How can we make sure we support all students in their inquiry journeys given the wide range of abilities/reading levels?
- How can we make time for more collaboration with colleagues on the topic of inquiry?

4. What was, for you, the most valuable part of being a part of this year's Staff Book Club?

Our three Dive Into Inquiry book club meetings were extremely productive in terms of the time it allowed us to really engage in a deep discussion about inquiry and our practices. It was also interesting to see how our conversations naturally flowed and connected to other learning and professional development that we have taken part in. A few highlights from participants about the most valuable part of participating include:

- Sharing ideas about inquiry with colleagues.
- Sharing ideas about inquiry. In addition, problem solving with colleagues about issues around inquiry we were having in our own classrooms.
- Collaborating helps to refine our initial planning - when we combine all of our ideas the project just gets better.
- The chance to hear about the wonderful and innovative risks colleagues have been trying in their classrooms in order to move their understanding of inquiry forward and make it more of a reality in their classrooms.
- The chance to learn from one another.