

Chinook Elementary 2009-2010



Chinook is the largest Title I elementary school in Anchorage. It includes 16 neighborhood and 6 open optional classrooms.

Our AEIN Leadership team consists of the principal, 2 classroom teachers, a Title I teacher, and the P.E. teacher.

Will increased staff collaboration improve classroom practices and raise student achievement?

Our school data showed an increase in non-proficient students in reading and math, and an increase in office referrals, so we focused on these areas for our collaboration. We shifted our focus improving personal practice, to collaborating as a means to differentiate instruction.

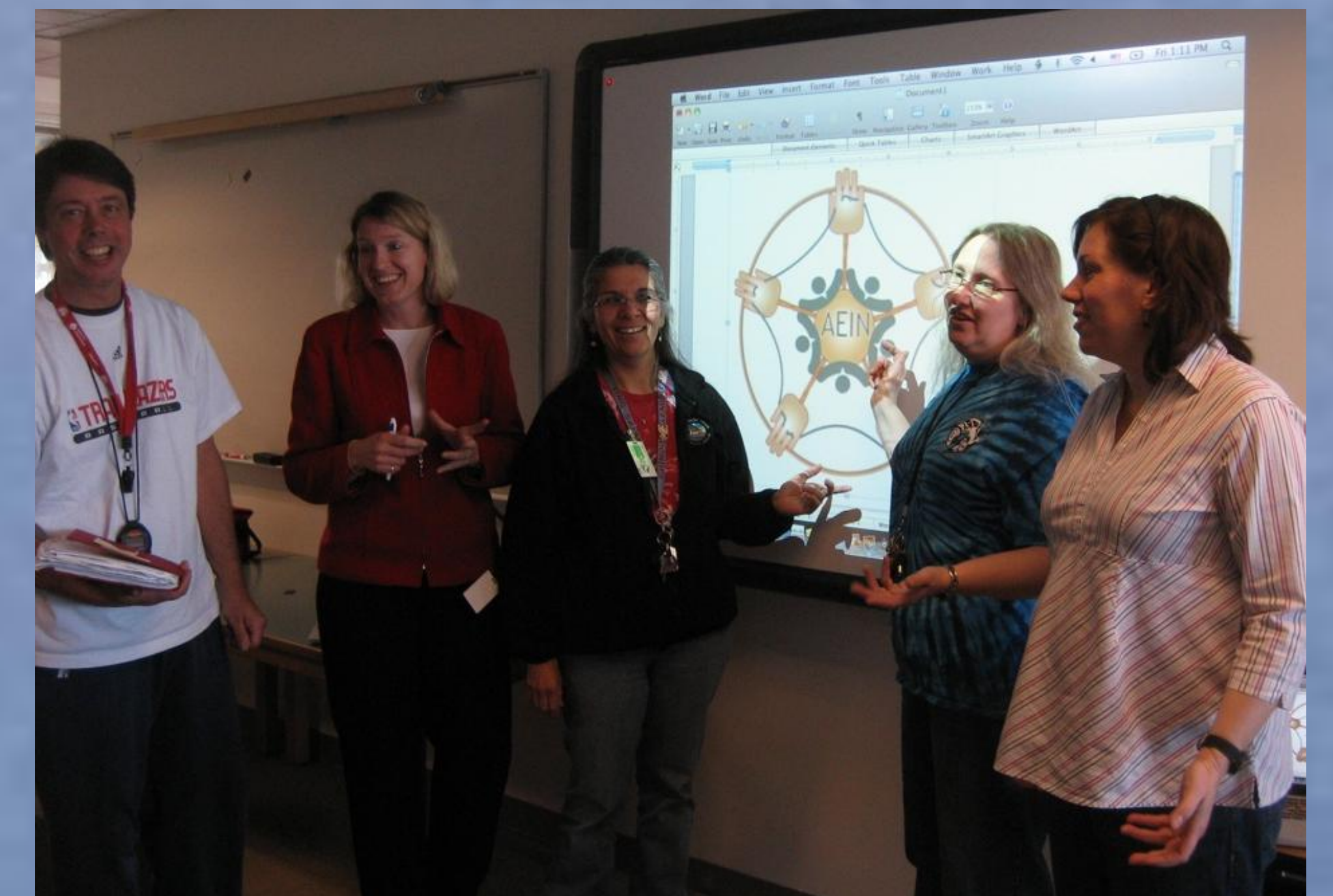
Impacts of Our Collaboration

The greatest impact was in our professional learning culture. We saw increased attendance in professional learning opportunities, and a large increase in staff collaborating for instruction. Over 50% of our teachers started collaborating for instruction this year, and several more are making plans to collaborate next year. Our data shows an increase in reading fluency, math fluency, and student engagement.

This year we've seen an increased number of families participating in the Chinook community (family nights, conferences, after-school events, CITC activities). We attribute an increased awareness in SEL issues to a decrease in the number of office referrals.



Being a part of the AEIN network has given our team time to focus on leading our school in a positive direction. The network helped us to see the importance of networking, shared leadership, and collaboration—not only within the AEIN network, but in our school as well. In fact, we decided to build our model with the same goals, but within our classrooms and within our school community.



Chinook has been a longstanding member of the AEIN network. We've participated in the fall and spring symposiums (including Sitka, Bethel, and UAA symposiums), collaborated with Akiak, attended principal retreats, and attended the NSDC conference. Our team and school have greatly benefitted from our experiences with the network. We plan to continue the important work we started as a result of the AEIN grant.

