

AEIN Mini-Network Facilitators 2008-2009

Exploring Networked Learning & Distributed Leadership

We facilitate Mini-Networks related to:

- Content Literacy
- Induction/Mentoring
- Language Acquisition
- Math
- School Leaders
- Science

Our question:

How do we use the learning from our book study to examine our practice and roles in the network?

Our Process:

We met weekly to *discuss Net Work* by Patti Anklam, and the implications for our work:

- Recognizing that only the group clarifies the network's purpose
- A shift in our role from teacher to colleague
- Leadership emerging from the participants
- Weekly reflection and shared inquiry
- Supporting each other in our development as facilitators



How did this impact our practice? How do we know?

- The purpose of this group had to emerge from the group.
- A combination of some structure and some flexibility enhanced our learning
- We made sure the purpose was clear
- We can't judge the success based on the number of people that participate
- We realize that time is one of the most precious resources

What do we want to do next?

- Observe each other as facilitators and provide peer coaching.
- Nurture further leadership from the network. How can we support new facilitators?
- Keep outcomes and goals clear in our work.
- Revisit our purpose often
- Reflect on our effectiveness
- Consider the implications/potentials of our process
- Make sure we provide multiple and ongoing entry points for joining the conversation
- Keep coming back to what's in it for participants: Is the purpose their purpose?

