

PLC Vocabulary

A **guaranteed and viable curriculum** (GVC) ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to learn (OTL). Each student will have access to an effective or highly effective teacher, and access to the same content, knowledge and skills in each section or class.

Team-developed **common assessments** are more efficient. If five teachers teaching the same course or grade level are responsible for ensuring all students acquire the same knowledge and skills, it makes sense those teachers would work together to determine the best methods to assess student learning.

Pre-assessment is a test students can take before a new unit to find out what the students need more instruction on and what they may already know. **Pre-assessment** is a way to save teachers time within the classroom while teaching new material.

Formative assessment, including diagnostic testing, is a range of formal and informal **assessment** procedures conducted by teachers during the learning process in order to modify teaching and learning activities to improve student attainment.

The goal of **summative assessment** is to evaluate student learning at the **end** of an instructional unit by comparing it against some standard or benchmark. **Summative assessments** are often high stakes, which means that they have a high point value. Examples of **summative assessments** include: a midterm exam, a final project.

Doing something in a **systemic** way, on the other hand, means that you take the wider system and its behavior into account. While a **systematic intervention** follows a clear plan in a meticulous and ordered way, a **systemic intervention** tries to have an impact on the whole system.

In general, a **performance-based assessment** measures students' ability to apply the skills and knowledge learned from a unit or units of study. Typically, the task challenges students to use their higher-order thinking skills to create a product or complete a process.

Team norms are a set of rules or guidelines that a **team** establishes to shape the interaction of **team** members with each other and with employees who are external to the **team**. ... Once developed, **team norms** are used to guide **team** member behavior. **Team norms** are used to assess how well **team** members are interacting.

A **collaborative team** is a group of individuals who share common beliefs and work towards common goals. **Collaborative team** members spend time discussing what they hope to accomplish as a **team** and set **team** and individual goals for reaching that vision such as essential standards, common assessments, and common strategies.

A professional learning community, or **PLC**, is a group of educators that meets regularly, shares expertise, and works collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students.

Four Pillars of PLC Foundation are the 4 questions that guided the work: 1. What do we expect the students to learn? 2. How will we know that they have learned it? 3. How do we respond when they do not learn? 4. How do we respond when they do learn it?