

Proposed Focus Areas for Academic Year PD Working Groups

In our first professional development meeting of the academic year we encouraged participants to suggest focus areas for subsequent working groups. A wide array of areas were suggested and participants voted for the focus areas which were most interesting to them personally and professionally. Below are some suggested working groups based on participant interests as well as SPU Energy Project goals.

- Energy working groups
 - Energy curriculum topic study, including energy diagrams and possibly focusing on chemical energy and/or photosynthesis
 - Integration of energy ideas within the context of specific district curricula
 - Review/development of formative assessment resources for energy, based on research into student ideas

- Instructional strategies and formative assessment working groups
 - Integration of instructional strategies in a specific curricular context (selected by the working group)
 - Study of strategies/resources for implementing and assessing group work

- Video analysis working groups
 - Formative assessment (diagnosing) of student ideas from classroom video
 - Planning of lessons/activities to be videotaped for analysis

- Content area working groups
 - Study of qualitative ideas about force and motion
 - Study of waves
 - Study of electromagnetism