SACPPA Conference Workshop Notes

Name of Workshop/Keynote Session: Greg Whitby

Session: Keynote 2

3 key issues:

We need to sing the same song and the same lyrics!

Questions for Roundtable Session:

How is this possible within the parameters of the registration board

General Notes:

New narrative for teaching.

Need teachers to understand that the world has changed.

Changing concepts of space and the pervasive use of technology – 'the air that envelops them' – to describe the reality of 'digital natives'

The revolution is over.

The most popular place for young people to learn guitar is Guitar 90 – an online learning space of 90 million members.

Adults are doing this too – look at epicurious – it's a place for people who like to eat.

Where are the sites for people who like to learn?

Is their experience of bricks and mortar schooling as powerful as the narrative they can access in daily life?

Three pillars – schooling process, learning platforms, learning cloud

Still seem to be firmly entrenched in the process side – controlled, content, isolated, timetabled, cottage.

Need to match – this many students with this many teachers in this many buildings at this time – we are not near the learning cloud arm at all.

Diversity is the norm – it is not that children are 'special' – it is the norm. Good teachers make a difference. Good librarians are vital to assist them in accessing the available information – what is their role however in a 20th century learning community.

Theory of action – student learning, teaching, teacher learning, school leadership, system leadership. At the very centre is improving student *learning*.

The most fundamental principle is good teaching. Good teachers reflect iteratively in real time.

We are talking about a different narrative now – it is NOT the open space system of the 70s.

Improving student learning outcomes is fundamentally linked to professionally rewarding working life for teachers.

They may just ask to do things differently – student learning – teaching – teacher learning.

Contemporary schooling – pedagogical design – design principles – learning environments – linked by a continuous process of data collection/evaluation and feedback to inform our understanding.

One of the benefits of the old construct was that it was easy to maintain.

Theory into practice – Stephen Heppell to Tony Bryant to Mary Featherston

One size does not fit all – find out what is unique about your school.

Expect that all teachers should be innovators

Bluyonder.wordpress.com

You can't ask teachers to work collaboratively to learn together but then lock them away in isolation – it is a paradox.

The issue is not whether you should do it or not but when you will mutate and the lesson is that it always costs more to do it later.

Teachers do the work of teachers – provide the resources and the spaces for them to do the work they should be doing.

Our aim - Designing learning spaces that enhance students and teachers learning supported by today's tools.

Corpus Christi – NSW south coast

Keep it simple – let the experts design and be clear about your intent.

Deprivatise teacher practice

Personalise learning

Use today's tools

Provide connected learning spaces

St Monica's, North Parramatta

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