

The Curious Classroom: Teaching with Student-Directed Inquiry

Presented By: Harvey "Smokey" Daniels

Date(s):

Friday, May 17, 2019
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Session Location:

Central Alberta Regional Consortium
8 Page Avenue, Red Deer, AB

Registration Fee:

\$300.00

Audience: Teachers

Grade Level: K-12

Special Notes:

If you are registering 20 or more people, please call CARC office for a discount code. Deadline is February 15, 2019 to use code.

About the Session:

Curiosity is the most powerful driver of learning ever discovered. The world is rich, fascinating, and compelling -- and we need to open up the possibilities for kids to explore parts of it that evoke their wonder – and their passion. Often when we “cover” the curriculum, we effectively bury it. Coverage takes us a mile wide and an inch deep. Student-directed inquiry gives students a chance to expand their understanding and deepen their knowledge through investigation. When we teach from an inquiry stance, we live in a way that the kid’s questions really matter. They ask questions, read for information, search for answers, express their thinking, come to care about their topics and ultimately even take action in the world. We need to model our own curiosity so kids catch it. In this practical workshop, we’ll explore multiple strategies and entry points for student-directed inquiry, both curricular and personal.

About the Presenter(s):

Harvey "Smokey" Daniels

Harvey "Smokey" Daniels has been a city and suburban public school teacher, a university professor, a classroom consultant, writer, and book editor. He is the author or co-author of 20 books (and associated videos) on literacy, language, literature, and school change, published by Heinemann, Stenhouse, Corwin, and NCTE. All of Smokey’s work aims to bring the joy of learning to schools – making classrooms places of curiosity, engagement, collaboration, knowledge-building, caring, and taking action for social justice. In 2012, Smokey was given the Exemplary Leadership award from the National Council of Teachers of English. He also received the President’s Award from the Wisconsin Reading Association in 2011.

Smokey’s newest title is *The Curious Classroom: Ten Structures Teaching with Student Directed Inquiry*. The book arose from his four-year partnership with a set of schools that had committed to build their instruction around students’ curiosity, interests, and choices. The remarkable lessons developed by teachers in these schools yielded a 10-step model that helps both willing and wary teachers to get started with inquiry.

When he is not researching and writing, Smokey serves as a guest teacher and coach in classrooms around North America. To support schools and teachers, he offers workshops, long-term consultancies, multi-day national institutes, conference sessions, classroom demonstration lessons, webinars, literacy coach training, and administrator events. He has carried on this work in 44 U.S. states and seven provinces of Canada.