

Welcome from

Michigan Assessment Consortium

It's not every day that American educators get to hear firsthand how their colleagues in other countries are carrying out their roles, or the contexts in which they learn and grow. Today's ALN session allows us that opportunity when we welcome Dr. Jill Willis. Together, we'll focus on preparing teachers to design classroom assessments that promote learner agency or ownership of their own learning.

Queensland's assessment system historically has been one where teachers have had the responsibilities of designing assessment, grading assessments, and assuring the quality of the grading. The current Queensland assessment system is experiencing radical change, including impact to teacher preparation courses, spurring a new focus on assessment. Two examples will illustrate how teachers are being prepared to design classroom assessment for learner agency—the first from a university teacher preparation course, and the second from a school-based project that links learner agency with system accountabilities.

We look forward to hearing student and teacher perspectives, specific examples of practice, select outcomes, and the context in which the work is occurring. We particularly appreciate the opportunity to consider, as Dr. Willis has described it, “two provocations about alignment and accessibility to invite discussion and new ways of thinking about this important link between teachers, classroom assessment, and learner agency.”

As always, we are grateful for your participation in this unique professional learning community where we dedicate time to explore possibilities and learn from one another.

Kathy

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