



Alberta Regional Consortia



$$\frac{3}{8} + \frac{6}{4}$$

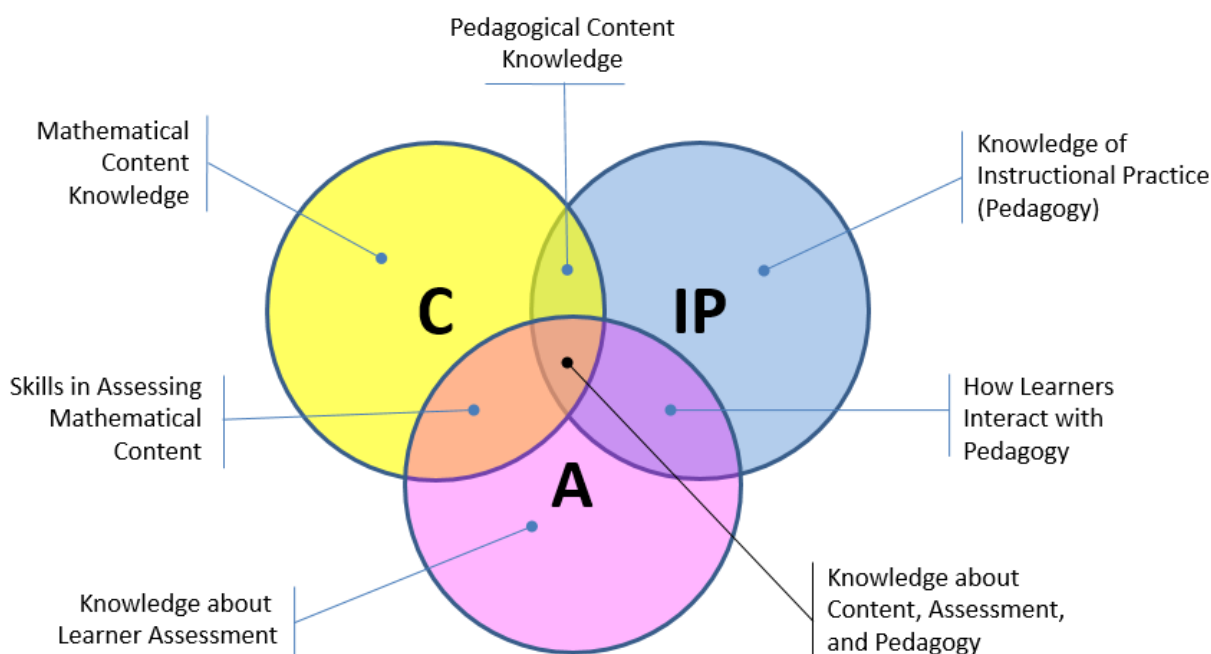


Elementary Mathematics Professional Learning

Introducing EMPL (Elementary Mathematics Professional Learning)

- EMPL is a project of the Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia that begins in November 2015, with funding support from Alberta Education.
- The aim of this series of instructional and collaborative professional learning experiences is to provide opportunities, ideas, and a venue for teachers to work collaboratively to enhance and further develop their Professional Capital (as described by Fullan and Hargreaves, cited in *A Great School for All - ATA, 2012*).

Enhancing Professional Capital



This graphic illustrates the core goals this project aims to provide:

- Opportunities to enhance and develop the personal content expertise of the teacher ,
- Assistance for teachers in further developing their ability to assess student mastery of skills and concepts, enhancing teacher ability to recognize and quantify student growth.
- Additions and refinements to the personal instructional practices of the teacher, enhancing their ability to choose appropriate activities and resources.

Check <http://learning.arpdc.ab.ca/> for updates and more information regarding this project.



Alberta Regional Consortia



$$\frac{3}{8} + \frac{6}{4}$$



Elementary Mathematics Professional Learning

What goes on inside the head of a teacher as they plan a unit of instruction?

The process of planning for instruction involves determining the answers to the above questions, but those answers are difficult to anticipate. Every teacher needs to factor in several local contextual variables, such as:

- Their own content understandings, pedagogical expertise and awareness of learner needs;
- The strengths and weaknesses of their students; both in terms of the subject at hand, and in terms of the social and cultural nature of the school;
- The degree of influence of the 'outside' influences, local contextual factors, and personal student environments;

Guiding Questions for participants to consider

- What do I want my students to learn? (based on the Alberta Program of Studies)
- How will I know, track, evaluate, and communicate how well they are learning it?
- What activities, resources, and structures will I select to further student understanding?

Extending the EMPL Learning Opportunity

- Provincial Learning Opportunities and resources, supported by Regional Consortia and our Education Partners will be available both synchronously and asynchronously for teacher access.
- Resources being created are meant to support follow-up learning opportunities where teachers will continue the conversation and have opportunities for deeper and more personal reflection. Teachers will be invited to work collaboratively to develop instruction that:
 - addresses the desired content (skill and knowledge) outcomes,
 - determines the degree of mastery and fluency that students should be able to show,
 - chooses appropriate resources and design learning activities to help their students develop their mathematical skills,
 - evaluates the success of those activities were at promoting student growth

It is our belief that this development and enhancement is the intentional work of a career, and that as professional capital grows, teachers become more fluent and thoughtful about the choices they make in their planning and moment-by-moment teaching, assisting them to meet the needs of an increasingly complex clientele.

Check <http://learning.arpdc.ab.ca/> for updates and more information regarding this project.