**Dream It Phase III Report-Sussan Oladipo Cohort 1**

I implemented my focus group with a combination of instructors from a different setting other than my school and a school administrator in two different scenarios. I did not have a session with students since I do not have students. After presenting my Dream It Phase II, there was a common agreement that the topic was relevant but the indicators for a successful implementation of optimal learning needed to be in place and explicitly communicated to my audience. In other words, I need to be explicitly clear on indicators of a successful optimal classroom and to delineate between the indicators before the lesson, during the lesson and after the lesson

 A participant said it is a good project, “I like the fact that teachers can be challenged to know that learning can take place at its peak during different interactions with their students.”

Define clearly the role of the school administration to provide support system that will prevent burn out of the teachers.

A question was asked about how I will monitor the success of the project. I explained about my current use of the Chicago Public Schools Framework for teaching as a monitor. Explain in detail the tool that you are using to monitor the success of the project. Make sure that your teacher team understands it.

Another suggestion was on being mindful of the context of the classroom. Various factors within the classroom should dictate how to optimize learning within the classroom. A blanket approach can only go so far. Suggestions was to incorporate the various indicators but being mindful to include the different context, for example if we have English as a second language students, gifted students, inclusion students, what could be different to optimize learning for them. What extra preparation does the teacher need to make this happen?

Of the CPS framework for teaching which are the planning domain, the classroom environment, the instructional domain and the professional responsibilities. I have been using this monitoring tool or indicator from the beginning of last year when I assumed this role. The tool lends itself well in monitoring the success of this project not only because the teachers understand and connect with it but also because it is a standard monitoring tool designed by the district to assess the quality of the teaching and learning process.

Another participant who is an administrator underscored the importance of considering the context in optimizing learning.

She suggested to support and to monitor our teachers’ ability to recognize our student’s ability for higher order knowledge and to use their data consistently to inform instructional planning. In addition the teachers’ knowledge of curriculum plan according to my participant need to reflect in their practice.

It was also suggested that I should include a monitoring tool that assess how teachers are incorporating the WIDA standards into their lesson plans in order to support the learning needs of the English as a second language learners. This population of learners needs to develop a communicative competence to navigate through the hurdle of communicating their learning in the various content areas. I was told to ensure that all teachers are familiar with the Individualized Learning plan of the Diverse Learners of students with learning disabilities. Over all I need to also incorporate a monitoring system for making sure differentiation is happening in every classroom.

It was asked to ensure that our vocabulary intervention strategies are consistently monitored to ensure that students have the ability to speak and to write to show their mastery of skills, concepts and processes.

Another teacher participant suggested that it be clarified what the expectations are for a model classroom and optimal learning. She said a PD that clarifies these and other instructional strategies would be helpful for the teachers.

 Even though I have incorporated these strategies in some ways into my Dream It Phase II, I will still go back to expand on it to these more specific suggestions.