Mark Your Calendars! Professional Development for <u>YOU</u>

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 - Feb. 18^{th} , 4:30 5:30p
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Florida Alliance for Arts Education

Plan now for Summer!

FAAE

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

June 18-20, 2014 in Orlando

Caroll Vick
Executive Director,
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Look Who's Focused Now! Essential Questions and YOU



"Focus Central"

www.cpalms.org

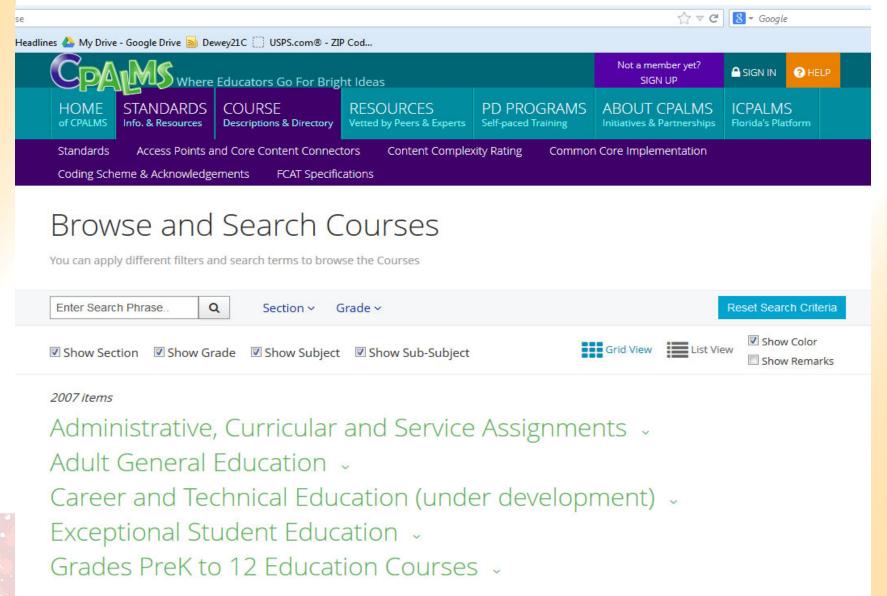
(Collaborate. Plan. Align. Learn. Motivate. Share.)

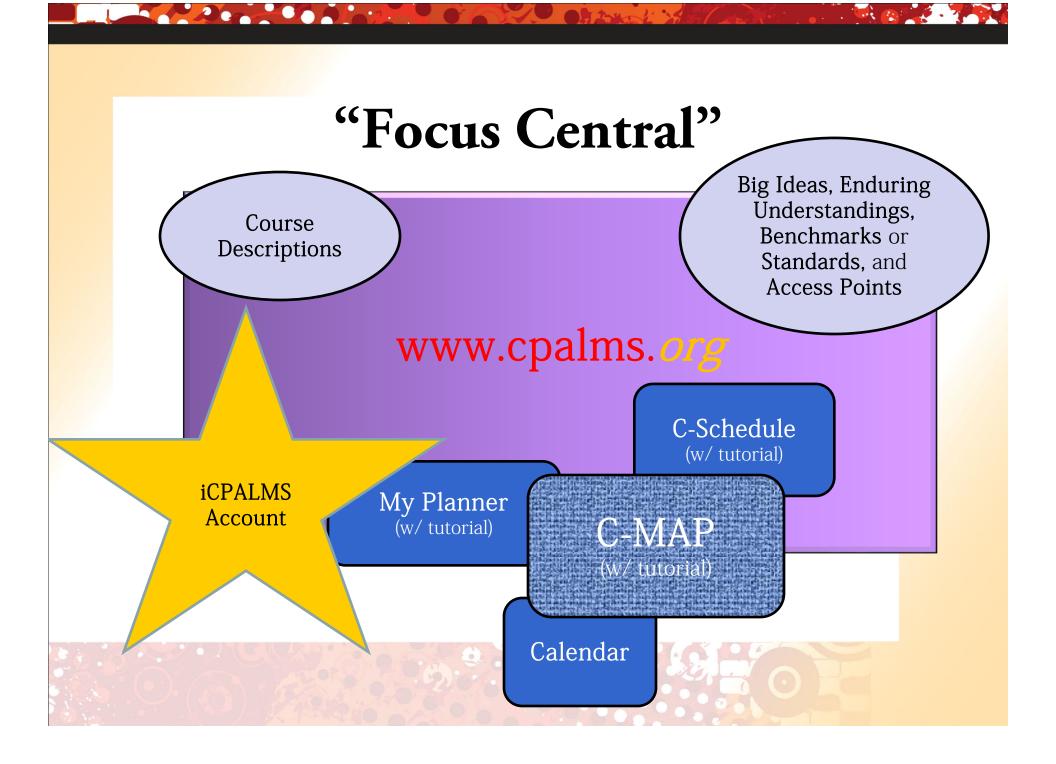
Search for Course Descriptions via website tabs, then:

Browse-and-Search, or

Use Menu selections, beginning with "Grades PreK to 12 Education Courses"

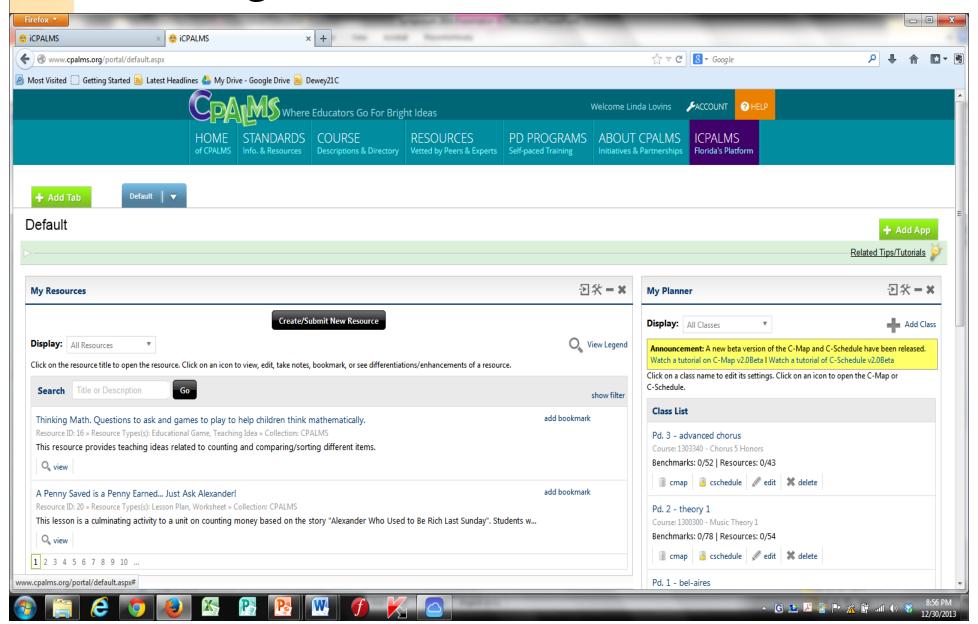
Locating Course Descriptions





Locating iCPALMS Tools and Tutorials

300



Learning Goals for Today

Attendees will be empowered to...

- Locate current, approved Course Descriptions.
- Access Tools and Tutorials on iCPALMS.
- Recognize how planning and learning components fit into *Essential Questions*.
- Assess a pre-designed Essential Question.
- Work as a group to begin designing Learning Goals and a course-based Essential Question.
- Honor the best parts of newly designed
 Essential Questions.





A Short Flight To <u>iCPALMS</u>

FIELD TRIP!

Questions About Essential Questions

There are SO many questions to ask...

- Why?
- What are they?

Den Control

- Is there a right answer?
- Are they good for students?
- How do I know if a question is "Essential?"

...and there are answers!



Why? Essential Questions...

- connect "what we teach"
 (benchmarks and standards)
 and "why we teach it"
 (overarching ideas and
 Learning Goals).
- unpack "how we teach."
- "aim...to stimulate thought, to provoke inquiry, and to spark more questions—including thoughtful student questions—not just pat answers." (p. 106)

help "students effectively inquire and make sense of important but complicated ideas, knowledge, and knowhow—a bridge to findings experts may believe are settled but learners do not yet grasp or see as valuable."

Wiggins & McTighe

What are They? Is There a Right Answer?

An Essential Question...

 ...is a catalyst—an agent that provokes or speeds significant change or action.

Merriam Webster

Right

 …lies at the heart of a subject and promotes inquiry and <u>un</u>coverage… …do[es] not yield a single, straight-forward answer.

Wiggins & McTighe

Are They Good for Students?

 Essential Questions promote deep learning through inquiry. Students:

– ask questions.

create hypotheses.

- investigate.
- construct new knowledge.



How Do I Know If a Question is Essential?

Essential Questions:

- embed sub-skills, which can be identified and assessed;
- are sufficient in depth and breadth to guide curriculum planning across a significant span of time;
- are developmentally appropriate; and
- are course-specific.

3 Points of Wisdom

from

Grant Wiggins & Jay McTighe

Essential Questions...

- 1) ... are "important questions that recur throughout all our lives." They are "broad in scope and timeless by nature."
- 2) ...refer to "core ideas and inquiries within a discipline."
- 3) "...will most engage a specific and diverse set of learners." They "hook and hold the attention of *your* students." (pp. 108-109)

The Beauty of a Truly Essential Question

...is that <u>all</u> the other research-based, best-practice *learning and planning components* fit within it!

- Learning Goals
- Success Criteria
- Assessment
 - ...as learning
 - ...for learning
 - Self-assessment
 - Formative
 - Summative
- Learning activities
- Instruction

- Course Description components
 - Course focus
 - Big Ideas
 - Enduring Understandings
 - Benchmarks and Standards
 - Access Points
- Student engagement, empowerment, and more!

Our Essential Question

What is at the root of creativity in...

- ...choreography?
- ...acting or playwriting?
- ... 20th and 21st century American and global music?
- ...collaboratively designing solutions through the Arts?
- ...making aesthetic forms or utilitarian products and structures using "traditional" art materials?

Essential Questions Checklist

- ✓ Does the *Question* directly tie to the *Learning Goals* and *vice versa*?
- ✓ Does the *Question* appeal to student curiosity?
- ✓ Does the *Question* lead to more questions (promote inquiry)?
- ✓ Is the *Question* large enough to connect with for the entire span of learning?
- ✓ Does the *Question* encompass most or all of the benchmarks and standards?

TIME TO RE-FOCUS!



We're warmed up; let's run a Course!

Begin at <u>THE</u> Source: The Course Description

- 1) Working in small content-area groups, select a Course Description to use from those available.
- 2) Identify the key words and/or phrases in the opening paragraph and note(s) that indicate the overarching purposes of the Course.
- 3) Find key words and phrases in the benchmarks and standards.

(continued...)

Begin at <u>THE</u> Source: The Course Description

- 1) Read the entire Course Description.
- 2) Identify the key words and/or phrases in the opening paragraph and note(s) that indicate the overarching purposes of the Course.
- 3) Find key words and phrases in the benchmarks and standards.

(continued...)



Working Through the Course Description

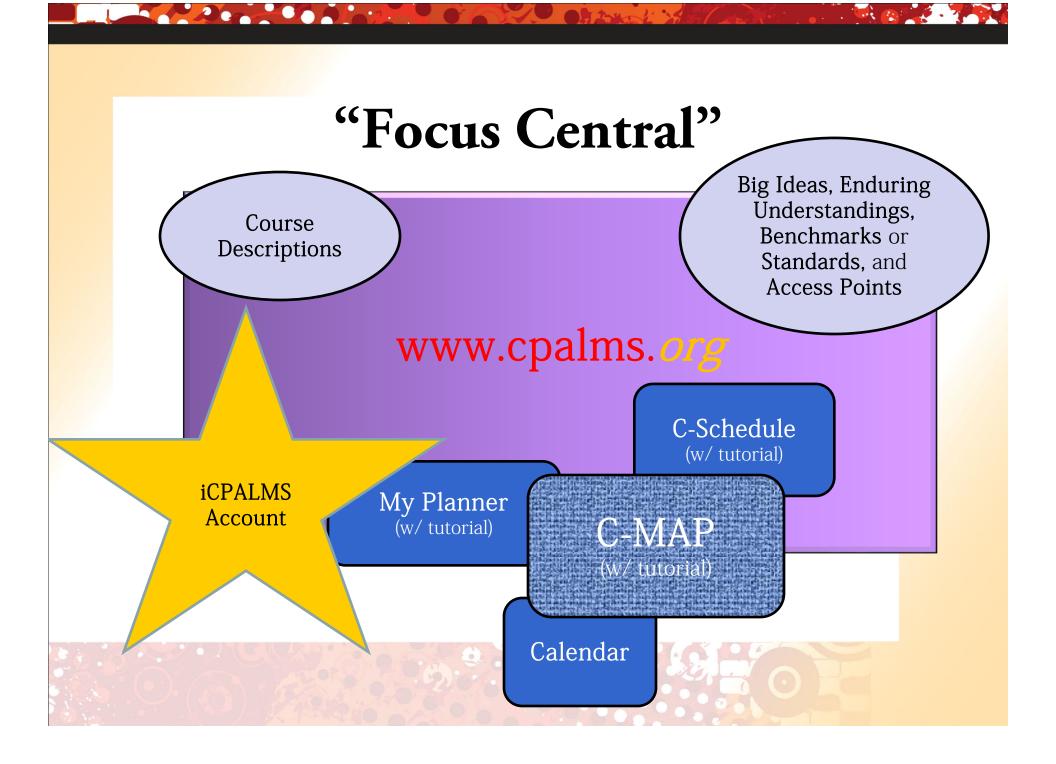
Time now to go from general to more specific...

- 1) What *Learning Goals* should this Course focus on?
- 2) Brainstorm a bevy of brainteasers balk at NONE until you're DONE!
- 3) NOW, begin to consider them again. Which are too specific? Which ones "hook and hold?"
- 4) Which puzzlers connect to the *Learning Goals* you've considered for this Course Description?
- 5) Which questions touch on most or all of the benchmarks and standards?
- 6) Select one question and write it in age-friendly language.

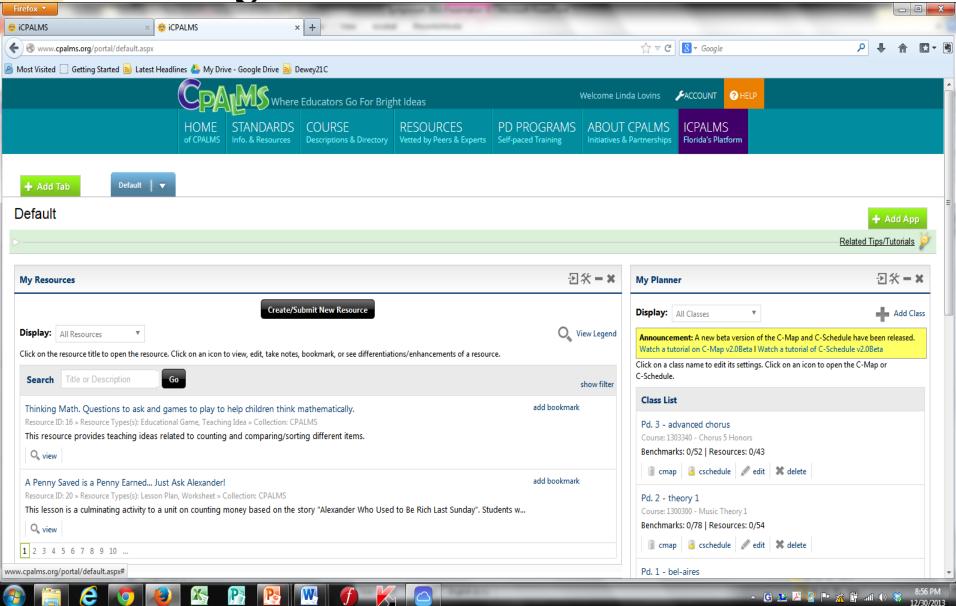
It's Sharing Time! 2 stay; others go their separate ways!



- 1) <u>Designers</u>: Describe to your <u>Allies</u> why your Group selected that *Essential Question*. What were the *overarching purposes and Learning Goals of the Course*?
- 2) <u>Allies</u>: Work through the *Essential Questions Checklist* with the **Designers** to see where the question fares best.



Locating iCPALMS Tools and Tutorials



Our Essential Question

What is at the root of creativity in...

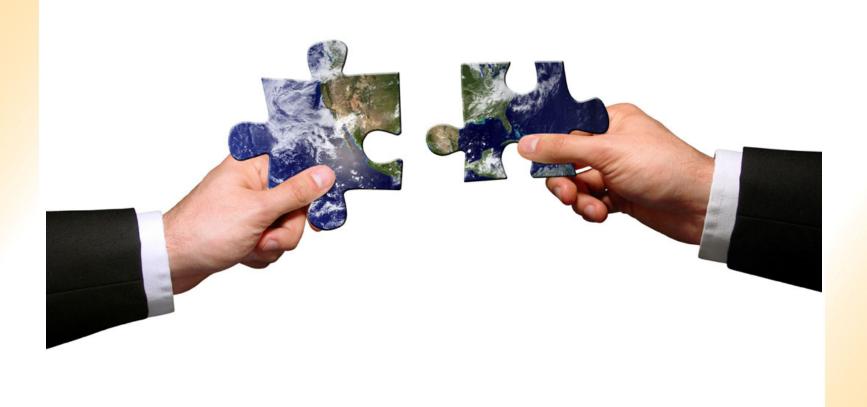
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Learning Goals for Today

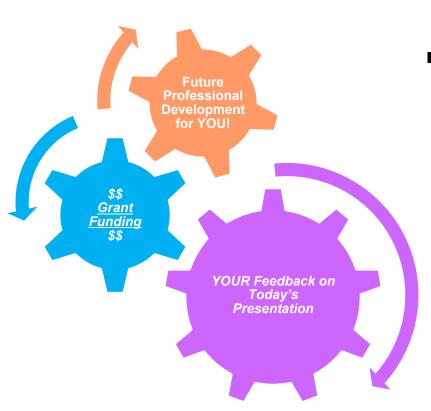
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Questions/Comments?



Thank You for Joining Us!



• Your help is critical to our ability to provide for you in the future. Please complete the very brief on-line form linked to the FAAE email that will follow.

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Webinar Topics to Come

- Learning Goals: Staying On-Track— Class to Class and Through the Year!
- Essential Questions: Making Them Essential, Engaging, and Deep!
- Assessment: Keeping the End in Mind Right from the Beginning!

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Thank you for your support!

Today's presentation by the Florida Alliance for Arts Education (FAAE) was made possible by a grant through the Florida Department of Education.

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Dr. Linda Lovins, Presenter

Director/Consultant, Linda Lovins & Associates <u>ArtsEdLin@gmail.com</u> / (850) 294-0981 (O)

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See you on March 4th!