

June 1, 2013

Dear PBL Basic Training Attendees:

We are eagerly looking forward to meeting all of you in Park Falls on June 19th for the first day of our three-day Project Based Learning Workshop. We believe that the experiential format will provide you with the necessary tools to introduce, or advance, your understanding of the exciting educational approach that PBL offers. On the first day you will be guided through a project that students have completed, so be prepared to go outside or participate in an activity. Dress casually and wear some comfortable shoes. The goal of the workshop is for you to leave with a project ready to go, so please bring ideas and materials that you need to design your project during day 2 and 3. Also, bring a lap top computer if you have one. We will begin at 8:30 am on June 19; please arrive a little early to sign in and pick up materials.

We are also excited about the Wednesday evening picnic/social at beautiful Copper Falls, and we encourage you to attend. Spouses and children are welcome too. Please RSVP and let us know if you plan to attend and the number attending. RSVP at nancyh@cesa12.k12.wi.us (if you have already replied you do not need to again). We will pay for parking stickers.

Part of the evening's entertainment will be our Unconventional Talent Show. Despite naysayers who believe a talent show is too daunting on the first day of a workshop, we believe PBL teachers are already risk-takers and will have no problem strutting their stuff. Start thinking now about your unconventional performance. Sure, you can bring along your guitar, kazoo, ukulele, accordion, recorder, bongos, etc., and dazzle us with that, but you don't need to be a musician to participate. Think outside that box! Tell a story or joke, whistle, write a parody, do a skit, sing acappella, involve the audience in an improv game, tumble, dance, mime, juggle, play a tune using your armpits...just share and be prepared to laugh—a lot!! All entrants will receive a prize for participating, and the audience will vote for the "Talent I Most Wish I Had" grand prize winner, who will receive a one-of-a-kind trophy along with bragging rights.

We will adjourn Friday afternoon, after a fabulous afternoon of project presentations that you will not only enjoy, but be able to adapt to your own needs/schools. Before we send you on your way with a smile and much to think about, we'll present awards and draw for door prizes. You must be present to win, so please plan to stay until 3:30.

If you have any questions prior to the workshop, feel free to contact us!

Sincerely,

Jim Lee; 715 292-1626 (C), or 715 682-2363 ext 124 (W), or jiml@cesa12.k12.wi.us

Dr. Janet Bontz;

Darlene Machtan; dmachtan@frontier.com

P.S. All workshop participants will receive a flash drive full of examples and the Buck Institute PBL Starter Kit