

DESIGNING ENGAGING WORK FOR STUDENTS

The Schlechty Center is planning a two-day workshop to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, on Monday and Tuesday, March 19 and 20, beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m. each day. This workshop is designed specifically for teachers, principals, and central office staff who have not yet participated in a workshop sponsored by the Schlechty Center. It is not for persons who are well informed about the Working on the Work framework, the Schlechty Center's approach to assessing classroom performance, student engagement, school organization, or organizational capacity to support innovations.

Participants will be provided experiences, many of them hands-on, intended to help them become aware of tools and processes that have been developed by the Schlechty Center in support of the effort to transform schools from teaching platforms to learning platforms. Special attention will be given to the idea of transforming the role of teacher from that of instructor and distributor of knowledge to that of leader of knowledge workers, guide to instruction, and designer of engaging work for students. It is specifically intended that as a result of participating in this workshop, teachers and principals will become more knowledgeable about the following:

- the nature of engagement and the link between student engagement and high-level, high-quality student learning
- the characteristics of work that are most engaging to students and the processes that are most likely to ensure that these characteristics are present in the work teachers give to students
- the distinction between planning and design and the importance of this distinction in transforming the role of teachers in ways that are consistent with the demands of the digital world
- the critical nature of collegiality and student voice in the design of engaging work

One of our goals is to reduce the cost associated with conference attendance. A large part of the cost of conference attendance is travel. We are, therefore, targeting this workshop for teachers and other educators from Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, and Tennessee. Louisville is easily accessible by automobile from these targeted states, and for others who choose to attend this workshop the local airport is convenient. The workshop will be held in one of Louisville's finest historic hotels—The Brown Hotel, 335 West Broadway. Room rates are \$109/night for single/double occupancy and include complimentary Internet use, complimentary airport shuttle, and reduced parking fee.

The registration fee for the conference will be \$500 for those who register before February 1, 2012, and \$600 for those who register after February 1. School districts enrolling more than 10 participants will receive an additional discount—the fee per person will be \$450. The registration fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, and coffee breaks each day, conference material, a copy of Dr. Schlechty's latest book, *Engaging Students: The Next Level of Working on the Work*, and the companion study guide for the book. Dr. Schlechty, founder and CEO of the Schlechty Center and a nationally recognized speaker and author, will provide a keynote address and will be present as an active participant during the entire conference. He will be most happy to meet with small groups of participants if requested to do so, and he loves having the opportunity to talk with participants one on one.

To obtain additional information, please visit our website: www.slechtycenter.org/events/208.