



## The Professional Development Series

### Faculty Inservice Programs for Lutheran Schools

### ***Participant Activity Guide***

#### **Getting to Know the WELS Teaching Standards**

Understanding the Purpose of the WELS Teaching Standards

Module One - Foundation: Christian Teachers are Faithful Servants of Jesus Christ

#### **Prior to this Module:**

You and the members of your staff are encouraged to complete the Bible Study, ***Amazed at Christ's Love-He Calls Me His Child*** either individually or as a group to prepare for this study.

#### **Handouts:** (Copies given at the beginning of the In-service)

- WELS Teaching Standards and Continuum
- InTASC Standards
- Reflecting Jesus' Ministry in My Life
- Participant Activity Guide

#### **This in-service is designed to accomplish the following goals:**

1. Explain the purpose of the WELS Teaching standards
2. Describe the foundational standard for our WELS schools that Christian teachers are faithful servants of Jesus Christ.
3. Understand each of the components of the foundational standard and identify identifying indicators of each standard along the continuum.
4. Build an understanding of the levels along the continuum and give the teacher and opportunity to consider how his or her practice will look while moving forward across the continuum.

**Module Focus Question:** What is our motivation as we seek to be Christian teachers who are faithful servants of Jesus Christ?

## **Part One: Introduction: Understanding the Purpose of the WELS Teaching Standards**

### **Video 1: I'm a Teacher by Sam Peters**

What philosophies of education do you share with Sam?

Discuss any philosophies you don't share and determine if anything is missing in Sam's song.

Share your responses with the entire group.

## **Part Two: History and Development of WELS Standards**

Handouts 1 & 2: WELS Standards and InTASC Standards

1. Compare the WELS Standards and the InTASC Standards
2. Discuss with your "elbow partner"
  - a. Where do each of the WELS Standards fit in the Four Common Areas of Focus?
  - b. Share your responses with the entire group.

## **Part Three: The Christian Foundation of the WELS Standards**

Handouts 3 & 4 Foundational Standard and Reflecting Jesus' Ministry Survey

1. Follow along as the Foundational Standard and the Reflecting traits are discussed.
2. Provide ample time to allow each participant to complete the *Reflecting Jesus' Ministry in My Life* survey. Encourage group discussion.

## **Part Four: Ministry Traits and the Continuum**

1. Return to the Foundation Standard sheet.
2. When prompted, provide a definition in your own words for the following terms as they apply to the continuum:
  - a. Beginning
  - b. Emerging
  - c. Applying
  - d. Integrating
  - e. Modeling
3. Carefully determine where you are for each of the four traits on the continuum. Place an asterisk in the box on the chart that best describes your current practice in that trait. Prayerfully consider actions that could be taken to move one column to the right in at least one of the traits. Find a trusted colleague, friend, or principal to serve as your accountability partner.

## **Conclusion and Application**

### Video 2: Legacy by Nicole Nordeman

1. View the video and listen carefully in light of the discussion today.
2. Participate individually or as a staff in the Moodle forums on this topic for the remainder of this month.

## **Moodle Forums**

1. Respond to the following statements: Not all teachers will be “integrating” or “modeling” in each of the four ministry traits for the foundation standard. It is acceptable and perhaps even commendable to be content with a teacher seeking to move his or her practice to the “applying” column of the continuum over the course of this school year.

2. Share your faculty's responses to the closing video; Legacy by Nicole Nordeman. Specifically, what is the “offering” that could be left by each of us this school year? Secondly, is it possible and even God pleasing to “leave a legacy” with the children entrusted to our care? If so, what would that legacy look like or sound like?

**Further Study:** *(Copy given at the conclusion of the in-service for individual study or date set for corporate study as a team)* Bible Study: ***Seeking Time for My Neighbors***

## References

Adam Goede, Pastor Heckendorf Date: 5/20/2010 [https://connect.wels.net/AOM/ps/adultdiscipleship/ourcalling/Year 1 Love Takes Time/Option A - One Week Emphasis/Sermon Study - Amazed at Christ's Love.pdf](https://connect.wels.net/AOM/ps/adultdiscipleship/ourcalling/Year%201%20Love%20Takes%20Time/Option%20A%20-%20One%20Week%20Emphasis/Sermon%20Study%20-%20Amazed%20at%20Christ's%20Love.pdf)

Date: 4/21/2013 [https://connect.wels.net/aom/ps/adultdiscipleship/stewardship/Reflecting Jesus Ministry In My Life/Forms/AllItems.aspx](https://connect.wels.net/aom/ps/adultdiscipleship/stewardship/Reflecting%20Jesus%20Ministry%20In%20My%20Life/Forms/AllItems.aspx)