

## **Faculty Academy-- Oct 18, 2016**

We started with a discussion about the future of Faculty Academy and we filled out a survey about our experiences with Faculty Academy. We watched a short video that Lauri recommended called "I Just Sued the School System" and then we critiqued the video. Cynthia mentioned Ivan Illych in regards to the idea of "de-schooling" and Jonathan Kozol's work on education was also mentioned. One issue that came up is the movement towards privatization of schools.

### **Class sizes**

We had a discussion about the pros and cons of larger class sizes

Cynthia passed out an article called "Teaching Students to Think Critically," which is from Brookfield, *A Skillful Teacher*.

### **Carol Dweck Video**

We watched a video of Carol Dweck. Praise effort and process, instead of outcome. Rewarded for effort, strategy, and process. Use with rubrics. This will create more confidence for students. Dweck emphasizes the importance of "growth mindsets". Transforming the meaning of effort and difficulty was a key part of studies where a changed mindset helped student success. Dan had this idea in our discussion after the video: Make every exam cumulative (six at every three weeks) and whatever score they receive on a current test, that score would replace a past low score.

### **Resources**

John Dewey, *The Pedagogic Creed* Brookfield, *The Discussion Book. An Evidence-Based Guide to College and University Teaching*. We talked about the importance of reading some Dewey or other education theorists as to ground ourselves in this literature. I offered to Xerox a short article by Dewey on democracy. I'll send this to the group.