

P-16 Learning Communities (LCs)

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What is a Learning Community?

- **Examples**
 - Freshman Learning Community
 - Communities of Practice
 - Research Group
 - Teaching Circles
 - Professional Learning Community

Professional Learning Community

- School faculty and administrators meet to develop for the school:
 - Mission
 - Vision
 - Values
 - Goals
- Are involved in collective inquiry and action research and focus on results in terms of student achievement

What is purpose of our Learning Community (LCs)?

- To provide a mechanism through which college and school faculty can learn, share, research, and document best practices of cognitive sciences, science & mathematics education research, and practitioners in teaching and learning of science & mathematics

What is purpose of our LCs?

- To provide a forum for analyzing existing student performance data and planning for instruction based on the analysis
- To provide college and school faculty with a skill set to inspire all students to enjoy and learn science and mathematics at least to **proficiency**



LCs attend to both scholarship and implementation

**Knowledge
building**



**Teacher
professional
knowledge**

Teacher craft knowledge
Creating a More Educated Georgia



Impact on pedagogical practices,

P-16

- Examine data on where students have difficulties/misperceptions
- Choose concept to be studied
- What is evidence of learning of concept?
- Examine recommended approaches
- Try consensus approach
- Did the approach lead to increased student learning? For all groups?

What is the value of our LCs?

- Professional development
- To school faculty?
- To schools and districts?
- To regional college and school faculty?
- To colleges?

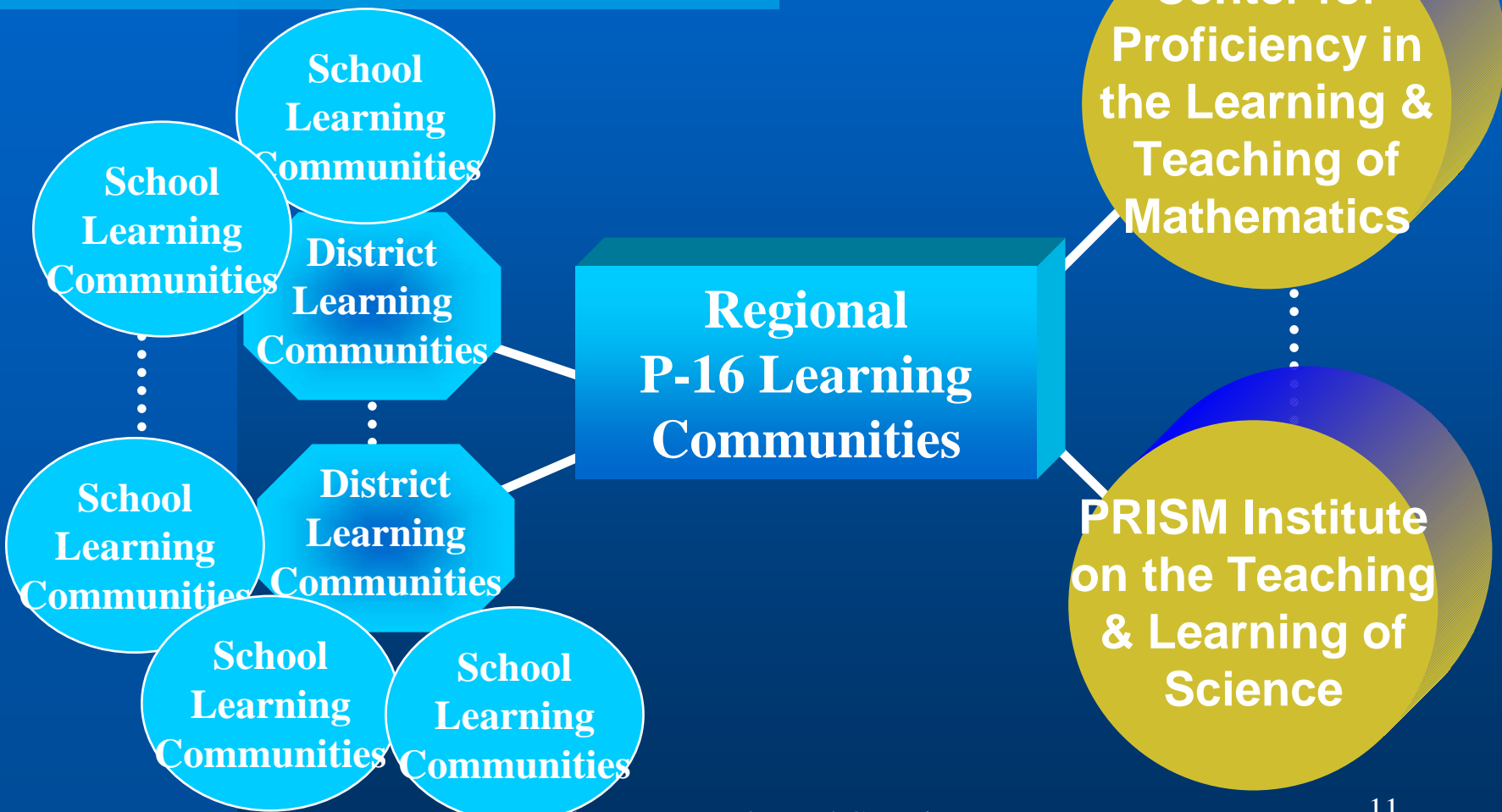
P-16 Professional Development



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Learning Communities

- **Characteristics of the culture of a Learning Community**
 - Shared mission, vision and values
 - Collective inquiry
 - Collaborative teams
 - Action orientation and experimentation
 - Continuous improvement
 - Results orientation