

## DC Public Schools Chief of Teaching and Learning Brian Pick to Celebrate Teacher Leaders and their Inquiry-Based, Standards-Aligned Curricula at Center for Inspired Teaching Event

**Washington, DC – June 5, 2015**

DC Public Schools Chief of Teaching and Learning Brian Pick will speak at Center for Inspired Teaching's Celebration of BLISS and SCALE DCPS Teacher Leaders, to be held at the Charles Sumner School Museum & Archives on Wednesday, June 10, at 6:00 pm. The event will celebrate the accomplishments of DCPS teachers who have participated in the BLISS: Building Literacy in the Social Studies and SCALE: Science Curriculum Advancement through Literacy Enhancement programs over the past school year, as part of an effort to produce system-wide change in teaching and learning.

BLISS and SCALE are multiyear partnerships designed to shift instruction in the social studies and science, respectively, by leveraging cohorts of exceptional Teacher Leaders who are coached and supported by Center for Inspired Teaching over the year. Over the 2014-2015 school year, these Teacher Leaders have developed their practice in inquiry-based instruction, written standards-aligned curricula for use district-wide, and facilitated professional development for all of their peers across DC Public Schools.

Brian Pick will highlight the BLISS and SCALE Teacher Leaders' special contributions to the goals and initiatives of DC Public Schools, as well as the positive impact these teachers have had on their students. BLISS and SCALE are important parts of DCPS' efforts to build teacher capacity, support authentic teacher leadership, infuse literacy into all subject areas, and generate and spread world-class, standards-aligned curricula.

Leaders from DC Public Schools, Inspired Teaching staff, and supporters of education and innovation in teaching and learning will attend the celebration. They will have the opportunity to engage with the work of Teacher Leaders and their students over conversations about teacher leadership, implementation of state standards in the classroom, and transforming teaching and learning to promote inquiry-based investigation of material. The event will also feature remarks by Aleta Margolis, Founder and Executive Director of Center for Inspired Teaching, and a formal presentation of certificates of completion to BLISS and SCALE DCPS Teacher Leaders.

The event is open to press. To RSVP, please contact Sammy Magnuson at [sammy@inspiredteaching.org](mailto:sammy@inspiredteaching.org)

### **About Center for Inspired Teaching**

Center for Inspired Teaching is building a better school experience for students through transformative teacher training. Inspired Teaching's professional development encourages teachers to rethink their role in the classroom, moving from information provider to *Instigator of Thought*<sup>®</sup>.

Inspired Teaching is growing our impact through our strategy: **Prepare, Shift, Model**.

We're **preparing** excellent new educators through our 24-month, state accredited Inspired Teacher Certification Program, a residency model that selects, prepares, supports, and certifies

exceptional individuals for long term teaching careers in the District of Columbia. Through intentionally sequenced graduate coursework and practical learning experiences, Fellows are immersed in instructional best-practices that result in student-centered, data-driven classrooms.

We're **shifting** teacher practice through multi-year partnerships with DC Public Schools, which leverage core groups of Teacher Leaders in order to impact instruction district-wide: *SCALE: Science Curriculum Advancement through Literacy Enhancement* – a K-12 STEM teacher training initiative that builds students' problem solving and critical thinking skills and creates teacher-authored, standards-aligned curricula for the district; and *BLISS: Building Literacy in the Social Studies* – an initiative to train high school and middle school social studies teachers in inquiry-based instruction while designing a new social studies curriculum for the district.

Inspired Teaching's instructional philosophy is **modeled** in the classrooms of our program participants and program graduates citywide. In 2011, we opened the Inspired Teaching Demonstration Public Charter School to serve as a demonstration site, implementing Inspired Teaching's instructional model in every classroom. In school year 2014-15, Inspired Teaching brought a unique *Real World History* course to DC high school students from across the city, combining academic coursework with internships at historic partner sites.

Learn more about Inspired Teaching at [www.inspiredteaching.org](http://www.inspiredteaching.org) and on Twitter - @InspireTeach.

**Contact:**

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