

Seminar Curriculum Plan (revised August, 2004)

Seminar Selection: District Mission Statement **Grade:** 3rd - Adult

Goal: to explore the purpose of education

Key Concepts: education, mission

Key Skills: critical thinking (E), reading comprehension (F), speaking & listening (D)

Pre-Activities:

- Review seminar rules. (Choose one as the focus, if needed, after first seminar.)
- Independently read district mission statement and underline words that are difficult to understand.
- Read mission statement aloud and have students circle the most important word for a school.
- Round robin: have students share their most important word. (Leader will tally these.)

Seminar Questions:

- F - What words are difficult to understand? Who can define those words for us?
- **E - What is the most important word and why did you select it? (opening)**
- E - Are there some words/ideas that should be added/ subtracted?
- E - How is your school doing in striving toward its mission?
- E- Was this the purpose of education 100 years ago? In the future?
- **I - Does this mission statement capture the true purpose of education? (core)**
- I - This mission statement was written for whom?

Post-Activities:

- Write the most important word and defend your choice OR revise this mission statement to more clearly reflect what you think about the purpose of education. Defend your revision(s).
- Reflect: How does it feel to be a part of a seminar?

Evaluation:

- How did we do as a group? Thumbs up/down for each rule.
- How did I do as a group participant? (self evaluate using "Seminar Behaviors Rating Chart" or Seminar Rules)
- How did the leader do? (self-evaluate using "Leading Discussion: Effective Practices")
- Evaluate lesson plan components (use criteria for selection & interpretive questions) and revise plan to maximize student success of reaching Goals and mastering "Key Skills".

