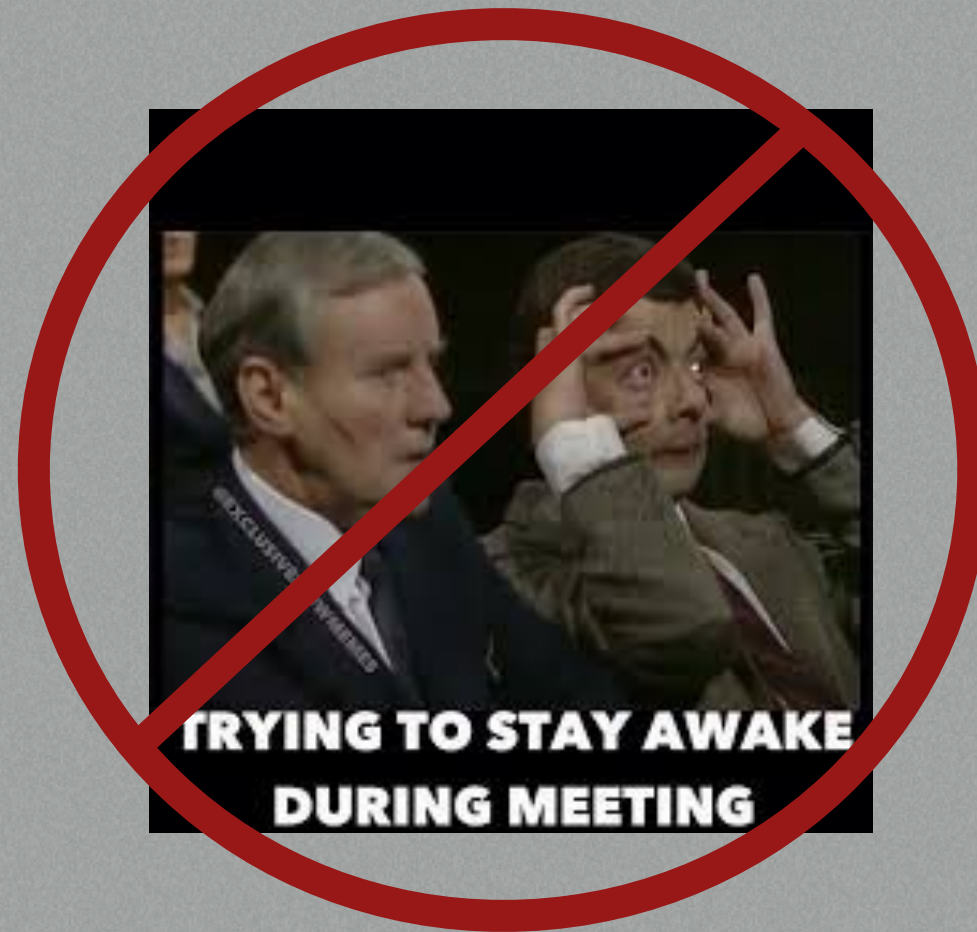



# PD in the 21st Century



**ST. MARY'S**  
ACADEMY

Alyssa Tormala  
 @alytormala  
[alyssa.tormala@smapdx.org](mailto:alyssa.tormala@smapdx.org)  
[www.learnerstogether.com](http://www.learnerstogether.com)

 Learning Specialist

 **Apple Teacher**  
Swift Playgrounds

# Professional Development:

**Before:**

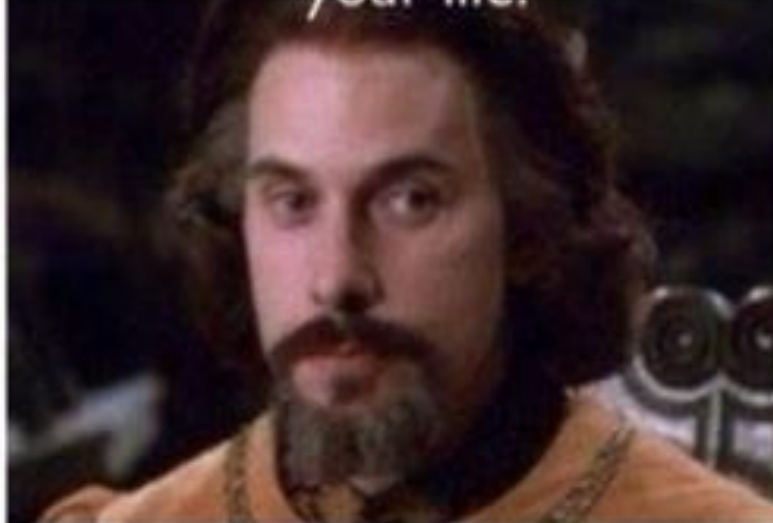
**After:**

What's a PD???



I want one!!!

I've just sucked one hour of  
your life.



Tell me... How do you feel?

[www.facebook.com/CantScareATeacher](http://www.facebook.com/CantScareATeacher)



**I SEE YOU SAT IN THE FRONT ROW  
DURING PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**



**I TOO LIKE TO LIVE  
DANGEROUSLY**

[memegenerator.net](http://memegenerator.net)

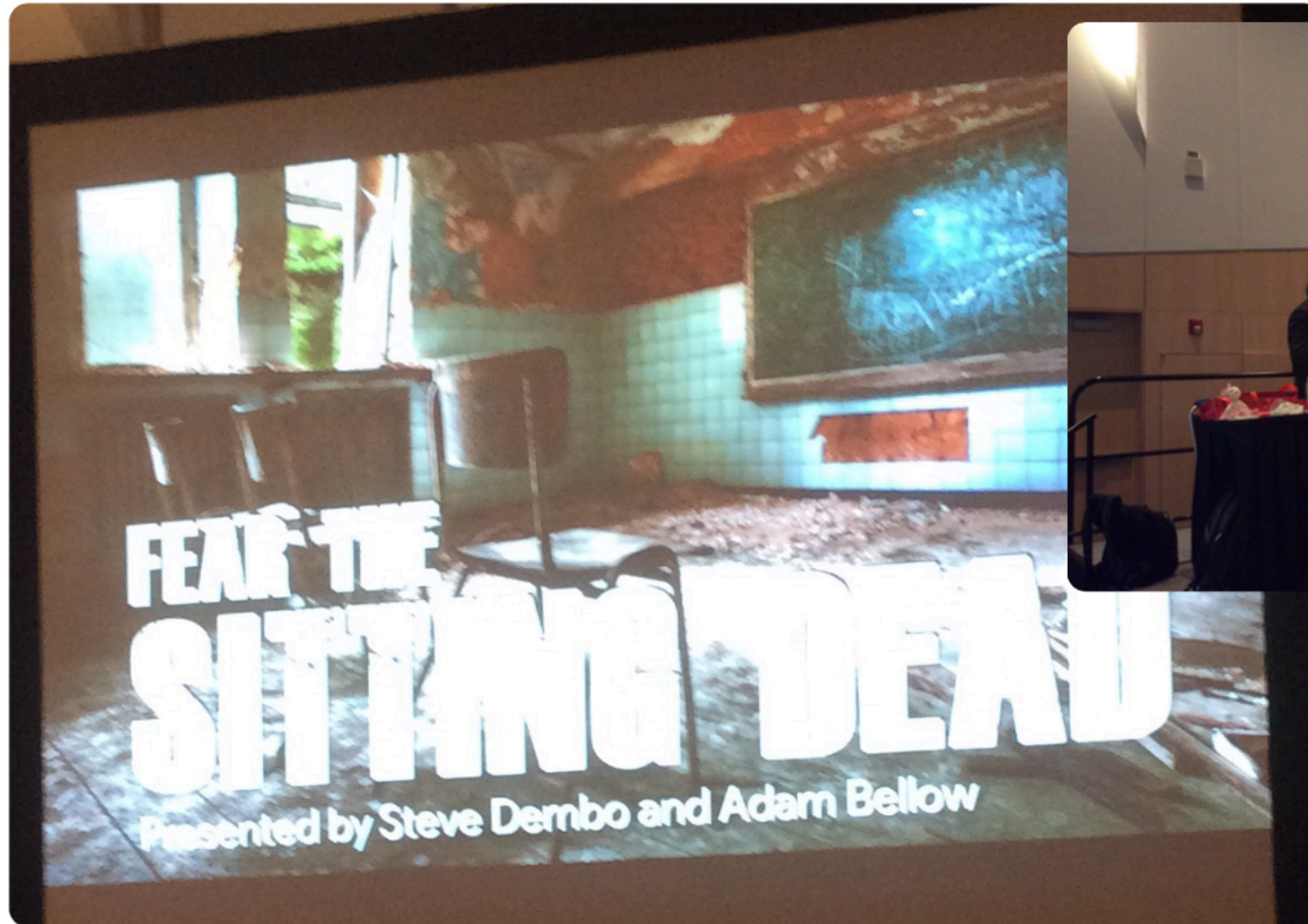
**BORING THIS MEETING  
IS.**

**SNEAK OUT YOU  
MUST.**

memegenerator.net



# Why???



## **“Fear the Sitting Dead”**

—Adam Bellow and Steve Dembo, ISTE2016





Problem = Opportunity in Disguise

Coaching:  
2 people—1 tech,  
1 instructional

Teacher Research  
Groups  
(facilitated by TRG  
leader)



ST. MARY'S  
ACADEMY

Small-group  
*optional* targeted  
sessions

All-faculty  
inspirational  
sessions

Why this model?



**Personalized**  
**Differentiated**  
**Relevant**

What's working?





Coaching = essential.  
Relationships = key!



To: Teacher-Research Group  
From: Alyssa Tormala  
Re: Final Meeting Reflection

April 27, 2014

"What does learning look like when a teacher and group of students commit to a 1:1 iPad experience in the classroom?"

This is the question I have arrived at after a year of experimentation and in this process, I wasn't quite sure what I was really looking for-- a broad topic "What would happen if I went full-force with iPads" I gathered information, both informally and formally, I realized that a inquiry. I didn't just want to know whether a tool or that tool was worth all the time and effort we all put into it. And that means it back to whether it actually serves our students, and if so, what pedagogical methods work best for that purpose.

Of course, I did not do this alone. My students in my three English 9 classes have been active participants in this endeavor. And that leads me to my first major epiphany: **Get the kids involved in the research.**

4-6 participants  
Cross content  
Monthly meetings

Questions of practice  
Individual research  
Facilitated by TRG leader

No pressure.  
"Best PD experience  
ever."

TRG = transformational





Makerspace Workshop

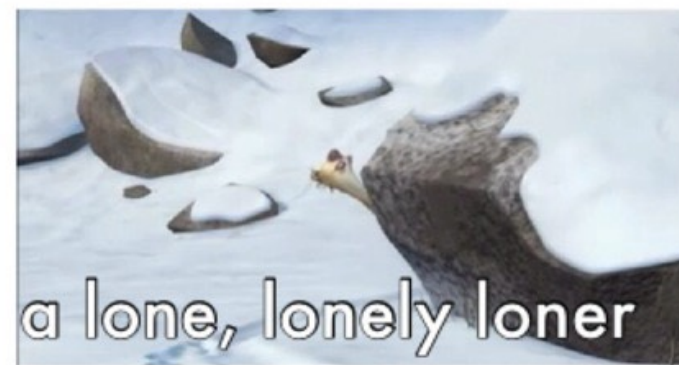
Speed-Geeking



Unique sessions = inspirational

What still needs work?



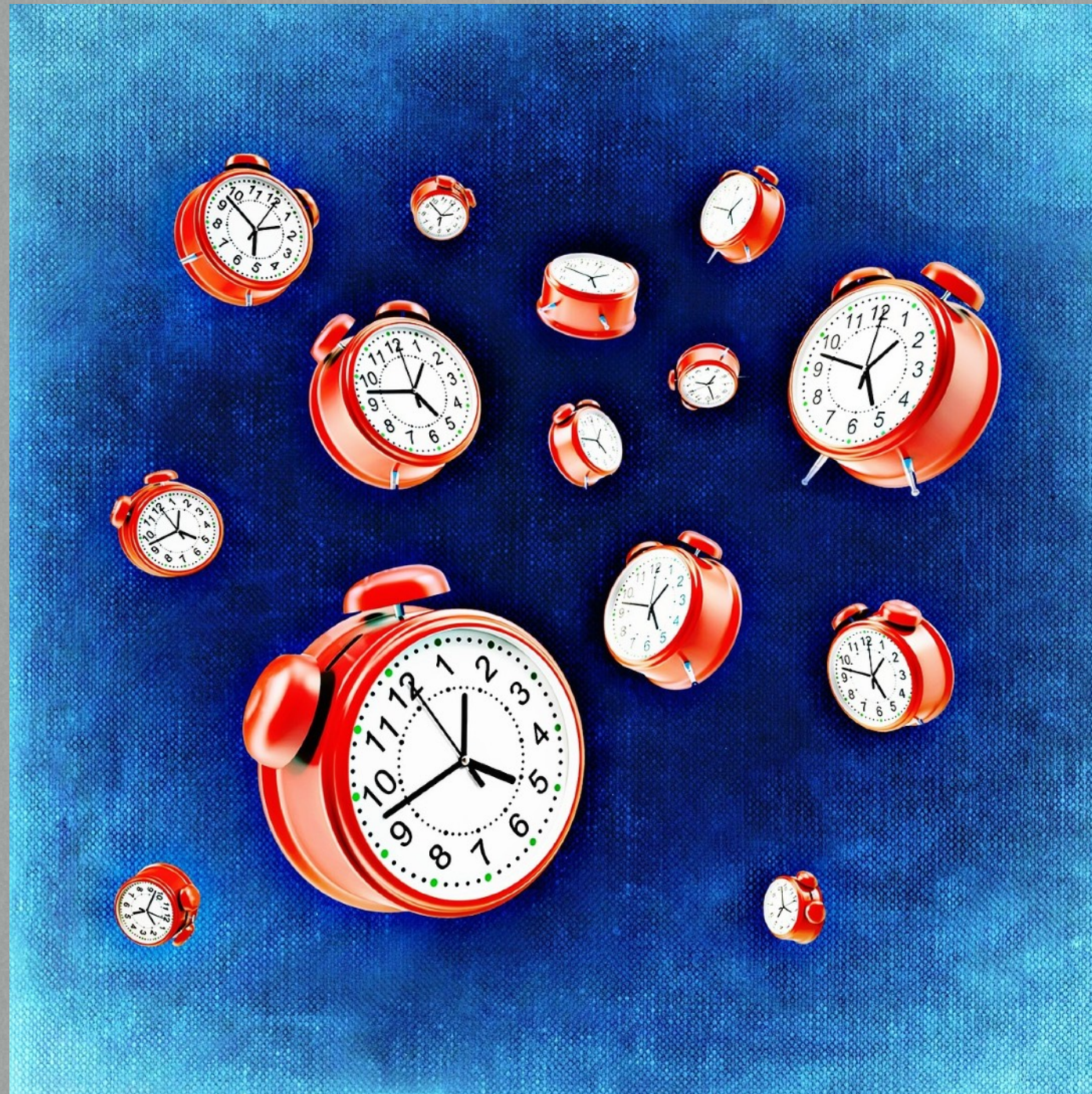


Hard to get attendance at optional sessions.



PD team =  
limited in funding  
limited authority





Finding time and space.



# What challenges do you face?



<https://padlet.com/atormala/iPDX17PDChallenges>



How do we solve them?  
**TOGETHER!**





- 2-3 people per team
- one challenge
- develop a solution(s)
- document!
- present!



Propose  
solution to  
admin!



Tweet  
#PDin21st

# Don't be a secret genius!

Start a PD  
team!

Blog!

*Thank you!*



@alytormala

[alyssa.tormala@smapdx.org](mailto:alyssa.tormala@smapdx.org)  
[www.learnerstogether.com](http://www.learnerstogether.com)