

HLP #7 Update

Helping Your Beginning Teachers/Mentees Link Professional Learning to Practice

Your beginning teachers/mentees recently attended professional learning.

Professional Development

Topic: Establish a Consistent, Organized, and Respectful Learning Environment

At this professional learning session, mentees learned the following:

- Define and teach classroom expectations and rules.
- Use a continuum of strategies to acknowledge appropriate behavior with high frequency and deal with unwanted behavior.
- Optimize instructional time.
- Learn about and honor students' individuality.

Principal Follow-Up

Suggestions for Follow-Up with Your Beginning Teachers

1. Visit a beginning teacher's classroom and touch base about establishing a positive learning environment.
2. Highlight with a positive comment any OTRs that you see being implemented in the classroom. For example, "I noticed in your lesson today that you gave students numerous opportunities to respond. Great job of giving specific performance feedback to individual students."
3. Organize a time for your beginning teachers to watch a veteran teacher implementing routines and procedures and giving specific performance feedback to students.
4. Conduct a brief (drop-in) observation and give not only praise but also identify one area for improvement.
5. Organize opportunities for teachers to engage with the community.

Mentor Follow-Up

Suggestions for Follow-Up with Your Mentees

Conversation Starters—Ask your mentees:

1. What new information in the professional learning can you incorporate into your practice?
2. Do you have any questions about establishing a consistent and organized classroom environment?
3. What are some ways you can optimize instructional time?
4. How do you build rapport and mutual respect with your students?

Activity

1. Explain to your mentees how you get to know your students' interests, background, and community assets. Share strategies with your mentees on how you link your instruction to students' prior academic learning and student individuality.
2. Review the HLP self-assessment. Find areas of strength and areas of improvement. Share strategies with your mentees on how they can grow on the areas of improvement.