“Now I Know Exactly What to Teach!”

**Focus Area**

- District Priorities
- Formative Feedback
- Assessment Literacy
- Collaboration

**Presenters:** Dr. Leslie Laud

**District(s):** Worcester, Wayland, Southboro/Northboro, Ayer-Shirley, Weymouth, Bourne

**Best Practice Description:**

- Teachers received professional development in evidence-based practices for teaching/analyzing writing.
- Teachers collaboratively, in grade teams, developed analytical writing scales, based in CCSS.
- Teachers scored student writing in teams, then analyzed data in spread sheets.
- Using data to decide next steps, teachers implemented best practices for writing instruction.
- Teachers then analyzed further writing samples, charted data and looked for patterns to inform instruction.
- Teacher collaboration central to every step: “How did you get the gains you got in that area?”

**Strategies:**

- Anchoring all work in CCSS.
- Learning from others: Digging into best practices getting gains in other setting, then adapting those.

**Who is involved?**

- Teachers and coaches
- ELA coordinators and administrators
- Consultants

Which teachers? Some schools began with full school adoption while others began with specific grades, then expanded.

**How is the work structured?**

- Teachers received workshop professional development, then embedded, cohesive, sustained follow up support from one another (colleagues modeling lessons, team discussions, designing materials/scales).
- Consultant offered initial support, then transferred leadership to lead teachers and coaches.

**Next steps?**

- Track which practices yield greatest gains.
- Keep focus on student learning. Use evidence-based practices, but keep student learning at center. always

**Contact Person**

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Four Key Messages about Student Impact Ratings

- Use Multiple Measures: TIMMS and PIR are not all or nothing, comprehensive, evidence systems.
- Focus on Students: The focus of improving learning, impact student learning.
- Build Capacity: Developing rubrics, tools, allowing teacher embedded use.
- Engage Families: Educators have ability, developing and evaluating assessments.