Teacher Leadership: Improving Schools Through Collaboration

Wednesday, May 27, 2015
Today’s Objectives

Participants will:

★ Explore some essential questions, including:
  ★ What is teacher leadership?
  ★ What are the benefits of teacher leadership for students, teachers, schools, and districts?
  ★ How can we overcome challenges related to creating new leadership roles?

★ Hear from teacher leaders from two different districts that are either building or refining teacher leadership opportunities.

★ Participate in small group Q&A, sharing, and conversations with teacher leaders as facilitators.

★ Learn about forthcoming resources from ESE.
## Agenda

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>15 mins</td>
<td>Teacher Leadership: Exploring Essential Questions</td>
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<td>5 mins</td>
<td>Transition</td>
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<td>Mini Presentation #1</td>
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<td>Transition</td>
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<td>Mini Presentation #2</td>
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What is Teacher Leadership?
Hybrid Teaching Position in Michigan: Co-Teachers and Leadership Development

★ Two teachers share 1 classroom and all teaching responsibilities

★ They also “cultivate teacher leadership” by
  ★ connecting teachers with one another
  ★ activating professional development in the district
  ★ providing instructional and curriculum support to other teachers
Why should teacher leadership be a priority?
Keeping Great Teachers in the Classroom

★ Teachers look for schools that provide opportunities to learn (Darling-Hammond, 2003)

★ Teachers involved in school decision-making processes are more satisfied with their jobs and are more likely to stay in their schools (Ingersoll, 2001; Bogler, 2001)
Peer-to-Peer Learning and Support

- Teacher-led mentoring more effective than traditional professional development (Joyce & Showers, 2002)
- Pairing teacher leaders with less experienced educators to focus on their specific needs leads to improved instruction (Checkoway et al., 2015)
A Strong School Culture

★ Teacher leadership can have profound effect on the school culture, creating an environment that transforms a school into a learning community (Lieberman and Miller, 2004).

★ Shared instructional leadership and distributed expertise contribute to school improvement (Hallinger & Heck, 1996; Liethwood et al., 2004, 2007)
Mini Presentations by Teacher Leaders
Mini Presentations

★ Purpose: A platform for districts to share their work so that audience members can gain insights and ideas that might be helpful in their own districts and schools.

★ Format:
  ★ 10 minutes: “Mini Presentation”
  ★ 10 minutes: Open Q&A
    ★ Ask questions
    ★ Share related challenges and ask for advice
    ★ Offer additional ideas or solutions
    ★ Please monitor your air time
Choose a Corner

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Reflections and Next Steps

★ What did you hear today that inspired you?
What can you bring back to your school and/or district?
New Resources

- Case studies detailing districts’ experiences implementing or refining teacher leadership models
- Idea bank with common challenges and solutions
- “Building a School Climate That Supports Teacher Leadership: Advice from Teachers and Principals”
- Information about 2015-2016 opportunities for teachers, principals, and districts.

http://www.doe.mass.edu/edeval/leadership/

Coming in July!