

# Stepping in the Right Direction: Literacy Coaching

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## What is a Literacy Coach?

- One who trains teachers, facilitates lessons, supports instruction, and is a professional learner.



How can Literacy Coaches help teachers improve instruction and facilitate learning?



## Steps to Successful Coaching

- Trust is the KEY
- Know your PURPOSE
- Coaching + Follow up = Results
- Professional Leadership



## Step 1: Rapport Building

- Trust is the KEY
- Dos and don'ts
- Learn together
- Be a support
  - Save teachers' time by providing resources that promote literacy.



## Step 2: Know your purpose

- Whole group staff development
- Small group gathering
- Individual teacher coaching (Classroom in-service)

## Whole group: Staff Development

- Align to the District Goals
- Setting is Key!
- Plan and facilitate as you would to students

## Small group gathering

- Book study groups
- After school support sessions
- Grade Level meetings



## Individual teacher coaching Classroom in-service: Literature Circles

1. Meet and discuss
2. Plan and model
3. Reflect and evaluate
4. Follow up and maintain



## Select a THEME:

### Look what's cooking!

- Provide Recipes for effective instruction
  - Include ingredients, Directions for "Putting it all together", Challenges, Share Time and Release of Responsibility!
- Create a menu of what you can provide!



## What can you offer your teachers? Literacy Coaching Lessons

- Components of Balanced Literacy
- Guided Reading Groups
- Literature Circles
- Using Oral Reading to Enrich Instruction
- Journaling
- Strategy Focus
- Vocabulary Development
- Student Assessment (Formal and Informal)
- Differentiated Instruction
- Teacher Resources

## Step 3: Follow up → Leads to successful change

- Meet with teachers
  - Answer questions
  - Discuss what's working
  - Plan a follow up observation or develop goals



## Step 4: Professional Leadership

- Successful Literacy Coaches must be:
  - AVAILABLE: Get into the schools!
  - KNOWLEDGEABLE: Read, research and share!
  - PREPARED
  - A TEAM PLAYER
- Set clear coaching expectations (for the teacher)
- Support district initiatives
- Communicate honestly
- Honor Confidentiality



## Resources

- Department of Public Instruction website:  
[www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/coaches.shtm](http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/coaches.shtm)
- Websites: