



Collegial Circle Final Report

Please type in the information on this form, print it and send it to the Teacher Center along with the Collegial Circle copies in the check list below. Also, attach it to an email to Lynda McGuire to share in the Teacher Center's online Collegial Circle Library. Thank you for being a part in the effort to improve teaching and learning for our students.

COLLEGIAL CIRCLE INFORMATION

Title of Circle: Falling In Love with Close Reading Standards Area: ELA

Facilitator: Lori Lefkowitz School(s): MCE

Beginning Date: Sept.25, 2013 Ending Date: May 24, 2014 # of Hours: 6

Participants (list): S.McGrath, P. Mayer, K. Hosbach, J. Bonadio, J. Drake, L. Johnson, K. Weeks, J. Villareale, J. Montgomery, K. Wetzel, A. Roberts

Please attach copies of the following to this report:

- ✓ Collegial Circle Attendance Log (required for payment)
- ✓ Collegial Circle Meeting Log
- ✓ Log of Strategies Implemented
- ✓ Samples of implementation strategies or student work samples if applicable
- ✓ Collegial Circle Reflection Sheets (each member fills one out)

COLLEGIAL CIRCLE DESCRIPTION

(Type your answer in the grey box below the question. The size of the box will adjust to the length of your answer.)

What were the anticipated objectives of this Circle?

Teachers will discuss, implement and evaluate *Falling in Love with Close Reading* by Christopher Lehman and Kate Roberts. They will show us that it can be rigorous, meaningful, and joyous. We will practice and learn to empower our students to not only analyze texts but to admire the craft of a beloved book, study favorite songs and videogames, and challenge peers in evidence-based discussions.

What grade level(s) and or subject area(s) would benefit from this Circle?

Intermediate elementary grades, perhaps middle school

FINAL REFLECTIONS

(Type your answer in the grey box below the question.)

Was the outcome/goal of this Collegial Circle met? Explain.

As we read through *Falling in Love with Close Reading*, we all chose different lessons and lens to try and then come back to the groups, share out, modify and adjust.

How did the Collegial Circle assess whether the outcome was met?

We felt that, as a group, we held meaningful conversations which led to sometimes a change in practice based on the lessons presented in the book as well as teaching students and practicing ourselves, reading through different lens. We felt that although the book examples were geared to an older audience (middle/high school) there was still much we could glean from it and incorporate in our own classroom practices.

How did your work impact teaching/learning? Include student work samples, lesson plans, peer reviews, etc.

This work impacted our learning in that we changed some of the ways we planned and implemented our lessons driven by CCS and ELA literature units. We were able to modify lessons across grade levels, up or down and these will be part of our practices now.

Comments/additional information to share.

This was a very productive group who will be continuing this work next year.