



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 Catherine Thomas to share in the Teacher Center's online Collegial Circle Archive. Thank you for being a part in the effort to improve teaching and learning for our students.

COLLEGIAL CIRCLE INFORMATION

Title of Circle: Aligning Common Core with Explicit Instruction Standards Area: ELA

Facilitator: Linda Russell School(s): BR, CR, SH, MH

Beginning Date: 10-2-12 Ending Date: 5-6-13 # of Hours: 6

Participants (list): Carol Zogby, Cindy Merrifield, Katie Sauer, Emily Natoli Burns, Heather Kitchen, Tanis Edd, Linda Russell

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?

Participants will:

1. **study interventions based on specific areas of processing deficits**
2. **align interventions to the common core standards**
3. **design instructional units**
4. **analyze student work**
5. **implement strategies learned**

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

Secondary special education

FINAL REFLECTIONS

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

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

Partially. We found there was a need to develop our knowledge base for the six instructional shifts in the CCLS for ELA as not all had the same level of familiarity. We narrowed the focus to comprehension rather than addressing multiple areas of reading breakdowns, although accommodations for students with weak decoding skills were addressed during each meeting. We did not design instructional units, but did implement strategies and share examples of students' responses. Additional topics arose such as the use of Lexiles and Novelist and developing a common vocabulary for ELA.

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

Self-assessment and reflection forms.

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

We focused on explicit interventions for comprehension including QAR, RAP, and guided highlighting, sharing results of interventions tried. We discussed strategies for developing close reading abilities and asking text based questions using an explicit lesson design. Examples are included in the packet

Comments/additional information to share.

The circle was shortened from eight to six hours due to the facilitator's error in scheduling.

Log of Strategies**Aligning Common Core with Explicit Instruction**

Explicit Lesson format

Question Answer Relationship

Paraphrasing: Rap Strategy

Guided Highlighting

Teaching students how to do a close reading