



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: 6-8 Vertical Alignment Standards Area: English

Facilitator: Lenore McPherson School(s): CRMS - BRMS

Beginning Date: February 7 Ending Date: April 25 # of Hours: 9

Participants (list): Amy Patmore, Holli Englerth, Lenore McPherson, Carol Zogby (only attended first meeting), Jenna Hogan, Leisa Ehrlich, Jessica Wojcik, Ann Shelp, J. O'Neill (his name was left off of the original sheet by mistake!), Emily Labenski

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?

The objective was to better align our use of academic language, writing instruction, and writing expectations across the three grade levels and at both middle schools.

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

Grade 6-8 English teachers would certainly benefit from this circle, but I think our work as implications across the content areas as literacy becomes a focus.

FINAL REFLECTIONS

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

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

Yes, the goals of this circle were met, but there is so much more work to do. A valuable discussion was had and several concrete products were produced, but the scope of the work was more than we anticipated, and we felt there was much more to do.

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

We assessed whether the outcomes were met by looking at the documents created and reflecting at our last meeting. Everyone felt that our charge was too large in scope, and that we felt we were just getting started.

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

Our work will impact student learning and teaching by providing students with a more consistent experience across schools and grade levels. We have no student work samples, but we do have the documents that were created and that will be distributed to department members in the fall. Several of us have used parts of the essay structure document in lessons and once the information is disseminated to the rest of our department, what we created will have a more substantial impact.

Comments/additional information to share.

As stated earlier and in some of the group members' reviews, we thought this circle addressed a huge

gap/need in our curriculum and our instruction. The feeling is that we began a process that needs to continue for our department to be strong and cohesive. The end result will be improved instruction in regards to writing for all PCSD middle school students.