

Collegial Circle Final Report

Please complete all information on this form. After it is complete, send it to the Teacher Center along with other supporting documentation. Electronic copies are preferred whenever possible.

COLLEGIAL CIRCLE INFORMATION

Title of Circle: Common Core ELA Exam 2015-2016 Standards Area: Secondary English
Facilitator: Thomas M. Doeblin School(s): MHS & SHS
Beginning Date: 10/27/15 Ending Date: 5/12/16 # of Hours: 8
Please submit copies of the following to this report:

- ✓ Collegial Circle Attendance Log
- ✓ Collegial Circle Meeting Log
- ✓ Samples of strategies implemented, materials created, or student work samples where applicable
- ✓ Collegial Circle Reflection Sheets - completed by each participant

COLLEGIAL CIRCLE DESCRIPTION

What was the anticipated goal(s) of this Collegial Circle?

The goal was to deconstruct the new Common Core ELA Exam that Pittsford will administer for the first time in June, 2016, determining the skills and standards assessed, text complexity, and responses required of students. The group expected to review released Exams and data. In addition, the group planned to share classroom strategies.

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

Secondary English, particularly grade 11.

FINAL REFLECTIONS

Was the goal of your Collegial Circle met? Please explain.

We met our goal. We began last fall by examining all three parts of recent administrations of the new Exam, discussing particularly the difficulty of the selected texts, the challenging multiple choice questions, and the requirement for source based argumentative writing. We also carefully examined the rubrics and many student models (anchor papers). The resulting understanding of the Exam readily led to discussion of instructional ideas. Subsequently, we shared a variety of ideas for the classroom, particularly on close reading (required for all three parts) and argumentative writing. The discussion was consistently lively and productive. Many of the specific shared resources can be found at the following:

http://www.pittsfordschools.org/webpages/TDOEBLIN/supe_dayr.cfm

S:\Faculty Shared\English\High\MHS Department Resources\Common Core Resources

How did the members of this Collegial Circle assess whether the outcome was met? What evidence was utilized to assess your progress?

Participant engagement and feedback, shared resources, classroom observations, and anecdotal evidence.

How did your work impact teaching and learning? [include student work samples, lesson plans, peer reviews, etc.]

We shared anecdotal student data on multiple choice and written formative assessments. See links above for resources. Most teachers experimented with at least one new idea or resource generated from the Collegial Circle.

Did your work align with the Level of Evaluation you identified in your proposal? Please explain. [Refer to the document, *5 Levels of Professional Development Evaluation*, on the TC webpage.

We identified levels 2, 4, and 5 in our proposal and our actual work aligned with these levels. Participants learned and shared, and they applied their new learning in their own classrooms. We will not fully know student outcomes until we receive the results of the June Exam, but we are confident that the work of this group will directly improve student performance.

Please include any additional comments you would like to share with the Collegial Circle Committee. This may include unanticipated outcomes, next steps, new learning, etc.

All participants found the work meaningful and productive. We would like to renew this Circle for a few hours in the fall to examine student data.