



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: Chemistry APPR Part 2 Standards Area: Science
Facilitator: Mindy Johnston School(s): MHS and SHS
Beginning Date: 3/25/13 Ending Date: 5/6/13 # of Hours: 12
Participants (list): Jeff Mellon, Eileen Malloy-Desormeaux, Marie LoRe, Mindy Johnston

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?

Create and grade 1-2 practice writing prompts to use in together with the writing prompt rubric our group revised in our first Collegial Circle. Discuss, grade and revise the individual practice worksheets we developed in part 1 of our Collegial Circle.

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

10th and 11th grade Regents and Honors Chemistry

FINAL REFLECTIONS

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

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

We were able to meet all of our anticipated goals of this group. We created and graded a complete practice writing prompt. We also discussed, revised and graded the scaffolded practice worksheets (that guide students through each section of the writing prompt) that we developed in the first Collegial Circle.

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

We have our final product of the Practice Writing Prompt that mirrors the post assessment in student expectation. We have also been able to engage in a considerable amount of professional discussion about how we are going to be consistent in grading the writing prompts in June. We did this primarily through putting student practice papers on the Elmo and grading together. During these discussions we realized that our practice, our teaching and our writing prompt can and should all be revised to better meet the goals we have for our students in literacy. During our Superintendent's Day in April, we were able to officially make the changes to the writing prompt that we discussed in our Collegial Circle discussions.

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

Students have shown considerable growth throughout the year in their literacy skills. By looking at student writing prompts from the beginning of the year and comparing them to the work we have seen on the scaffolded practice sheets created in our Collegial Circle, most students have demonstrated a significantly greater understanding of both chemistry concepts and literacy.

Comments/additional information to share.

We found this Collegial Circle very productive. We were able to develop teaching tools that will help students with the post writing prompt, Common Core Writing standards and college science laboratory procedures.