

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: **Brown Bags & Books** Standards Area: Library
Facilitator: Tami Holihan School(s): ACE, PRE, TRE
Beginning Date: 12/16/15 Ending Date: 5/11/16 # of Hours: 6
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 of our Collegial Circle was to identify additional strategies and resources to use with the Brown Bags & Books program. Brown Bags & Books, in its initial implementation stage across all elementary libraries in the district, is an "extra" program designed by district library media specialists to motivate students to read while learning to appreciate and respond to literature authentically. Because the program is just gaining momentum, we felt it was important to spend time together as professionals collaborating; this collaboration will allow us to determine future resources (literature) to use with students, along with strategies for effectively discussing the literature in a meaningful way.

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

Grades 3-5 will currently directly benefit from this Circle; however, it is our hope that the effects of the Circle on students' love of reading and abilities to carry on meaningful literature discussions will be apparent through their middle and high school experiences and beyond. It is also our hope to incorporate some of our ideas for reading groups with primary grade levels, for whom—up to this point—a discussion group like Brown Bags & Books has been unavailable.

FINAL REFLECTIONS

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

Yes, we feel that our anticipated goal was met. Through our Collegial Circle meetings we were able to collaborate effectively to recognize and develop ideas to make Brown Bags & Books (or any new derivative) an even more meaningful experience than it is currently. We discussed both how to motivate student reading and interest in literature, as well as alternate versions of book clubs or book club activities that might interest and motivate students—while elevating their reading and discussion skills.

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

We discussed throughout our Collegial Circle meetings where the Circle was going, and how to best meet our goal, and adjusted accordingly; at one point we changed direction from reading a particular text for inspiration to searching for professional articles that were more closely aligned with the types of strategies/information we were seeking. Additionally, we assessed the final outcome of the Circle through a discussion during our last meeting. Evidence utilized to assess our progress included our meeting notes as well as resources we found that we will use for future Brown Bags & Books (and other book club) discussions. Our final assessment included recognizing which resources we wanted to post to our Library Department Wiki and what we wanted to share with our colleagues at our next department meeting.

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

Because we are nearing the end of the academic year, our work will likely impact teaching and learning beginning next academic year. We anticipate that it will produce more meaningful student discussions surrounding literature, as well as motivate student reading and love of literature.

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.

Yes, we believe that our work aligned with Level 4—Participants' Use of New Knowledge and Skills (we had originally identified Level 5 as our goal, but agreed to pursue Level 4 as was suggested by Julie Barker and the Collegial Circle Committee). Through reviewing our Collegial Circle Meeting Log, it is clear to see that we have not only gained new knowledge and skills, but have effectively determined ways to incorporate those into Brown Bags & Books processes and discussions.

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.

Next steps include presenting the work we have completed—including all of the resources we posted to the Library Department Wiki—at our next Library Department Meeting on May 25. We will also incorporate all of our work into the development of our Brown Bags & Books schedules, formats, and discussions next academic year.