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: **Addressing Student Gaps in Learning in World Languages**   **Standards Area:** World Language

Facilitator: Sarah Bedrin   **School(s):** MHS/SHS

Beginning Date: 08/19/13   **Ending Date:** 05/07/14   **# of Hours:** 9.5

Participants *(list):* Sarah Bedrin, Andrew Balch, Mallory Ganley, Shari Ebert, Melissa Hill, Elizabeth Baroody-Solomon

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 (<u>each</u> 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?

To identify student gaps in learning as they transition from 9th grade Spanish to higher levels of Spanish. To create mini-lessons that would help to close some of the gaps identified.

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

All levels, but with a focus on 9th and 10th grade Spanish.

FINAL REFLECTIONS

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

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

During this collegial circle, the following goals were met:
- Identifying gaps in student learning. During our first meeting, participants broke off into groups and created a list of common errors seen in class. The group focused on common writing errors because that was where we saw the greatest need. Participants shared their lists and the whole group ranked errors in order of frequency in writing and decided which errors needed the most focus during class instruction. We also focused on current 9th graders with gaps coming from 8th grade as well as current 10th graders. Each meeting participants shared any new areas of concern that may have come up in class.
- Mini-lessons were created to help address some of the gaps and participants used these lessons in class as well as creating mini posters to display in the classroom.
- Sharing materials and creating common materials to be used in both high schools. Participants shared writing strategies that focused on student organization of writing and to encourage a wider use of vocabulary and details in writing. Participants also created a common writing rubric to better score writing samples.

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

Participants shared writing samples and created mini lessons for common errors found while analyzing writing samples. Participants also shared visuals that were created to help students with the gaps that were identified by the group.

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

By recognizing that our students had similar gaps in their learning, we were able to create a few mini lessons that addressed those specific gaps. Also, sharing strategies to address organization issues when writing as well as incorporation of details helped us as teachers break down the writing process to help students. By using these strategies in class students were better able to focus on improving their writing. The creation of a common writing rubric that was also shared with students helped create a consistency among assessing writing across the two high schools as well as shows students how they will be evaluated. With the rubric, we believe students were given specific areas to focus on and not have any questions as to how they will be assessed.

Comments/additional information to share.