Providing the Link: How One National Center Uses Technology to Facilitate Collaboration Between IHEs, SEAs, and LEAs

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NCIPP National Center to Inform Policy and Practice in Special Education Professional Development

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To improve teacher quality and increase commitment to teaching students with disabilities by

* Informing special education policy and practice for induction and mentoring
* Identifying and recommending induction and mentoring implementation strategies
NCIPP Trajectory

Literature Syntheses & Policy Analysis

Identify Promising Practices/Induction Programs

Models of Quality Induction and Mentoring Practice

Technical Assistance/Dissemination
Dissemination and Technical Assistance

- **Intensive**
  - IHE, LEA, SEA Teams

- **Targeted**
  - 325Ts Webinar Series
  - Professional Conferences
  - District Manual and Mentor Handbook

- **Universal**
  - Induction Insights
  - Archived Podcasts and Webinars
  - Technical Reports
  - Program Descriptions
Targeted Technical Assistance

- Identified state representatives who deal with induction
- Conducted a needs assessment survey
- Developed a series of webinar events targeted at state representatives’ needs
There are links to watch, register for, and evaluate webinars on the website [www.ncipp.org](http://www.ncipp.org).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date Proposed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration between special and general educators</td>
<td>Completed: June 20, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Induction for beginning special education teachers: Lessons learned from the research</td>
<td>Completed: October 25, 2011</td>
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<td>Specific practices for mentoring special education teachers</td>
<td>January 2012</td>
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<td>Training for mentors of beginning special education teachers</td>
<td>April 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providing building-level support for beginning special education teachers</td>
<td>Summer 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluating mentoring and induction programs</td>
<td>Fall 2012</td>
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Purpose:

- Ease of communication and dissemination
- Ability to access presentations from around the country
- iLinc system
  - Live presentation features
  - Participant engagement features
  - Archiving options
Why Induction Matters in Special Education

- Other barriers to the beginner’s ability to implement effective instruction and engage in collaboration include...
  - With regard to preparation, there are enormous differences among beginning special education teachers.
    - Beginners in high poverty school have fewer credentials and less preparation (Fall & Billingsley, 2008).
    - They struggle to situate knowledge acquired in teacher education programs (Leko & Brownell, 2011).
    - They are also less sophisticated in interacting with other professionals (Busch et al., 2001; Gehrke & Murri, 2006).
Chat Feature Example

[01:30:24 pm] Linda Beth Forehand: I am on CPST, TCI, AEA and going lobby day!

[01:30:36 pm] Linda Beth Forehand: and mentoring rev spec. ed. teachers.

[01:30:58 pm] Mary Brownell: What you are doing is very important, even though it may not seem that way.

[01:31:39 pm] Linda Beth Forehand: I know that is why I am doing it. I really worry that teachers will become frustrated and leave. We need good spec. ed. teachers!

[01:34:52 pm] Linda Beth Forehand: I think teachers like us away for more privacy in sharing concerns, other teachers at the school can help with the sense of community.

[01:35:34 pm] Paul Sindelar: I agree, Linda. For school socialization, a non-SE mentor can work well.

[01:37:19 pm] Linda Beth Forehand: I approached my mentee with the message that I am there to help, to take the pressure off. Not put more responsibilities upon them.

[01:39:05 pm] Jeanne ehey: What is IHED?

[01:39:21 pm] Linda Beth Forehand: good question!

[01:39:36 pm] Lorelei Emma: Institutes of Higher Ed?


[01:40:37 pm] Mary Brownell: Hi Jeanne, It is an Institute of Higher education. Thanks for reminding us about the use of Jargon

[01:40:43 pm] Dana Ramsey: Is it Institute of Higher ed?

[01:40:58 pm] Alicia Cope: H - Higher E - Education (University or college programs)

[01:41:28 pm] Linda Beth Forehand: thank you

[01:41:23 pm] Mary Brownell: If there are other acronyms that you are wondering about, please let us know.

[01:41:21 pm] Jeanne ehey: thanks
Intensive Technical Assistance

- 9 teams in West Virginia and Colorado include...
  - District representatives
  - IHEs
  - State representatives
- Purpose: To assist teams in differentiating induction to meet the needs of beginning special education teachers.
NCIPP Technical Assistance Timeline

- August 30th Virtual Meeting
- September 11-13 Kick-Off Meeting
- November Virtual Meeting
- February Virtual Meeting
- April Virtual Meeting
- June Virtual Meeting

CoP Implementation and TA Support
CoP October
CoP December
CoP March
CoP May
Technology to Facilitate Communication

**Traditional Communication**
- Phone, E-mail
- In-person meetings

**Technology**
- Community of Practice
- Virtual meetings
What is a Community of Practice?

Communities of practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly (Wenger, 2006).
Welcome to the NCIPP Technical Assistance Community of Practice (CoP).
Thank you everyone for a wonderful first virtual meeting!

This is a link to the recording of the meeting.
Here is a link to just the PowerPoint.

Homework:
1. You are already signed into the CoP if you are reading this... yeah! One thing done :)

Owner: Yujeong Park
Group members: 10
Important Ground Rules

- Upfront relationship
- Clear expectations
- Follow-up
- Leaders
NCIPP CoP Activities
Welcome to the NCIPP Technical Assistance Community of Practice (CoP).

Thank you for participating in a successful kick-off meeting!

Reminders:
- If you haven't finished your action plans, final copies are due October 14th.
- Check your timeline and take steps towards your first goal.
- Look for communication from an NCIPP team member. Someone will be checking in with your TA team.
- Be active in the Community by participating in a discussion, regularly checking your Team's group page, and asking or responding to questions. (click here to access the ppt with directions on how to use the CoP)
- Our next virtual meeting is November 16th at 3pm EST.
Group Pages

Group pages

IHES
Last updated 5 days ago by Yujeong Park

State of West Virginia
Last updated 7 days ago by Yujeong Park

Colorado School Districts
Last updated 17 days ago by Yujeong Park
Contains 1 subpage

West Virginia Counties
Last updated 13 days ago by Yujeong Park
Contains 8 subpages

Needs Assessment
Last updated 25 days ago by Yujeong Park

Program Descriptions
Last updated 26 days ago by Yujeong Park
Contains 3 subpages

HI Sarah and Chris,
I was just reading your post and wondered what the edmodo site was? Hope all is well, Mary

Mary T Brownell 28 days ago
Delete

I’m curious about your post, Meg, and the upcoming meeting that the IHEs are planning. I would imagine that the Greenbrier Team would like to know more. Do you know who’s in charge of the planning? Will districts or RESAs will be invited to the meeting?

Chris, Sarah, and Pam: Do you need something to tide you over until the IHEs finish their work? (That may take a while, from the sound of it!) Is that what edmodo is intended to do?

Paul

Paul T Sindelar 28 days ago
Delete

Hi Mary,
Edmodo is an educational social networking site. It very much mirrors facebook, so there will be little instruction needed for teachers to be able to use the site. It is controllable, as the individuals would have to be given a code to become part of the group, protecting the content posted.

Sarah Lynn Lee 16 days ago
Delete

HI Sarah,
Is the Edmodo site something we could get access to as well? Let us know what help you need to get moving in that area.

Meg

Margaret Lane Kamman 16 days ago
Delete
Group Discussions

Group discussion

Add a topic

Started by Margaret Lane Kamman: What Do You Need?

Delete Edit

Started by Sheila C Paitsel: Plan due today

Delete Edit

Started by Margaret Lane Kamman: Challenges/Barriers

Delete Edit

Started by Margaret Lane Kamman: Questions

Delete Edit

Started by Margaret Lane Kamman: Fascinating Facts

Delete Edit

Started by Margaret Lane Kamman: Introduce yourself!

Delete Edit

The National Center to Inform Policy and Practice in Special Education Professional Development
Virtual Meetings
Virtual Meetings

Purpose: Keep teams connected and provide real-time sharing and assistance.

Technology: iLinc

Important Factors:
* Everyone must participate
Virtual Meetings Example

Phase 1 Dissemination

- Information from literature reviews and policy analysis was used to create 29 briefs targeted at various stakeholders:
  - Administrators
  - Teacher Educators
  - Policy makers
  - Beginning teachers
  - Parents

- All products can be downloaded for free at www.ncipp.org
Evaluation

* Communities of practice are new to the field and nothing is known about the effective in engaging TA participants
  * Tracking statistics- logging in, posting, replying
  * Participant satisfaction

* Virtual meetings also offer an opportunity to collect additional information to promote the TA process
  * Participant satisfaction
  * Chat logs

  • Overall: As the primary mode of communication, the overall success of the TA will also be a gauge as to the successfulness of the Communities of Practice and Virtual Meetings.
Welcome to NCIPP Web Site

http://ncipp.education.ufl.edu/

Thanks!