EYES ON INSTRUCTION

A Collaborative Professional Development Opportunity

MISSION

EYES ON INSTRUCTION is a group of educators open to new learning opportunities which benefit us as teachers and our students.

VISION

EYES ON INSTRUCTION strives to create opportunities for teachers to learn from other teachers in order to benefit a diverse student population.
EYES ON INSTRUCTION
A COLLEGIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

What is “Eyes on Instruction”?
Eyes on Instruction is a Professional Learning Community for teachers from different schools
to visit one another's classrooms, share ideas, and talk about teaching and learning.

What is the Goal?
The goal is for teachers to learn new instructional methods from one another that will
increase student mastery of course objectives. Kids are the ultimate beneficiaries!

Who’s involved?
Seven teachers each from each high school will be invited to participate (English, Math,
Science, Social Studies, World Languages, CTE, Special Education Collaborative).

How does it work?
The group of 28 teachers will meet as a group on the early release professional development
day in September to get to know each other and to plan the focus of the classroom visits.

The full day classroom visits will be scheduled throughout the fall and winter and will
provide teachers with the opportunity to visit classrooms in other schools as well as the
opportunity to engage in reflective discussion about the teaching and learning observed.
Each school will be visited one time. The teacher participants from the host school will be in
their classrooms and will be visited by the 21 teachers from the other three high schools.
Teachers will visit classes both in their subject areas and in other subject areas. For a period
of time toward the end of the day, all 28 teachers will meet together to reflect and discuss
what they have seen.

The entire group will meet back for a final meeting in early spring to talk about what they
have learned. Continuing education points will be awarded to successful participants in this
program.

Is this part of the teacher evaluation process?
NO!! This program is an opportunity for professional educators to observe and talk about
teaching and learning.

What would be required of me?
All that is required of you is the curiosity to see other classrooms and the desire to work
with and learn from your colleagues.
Who will arrange the school visits and coordinate the process?
One teacher from each school will be asked to be the “facilitator” for their group. The facilitator will work with the principal to arrange the school visits and communicate information to the rest of the group.

How will the school visits work?
While schedules may vary slightly between schools, in general the visits will be structured as follows:

- 8:15 – 8:45: Arrival and welcome
- 8:45-10:20: 1st block – You will visit 2-3 classrooms during this time.
- 10:20-12:00: 2nd block – You will visit 2-3 classrooms during this time.
- 12:00-12:15: Break
- 12:15-12:45: Individual reflections on the day.
- 12:45-1:30: Lunch
- 1:30-3:15: Reflective conversations

The Sessions

Day 1: September 25, 2014: Introductory Meeting, HHS Library

Day 2: October 29th (A day) Hanover HS Visit

Day 3: December 5th (B day) Atlee HS Visit

Day 4: January 28th (A day) Lee-Davis Visit

Day 5: March 3rd (B day) Patrick-Henry Visit

Day 6: March ???, evening/dinner meeting, location TBA, Full Group
Possible agenda items include:
- Reflections – what did we learn?
- Program planning for 2015-2016
- Celebration!
Tips for a Successful Eyes on Instruction Visit

When teachers visit your school....

- Do your normal routine on a school day, nothing too special or fancy.
- Make extra copies of the handouts you’re using to give to visitors.
- Try and encourage other teachers that you know are awesome to have an “Open Door” sign posted.
- Consider having out a notebook for teachers visiting to write down anything they would like to borrow so that you can email/pony it to them.

When you go to other schools...

- Write down a note in your binder about anything that looks interesting to discuss later or take back to your class.
- Walk around and talk to students within the classroom if it’s an appropriate setting.
- Make sure you check out at least 2-3 Open Door classrooms during each block.
- Leave your work behind! Your e-mail will be waiting for you when you return – please give your colleagues your full attention.
- Enjoy your day!!
Tips for a Successful *Eyes On Instruction* Visit

When teachers visit your school...

- On the sheets you fill out about your classroom, fill out as much information as you can. Be detailed.
- Do your normal routine on a school day, nothing too special or fancy.
- Make extra copies of the handouts you're using to hand out.
- Try and encourage other fabulous teachers to have an “Open Door” sign posted.
- Consider having out a notebook for teachers visiting to write down anything they would like to borrow so that you can email/pony it to them.

When you go to other schools...

- Write down a note in your binder about anything that looks interesting to discuss later or take back to your class and colleagues.
- Walk around and talk to students within the classroom if it's an appropriate setting.
- Make sure you check out all the Open Door classrooms during your free block. Take advantage of this opportunity!
- Leave your work behind! Your e-mail will be waiting for you when you return – please give your colleagues your full attention.
- Remain in classrooms during the full observation period.
- Enjoy your day!! 😊
Eyes on Instruction: The High School Edition

Fall Opening Meeting

2:00-2:15: Arrival – HHS Library

2:15-2:30: Introductions and Logistics

2:30-2:45: Overview and Choosing Facilitators

2:45-3:15: Focus Areas for Observations

3:15-3:30: Tips for Successful Eyes on Instruction Visits and Closing Items

3:30-4:00: Facilitators’ Meeting
Eyes On Instruction
Full Group Meeting Agenda
October 3, 8:00-11:00
Richmond Times Dispatch

• 8:00-8:15 Breakfast
• 8:15-8:30 Icebreaker [Jenny]
• 8:30-8:40 History of Program/Non-Evaluative Focus [Dana]
• 8:40-9:00 Mission/Vision [Cyndee]
• 9:00-9:30 Focal Points Activity (Kim and Cindy)
• 9:30-10:00 Development of Goals (Sarah)
• 10:00-10:15 BREAK
• 10:15-10:30 Process Information (How will the visits work? Schedule for Rural Point visit.) [Kathy]
• 10:30-10:45 Questions and Discussion
• 10:45-11:00 Paperwork (Professional Leave Forms)

School Facilitators
South Anna Elementary - Jenny Graham
Cold Harbor Elementary - Kim Patterson and Cindy Gibson
Rural Point Elementary - Kathy Denton
“EYES ON INSTRUCTION”
Kersey Creek Multi-Purpose Room
October 1, 2009

• 8:00-8:15  Breakfast
• 8:15-8:30  Icebreaker (Julie)
• 8:30-8:40  History of Program (Dana)
• 8:40-8:50  Review Mission/Vision (Cyndee)
• 8:50-9:20  Develop Focal Points Activity (Kathy & Stacy)
• 9:20-9:50  Define Focal Points (Kathy)
• 9:50-10:00 Break
• 10:00-10:45 Process Information
  o Schedule (Julie)
  o Observer Form (Kathy)
  o Tips (Stacy)
  o Open Door (Julie)
  o Lunch (Julie)
  o Binder (Kathy)
  o Reflection (Kathy)
• 10:45-11:00 School Schedule Review
• 11:00-11:30 Travel Back to Schools

QUOTE: Long-lasting learning is generated by going “internal.” We can take information in better when it’s not forced on us by an outsider, and when we can process it in our own way.
—Eric Jensen
Eyes on Instruction

2014-2015 Focus Areas (Developed at Opening Meeting in the Fall)

Assessment and Planning

- Planning for a variety of activities (meeting needs of all students/differentiation, keeping kids “out of their seats”, effective use of warm-up activities)
- Strategic planning (vertical alignment, cohorts)
- Planning/grading smarter, not harder (essays, rubrics)
- Sharing lesson plans

Classroom Management Strategies

- Students with special needs.
- Use of flex time
- Integrating technology/BYOB
- Motivating the reluctant learner.

Variety of Activities

- Engaging all kids.
- Examples of labs/notetaking.
- Station teaching.
- Effective groupwork.
- Collaborative settings.
- Writing instruction.
- How can we become more consistent across high schools? (grading, etc.)
Atlee Eyes on Instruction
October 13, 2015

8:15 – 8:30 Check-in, pick up paperwork in faculty dining room

8:30 – 1:00 Observe in classrooms
EOI Teachers should feel free to walk in and out of classes during this time.
Atlee teachers have been prepped for the walk-in’s.

1:00 – 1:45 LUNCH in Faculty Dining Room

1:45 – 3:00 Discussion of the observations of the day

Discussion Questions

1. Impression of the school, climate and environment?
2. How did you feel the use of technology was different from your school?
3. Did you see any strengths that are different from your school?
4. What was the level of student engagement in comparison to your school?
5. What was your impression of student/teacher report?
6. Did you see new ways of engagement that you will take with you?
7. What are your thoughts on the class sizes in comparison to your school?
8. Did you see student behavior and discipline that differs from what you do?
9. How do you use FLEX time?
10. How do you motivate reluctant learners?

Idea’s from last year, that you may see in your building. What your feelings on those changes? If you have not seen the previous changes, would you like to see them and why?

1. Tardy Table
2. Sped Workrooms, laptops for sped teachers
3. ISS? Strict or more laid back, Patrick Henry had a strict model that the team liked.
4. Laptops for teachers that move to several classrooms, or do not have a room to call home.
Atlee High School
Eyes on Instruction Luncheon Menu

Lunch will be served at 1pm in the Faculty Dining Room.

Please make a selection from each of the following:

Sandwich:  _____ Grilled Reuben
            _____ Spicy Chicken Wrap
            _____ Turkey with Bacon and Cheese on Pretzel Bun (with lettuce and tomato)

Salad:  _____ Greek
        _____ American
        _____ Caesar

Soup:  _____ Chili
       _____ Cream of Broccoli
       _____ Red Pepper Soup

Once completed, leave with Laureen Dycus. Thank you!
Welcome to My Classroom!!

Host Teacher: ________________________ Grade: _____________ Room #: __________

Area of Focus for Feedback: ________________________________________________________

_____________________________________

Regarding this area of focus, here’s where I am on my journey...

Under Construction □ The journey is bumpy, with lots of roadblocks and pitfalls. The road to the final destination is unclear.

Paved Road □ The journey is smoother, with fewer detours, and I’m moving along cautiously.

Highway □ The journey is turning into an adventure and I’m exploring and experimenting along the way.

Yellow Brick Road □ The journey is smooth, with knowledge and skills embedded in daily practice, and I’m moving confidently.

What to look for...

Questions you could ask my students...

In my classroom, please notice...
Eyes On Instruction
Post-Visit Self Assessment

In the classrooms I visited today, I noticed...


Something I have seen/tried/used that is similar is...


Back in my classroom I could try...


In order to continue my own instructional journey, I need to...


One question I want to ask during our reflective discussion is...


