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Survey Results

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2008-2009 Initial Educator Survey: Year 1 Teacher			
Respondents:	804 displayed, 804 total	Status:	Closed
Launched Date:	N/A	Closed Date:	05/22/2009
1. Did you have an assigned mentor this school year?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		724	97%
No		21	3%
If "No" select and proceed to question #20			
		Total Respondents	745
		(skipped this question)	59
2. How often did you meet FORMALLY (specific appointment, observation, to work on activities, or to discuss your work) with your mentor?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Daily		28	4%
2-4 times per week		58	8%
Once a week		143	20%
2-3 times per month		120	17%
Once a month		104	14%
As needed		268	37%
		Total Respondents	721
		(skipped this question)	83
3. At your FORMAL meetings with your mentor, how much time did you typically spend together?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Less than 15 minutes		102	14%
15 to 30 minutes		293	41%
30 minutes to 1 hour		240	33%
1 to 2 hours		72	10%
More than 2 hours		11	2%
		Total Respondents	718
		(skipped this question)	86
4. How often did you speak INFORMALLY (talking in hallway, email, phone calls) with your mentor?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Daily		360	50%
2-4 times per week		121	17%
Once a week		76	11%

2-3 times per month		51	7%
Once a month		27	4%
As needed		86	12%
		Total Respondents	721
		(skipped this question)	83
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5. Did you feel there was adequate time scheduled for you to meet with your mentor?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		575	80%
No		147	20%
		Total Respondents	722
		(skipped this question)	82
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6. Did you use any district or school provided release time or substitute support to work with your mentor?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		211	29%
No		510	71%
		Total Respondents	721
		(skipped this question)	83
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7. Was your mentor:			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Located in the same school as you		585	81%
Located in the same district as you		128	18%
In another district		4	1%
Provided by an agency/organization outside my district		3	0%
		Total Respondents	720
		(skipped this question)	84
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8. Did your mentor have current or recent experience in the same kind of teaching position you are in?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		554	77%
No		167	23%
		Total Respondents	721
		(skipped this question)	83
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9. What was your mentor's main job?			

	Response Total	Response Percent
Full-time teacher with no release time for mentoring	449	62%
Full-time teacher with release time to mentor	148	21%
Part-time teacher, part-time mentor	12	2%
Full-time mentor	34	5%
Retired Teacher	33	5%
Teacher in another district	1	0%
Other, please specify	44	6%
	<b>Total Respondents</b>	<b>721</b>
	(skipped this question)	83

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10. During your meetings with your mentor, did your mentor...

	Yes	No	Response Total
Give you suggestions to improve your practice?	89.2% (644)	10.8% (78)	722
Give you encouragement or moral support?	94.87% (684)	5.13% (37)	721
Provide an opportunity for you to raise issues/discuss your individual concerns?	95.44% (690)	4.56% (33)	723
Provide guidance on teaching to meet state or district standards?	73.89% (532)	26.11% (188)	720
Work with you to identify teaching challenges and possible solutions?	89.6% (646)	10.4% (75)	721
Discuss with you instructional goals and ways to achieve them?	79.33% (572)	20.67% (149)	721
Provide guidance on how to assess your students?	78.39% (566)	21.61% (156)	722
Share lesson plans, assessments, or other instructional activities?	81.81% (589)	18.19% (131)	720

		Total Respondents	723
		(skipped this question)	81
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11. How often did your mentor observe your teaching?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
1 time		136	19%
2 times		122	17%
3 or more times		185	26%
None		280	39%
		Total Respondents	723
		(skipped this question)	81
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12. How important were these observations in helping you to improve your teaching practice?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Not important		201	31%
Moderately important		216	34%
Important		163	26%
Very important		59	9%
		Total Respondents	639
		(skipped this question)	165
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13. Did your mentor use a structured observation format, protocol or product to conduct observations of your teaching?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		131	20%
No		530	79%
If yes, please describe briefly what format or protocol was used:		7	1%
		Total Respondents	668
		(skipped this question)	136
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14. How often did you observe your mentor teaching?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
1 time		108	15%
2 times		91	13%
3 or more times		113	16%
None		408	57%
		Total Respondents	720
		(skipped this question)	84
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15. How often did you observe other teachers teaching?			

		Response Total	Response Percent
1 time		96	13%
2 times		100	14%
3 or more times		209	29%
None		316	44%
		Total Respondents	721
		(skipped this question)	83

16. Did you ever meet with your mentor or the other teachers you observed to discuss the observation(s)?

		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		351	49%
No		367	51%
<b>If "No" select and proceed to question #18</b>		Total Respondents	718
		(skipped this question)	86

17. From the list, **check which 3 topics** were the **most helpful** to you in the feedback discussion following observations of your own or others' teaching.













		Response Total	Response Percent
Constructive feedback for improvement		194	50%
Encouragement or reassurance that I'm doing a good job		192	50%
Classroom management help		144	37%
Ideas/suggestions to use in my own classroom		229	59%
Lesson planning and/or curriculum guidance		60	16%
Demonstration/modeling of strategies		90	23%
Understanding why (s)he used particular strategies or instructional choices		30	8%
Seeing a different perspective, viewpoint, or teaching style		154	40%
Nothing/not helpful		9	2%
Other, please specify		4	1%
		Total Respondents	387
		(skipped this question)	417

18. During this year of teaching to what extent did your mentor help you?

		Response Total	Response Percent
Not at all		23	3%
To some extent		170	24%

To a moderate extent		188	26%
To a great extent		342	47%
		Total Respondents	723
		(skipped this question)	81

19. From the list, **check which 3 topics** were the **most helpful** to you in your work with your mentor this year.

		Response Total	Response Percent
Having a good, supportive listener		327	45%
Developing a confidential relationship and good rapport with my mentor		240	33%
Getting constructive feedback for improvement from my mentor		123	17%
Having someone to answer my questions		460	64%
Having someone provide encouragement and reassurance		222	31%
Having regular interactions or meetings with my mentor		54	7%
Getting student behavior/classroom management help		147	20%
Getting lesson planning and/or curriculum guidance help		84	12%
Getting ideas, resources and strategies from my mentor		251	35%
Support with district, school or team specific issues and/or culture		111	15%
Nothing/not helpful		25	3%
Other, please specify		14	2%
		Total Respondents	721
		(skipped this question)	83

20. About how many hours of orientation sessions and support seminars focusing on initial educator topics did you participate in this year?

		Response Total	Response Percent
1-5 hours		117	16%
6-10 hours		165	23%
11-15 hours		139	19%
16 hours or more		255	35%
None		51	7%
<b>If "None" select and proceed to question #22</b>			
		Total Respondents	727
		(skipped this question)	77

21. During the past year, how much information was provided during support seminars about the topics listed below?





	None so far	A little	A moderate amount	A lot	Response Total
Teaching reading/language arts	33.03% (218)	36.36% (240)	19.85% (131)	10.76% (71)	660
Teaching mathematics	52.74% (347)	30.24% (199)	12.31% (81)	4.71% (31)	658
Teaching children with varying levels of achievement/ability	9.39% (62)	38.33% (253)	39.85% (263)	12.42% (82)	660
Reviewing and assessing student work	21.55% (142)	35.66% (235)	33.08% (218)	9.71% (64)	659
Implementing classroom management strategies	13.81% (91)	35.81% (236)	37.94% (250)	12.44% (82)	659
Managing student discipline and behavior	14.79% (97)	39.63% (260)	35.82% (235)	9.76% (64)	656
Using multiple instructional strategies to teach students	14.2% (93)	36.95% (242)	37.71% (247)	11.15% (73)	655
Selecting or adapting curriculum materials	30.18% (198)	38.72% (254)	25.91% (170)	5.18% (34)	656
Understanding/teaching toward state or district standards	24.92% (164)	39.21% (258)	28.42% (187)	7.45% (49)	658
Planning lessons	35.27% (231)	44.12% (289)	16.18% (106)	4.43% (29)	655
Using student assessments to inform your teaching	23.9% (157)	38.96% (256)	28.01% (184)	9.13% (60)	657
Motivating students	19.85% (130)	42.29% (277)	30.69% (201)	7.18% (47)	655
Reflecting on your instructional practices	13.26% (87)	33.69% (221)	35.06% (230)	17.99% (118)	656
Teaching English language learners	59.27% (390)	29.33% (193)	9.88% (65)	1.52% (10)	658
Teaching special needs students	35.01% (230)	41.25% (271)	19.63% (129)	4.11% (27)	657
Teaching students of varying ethnic/racial and socioeconomic backgrounds	39.88% (260)	40.49% (264)	15.95% (104)	3.68% (24)	652
				Total Respondents	671
				(skipped this question)	133

22. In my school district/agency attendance at support seminars is:

	Response Total	Response Percent
Required	544	76%
Voluntary	169	24%
	Total Respondents	713
	(skipped this question)	91

23. How important is it to meet and network with other Initial Educators?

Response Total	Response Percent
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Not important		36	5%
Moderately important		211	29%
Important		266	37%
Very important		210	29%
		Total Respondents	723
		(skipped this question)	81

24. Did you have an opportunity to meet and network with other initial educators?

		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		632	88%
No		88	12%
		Total Respondents	720
		(skipped this question)	84

25. From the list, **check which 3 topics** you felt were the **most challenging or you felt least prepared for** as an Initial Educator. Please choose only 1 First choice, 1 Second choice, and 1 Third choice.


		Response Total	Response Percent
Using my state model academic standards and curriculum frameworks in my content area (s) and developing my content knowledge (standard 1)		109	15%
Understanding how children with broad ranges of ability learn and using instructional strategies that promote learning for a wide range of student abilities and developmental needs (standard 2)		108	15%
Differentiating instruction for all learners (standard 3)		231	33%
Differentiating instruction for English Language Learners (standard 3)		117	16%
Differentiating instruction for Gifted and Talented students (standard 3)		132	19%
Differentiating instruction for students with disabilities (standard 3)		98	14%
Using a variety of instructional strategies and instructional materials to encourage critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills (standard 4)		137	19%
Understanding individual and group motivation and behavior - Discussing ways of motivating students (standard 5)		155	22%
Discussing ways to prevent/intervene in challenging behavior (standard 5)		348	49%
Creating a learning environment that encourages positive social interaction, active engagement		81	11%

in learning, and self-motivation (standard 5)			
Using instructional media and technology (standard 6)		128	18%
Planning, designing, and delivering standards-based instruction (standard 7)		89	13%
Analyzing lessons taught and reflecting on them to improve instruction (standards 7 and 9)		52	7%
Using formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate student achievement and inform instruction (standards 8 and 9)		128	18%
Fostering relationships with colleagues, parents, and the community to support student learning (standard 10)		77	11%
		Total Respondents	710
		(skipped this question)	94

26. Did you have a support seminar that addressed the development of the Professional Development Plan (PDP)?








		Response Total	Response Percent
Yes		519	72%
No		202	28%
		Total Respondents	721
		(skipped this question)	83

27. Did you receive any of the following kinds of support during your first year of teaching? (check all that apply)

		Response Total	Response Percent
Reduced teaching schedule		31	6%
Reduced number of preparations		23	5%
Common planning time with teachers in your subject		247	49%
Extra classroom assistance such as aide time		161	32%
Regular supportive communication with your principal, other administrators, or department chair		354	71%
		Total Respondents	502
		(skipped this question)	302

28. My school location is best described as:

		Response Total	Response Percent
Urban		183	25%

Suburban		261	36%
Rural		279	39%
		Total Respondents	723
		(skipped this question)	81
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29. Identify the school district in which you work			
		Response Total	Response Percent
		708	90%
		Total Respondents	708
		(skipped this question)	96
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30. How long do you plan to remain an educator?			
		Response Total	Response Percent
As long as I am able		546	75%
Until I am eligible for retirement		104	14%
Will probably continue unless something better comes along		29	4%
Definitely plan to leave as soon as I can		4	1%
Undecided at this time		41	6%
		Total Respondents	724
		(skipped this question)	80
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31. If you answered "definitely plan to leave as soon as I can" to question 28, please explain your reason(s) for leaving teaching:			
		Total Respondents	7
		(skipped this question)	797