



# No Teacher Left Behind

Spring 2011

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

April 19, 11:30 am - Administrator and Lead Mentor Luncheon Meeting @ CPL  
RSVP: Shirley Cerone 630-495-6080  
scerone@dupage.k12.il.us

## **INTC Online Survey April 11 - 29**

Please take the time to complete this important survey. The data shows the state the importance of mentoring programs and allows us to deliver a better product to all of you.

**MENTOR TRAININGS:** Apr. 6-Lake Park HS  
*Analysis of Student Work*

## **FOR THE BEGINNING TEACHER:**

Well, congratulations! You're almost through your first year as a teacher. I'm sure your year has had its ups and downs, its strengths and challenges. All of these contributed to your growth as a professional.

It's very important to reflect on these past months. Effective teachers do it constantly. Your reflection is a form of

self-assessment and I encourage you to write your reflections down. You may write, "Oh, that went well. I'll definitely do that again next year." Or you might reflect, "That bombed. I'm going to need to make changes on that lesson next year." This reflection and self-assessment is what helps you grow as a professional. It's what moves you to that next level.

For a great professional summer read for elementary teachers, I recommend author Maria Nichols. She writes about the power of conversation in children's learning. She has two books I know you'll find helpful. *Comprehension Through Conversation: The Power of Purposeful Talk in the Reading WKshp.*, and *Talking About Text: Guiding Students to Increase Comprehension Through Purposeful Talk.*

For High School Teachers I recommend *Discipline Survival Guide for the Secondary Teacher*-Julia G. Thompson.

**Don't forget to take the online survey!**

## FOR THE MENTOR:

When calculating your required yearly 60 hours of mentor/mentee contact time, many shared activities may be counted toward that requirement. In addition to observations and meetings with your mentee, you may count shared staff development, workshops and trainings. Full and half-day Institute and In-service days count if the mentor and mentee attend together.

### **Mentor Tips 1-2-3**

1-Take your role as a mentor seriously. Use your time constructively and don't fall victim to complaining and gossiping.

2-Give constructive criticism when necessary but always begin with a positive comment.

3-Ask guiding/specific questions rather than broad/umbrella questions. E.g. "What kind of behavior issues are you facing and why do you think these behaviors are occurring?" instead of "How is everything going?"

**Watch for the Survey - April 11.**

## FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR:

Did you know the State of Illinois has identified 10 indicators of a High Quality Induction & Mentoring Program? They are: Rigorous mentor selection based on qualities of an effective mentor, Ongoing professional development and support for mentors, Sanctioned time for mentor-teacher interactions, Intensive and specific guidance moving teaching practice forward, Documentation and evidence of teacher progress, Multi-year mentoring, Ongoing beginning teacher professional development, Clear roles and responsibilities for administrators, Collaboration with all stakeholders, and Accountability and Standards-Based Induction. We will discuss these practices and how to implement them in your district at the luncheon meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

**LUNCHEON MEETING - 4/19 @ 11:30**  
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