

Illinois New Teacher Collaborative May 2010 Newsletter

From Chris Roegge, INTC Director

As you will read below, INTC, with financial support from State Farm, is venturing into a "new" arena this summer with our first "annual" Beginning Teacher Conference - an event planned by new teachers for new teachers. Despite the epidemic RIFing that has taken place across the state, interest for the conference has been strong. It has been a delight to work with the young teachers on the planning committee; I am so impressed by their insight and professionalism (not to mention confidence). INTC staff members have been hard at work assembling an agenda to address the issues and topics prioritized by the planning committee. We all hope the June 29 conference will be the beginning of something special.

"Y2: Moving Beyond Survival" Beginning Teacher Conference

INTC had over 100 first-year teachers show interest in attending this year's Beginning Teacher Conference "Y2: Moving Beyond Survival". To be held on June 29 in Champaign, the conference will bring together teachers who will have completed their first year of teaching so that they may:

- * Reflect on and share the past year's teaching experience
- * Contribute to the improvement of preservice teacher preparation
- * Network with beginning teachers from around the state

The conference will feature a motivational keynote speaker, hot topic breakout and burning question grade-level breakout sessions, and a panel of veteran teachers. Beginning teachers have been important members of the task force involved in the planning of this conference.

May 26 Executive Board and Partnership Board Meeting

- * I Hotel and Conference Center, 10 AM-2 PM
- * Agenda" Review INTC work since May 2009 and plan INTC future projects
- * For board members and those who would like to become a part of INTC
- * More information and registration at http://intc.education.illinois.edu/eb-pb-meeting

Illinois Induction Program Continuum

A new Administrators Academy focusing on the content, purpose, and use of the Continuum has been submitted for state approval and should be available shortly. Other workshops will provide an introduction to the Continuum as well as guidelines for its use in self-assessment and decision-making. The workshops can be used by individual programs and districts. A facilitators training is scheduled for May 25 and the workshops can be scheduled following that training. The workshops can be structured for the specific needs of each individual site.

Illinois Induction and Mentoring Research

Access final reports and articles related to the implementation of induction and mentoring in Illinois from the INTC website. Go to http://intc.education.illinois.edu/resources/rod and click the "Illinois Induction Research" link in the right-hand column. Recently added studies include INTC generated reports and data briefs based on survey data collected from the ISBE Funded Induction Program leaders and the final report from SRI International, the external reviewer of the ISBE Funded Induction Programs.

ISBE Funded Induction Programs Update

Funded programs have submitted the spring CDE information to INTC. To further the internal assessment process, many programs are completing end-of-the-year assessments that will inform future plans.

Funded programs are still receiving information about local hiring, staffing, and budgeting for 2010-2011. In spite of RIFs and the uncertainty of state funding, programs are working on plans for next year, cognizant that options may be needed. A shared goal is to maintain induction and mentoring regardless of funding and staffing cuts.

Funded programs have met in six regional Professional Learning and Networking (PLaN) meetings throughout the state. Participants shared information about their use of the induction and mentoring standards and the coordinating standards Continuum. The meetings focused on data collection, data analysis, and decision making. Webinar opportunities have recently been added to the opportunities for funded program leaders to network and learn from one another. The first focused on induction in secondary school settings and the second will focus on induction in rural schools.