# NEW TEACHER SUPPORT IN THE MIDWEST 2009 TEACHER SURVEY

#### **Teacher Induction in the Midwest**

The Center for Education Policy at SRI International has been awarded a grant from the Joyce Foundation to conduct a study of teacher induction programs. SRI is a nonprofit research institution that has spent more than a decade studying new teacher induction, in addition to studying state and national efforts to improve the teaching profession.

#### If you have any questions about the survey,

please contact Sylvia Rodezno. Phone: (650) 859-2982 E-mail: sylvia.rodezno@sri.com



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#### Important note:

Please use a BLACK pen. Blue or red pens and pencil cannot be read by our scanners. When asked to mark boxes, make an "X" through the box.

Sample: 🛛 Right 🗹 Wrong

Use block printing when you complete text or numeric responses. If you wish to change a response, please mark the correct response and CIRCLE it.



## **TEACHING BACKGROUND**

#### 1. Which of the following describes your current status as a teacher? (Mark one box.)

□ I have completed my teacher education program and have an initial, provisional, or standard teaching license/credential.

□ I have NOT completed my teacher education program and am currently enrolled in an intern program or alternative certification program.

Other (please specify):

#### 2. How many years have you:

(Mark one box per row.)

(Include the current year so that if you are in your first year mark "1," second year mark "2," etc.; do not include student teaching.)		Number of Years						
1, 3					3	4	5+	
a	. Been a teacher (total years)? Include all years as a teacher of record, intern, or fellow at your current school as well as any other schools, public or private.							
b	. Worked as a substitute teacher?							
С	. Worked as a teacher's aide/assistant?							
d	. Worked full time in a profession other than teaching?							

#### 3. At what point in the year were you offered your current teaching position? (Mark one box.)

More than 6 months before the start of the school year

4 to 6 months before the start of the school year

1 to 3 months before the start of the school year

- Less than a month before school started
- After school started, including on the first day of school
- Don't remember



4. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed? (Mark one box.)

- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Master's degree plus 15 credits or more
- Doctorate
- 5. Do you plan to teach at your current school next year? (Mark one box.)
  - Yes, I plan to return to this school next year.
  - □ No, I plan to transfer to another school next year.
  - $\Box$  No, I don't plan to teach next school year.  $\rightarrow$  (*Skip to question 7.*)
- 6. How long do you plan to be a classroom teacher at either your current school or another school? (*Mark one box.*)
  - 10 years or more
  - 6 to 9 years
  - 3 to 5 years
  - 2 years or less
  - Undecided at this time

#### 7. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male

#### 8. What is your race/ethnicity? (Mark one box.)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Black/African American
- Hispanic/Latino/a
- White, not of Hispanic origin
- Multiracial
- Prefer not to answer
- Other (please specify):



## **TEACHING ASSIGNMENT**

9. Approximately what percentage of your students for this school year (2008-09) fall into each of the categories below? If you teach multiple classes, what is the percentage of students across all the classes you teach? (Write "0" if you have NO students in these categories.)

a.	Are English language learners (e.g., ELL, ESL, bilingual)	%
b.	Have individualized education plans (IEPs), have 504 plans, or receive other special education services, such as support from a resource specialist	%
C.	Create serious behavior problems in your class	%

10. How would you describe your MAIN teaching assignment for the 2008-09 school year in terms of grade level? If you work with students in multiple grade levels, please choose the grouping with which you spend the majority of your time. (*Mark one box.*)

Early childhood (i.e., P-K)

Elementary school (i.e., K-5, K-6, K-8)

Middle school (i.e., 6-8, 7-8, 7-9)

- High school (i.e., 9-12)
- 11. Is your MAIN teaching assignment for the 2008-09 school year working with either of the student populations below? (*Mark one box per row.*)

a.	I am a dedicated special education teacher (in either a self-contained classroom or an inclusion model).	Yes	🗌 No
b.	I am a dedicated ELL (English language learner) or bilingual teacher.	🗌 Yes	🗌 No





12.	How would you describe your MAIN teaching assignment(s) for the 2008-09 school year? (Mark one box.)
	Multiple-subject (self-contained) classroom teacher (e.g., third-grade classroom where multiple
	subjects are taught)
	Core academic subject teacher (e.g., English or language arts, mathematics, science, history, social

- Core academic subject teacher (e.g., English or language arts, mathematics, science, history, socia studies, foreign language)
- Other subject teacher (e.g., art, music, drama, physical education, technology, vocational)
- Resource teacher
- Librarian
- Speech pathologist
- School counselor or nurse
- Other (please specify):
- 13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your school? Please choose the response that best reflects your experience at your current school. (Mark one box per row.)

Mark	one box per row.)	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a.	It is stressful to be a teacher at this school.				
b.	Teachers in this school trust each other.				
C.	Teachers in this school trust the school administration.				
d.	I feel supported by colleagues to try out new ideas.				
e.	Teachers in this school feel responsible to help each other do their best.				
f.	A conscious effort is made by faculty to make new teachers feel welcome here.				
g.	I have the necessary textbooks and print resources to teach.				
h.	I can get instructional materials (e.g., lab supplies, math manipulatives, classroom library books) without buying them myself.				
i.	I can get the classroom supplies (e.g., paper, pencils, staples, tape) I need without buying them myself.				



14. How often do you do each of the following activities with teachers in your school other than your mentor teacher? (Mark one box per row.)

		Never	Once	times a year	At least monthly	At least weekly
a.	Analyze samples of work done by your students					
b.	Work together to develop teaching materials or activities for particular classes					
C.	Seek each other's advice about instructional issues and problems					
d.	Observe each other's classrooms to offer feedback and/or learn strategies (excluding observation for the purpose of formal evaluation)					
e.	Discuss student assessment data to make decisions about instruction					



15. Please mark the extent to which you disagree or agree with the following statements about the principal at your school. (*Mark one box per row.*)

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Enforces school rules for student conduct and backs me up when I need it				
Makes clear to the staff his or her expectations for meeting instructional goals				
Sets high standards for teaching				
Communicates a clear vision for the school				
Understands how children learn				
Sets high standards for student learning				
Knows what's going on in my classroom				
Actively monitors the quality of teaching in this school				
Works to ensure that teachers have the supports they need to be successful				
Is supportive and encouraging toward school staff				
	up when I need itMakes clear to the staff his or her expectations for meeting instructional goalsSets high standards for teachingCommunicates a clear vision for the schoolUnderstands how children learnSets high standards for student learningKnows what's going on in my classroomActively monitors the quality of teaching in this schoolWorks to ensure that teachers have the supports they need to be successful	disagree         Enforces school rules for student conduct and backs me         up when I need it         Makes clear to the staff his or her expectations for         meeting instructional goals         Sets high standards for teaching         Communicates a clear vision for the school         Understands how children learn         Sets high standards for student learning         Knows what's going on in my classroom         Actively monitors the quality of teaching in this school         Works to ensure that teachers have the supports they need to be successful	disagreeDisagreeEnforces school rules for student conduct and backs me up when I need it	disagreeDisagreeAgreeEnforces school rules for student conduct and backs me up when I need it□□Makes clear to the staff his or her expectations for meeting instructional goals□□Sets high standards for teaching□□Communicates a clear vision for the school□□Understands how children learn□□Sets high standards for student learning□□Sets high standards for student learning□□Knows what's going on in my classroom□□Actively monitors the quality of teaching in this school□□Works to ensure that teachers have the supports they need to be successful□□



16. Thinking about the 2008-09 school year, indicate the level of support you have needed in the following areas. (*Mark one box per row.*)

		No support needed	Minimal support needed	Moderate support needed	Extensive support needed
a.	The subject matter I teach				
b.	Instructional techniques appropriate for the grade level/subject matter I teach				
C.	Classroom management techniques appropriate for the students I currently teach				
d.	The use of textbooks or other curricular materials for my current position				
e.	Strategies for interacting with parents of the students I currently teach				
f.	The use of data (e.g., analyzing student work or student test scores) to plan instruction				
g.	Adapting instruction to meet the needs of students at varying academic levels				
h.	Adapting instruction for students with individualized education programs				
i.	Instructional techniques to meet the needs of students from diverse cultural backgrounds				
j.	Instructional techniques to meet the needs of English language learners				
k.	Planning lessons and designing instruction				
I.	Creating a positive learning environment				
m.	The use of informal and formal assessment strategies				
n.	Evaluating and reflecting upon my own teaching practices				



## **NEW TEACHER SUPPORT PROGRAM**

New teacher support programs provide services for beginning teachers, such as mentoring, orientation, training, and workshops.

17. Is this your first or second year participating in this new teacher support program? (*Mark one box.*)

First year

Second year

Other (please specify):

18. Did you attend an orientation specifically for new teachers at the beginning of this school year? (*Mark one box.*)

 $\square$  No  $\rightarrow$  (Skip to question 21.)

- Yes, before the start of the school year
- Yes, after the start of the school year

#### 19. How long did this orientation last? (Mark one box.)

- Part day (4 hours or less)
- One full day (5 to 8 hours)
- Multiday, less than a week (more than 8 hours but less than 40 hours)
- One week (40 hours)
- ☐ More than one week (more than 40 hours)
- 20. How valuable did you find this initial orientation? (Mark one box.)
  - Not valuable
  - Minimally valuable
  - Moderately valuable
  - Extremely valuable



- 21. Think about the services and support you have received this school year (including the summer of 2008) through your new teacher support program.
  - (A) How often have you received the following supports?
  - (B) For the supports you have received, how valuable has each one been to your development as a teacher?

(Mark one frequency and, where applicable, one value per row.)

		(A)	Frequ	ency		(B) Value			
	Never	Once	A few times	About monthly	At least weekly	Not valuable	Minimally valuable	Moderately valuable	Extremely valuable
a. New teacher meetings with the principal at your school									
b. Workshops, seminars, or classes for new teachers (excluding an initial orientation)									
c. Release time to see other teachers teach									
d. Participation in a professional network specifically for new teachers									

### **MENTOR/CONSULTANT SUPPORT**

- 22. Were you formally assigned a mentor or consultant for the current school year (2008-09) through your new teacher support program? (*Mark one box.*)
  - $\square$  No  $\rightarrow$  (Skip to question 27.)

🗌 Yes

If you were assigned multiple mentors, please think about ALL the mentoring you have received through this new teacher support program in responding to questions 23 through 26.

- 23. How often have you interacted with your assigned mentor(s) or consultant(s) this school year on a formal basis? (*Mark one box.*)
  - $\square$  Never  $\rightarrow$  (Skip to question 27.)
  - Once
  - A few times
  - Once per month
  - A few times per month
  - Once per week
  - Several times per week
  - Daily
- 24. When was your first formal meeting with a mentor or consultant for the 2008-09 school year? (*Mark one box.*)
  - Before the school year started
  - Less than 1 month after the first day of school
  - More than 1 month after the first day of school
  - Still have not met with my mentor or consultant
- 25. Does at least one of your mentor's or consultant's area of expertise match the following aspects of your teaching position? (*Mark one box per row.*)

	Yes	No	know
a. Subject matter			
b. Grade level			
c. Student population (e.g., experience with ELL students)			
d. Same school			



Don't

- 26. Think about the mentoring you received this school year through your new teacher support program.
  - (A) How often has your mentor(s) or consultant(s) engaged with you in each of the following activities this year?
  - (B) For the activities in which you engaged with your mentor(s), how valuable has each one been to your development as a teacher?

(Mark one frequency and, where applicable, one value per row.)

		(A)	Frequ	ency		(B) Value			
	Never	Once	A few times	About monthly	At least weekly	Not valuable	Minimally valuable	Moderately valuable	Extremely valuable
a. Observed me teaching and provided feedback									
<ul> <li>Worked with me to develop a profes- sional growth plan</li> </ul>									
c. Demonstrated lessons for me in my classroom									
d. Gave me materials									
e. Planned lessons with me									
f. Analyzed samples of my students' work									
g. Invited me into his/her classroom to observe									
h. Talked with me about the strengths and/or needs of specific students									
i. Discussed instructional issues and problems									
j. Discussed student assessment data to make decisions about instruction									



## **NEW TEACHER SUPPORTS**

The following two questions refer to all the services you have received this year through your new teacher support program (e.g. mentoring, orientation, training, or workshops).

27. Thinking about all the supports you have received during the 2008-09 school year, to what extent have they addressed the following topics? (*Mark one box per row.*)

	My mentor and training have addressed:	Not at all addressed	Minimally addressed	Moderately addressed	Extensively addressed
a.	The subject matter I teach				
b.	Instructional techniques appropriate for the grade level/subject matter I teach				
C.	Classroom management techniques appropriate for the students I currently teach				
d.	The use of textbooks or other curricular materials for my current position				
e.	Strategies for interacting with parents of the students I currently teach				
f.	The use of data (e.g., analyzing student work or student test scores) to plan instruction				
g.	Adapting instruction to meet the needs of students at varying academic levels				
h.	Adapting instruction for students with individualized education programs				
i.	Instructional techniques to meet the needs of students from diverse cultural backgrounds				
j.	Instructional techniques to meet the needs of English language learners				
k.	Planning lessons and designing instruction				
I.	Creating a positive learning environment				
m.	The use of informal and formal assessment strategies	s 🗌			
n.	Evaluating and reflecting upon my own teaching practices				



28. Think about all the new teacher supports you have received during the 2008-09 school year (including the summer of 2008). Please indicate the extent to which these supports have improved your knowledge and skills in the following areas. (*Mark one box per row.*)

	The new teacher supports I received this year (2008-09) have	Not at all	Minimal extent	Moderate extent	Great extent
a.	Deepened my grasp of the subject matter I teach.				
b.	Increased my knowledge of instructional techniques appropriate for the grade level/subject matter I teach.				
C.	Improved my classroom management.				
d.	Increased my effectiveness in using textbooks or other curricular materials.				
e.	Improved my interactions with parents.				
f.	Improved my ability to use data (e.g., analyzing student work or student test scores) to plan instruction.				
g.	Improved my ability to adapt instruction to meet the needs of students at varying academic levels.				
h.	Increased my ability to adapt instruction for students with individualized education programs.				
i.	Improved my ability to meet the instructional needs of students from diverse cultural backgrounds.				
j.	Improved my ability to meet instructional needs of English language learners.				
k.	Improved my ability to plan lessons and design instruction.				
I.	Increased my ability to create a positive learning environment.				
m.	Increased my effectiveness in using informal and formal assessment strategies.				
n.	Improved my ability to evaluate and reflect upon my own teaching practices.				



## 29. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (*Mark one box per row.*)

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a.	I am confident in my ability to teach effectively.				
b.	I can handle a range of challenging classroom management and discipline situations.				
C.	If a student in my class becomes disruptive and noisy, I know techniques to redirect him/her quickly.				
d.	I am equally successful in helping students from all racial/ethnic backgrounds to learn.				
e.	I have the knowledge and skills I need to address the needs of English language learners.				
f.	I have the knowledge and skills I need to address the needs of special education students.				
g.	If I really try hard, I can get through to even the most difficult or unmotivated students.				
h.	If a student did not remember information I gave in a previous lesson, I would know how to increase his/her retention in the next lesson.				
i.	If one of my students couldn't do a class assignment, I would be able to accurately assess whether the assignment was at the correct level of difficulty.				
j.	I am able to adapt instruction so that I meet the needs of students at varying academic levels equally well.				



30. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the new teacher support you have received during the 2008-09 school year?

Thank you very much for completing this survey.

