

DPS Elementary Literacy Program
BEST PRACTICES:
Suggestions to Identify Focus Areas for Professional Development

1. At grade-level meetings, read through best practices document(s) (one per meeting).
2. Discuss the following questions:
 - a. How might you use the best practices documents?
 - b. What practices do you feel good about?
 - c. What practices might be a focus area for you and/or your team this year?
 - d. How would focusing on these practices improve student achievement?
(Consider specific student data you hope to impact.)
3. As a team, complete the attached form, "Focus Areas for Best Practices Professional Development:"
 - a. Focus areas that interest you;
 - b. Why (include impact on student achievement); and
 - c. How you would like to focus on these areas.
4. Submit the grade-level write-up to the Leadership Team/PDC. The Leadership Team/PDC uses grade-level write-ups to:
 - a. Look for schoolwide and grade-level interests, possible study groups, trends, etc.;
 - b. Plan for professional development and different types of support to offer;
 - c. Differentiate professional development; and
 - d. Identify professional and instructional materials to support the professional development.

Focus Areas for Best Practices Professional Development

School: _____ Grade Level: _____ Date: _____

Grade-Level Team Members:

Coach:

1. List some focus areas that interest you from the best practice documents (e.g., small group reading instruction for Reading Workshop, whole group instruction for Writing Workshop, Intimate Shared Cognition for ECE).

2. Why would you like to focus on these areas? (Include impact on student achievement.)

3. How would you like to focus on these areas? (Check as many as apply.)

- Whole faculty professional development sessions
- Demonstration lessons
- Co-planning, co-teaching, and/or co-reflecting with coach
- Study groups
- Visits to each other's classrooms or other schools
- Book study
- Examination of lessons through Core Issues
- Classes and workshops outside school
- Other: _____
