Best Practices in Teaching and Learning:
Instructional Coaching Model

Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

Judith A. LaRocca, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
John Frias, Math Instructional Coach
Laurie Salvatore, ELA Instructional Coach

January 23, 2018
"Coaching is a relationship between two equals - teacher and coach - both of whom are committed to making personal and professional improvement. A coaching relationship provides the opportunity for reciprocity of gifts of knowledge and skill, caring, and support."

(Barkley, 2010)
Facilitating the Learning Process

❖ Support the philosophy and vision of Valley Stream 13
❖ Facilitate the intellectual and professional development of teachers with a focus on improving student achievement
❖ Communicate and demonstrate research-based instructional practices that result in increased student performance
❖ Provide individualized, classroom-based coaching to support teachers in implementing good instructional practices
Coaching in Action

- Program Support and Development
- New Teacher/Ongoing Support
- Modeling lessons
- Professional Development Sessions
- Providing Instructional Resources
- Assisting with Instructional Planning
- Provide support for analyzing student work/data
English Language Arts

Goal: District-wide Balanced Literacy K-6

- Wonders Reading Program grades 3-6
- Superkids Reading Program grades K-2
- Putnam-Northern Westchester BOCES-Integrated Social Studies/English Language Arts Curriculum
- LightSail
- Building capacity with Independent Reading
- Marzano’s Nine Essential Instructional Strategies
Goal: Providing systematic mathematics instruction throughout the district.

❖ Continued Focus on building capacity with Math in Focus:
  ➢ Stage 1: Implementation; Stage 2: Grade Level Focus; Stage 3: Demonstration Lessons
❖ Problem-solving strategies, vertically aligned across grade levels
  ➢ Bar modeling and problem solving four-square
❖ Consistency in program implementation
❖ Compiling and analyzing data to drive instruction
❖ Levels of support:
  ➢ Professional developments: Math talks and math instructional strategies. (School wide and small group)
  ➢ New teacher support
  ➢ Grade level meetings
Technology

Goal: Technology Integration, Application Support

❖ Support for new third grade Chromebook Implementation
❖ STEAM Curriculum and Projects
❖ Google Classroom, Google Sites, Google Docs
❖ Administrative technology support for applications (Outlook, eSchool, enVision)
Coaching Framework - Current Work

❖ Continued ongoing support for teachers with core curriculum programs
❖ Building Capacity for Coaches:
  ➢ *Partnership with Oceanside Schools - 2 Days of Professional Development*
  ➢ *Visible Learning Conference*
  ➢ *Instructional Coaching in Action*, by Ellen Eisenberg, Bruce Eisenberg, Elliott Medrich, and Ivan Charner
  ➢ Instructional Coaching online course, based on the work of Jim Knight
❖ Communication
  ➢ Instructional coach website
  ➢ Coaching playbook

[VS13 Coaching Website](#)
**Valley Stream 13**

**Coaches Playbook**

**Practice Drills**
- **Gather Resources**
  Hunt for those hard to find lesson components and ideas ie. Documents, websites, books, and teaching materials.

- **Listen and Support**
  Lend an open and confidential ear for a classroom topic of your choice.

- **Grade Level Meetings**
  Collaboratively plan and discuss ideas with grade level teams.

- **Peer Observation**
  Provide non-evaluative opportunities to observe colleagues.

**On The Field**
- **Data Chats**
  Collaboratively analyze assessments/data to make instructional decisions.

- **Team Teaching**
  Cooperative planning and collaborative teaching.

- **Video Coaching**
  Video, discuss, and reflect on classroom lessons.

- **Professional Development**
  Provide one-on-one/whole group support for specific best practices
  - Technology Integration
  - Content Areas
  - Classroom Routines
  - Planning and preparation

**Play Calls**
- **Assessments**
  Assist in navigating and administering program assessments.

- **Reflection**
  Professional conversations to reflect on success of lesson student learning.

- **Brainstorming**
  Collaboratively bounce innovative ideas off one another.

- **Instructional Support**
  Serve as another pair of hands or another pair of eyes to track student concerns levels of engagement, or your individual needs.
Coaching Framework - Next Steps

- Systems Thinking: Defining the coaching model for Valley Stream 13
  - Support Core Curriculum
  - Support Quality Instruction
- Development of district coaching document
- Uniform coaching cycle
- Continue professional development for instructional coaches