

## **IPT Group interview Questions (November 2020)**

### **Preamble**

- The purpose of this focus group conversation is for the IPT team to learn more about your teaching so far this year, and to better understand how and to what extent discussion-based instruction and argumentation are implemented in the virtual setting.
- We want to emphasize that these are unprecedented times and that we aren't making judgments about what you have done or how you have done it. We all need to have empathy with others but also compassion for ourselves and the challenges we are facing.
- With that in mind, your candid responses will help us to understand your current situation and will enable the IPT team to provide you with the most relevant support possible during the follow up days.
- We also hope that there will be some benefit to you from sharing your ideas with one another.
- We want to emphasize that we will not directly share your input with district administrators, either individually or collectively.
- Are there any questions about the purpose or the structure of the focus group?

### **Norms**

- We will start with two questions that allow each of you to share a little bit about your experience.
- Then, we will move on to other questions that we hope you will address in a more conversational format in which you react to and build on one another's ideas.
- We want to hear from all of you, so I encourage you to share the conversational floor with each other and invite others into the conversation.
- Feel free to report on your experiences and what you have heard from others in the district.
- We anticipate that you will have had different experiences, successes, and challenges. You can highlight whether your experiences are the same as others or if they are different. Don't hesitate to speak up if you have had a different experience or hold different opinions or priorities.

### **Questions**

- 1) We would like each of you to share a little bit more about your experiences implementing science lessons in the online setting.
- 2) Tell us about a recent lesson that you implemented in the online setting. What went well and what was challenging?
- 3) We would like to hear a little bit about how you have acted as a leader during this school year. This could happen through formal channels, like leading professional learning sessions or group discussions. There are also many ways that this could happen informally, from sharing your practice with others, to actively collaborating with others, to supporting your peers with their instruction. Have you had any opportunities to

engage in such activity this school year? If so, tell us what you did and how it went. If not, tell us what you think has prevented you from this type of collaboration.

- 4) What other kinds of other opportunities do you think could be created for you to collaborate with and support your peers? What kinds of support do you need from the district?
- 5) How has your participation in IPT supported your online teaching?
- 6) How your participation in IPT supported your leadership development?
- 7) How can we make the upcoming follow-up day useful to you?

### **Example Probes**

Has anyone tried something similar?

Has anyone taken a different approach?

Has anyone else tried that and found it challenging?

Does anyone have any reservations about that approach?

Has anyone found a way to overcome that challenge?

Do others think that would be a good opportunity/feasible/meaningful for students/your peers?