

# Walk-Through Observations

- 1) Fall - September to October
- 2) Spring - January to February

A walk-through is a planned, informal, non-evaluative observation. Its **purpose** is to take a pulse or reading of the classroom and provide an opportunity for the mentor to see areas of celebration and growth in order to provide individualized feedback, high support and resources.

A Walk-Through is....	A Walk-Through is not.....
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a 10 minute observation.</li><li>• a way to see how the mentor can support the teacher with the Five Foundational Teaching Skills.</li><li>• a collaborative, reflective conversation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• an evaluation.</li><li>• a formal visit.</li><li>• an interruption.</li><li>• a time to converse with the teacher.</li></ul>

## Walk-Through Observations

**Step 1: Before the visit, communicate with Provisional Teachers and find out when they have students.**

Let teachers know that the Mentor & Instructional Learning Coach will be visiting them while they teach. Be sure to explain that these visits will focus on feedback about the Five Foundational Teaching Skills.

### Step 2: Organize the observations.

1. Schedule 25-30 minutes per provisional teacher:
  - a. 5 minutes before observation
  - b. 10-minute time to observe each teacher teaching (avoid teacher preps, recess, lunch, independent work, etc.)
  - c. 10-15 minutes after each observation to debrief and identify next steps
2. Sign-up for a day(s)/time(s) with the Teacher Specialist (Google calendar).
3. Arrange for coverage of your class (during your prep, another teacher in your building covers, etc.). If you cannot cover your class, contact your District Teacher Specialist.

**Step 3: Observe each Provisional Teacher.** Follow the prepared observation schedule taking notes/providing written feedback on the Observation Sheet. Debrief with the Teacher Specialist after each observation and identify next steps.

**Step 4: Debrief with each Provisional Teacher.** Within the week of the observation, have a one-on-one collaborative conversation with each teacher. Discuss the following:

1. Teacher reflects. **Mentor Prompt:** *Tell me about the lesson we observed.*
2. Mentor - Share the information gathered on the [Observation Sheet](#) and the debrief that you had with your teacher specialist.
3. Mentor - Complete a collaboration log (page 2 of observation sheet) with each teacher based on the information from the walk-through observation.
4. Mentor - Enter as a "Walk-Through & Log" on [graniteteachersupport.com](http://graniteteachersupport.com).
5. Mentor - Initial the teacher's [Documentation of Mentoring](#) form for Walk-Throughs and a Collaboration Log.