

Knowing Teachers

Teacher:	Mentor:	Date:
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Guiding Questions	Notes
Pre-Service/Prior Career Experience • Educational background? • Prior career/ or teaching experience? • What are some of your key strengths? • Opportunities for growth? • Interests/passions outside of work?	
Background and Vision • What inspired you to become a teacher? • Think of a favorite or influential teacher. What qualities or practices made them memorable? • How would you describe your teaching style or philosophy? • What do you enjoy most about working with students? • Hopes for the year; what does success look like? • What kind of classroom environment and community do you aim to create? • Key qualities that describe you? • Goals for work-life balance and well-being?	
Relationships • Describe your relationships with administrators, colleagues, students, and families. • What strategies work best for building these relationships?	
Professional Development/Coaching Experience: • How do you learn best? • Past experiences with coaching—what worked or didn't? • Hopes or concerns for our coaching work? • What do you need from me to be successful?	
Subject Matter and Pedagogy • Strengths in subject/content areas? • Effective strategies for: ○ Academic language development ○ Student engagement • How does assessment guide your planning? • Areas you want to deepen or improve?	

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Preferences for Learning and Collaborating • Preferred communication method (email, text, phone)? • Learning style or preference? • Best times/days to meet? • Comfort level receiving feedback?	
Personal Context/Identity • Work-life balance priorities? • How do your background or community experiences shape your teaching? • What does equity mean to you? • Salient personal identities (race, gender, class, etc.)? • Core values or beliefs guiding your work?	

Adapted from New Teacher Center