

FOUNDATIONS

NEW EDUCATOR SUPPORT PROGRAM

Suggested Topics for Mentors and New Teacher Meet-Up's by Month **YEAR 2**

MONTH	TOPICS
August - September <i>Transitioning from Survival to Intentionality</i>	Reviewing the Year 1 Foundation: What worked? What needs to be completely overhauled this year? Unpacking Year 2 Expectations: Shifting from "How do I do this?" to "How do I master this?" Establishing New Peer Dynamics: Moving beyond the initial mentor/mentee hierarchy to a collaborative partnership. Goal Alignment: Setting early intentions for the Educator Evaluation Self-Assessment and professional practice goals. Classroom Optimization: Refining room layout and tech integration based on actual data/experience from Year 1.
October <i>Diving Deep into Educator Evaluation & Goals</i>	Educator Evaluation Alignment: Utilizing the Vector platform to design robust, measurable Student Learning and Professional Practice Goals. Standards of Effective Teaching Practice: Identifying 1–2 specific indicators (e.g., Differentiated Instruction or Student Engagement) to target for deep growth this year. Advanced Grading & Feedback: Shifting from just recording grades to using formative assessment feedback loops that empower students. Navigating Specialized Meetings: Taking a more active, confident role in IEP, 504, and parent-teacher conferences.
November <i>Student-Centered Classrooms and Systems of Support</i>	Advanced Classroom Management: Moving past basic behavioral compliance to cultivating intrinsic student motivation and a strong community culture. Deepening MTSS & DCAP & UDL: How to actively leverage Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and Accommodation Plans to differentiate for diverse learners. Social-Emotional Data: Integrating SEL strategies into daily content delivery rather than treating it as a separate curriculum.



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December <i>Mid-Point Calibration & Evidence Collection</i>	Curating Evidence: Developing an efficient, ongoing system for collecting and organizing Ed Eval evidence. Mid-Year Reflection: Evaluating personal professional burnout, workload management, and adjusting goals for the upcoming calendar year.
January <i>Data-Driven Instruction and Peer Synergy</i>	Data Dives for Growth: Looking at mid-year assessment data to identify learning gaps and adjust instructional pacing. Targeted Peer Observations: Watching veteran colleagues specifically to observe how <i>they</i> execute the individual growth goals the Year 2 teacher is working toward. Professional Network Building: Expanding the educator's network of support within the building and district.
February <i>Pacing, Scaffolding, & High-Stakes Strategy</i>	Scope & Sequence Mastery: Analyzing pacing data—addressing where curriculum coverage is too fast or slow, and mastering the art of the "pivot" to reteach concepts. MCAS Readiness (Teacher Role): Managing classroom anxiety, balancing test-prep with authentic learning, and understanding test protocols from an experienced standpoint.
March <i>Advanced Pedagogy & Student Autonomy</i>	Classroom Re-Engagement: Strategies for the mid-spring slump; transitioning the cognitive heavy-lifting from the teacher to the students. Educator Self-Care & Boundaries: Deep work on career longevity, establishing healthy work-life boundaries, and managing seasonal stress.



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April <i>Navigating the Spring Disruption</i>	Flexible Lesson Planning: Designing highly engaging, modular lesson plans that can survive spring interruptions (MCAS testing, field trips, long weekends). Action Research: Trying out one new instructional technology or innovative strategy to test for the future.
May <i>Evaluation Finalization & Professional Portfolios</i>	Ed Eval Synthesis: Finalizing evidence uploads in Vector and preparing for the end-of-year evaluation conversation. Reflective Summary: Evaluating growth against the specific goals set in September.
June <i>Looking Ahead & Leadership Transition</i>	Strategic Pre-Planning: What shifts will be made for Year 3? Efficiency Audit: Streamlining planning, grading, and digital workflows to buy back time next year. From Mentee to Leader: Discussing opportunities for the Year 2 teacher to begin leadership paths (e.g., hosting student teachers, joining committees, or preparing to eventually mentor others). Celebration: Honoring the official graduation from the foundational induction program!



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