

What is an Instructional Coach?

Instructional coaches are partners with teachers in the on-going effort to improve student performance. They work collaboratively and confidentially with teachers to provide timely access to resources, information, and best practices to enhance teaching. Coaches provide training, modeling, reflection, and support in the implementation of effective instructional practices.

There is evidence that one-shot, workshop oriented professional development efforts do not result in improvements to classroom practices. An instructional coach provides the benefit of on-going and consistent classroom support.

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Project GRAD Kenai Peninsula Instructional Coach

The coach and teacher work *collaboratively* to plan, implement, and reflect on lessons, acting as resources for each other, and sharing the common goal of advancing student learning.

Your Partner For Success

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What are Instructional Coach roles?

Classroom Supporter – to enhance the quality and effectiveness in the classroom and model/co-teach/observe lessons, provide confidential feedback.

Instructional Specialist – to align instructional practices and curriculum to meet the varied needs of all students.

School Leader – to collaborate with the school leadership team to establish trusting partnerships, so that coaching is embraced by teachers of all skill levels and experiences

Curriculum Specialist – to inspire implementation and fidelity to the adopted curricula, provide assistance in blending content knowledge and differentiated instruction, and assist in creating culturally relevant lessons.

Data Coach – to assist in the use of student achievement data to drive instructional decisions

Professional Development– to engage in ongoing learning as opposed to one-shot workshops

- Mentor
- Learning Facilitator
- Catalyst for Change

Possible areas for partnership / collaboration

Classroom management

- PBIS/CHAMPS

Content enhancement

- lesson design, essential questions
- Discovery Education, V-math, Smart Board/tech support

Instructional practices

- Student engagement & motivation
- Cooperative learning structures
- Differentiated instructional strategies that maintain focus on the standards
- SFA, Houghton-Mifflin, content area reading/note-taking
- Hands-on, exploratory math
- Quality learning tools

Assessment for learning

- Formative vs. summative assessment strategies
- Edperformance, SBA Dashboard use, AIMSWeb

How do I contact my coach?

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