

Patti Flanary[11:25:40 PM]: OK, I have emailed some notes. They are not very long. Have you found any questions we are to follow for the post conference?

Charmaine Bentley[11:28:00 PM]: No

Patti Flanary[11:28:21 PM]: Just found some will send.

Patti Flanary[11:28:59 PM]: How do you think your lesson went?

What worked really well?

Is there anything you would do differently next time?

Will you use this lesson again?

Did the students seem to find the lesson worthwhile?

Patti Flanary[11:29:17 PM]: These were from an example in first session.

Charmaine Bentley[11:29:22 PM]: looks like the ones we used last time

Patti Flanary[11:29:29 PM]: yes

Patti Flanary[11:29:44 PM]: Want a while to look over what I wrote?

Charmaine Bentley[11:30:11 PM]: I've looked ... thank you for the positive feedback

Patti Flanary[11:30:21 PM]: Always!

Patti Flanary[11:30:27 PM]: OK, who wants to go first.

Charmaine Bentley[11:30:30 PM]: You observed what I observed ...

Patti Flanary[11:30:45 PM]: yes, she totally took control....how cool.

Patti Flanary[11:31:16 PM]: Guess because we are talking about yours we might as well formally get into yours.

Patti Flanary[11:31:31 PM]: How do you think your lesson went?

Charmaine Bentley[11:31:40 PM]: Yes ... we have even gotten the English teacher to buy in ... though we still need to work on her understanding connections to tecs.

Charmaine Bentley[11:31:53 PM]: It is in the process of going well.

Charmaine Bentley[11:32:06 PM]: Both mentee and teacher are happy.

Patti Flanary[11:32:15 PM]: Sounded like it. The English teacher should be thrilled just to have so much support.

Charmaine Bentley[11:32:18 PM]: Students are not negative.

Patti Flanary[11:32:36 PM]: Have you started the process for either lesson with the students?

Charmaine Bentley[11:32:47 PM]: ... this is a positive ... given school climate.

Charmaine Bentley[11:32:56 PM]: First segment was this week ...

Charmaine Bentley[11:33:19 PM]: we started with the AP students and The Crucible

Patti Flanary[11:33:21 PM]: Great! If the students like it then the English teacher will like it too! I would think.

Patti Flanary[11:33:41 PM]: Have you gotten into the spreadsheet record keeping yet?

Charmaine Bentley[11:33:46 PM]: They bought in on the research model

Charmaine Bentley[11:34:11 PM]: spreadsheet was supposed to be today but school wide book report came first.

Charmaine Bentley[11:34:25 PM]: The spreadsheet is online ... it looks nice

Charmaine Bentley[11:34:44 PM]: Students can access/download from webpage that I have set up for teacher.

Charmaine Bentley[11:35:22 PM]: Teacher and Media Specialist both want to post products ... we are back to figuring out permissions and privacy issues.

Charmaine Bentley[11:36:14 PM]: Next week media specialist will add lesson on what goes into a presentation ... style ...

Patti Flanary[11:36:46 PM]: What worked really well? Do many of your students have at home access? Will the online spreadsheet, databases, and Citation Machine site be as much of a value to students if they don't have at home access?

Patti Flanary[11:37:28 PM]: Our previous media specialist used Big 6 with 3rd and 2nd. It was great.

Charmaine Bentley[11:37:42 PM]: Kids in our original attendance zone do for the most part (if not in their homes in those of the extended family)

Charmaine Bentley[11:37:55 PM]: The kids from Wilmer Hutchins do not.

Charmaine Bentley[11:38:22 PM]: It is a great resource and popular with the media specialists ... but

Patti Flanary[11:38:25 PM]: That is great! We are getting more and more access but I bet it is still about 1/2.

Charmaine Bentley[11:38:44 PM]: without some sort of training ... the students don't get it....

Charmaine Bentley[11:38:54 PM]: ... Big 6

Charmaine Bentley[11:39:07 PM]: ... hence the lesson for scaffolding ...

Patti Flanary[11:39:41 PM]: I know that the databases at our elementary school don't get much use. Yes, she had to train on Big 6, and of course was done at elementary level.

Charmaine Bentley[11:39:47 PM]: ... as for access ... it accentuates the divide between the two groups who still think of themselves as rivals.

Patti Flanary[11:40:20 PM]: :(that is sad. Do they have much access in public areas around town?

Charmaine Bentley[11:40:39 PM]: ... I have tried lessons on Big 6 ... without the templates and resources ... it does not work...

Charmaine Bentley[11:41:13 PM]: Wilmer and Hutchins may be incorporated but I don't think they can really be called downs ...

Patti Flanary[11:41:22 PM]: So, you think the online resources are going to work and support.

Charmaine Bentley[11:41:41 PM]: towns (not downs)...

Charmaine Bentley[11:42:28 PM]: I think if we can teach the kids to research (really) then they (and their teachers) will use the resources (including those that the district has gotten for them)

Patti Flanary[11:42:42 PM]: Got it! You did such a great job of leading this person into technology that she has totally taken over. If you were going to start with a different person, is there anything you would do differently next time?

Charmaine Bentley[11:43:00 PM]: the problem is / was the critical question ...

Charmaine Bentley[11:44:07 PM]: ... if you remember ... originally her focus was on the machinery ... :a drive ... now it is on learning/units/staff development AND students being successful at the college level.

Charmaine Bentley[11:44:30 PM]: ... worth sometimes my bruised nerves...

Patti Flanary[11:44:38 PM]: Much more where it should be if you ask me.

Charmaine Bentley[11:45:08 PM]: ... agreed ... my colleagues also would agree ...

Charmaine Bentley[11:45:31 PM]: it's just that they let themselves get bogged down with ...

Charmaine Bentley[11:45:44 PM]: petty details.

Patti Flanary[11:45:49 PM]: details and technology that does not always work!!!!

Patti Flanary[11:46:04 PM]: See, same problems no matter where you are.

Patti Flanary[11:46:40 PM]: But, you did it, if you were starting with someone else and mentoring them, is there anything you would do differently next time?

Charmaine Bentley[11:46:42 PM]: ... technology ... can solve problems with details ... with appropriate planning...

Charmaine Bentley[11:47:06 PM]: ... yes... if school had been in session ...

Charmaine Bentley[11:47:23 PM]: teacher would have been consulted through out the lesson ...

Charmaine Bentley[11:47:45 PM]: ... our next lesson is to include social studies teacher...

Patti Flanary[11:47:51 PM]: Looks like the teacher is in however, so it still seems to be working.

Patti Flanary[11:47:59 PM]: Expanding, great!

Patti Flanary[11:48:24 PM]: Will you use this lesson again? I know the answer to this one, yes you were smart and planned it so it could be modified.....

Charmaine Bentley[11:48:27 PM]: ... this one project should include at least 3 more teachers by Oct/Nov

Patti Flanary[11:48:44 PM]: That is so great!

Charmaine Bentley[11:49:16 PM]: ... I haven't seen this degree of excitement in a few years ...

Patti Flanary[11:49:19 PM]: You already said that the students were not negative. Did the students seem to find the lesson worthwhile? Do they understand a reason for research?

Charmaine Bentley[11:49:28 PM]: ... No

Patti Flanary[11:49:46 PM]: Can you think of anyway to overcome this problem?

Charmaine Bentley[11:50:34 PM]: ... teacher did not see connection between researching times and environment of play with "historical context" in teks...

Charmaine Bentley[11:50:54 PM]: ... patience ... scaffolding...

Patti Flanary[11:51:28 PM]: Hand them a copy of TEKS covered. I do sometimes. They need black and white...

Charmaine Bentley[11:51:28 PM]: ... appeals to teachers' foci/interest/"buttons"

Charmaine Bentley[11:51:48 PM]: ... I hate to tell you ...

Charmaine Bentley[11:52:08 PM]: ... step by step ... win acceptance ...

Patti Flanary[11:52:19 PM]: I am really happy to see that it is turning out so well. Looks like some good has come out of this class for you and your school.

Charmaine Bentley[11:52:43 PM]: then show how research confirms what they have "discovered" that works...

Charmaine Bentley[11:53:06 PM]: ... same principle as with some students...

Patti Flanary[11:53:08 PM]: It is a shame that we have to show sometimes, but whatever it takes.

Charmaine Bentley[11:54:14 PM]: ... this may not make sense but it is similar to the problem of multiplication tables and calculators ... does it really matter which comes first if understanding is achieved...

Patti Flanary[11:54:27 PM]: Hey, I agree!

Charmaine Bentley[11:54:47 PM]: Ready to take your turn?

Patti Flanary[11:54:55 PM]: Let's go!

Patti Flanary[11:55:08 PM]: I am starting to get sleepy here!

Charmaine Bentley[11:55:37 PM]: How did your lesson go?

Patti Flanary[11:56:12 PM]: It went great! Like always, it was rushed but I loved letting the teacher discover their own answers.

Charmaine Bentley[11:56:36 PM]: Which part did you think work really well?

Patti Flanary[11:57:03 PM]: I think all the research I did into adult learning helped to make a difference. Susan and I both have felt like there had to be a better way.

Patti Flanary[11:57:34 PM]: The teachers looking in help for their own answers.

Charmaine Bentley[11:57:42 PM]: Did you share what you learned through the research with your teachers.

Patti Flanary[11:58:08 PM]: It was interesting that one grade level jumped right in and did it. The other grade level was much more, just tell us what we need to know. We don't care.

Charmaine Bentley[11:58:31 PM]: Higher or lower?

Patti Flanary[11:59:13 PM]: No, only with Susan for the most part. I did mention that the handout was different because that was a better way for them to learn according to research and that we were to teach our kids to use help so we should be using help.

Charmaine Bentley[11:59:39 PM]: Which specific strategies did you find worked particularly well?

Patti Flanary[12:00:12 AM]: The lower grade level bought into using help much easier than the upper grade level. But, the lower grade level is more advanced using technology overall and have some real leaders in the areas of technology.

Charmaine Bentley[12:00:46 AM]: ... that makes sense..

Patti Flanary[12:01:46 AM]: Allowing them to work together in pairs. They were really brainstorming with each other for ideas and sharing those ideas. It was funny, it was almost like I lost the "teacher" part and they took over. That is really how it should be, but at one point I felt like if someone (admin) were to come in they would think I did not know what I was doing and they were teaching themselves.

Charmaine Bentley[12:02:35 AM]: ... a good admin would recognize what was going on ...

Patti Flanary[12:02:56 AM]: I know, but sometimes it is hard to get over that feeling. It was new for me in adult training.

Charmaine Bentley[12:03:04 AM]: ... this is what you had talked about in your conference...

Charmaine Bentley[12:03:35 AM]: ... pairing and transferring this sharing outside of the class ...

Patti Flanary[12:04:08 AM]: yes, the 1st grade were already discovering more on the 2nd day of school and sharing it with each other up and down the hall.

Charmaine Bentley[12:04:41 AM]: ... isn't that what it's all supposed to be about?

Patti Flanary[12:04:48 AM]: YES!

Patti Flanary[12:05:07 AM]: The down side of the training was that I was teaching something that I really did not know.

Patti Flanary[12:05:48 AM]: This has happened for the last few summers. New technology that I get to train over that I have not had enough time with myself.

Charmaine Bentley[12:05:49 AM]: ... was that your feeling ... or something you gathered during the training...

Patti Flanary[12:06:28 AM]: No, because much of it was real time in the software, we really did not know how some areas of the gradebook would look until school started.

Charmaine Bentley[12:07:09 AM]: ... we always must run to keep up ... did this hurt your students ...

Charmaine Bentley[12:07:27 AM]: ... were there questions y'all weren't able to resolve?

Patti Flanary[12:07:39 AM]: One example was the attendance, I told them what I had been told, you could not see the attendance for real because we were outside of school year officially. When it came up, it had totally different choices to pick from than I had told them.

Charmaine Bentley[12:08:44 AM]: ... were you able to model the problem solving techniques that you hoped to teach them?

Patti Flanary[12:08:46 AM]: Yes, it hurt them. I had some marking wrong because I could not tell them exactly what it would look like. I am not even sure if the decision had been made when we did our training. It just makes me frustrated sometimes to have to train this way, but I don't know what to do about it.

Patti Flanary[12:09:48 AM]: Yes, the problem solving went well. It was the other part of not knowing enough that I did not like. We have just had to have some mini lessons along the way. They understand. Just wish I could get it right the first time.

Patti Flanary[12:10:16 AM]: I also am offering follow up Friday and Tuesday for 3 week reports.

Charmaine Bentley[12:10:38 AM]: ... did it help you and the students to build empathy?

Patti Flanary[12:10:44 AM]: The decision was just made today on how we were going to do those reports.

Patti Flanary[12:11:00 AM]: empathy?

Charmaine Bentley[12:11:13 AM]: ... it sounds like you have already begun to come up with a solution.

Charmaine Bentley[12:11:33 AM]: ... sometimes, we as experts always seem to know the answers ...

Patti Flanary[12:11:50 AM]: Yes, but it is really not the one I would like. Next year could do a great job, but there will not be a next year.

Charmaine Bentley[12:12:00 AM]: ... and our colleagues don't realize that we must go through the same process as themselves.

Patti Flanary[12:12:14 AM]: NO, I never know all the answers and I don't mind telling them that!

Charmaine Bentley[12:12:48 AM]: We have a new lesson plan system ... it will not be available until late September...

Patti Flanary[12:12:54 AM]: I have worked with some who would never tell you they did not know. I started the training with it was going to be a lot of "I don't know, but will find out!"

Patti Flanary[12:13:04 AM]: What is it?

Charmaine Bentley[12:13:22 AM]: ... then you already have empathy with your students

Patti Flanary[12:13:45 AM]: What is the lesson plan system?

Charmaine Bentley[12:14:01 AM]: (being able to relate to the feelings of the other person ... putting yourself in the other person's shoes)

Charmaine Bentley[12:14:22 AM]: ... Oasis is out ... Curriculum Central is in (when we get it)

Charmaine Bentley[12:14:41 AM]: ... they had just completed a two year phase in of Oasis

Patti Flanary[12:14:59 AM]: I think they understand, it is just my feelings that bug me. I know that I really can't change anything. I am just glad they do understand. If they did not, then it would be much harder to train on software that is new.

Charmaine Bentley[12:15:35 AM]: ... in my district ... it is not the software ... it is the constant changes ... and the money...

Patti Flanary[12:15:36 AM]: I have never heard of either. I will have to check into them. Do all teachers use it or just a few?

Charmaine Bentley[12:16:23 AM]: All teachers will be required to use the system ... unless "blue ribbon" school

Patti Flanary[12:16:47 AM]: WOW! Do they like it or view it as a lot of trouble?

Charmaine Bentley[12:17:22 AM]: ... Our tech sup't just lost his job ... 'cos of fishing trips ... maybe the changes will slow down...

Charmaine Bentley[12:17:51 AM]: ... and someday ... we will get a new lab ... 'cos all tech funds have been frozen.

Patti Flanary[12:18:27 AM]: We have Informed Instruction for curriculum. We have changed many time too and teachers get so tired of what they feel is starting over.

Patti Flanary[12:18:54 AM]: We are looking for a new superintendent. Ours has left.

Charmaine Bentley[12:18:55 AM]: ... pairing, problem solving, sharing ... any other parts of the lesson that were particularly effective.

Charmaine Bentley[12:19:15 AM]: I know one that is looking for a job...

Patti Flanary[12:19:39 AM]: Yes, overall it was great. I will take the ideas I used in this adult training and use it them in other training.

Patti Flanary[12:19:52 AM]: You might want to pass the word, but I bet he knows.

Patti Flanary[12:20:03 AM]: she knows?

Charmaine Bentley[12:20:25 AM]: ... Is there anything you would have done differently ... (he)

Patti Flanary[12:21:04 AM]: Yes, allow more time. And of course known the software better, but that really was not possible in this setting.

Charmaine Bentley[12:21:40 AM]: ... time was something you mentioned in the preconf. ... could this have been changed?

Patti Flanary[12:21:56 AM]: They also put the fine arts and special teacher in with grade levels. Their setup was so different from the normal grade level teacher that it slowed down the instruction some.

Charmaine Bentley[12:22:31 AM]: ... so one change would be to have a special section for the fine arts and special teachers?

Patti Flanary[12:24:11 AM]: Yes, it maybe could have if I had realized how the principal had setup the day before. I could have put both grade levels together and then done specials together. The instruction would ahve gone faster that way. Also I ended up doing a very large group on just attendance. I did not even know about that group until day before. If I had know, we could have done them after school the first day and they could have seen what it really looked like and it would have gone better.

Charmaine Bentley[12:25:05 AM]: ... is there anything that could help improve admin communication for future workshops?

Patti Flanary[12:25:34 AM]: Because it will never be in masses like this again, it really does not matter. All we will have will be new teachers and they are few and far between.

Charmaine Bentley[12:26:24 AM]: ... so the problem won't be something you might have to deal with in the future for another kind of training?

Patti Flanary[12:27:04 AM]: Yes, it was not even until the day of the training that my principal said, I never asked you if you would do this training, just assumed you would. She usually is much better at communicating than this. I think I have been so focused on this class that I have not taken as much time for school stuff as normal.

Charmaine Bentley[12:27:38 AM]: ... makes sense...

Charmaine Bentley[12:27:59 AM]: Ok ... you will use this lesson again for new teachers?

Patti Flanary[12:28:04 AM]: No, not really. If it is, I will think it through better. One time we let them have us do everyone together in one session and it was terrible. This time I just knew I did not want that setup again.

Patti Flanary[12:28:35 AM]: Yes, we will if we have a large enough group. They do new teacher training before school starts and it will become a part of that training.

Charmaine Bentley[12:28:57 AM]: So ... the lesson will be used again?

Patti Flanary[12:29:38 AM]: The no not really was for the problem not being something I would have to deal with again. The yes was for using lesson again.

Patti Flanary[12:30:01 AM]: Think we got it all covered?

Charmaine Bentley[12:30:13 AM]: One more ...

Charmaine Bentley[12:30:26 AM]: Did the students seem to find the lesson worthwhile?

Patti Flanary[12:31:09 AM]: Yes, they have to use it, so it was something that they had to learn. It also is for their benefit so they like using it.

Charmaine Bentley[12:31:26 AM]: ... Very good

Charmaine Bentley[12:31:42 AM]: ... Do you have a plan for posting?

Patti Flanary[12:32:04 AM]: I say, copy, paste, save PDF and get out of here.

Patti Flanary[12:32:19 AM]: I am ready for bed.

Patti Flanary[12:32:28 AM]: What about you? Agree?

Charmaine Bentley[12:32:33 AM]: I shall send you the pdf.

Charmaine Bentley[12:32:35 AM]: Agreed

Patti Flanary[12:32:49 AM]: Only if you want, I don't mind doing it either.

Charmaine Bentley[12:33:09 AM]: Let us keep in touch. Thanks for all your help/support.