

Post-Observation Conference

Coaching Session #1 - Ashley as Coach, Dawn as Mentee

Ashley Coffman has joined the chat.

Dawn Shaw has joined the chat.

Ashley Coffman[9:31:13 PM]: Good evening!

Dawn Shaw[9:31:18 PM]: hello

Ashley Coffman[9:31:37 PM]: I can't believe we are already doing the post-conference. Seems like yesterday we were doing the pre!

Ashley Coffman[9:32:11 PM]: I guess just discuss how our mentoring experiences went. I'll start as the coach if you would like.

Dawn Shaw[9:32:27 PM]: That works for me!

Ashley Coffman[9:32:53 PM]: Okay, how do you feel about your first mentoring experience?

Ashley Coffman[9:33:03 PM]: What were some positives and some negatives?

Dawn Shaw[9:34:10 PM]: I think it went great--especially since we are like Siamese twins when it comes to teaching. The next mentoring experience will be harder since I won't know her or her style as well.

Dawn Shaw[9:34:43 PM]: Positives- think alike, know what we wanted, knew how to get there, and can schedule however we want

Ashley Coffman[9:35:16 PM]: It's nice when you are on the same page...

Dawn Shaw[9:35:29 PM]: Negatives- hard to create the goals at first, we put the technology in and had to take it out to focus on the skill

Ashley Coffman[9:35:52 PM]: Did you successfully reach your goals set for yourself?

Dawn Shaw[9:36:22 PM]: another negative could be is that I did know her and may not have experienced some of the cognitive coaching techniques that I needed to practice.

Dawn Shaw[9:36:33 PM]: Yes- I believe I did.

Ashley Coffman[9:37:14 PM]: Did your mentee reach her goals?

Dawn Shaw[9:38:22 PM]: yes. She came out with a plan that will work at the level we prepared it for and will work for the high school level as well. Just make writing assignment more involved. She is excited to teach the databases.

Ashley Coffman[9:38:39 PM]: When will your mentee implement her lesson?

Dawn Shaw[9:40:13 PM]: I believe that she will try to begin in mid September. She will probably do the high school first and then our level. I will be helping her and it seems that I always have a little more time to work in other buildings at the beginning of the year.

Ashley Coffman[9:40:55 PM]: Is there any area that your mentee feels uncomfortable with at this point?

Dawn Shaw[9:42:09 PM]: I don't think so. She is always willing to try things. I talked her into all kinds of things when she taught 4th reading and writing. I had her doing html with her students. She love implementing technology whenever she can.

Ashley Coffman[9:42:22 PM]: That's good!

Dawn Shaw[9:42:57 PM]: You have asked some fantastic questions. Good coaching.

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Ashley Coffman[9:43:09 PM]: As far as mentoring strategies, is there anything you would differently next time around?

Ashley Coffman[9:45:06 PM]: Wow...just saw I forgot a word in that last question...anything you would DO differently

Dawn Shaw[9:46:24 PM]: I am more prepared as what to expect, especially where writing the goals are concerned. I am glad that I worked with someone I knew well so I wasn't afraid to step out. I will make sure that I talk to my mentee a lot more, and try to do it in a professional environment-like school. I will probably not try to do it as cognitively, may use more suggestions to guide.

Ashley Coffman[9:47:27 PM]: Good...and finally, what is one thing you want to work on most in the second course?

Dawn Shaw[9:48:24 PM]: I really want to work on building trust (someone new), and my listening skills.

Ashley Coffman[9:49:14 PM]: Good answers.

Ashley Coffman[9:49:34 PM]: I guess I'll take the hot seat now!

Coaching Session #2 - Dawn as Coach, Ashley as Mentee

Dawn Shaw[9:50:05 PM]: okie dokie I have to think of some questions!

Dawn Shaw[9:50:25 PM]: This should be the final question, but I will ask it first.

Dawn Shaw[9:51:07 PM]: What is the one (best) thing you took from your first mentoring experience?

Ashley Coffman[9:53:24 PM]: Just the satisfaction I got from helping my mentee take the next step with technology. She is a very traditional teacher - notes, homework, quiz (the norm in most math classes) so it was really fun to help her think outside of the box.

Dawn Shaw[9:53:57 PM]: How do you think your mentee felt about being guided? What were her positive or negative experiences?

Ashley Coffman[9:56:06 PM]: She was really thankful to have someone knowledgeable to help her with the technology. The negative experience was probably all the textbook lingo that I pushed on her. She kept saying that she felt like she was back in a college education course.

Ashley Coffman[9:56:29 PM]: I had to do a lot of clarifying!

Dawn Shaw[9:56:52 PM]: What positive and negative experiences did you have?

Ashley Coffman[9:58:49 PM]: Positives - satisfaction of helping mentee and learning things from my mentee

Ashley Coffman[9:59:26 PM]: Negatives - developing a pre-calculus lesson (it was way over my head)

Dawn Shaw[9:59:35 PM]: Do you feel you reached your professional goal(s)?

Dawn Shaw[10:00:35 PM]: I think it is hard for us to step outside the box as well-not knowing a subject makes it hard to help plan a lesson--even though we don't have to be experts in every field.

Ashley Coffman[10:01:13 PM]: Well, my first goal was developing questioning techniques and I can definitely say I have improved. However, there is still a long way to go. Right now I still have to prepare questions beforehand and I'm not very good about "thinking on my feet" during a session. I need to work on spontaneity next time around.

Dawn Shaw[10:01:35 PM]: I can identify with that.

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Dawn Shaw[10:03:03 PM]: Besides developing your questioning techniques, what else do you feel you need to work (or build) upon in the next session?

Ashley Coffman[10:03:46 PM]: My second goal was to develop mentee's confidence and independence using technology to enhance lessons...since she hasn't implemented this lesson yet or created any additional technology-infused lessons, I can't really judge the success of this goal yet.

Dawn Shaw[10:03:59 PM]: How will you let teachers know you are available as a coach and mentor to help them integrate technology into their curriculum?

Ashley Coffman[10:04:41 PM]: Other than spontaneity of questions, I really need to work on being a better listener.

Dawn Shaw[10:05:12 PM]: When is your mentee going to implement her plan, and are you going to work with her?

Ashley Coffman[10:05:15 PM]: I start thinking of my next question when my mentee is still answering the last.

Dawn Shaw[10:05:44 PM]: That is something I need to work on as well. Listen then think.

Ashley Coffman[10:06:16 PM]: She probably will not implement it until December or January (a long time away I know). She is at a different school but I will definitely try to be there for her as much as possible.

Ashley Coffman[10:06:58 PM]: I can't wait to see this lesson in action!

Dawn Shaw[10:07:36 PM]: I would like to know how it goes. It sounds cool.

Ashley Coffman[10:08:21 PM]: Way over my head....I'm hoping some of the student's presentations and models will help me understand it. :)

Dawn Shaw[10:08:30 PM]: I guess that is all the questions I have for you. Oh--what about letting teachers know you are available?

Ashley Coffman[10:08:57 PM]: You mean for the upcoming school year?

Dawn Shaw[10:09:47 PM]: Yes. I asked another question before you answered that one. I wasn't applying my listening skills. Well, I said that was a goal to be worked on.

Ashley Coffman[10:10:04 PM]: I am going to talk to my principal and see if I could make an announcement during one of the staff development sessions in August.

Dawn Shaw[10:10:27 PM]: I am sure they will take you up on your offer.

Dawn Shaw[10:10:41 PM]: Hopefully the teachers will as well.

Ashley Coffman[10:11:00 PM]: I hope so! It would be nice to do this on a full-time basis.

Dawn Shaw[10:11:56 PM]: I sort of do now - but unofficially. I go around my building and ask what are you doing? Do you want to add some technology?

Ashley Coffman[10:12:51 PM]: That's cool...this year I will finally have time to do that. I've been coaching soccer and advising yearbook for the past five years....didn't have a lot of free time!

Dawn Shaw[10:13:06 PM]: Some only want to do it after TAKS. They need to realize they have time before--students love learning with tech.

Ashley Coffman[10:14:13 PM]: And I bet there are tons of technology lessons focused on preparing for TAKS.

Dawn Shaw[10:14:14 PM]: I have to send any pics I take on my campuses to yearbook, but I don't create any of it. Just work on her computers from time to time.

Ashley Coffman[10:14:46 PM]: it's a big job -- I am continuing as yearbook adviser but retired from coaching.

Dawn Shaw[10:15:08 PM]: There really are, and the teachers that get it, get it. There are so many ways to cover objectives in any subject.

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Ashley Coffman[10:15:51 PM]: It just takes time and a desire to learn something new -- unfortunately, not all teachers have both!

Dawn Shaw[10:16:18 PM]: Desire is the key.

Ashley Coffman[10:27:00 PM]: Well, I think we did a good job on the post-conference.

Dawn Shaw[10:27:35 PM]: I think we did too. Thanks for the extra work.

Ashley Coffman[10:30:05 PM]: Talk to you later! Good night!

Dawn Shaw[10:30:11 PM]: bye

Dawn Shaw has left the chat.