

Facilitator Guide

Cultivating a Culture of Instructional Inquiry Key Leadership Actions

Order these key actions from 1-4 with 1 being the easiest to accomplish, 4 being the most challenging in your school.

_____ **Teach:** Help teachers understand (teach/educate) the importance of a culture of instructional inquiry to the improvement of student learning; make regular connections between student learning and prior instruction;

_____ **Engage:** Engage teachers in instructional inquiry during staff meetings, professional development, teacher evaluation, teacher team meetings, mentoring/coaching/peer observation (manage and gradually increase comfort in making practice public)

_____ **Model:** Model a culture of inquiry with respect to your leadership practices by engaging in inquiry involving schoolwide issues that require attention.

_____ **Reinforce:** Privately and as appropriate publicly praise/cheerlead/reinforce instances of instructional inquiry.

Which is your easiest? Give an example of how you do this or plan to address it at your school.

Which is the most challenging? Why?

Unclear about which best practices address it. Not sure how to address it. Culture or collective bargaining doesn't support it...

Brainstorm where you can get support for it.

How did you incorporate these key leadership actions when you closed your school because of the pandemic?

I engaged staff in conversations about how we could best serve student learning, physical, social and emotional needs during school closures.

I communicated ISBE expectations for student learning during the school closures and asked for staff feedback on needs, progress and successes.

I conducted virtual staff meetings on a regular basis to keep everyone informed and connected.

I held "Friday Favorites" virtual meetings where teachers shared encouraging examples of their successes with student learning, family communications, etc.

I reached out to every family to inquire how we could best serve them during the closures.