

Wheeler Middle School 6th Grade Dept. Meeting Suggestion Survey:

Timestamp	Teacher Name	What are your strengths as an English teacher?	What are your strengths as a Social Studies teacher?	What skills or strategies do you feel that you could use help in?	Are there any strategies or curricular tools that you would feel comfortable teaching others about?	What do you think we could incorporate into our monthly department meetings to maximize our abilities to increase student success?	How can your department heads facilitate the meetings to make them as effective and efficient as possible?
9/16/2015 14:01:11	A	I am not teaching ELA this year.	behavior management, writing, discussion skills, high expectations	connecting to students, engagement	behavior management, discussion skills	time to share strategies, vertically align	Doing what they are doing by sharing an agenda prior to the meeting
9/16/2015 14:25:34	B	Behavior management and student relationship building.	I would say my strength is clarity, as well as behavior management and relationship building.	I could probably use skills or strategies related to class discussions.	I would be happy to try to share anything I know with others.	I would like to focus on writing but also not forget about reading!	I think they're doing a nice job!
9/16/2015 14:28:45	H	I think that my greatest strength right now is in writing. I enjoy teaching writing structure and helping students think of better ways to craft and essay, and I have seen improvement over the course of the quarter.	I absolutely love the actual teaching/lecture aspect of social studies. I've worked hard to make it interactive and interesting and my students seem to be enjoying it more. I'm trying to incorporate tangible real world examples into the curriculum which I've seen increase engagement.	Behavior Management! Make them stop talking!	I think I've had success delivering the actual curriculum and thinking of fun projects for my students to do.	I'd like to collaborate on our GLO reflections so that we can share the resources we have.	Super awesome meeting agendas like this one's help!
9/24/2015 15:34:18	W	I think I'm strong in discussion, building relationships with my students (which assists in my behavior management), and engaging my students in critical thinking skills	N/A	Writing and reading. I know how to write well, but I need assistance/strategies in targeting grammar/conventions as well as how to differentiate reading/writing with my students.	Not that I can think of...	Differentiation. I think this is the most difficult aspect of teaching and something I personally struggle with.	I think they are doing an excellent job as is.
10/19/2015 20:45:58	M	differentiating reading and writing	Breaking down difficult tasks	discussion skills	fluency tests	discussing the novels and themes that each grade level is working	provide an agenda and continuing being the All-Stars

Comment [1]: In order to prepare for future department meetings, my co-head and I sent a survey to the department to get an idea of what they want from the meetings. I took this idea from TFA, we are planning having jump sessions in the future where teachers can help their coworkers with understanding things they may want help with.

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10/20/2015 8:23:30	T	Thinking of interesting connections between ELA and SS. Making work meaningful.	Thinking of interesting connections between ELA and SS. Making work meaningful.	Curriculum that is more like a textbook with multiple points of entry and assessments.	Not that I can think of.	Not sure.	Sorry but I don't know. I think the biggest issue we are facing though in both departments is "What exactly are we trying to teach our students and why?" I know we are all feeding them information that is useful, but I wonder if an education doesn't drastically vary from classroom to classroom - not in terms of quality, but in terms of amount and what information.
10/20/2015 8:55:08	Lindsay Kawano	Discussion skills, writing	Discussion skills	Behavior Management, differentiating rigor	I am still learning! I would love to learn about new tools.	Share out of strategies that have worked in classrooms.	Make a section for questions in meeting notes
10/20/2015 9:05:53	Lauren Hauck	I am good at leading discussions and getting my students to delve deeply into the text.	I am good at helping my students apply the things we learn in Hawaiian history to other real-world applications.	Classroom management and differentiating material	Close reading, discussion techniques (socratic sem, etc)	Realistic ways to deal with unruly students without disrupting class further	Make agendas, and follow them (you're doing great!)
10/20/2015 9:41:16	Scott Hamilton	Discussion Skills and Behavior Management.	Discussion skills, promoting interest, behavior management.	Reading, and writing. How to make it more effective.	N/A.	How to create engaging lesson plans that promote student interest. I learned about some techniques like philosophical chairs, and socratic seminar. I really want to incorporate more of these activities to keep the students interested and heavily engaged.	Keep doing you. Y'all are awesome.

Comment [2]: This was a useful conversation point for future department meetings.

Comment [3]: This is easily remedied.