



MENTORING NEWSLETTER

A guide to working with mentees at your school site



Community credit union

FLORIDA

December 2023

Hello, BPS mentors.

I hope your Thanksgiving week was enjoyable. Winter break will be here in a blink of an eye! This is a really busy time of year for everyone, so please take more time than the "how's it going?" moment in the hallway to see how your mentee is doing. Before winter break, schedule a time to reflect together on the first semester -- what has worked and where things need to be tweaked starting in January.

Let your mentees know that January can be a clean slate for classroom management with regard to implementing and consistently monitoring policies and procedures. Every one of our new teachers needs to hear this before they leave.

January is also the start of the upswing in new teacher attitudes!

- Please remember to check the Induction Roster and verify that all your new teachers are listed with a mentor. If mentors have changed, please note that. If any new teachers have resigned, please list their end date. Do not remove from the Induction Roster. Also, please make sure that you upload a new induction agreement to your school's Google site, if the mentee has changed mentors. If you have any questions, please reach out to Teri Jabbari at x11237.

1. **Personal:** Help new teachers be aware that conflicting priorities and possible concerns about money, family, and holiday arrangements are normal at this point. If your mentee is a young adult, this may be their first time balancing the possibility of all the holiday stress - the positives and the challenges.

2. **Professional:** Share the list of professional development trainings and certification information included in this newsletter with your new teacher.

3. **Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment:** Explain that the days before the winter break have the potential to be lost instructional time. Guide them in planning meaningful and engaging learning

4. Organizational Systems: Discuss the dilemma of the piles of papers that have accumulated on shelves, in boxes, and on the edge of desks. Give the gift of plastic garbage bags and help the new teachers figure out what to discard and what to file.

5. Students: A.) Advise your mentees that the holidays can be either joyful or stressful for students and that either emotion can negatively impact their focus on school and learning. B.) Instruct the new teachers to be sensitive to the religious and ethnic diversity of the students so that they will not make references to only the celebrations in which they participate. C.) Let new teachers know NOT to penalize students for decisions made by adult family members about school attendance. Help your new teacher navigate in this area.

6. Colleagues: Ask colleagues to assist in providing moral support to new teachers who are going through “the slump” and need personal and professional support.

7. School Systems: A.) Go over policies for holiday decorations, celebrations, and gifts. B.) Preview semester exam policies and procedures.

8. Parents and Community: Alert new teachers about the various religious holidays, rituals, and festivities, in which students, parents, and community members engage. New teachers from other areas of the country may well be unaware of all the significant religious observances that occur during this time period.

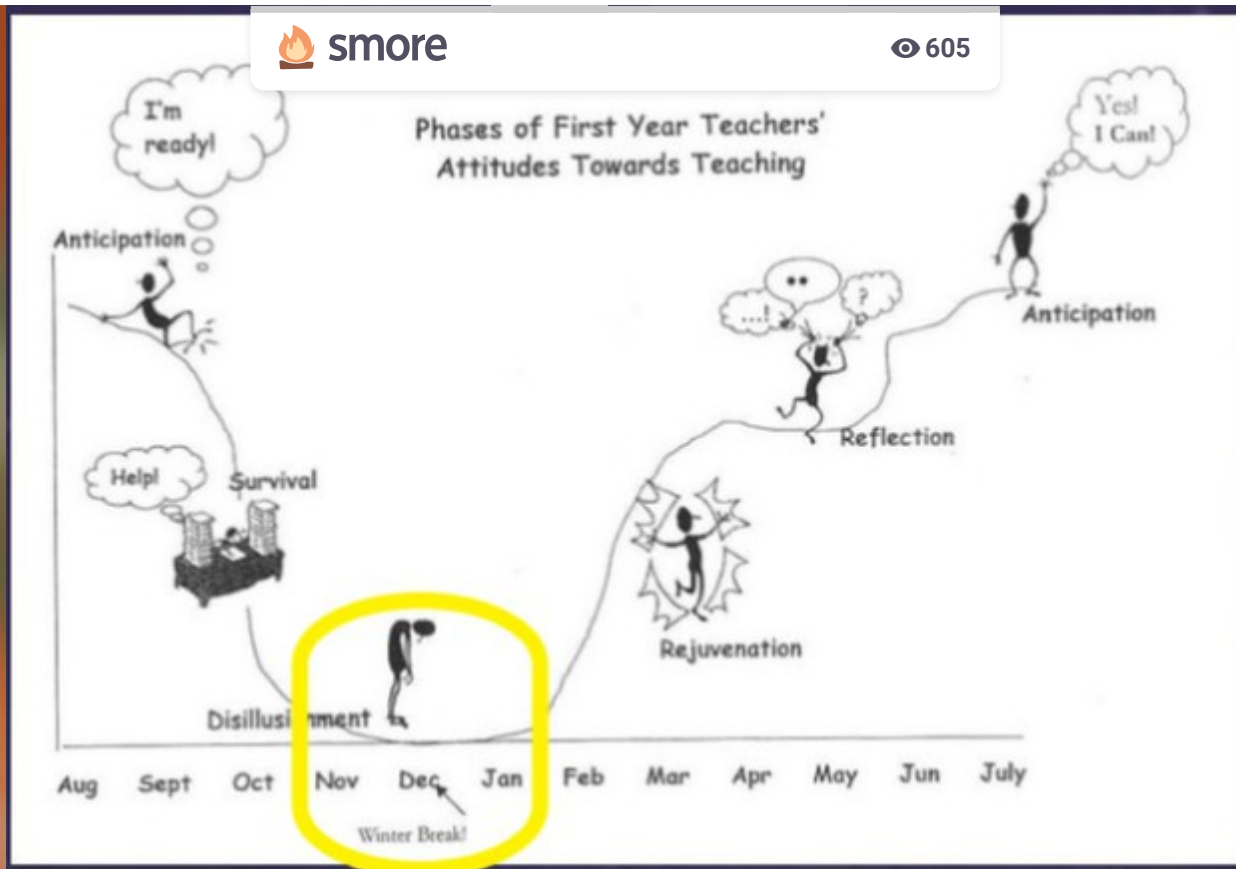
***Special Educators:** Review systems for documenting student progress and assist in revision or refinement as necessary. Use student work to analyze actual student progress.

As always, thank you so much for your hard work in supporting our new teachers. Have a wonderful holiday season!

-Bridget Reed

reed.bridget@brevardschools.org

Breakdown and suggestions taken from Paula Rutherford's Just Ask Publications



★★★★★ Don't forget to let your new teacher know
how awesome they are before winter break!



New Teacher Trainings - Mentors, please share with your mentees

New Teacher Academy.

New Teacher Academy will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2024, starting at 8:00 a.m. (breakfast 8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.), ending at 3:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at Clearlake Adult Education Center. Schools will be responsible for covering classes and providing substitute teachers.

New Teacher Academy is for teachers new to Brevard Public Schools that have not previously attended New Teacher Academy. All teachers on a temporary certificate must attend one session of New Teacher Academy (State Statute 1012.56) while in induction. This includes Classroom Teachers, School Counselors, School Social Workers, and Speech Language Pathologists. The focus is on classroom teacher training for those on a temporary teaching certificate or new classroom teachers on a regular certificate that are participating in the induction program. The training is designed around instructional strategies for the classroom, classroom management, and teaching diverse learners.

Participants can register in Frontline by searching New Teacher Academy February 2024.

The target audience is educators who are interested in learning structures • A variety of instructional strategies that engage students and support instructional outcomes • Strategies to provide timely and consistent feedback.

Date: January 18, 2024

Place: ESF/Training Rooms 5/6, 2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera 32940

Time: 8:30-3:30

Managing Behavior in School Communities

This four-session course presents research on a variety of behaviors and provides educators with effective strategies for managing behaviors across the general education environment. Skills gained in this program will enable teachers to manage undesirable behaviors exhibited by some students while simultaneously maintaining a safe environment with higher behavior standards for all students. Participants will receive information, tools and skills they need to prevent a great deal of undesirable behaviors, and/or to manage this behavior when it arises. Participants are required to attend all four sessions. Please sign up in Frontline.

Dates: December 13, 2023, January 10, 2024, January 17, 2024, January 24, 2024

Instructors: Karrie Hieber and Vanessa Skipper

Place: ESF/Training Rooms 3/4, 2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera 32940

Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

If you have any questions on the listed courses posted above, please contact Teri Jabbari at ext. 11237 or jabbari.teresa@brevardschools.org

Classroom Management Professional Learning

CHAMPS -Classroom Management, Elementary- 3 day training

1/16, 1/23, and 1/30 8:30 - 3:30 pm

DISC/CHAMPS -Classroom Management, Secondary- 3 day training

1/17, 1/24, and 2/6 8:30–3:30 pm

If you have any questions on CHAMPS, please contact Lisa Stanley at ext. 11243 or stanley.lisa@brevardschools.org

FDLRS

Check out **professional learning opportunities** provided by **FDLRS East**. You can find our updated list of offerings for Accommodations, Universal Design for Learning, Strategic Instruction Model, Learning Ally and the BEESS Professional Learning Alternatives both Facilitated and Independent Courses. **Please visit our website at www.fdlrseast.org.**

Go to **Frontline** and search the name of the training or **FDLRS** to register. If you have any questions or need support, please reach out to our FDLRS East team.

Heather Theobald - theobald.heather@brevardschools.org

Renee Smith – smith.renee@brevardschools.org

Shane Starrak – starrak.shane@brevardschools.org

Learning Ally Great Reading Games

The Great Reading Games will take place from January 8-February 23, 2024.

This is a 7-week reading event to help educators engage students and increase reading stamina.

Top schools can e
below for more de



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<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NsgQJQ8m4zmzZ8UOTR65u19gjitiL8ssSrPZmtTMRk8/edit>

Please contact starrak.shane@brevardschools.org for more information about how to sign up!

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Reading, ESOL, and Gifted Endorsement Program Online Courses Winter 2024

Endorsement courses will begin on January 16, 2024 and end March 22, 2024. Enrollment for winter endorsement courses opened in Frontline on November 13, 2023. Enrollment for courses closes on January 10, 2024. Teachers will find courses in Frontline by going to the Activity Catalog>BPS Professional Learning Catalog>then typing Winter 2024 in the search term. Teachers can also use the Advanced Search by clicking on Category and using Reading, ESOL, HB7069 (Reading Comp 2 and 4 are under this category) or Gifted.

Spring/Summer endorsement courses will begin on April 1, 2024 and end June 7, 2024. Enrollment for spring courses will open up on February 12, 2024. Spring/Summer gifted courses have a slightly different schedule.

If you have any questions on the reading, ESOL, or gifted courses, please contact Lynnette Thorstensen at ext. 11175 or thorstensen.lynnette@brevardschools.org

GEAR UP!

Mentor/Mentee Symposium

Let's start 2024 off strongly!
Bring your new teachers and enjoy an evening of tips
that will make next year an AWESOME one

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 22, 2024

Time: 4:30pm - 7:00pm
(4:30 – 5:00 – Check In and
light dinner fare)
Location: Viera High School
Media Center

More info in Dec. 4th's LTP
and via email!
Stay tuned!

✓ ✓ ✓ Important Certification Information - Mentors please share!

Certification Newsflash: Temporary Certificate Expiring June 30, 2024

Reminder: It is that time of year for those educators who hold a FL DOE five-year Professional Certificate that will expire on 6.30.2024 to renew their certificate! Our District deadline is April 1, 2024, which will align with the reappointment process. Your school/department secretary has received the directions, and you may obtain the required Payroll and District Security forms from them. Please do not delay the renewal process as the FDOE may take up to 4 months to renew certificates.

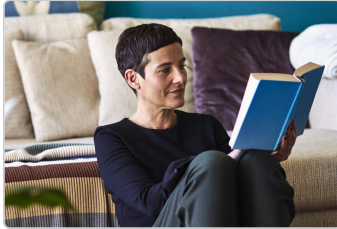
For those educators who have submitted the required documents to our office and have completed the FDOE renewal application Frontline will be available to our Certification staff beginning December 1, 2023, and all renewal processing with the FDOE will begin soon thereafter.

You must have a total of 120 in-service points including 20 in SWD (teaching Students With Disabilities) earned and/or banked during your validity period. If you need additional in-service points please email [Itzel Copley](#) in our Professional Development and Learning office for options available to you. If you need further information, please email [Sharon Doucett-Doran](#) or [Raquel Figueroa](#).

<https://www.fldoe.org/teaching/certification/on-line-application-status-lookup-site.stml>



inducton page



Practicing self-care: 5 tips for teachers

Learn five self-care routines for teachers. Get tips for how to practice self-care during busy teaching days.

understood.org



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Teresa Jabbari

Teresa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

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Smore empowers educators to connect with their community, streamline school communications, and increase engagement.

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