The Fundamentals of FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

K–3 presented by Stefane Beddard
4–8 presented by Pat Pollack

Friday, December 6, 2019
7:30–8:00 registration and breakfast
8:00–1:00 workshops
Marriott | Twin City Quarter
425 North Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

“Formative assessment isn’t an end in itself, but the beginning of better instruction.”
– Carol Ann Tomlinson

A critical issue in education today, as well as one of North Carolina’s ELA 12 Instructional Practices, is the importance of using formative assessments to better understand students’ needs, inform instruction, and monitor students’ growth.

Formative assessments give teachers ongoing and up-to-date data they can use to decide what type of support each student needs—while learning is actually in progress. When teachers involve their students in the formative assessment process, students become more motivated to actively self-monitor and engage in their learning.

During this workshop, we will discuss the types of student information that teachers need to collect in order to support students’ development into self-directed, mindful readers. These categories of information include:

- Reader identity: What are students’ attitudes toward reading? What motivates students to read? What reading habits and behaviors do they exhibit?
- Reading process: Are students integrating information from all cueing systems to build understanding? Do students self-monitor? Do students read fluently and with expression?
- Word-solving: Do students quickly identify and/or decode words? Are students using context clues, word parts, or other resources to learn new vocabulary?
• Making meaning: How do students engage with texts before, during, and after reading? Do students have a purpose for reading? Do students use their prior knowledge to make connections and enhance meaning?
• Early literacy skills K–2 (concepts of print, letter knowledge, phonological awareness): What do students know about how print works?

We will also examine tools and techniques that are student-focused, instructionally informative, and outcome-based as we learn more about how formative assessment:

• Allows for differentiated instruction
• Encourages teachers and students to work together to reach learning goals
• Increases student engagement and motivation
• Is an integral part of the teaching-learning cycle
• Provides continual information on students’ progress
• Increases coherence between curriculum, instruction, and assessment

Teachers will experience how Schoolwide's resources can help support North Carolina's ELA 12 Instructional Practices. Each participant will receive a copy of Schoolwide's professional learning text What You Need to Know About Reading Assessment, which includes multiple means and measures of data collection that will enable teachers to offer meaningful, responsive instruction and to continually monitor student learning and growth. Teachers will also have opportunities to work with and learn about our digital platform, Fundamentals Unlimited. This dynamic, teacher-friendly database includes thousands of resources to support teachers as they reflect upon how to gather relevant information about their students and identify tools that will help them understand each learner’s strengths and needs.

$149 Per Participant

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