

Teaching with a Literacy Lens

Entry Points for Secondary Mentors

Many new teachers struggle with building academic literacy. This **two-day workshop** refines and extends mentor practice that helps teachers improve literacy instruction. Secondary mentors (grades 6–12) will benefit from examining unique strengths and challenges of new single-subject teachers as well as the adolescent students they teach.

Participants will work with mentoring tools designed to support:

1. Assessment of secondary content-area student needs prior to designing instruction,
2. In-class observation of lesson to assess influences on students' academic literacy development,
3. Application of strategies that build academic literacy,
4. Collaboration among colleagues that benefit student cohorts and the entire learning community.

Who Should Attend

Secondary grade-level mentors (grades 6–12), subject matter coaches, teacher leaders, cooperating teachers, intern supervisors, principals, and administrators of induction programs that support beginning teachers.

Outcomes

Teaching with a Literacy Lens helps participants:

- Understand the critical role of literacy development for ensuring adolescent students' access and engagement in content learning
- Explore motivation theory relative to advancing adolescent literacy
- Use assessments to inform planning differentiated instruction
- Enhance skill in coaching for comprehension and vocabulary development
- Use the inquiry cycle and formative assessments to support teacher development
- Refine and extend observing and conferencing skills

Materials

Participants will receive formative assessment and other literacy resources such as:

- Pre-assessment tools
- Lesson planning and instructional grouping tools
- Academic literacy observation tool
- Flexible grouping observation tool
- Class profile tool
- Articles that support inquiry and decision-making for grade-level and/or departmental teaching teams