



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Rounds as a Model of Professional Development

Jacob Hiatt Magnet School, Massachusetts

Topic: Increased Learning Time: Beyond the Regular School Day

Practice: Organize Instruction

Jacob Hiatt Magnet School emphasizes a “teachers teaching teachers” professional development model using “rounds” to facilitate monthly sessions for teachers to share insight and instructional strategies, particularly relating to the school’s academic focus of improved student success on open response questions.

“Rounds” engage small groups of teachers in understanding the teaching-learning process at work within a particular classroom. Rounds are pre-arranged, with the group receiving an orientation regarding the classroom activity from the host teacher, observing and/or participating in some well-defined way, and reflecting and discussing it afterwards. A round might focus on a particular area of teaching practice, an approach to implementing a particular curriculum, understanding children’s learning process and knowledge-building in a particular context, or any combination of these domains. Round questions focus on the critical areas and priorities in teaching-learning and guide the post-round reflection.

Districts, schools, and professional development providers can use this tool to identify and design professional development activities.

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SAMPLE ROUNDS SHEET

Instructional Focus Statement

All students will show measurable growth in their ability to read and respond to open response questions, using details and relevant information from all text for support. Teachers will implement writing strategies for open response questions to support our instructional focus. Success will be measured by student performance on MCAS 4 point rubric and school performance-based writing assessments.

Name _____

Grade Level _____

Date _____

Objective:

Procedure:

Points to Consider/Questions: