

# The Benefits and Best Practices of Teacher Coaching

Coaching is a proven way to build the competencies and capabilities of teachers. Effective, job-embedded professional learning that includes teacher coaching will improve the quality of instruction.

## 4 Benefits of Teacher Coaching

1

### Long-Term Gains in Student Reading Achievement



"A literacy program with a strong coaching component helped increase student literacy by 16 percent in its first year, 28 percent in its second year, and 32 percent in the third..."<sup>1</sup>

2

### Rapid Growth in Teacher Effectiveness

"The increase in student achievement from coaching is on par with the gain researchers typically see from students of a veteran teacher with five to 10 years of experience compared to a novice teacher."<sup>2</sup>



3

### Robust Increase in Skill Adoption



"When teachers were given only a description of new instructional skills, only 10% used the skill in the classroom... However, when coaching was added to the staff development, approximately 90% of the teachers implemented the new skills in their classrooms."<sup>3</sup>

4

### Decrease in Racial Disparity in the Classroom



"...after one year of coaching, [teachers] reduced the racial discipline gap between Black students and students from other racial/ethnic groups..."<sup>4</sup>

## 5 Research-Based Best Practices for Coaching

### Provide sufficient time to work with teachers.

"Rivera, Burley, and Sass (2004) found that increased levels of direct coach-teacher interaction and ongoing engagement in coaching activities were strong predictors of instructional changes in the classroom."<sup>6</sup>

### Provide proven research-based interventions.

"If instructional coaches are going to make a difference in the way teachers teach, they need to have scientifically proven practices to share."<sup>7</sup>

### Provide professional development for instructional coaches.

"Coaches need to understand the interventions they are sharing, and they need to understand how to productively employ the coaching process."<sup>7</sup>

### Embed instructional coaching within professional development.

"Embedding instructional coaching in the district's larger professional development system allows stakeholders at various levels of the system to engage in learning and allocate resources in coherent ways."<sup>5</sup>

### Use data to inform coaching.

Coaches must have access to student data and observational data. They must "be able to see the data, analyze the data, and then take that next step of answering the question of 'so what.'"<sup>8</sup>

## Develop Teachers' Skills & Improve Student Outcomes Faster with CORE and digiCOACH

Now available from CORE, digiCOACH is a complete coaching system that provides administrators and instructional coaches with a simple yet powerful platform to facilitate the development of teachers' instructional skills and inform job-embedded professional learning. Through constructive feedback and targeted coaching, facilitated by digiCOACH's data collection tools, built-in reports and research-based recommendations, teachers can improve their practice and classroom outcomes faster and with more confidence.



Learn More!

CORE<sup>®</sup>

digiCOACH

#### Sources:

1. *New studies highlight benefits of teacher coaching.* University of Chicago Press Journals. September 14, 2010.
2. *Does every teacher need a coach?* The Hechinger Report. March 5, 2018.
3. Jake Cornett and Jim Knight. *Research on Coaching.* In Jim Knight, Ed., Coaching Approaches and Perspectives. Corwin: 2009.
4. *Closing the Discipline Gap in Classrooms by Changing Teacher Practice.* Anne Gregory, Ph.D., et al. February 10, 2017.
5. *Professional Development Strategies That Improve Instruction.* Annenberg Institute for School Reform.
6. *Instructional Coaching: Key Themes from the Literature.* Borman, Jennifer and Feger, Stephanie. 2006.
7. *Instructional Coaching.* The School Superintendents Association.
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