



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 25, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: K-3 Instructional Coaches, K-3 Administrators
From: Cary A. Booker, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Early Childhood Services

K-3 Coaches' Corner and Professional Development Consortiums

The Office of K-3 Education has started a [K-3 Coaches' Corner](#) on the Division of Early Childhood Services website to complement the work of the NJDOE K-3 Coaching Consortium. This will contain ongoing support for K-3 Instructional Coaches and provide access to valuable resources. The resources will be highly advantageous to Instructional Coaches from various types of classroom settings (General Education, Special Education, Inclusion, Multilingual, etc.) and providing access to ongoing professional development and enabling collegial learning.

The K-3 Coaches' Corner will enable teachers and administrators to access developmentally appropriate teaching practices for grades K-3. Information will include high-quality K-3 coaching practices that are inclusive, equitable, and research-based for all students. The K-3 Coaches' Corner houses NJDOE PowerPoints for K-3 Instructional Coaches, Coaching information (description of a coach's role, Reflective Coaching Model, articles, and national resource links). K-3 exemplar video gallery of Instructional Coaches using the Reflective Coaching Cycle (coaching lessons, coaching conferences, and coaches providing professional development) will be coming soon.

The K-3 New Jersey Coaching Consortium sessions are offered yearly and extend the opportunity for all new and veteran instructional coaches of Grades K-3 to be part of the virtual statewide Coaching Consortium for the **2024-2025** school year. This opportunity will give Instructional Coaches the chance to network with other Instructional Coaches around the state and to attend professional development. These sessions will enable Instructional Coaches to share ideas, to investigate best practices and to exchange developmentally appropriate K-3 resources. Please register for the coaching consortiums on the [NJDOE Calendar of Events](#) webpage.

New Coaches-Coaching under 3 years

The same registered Instructional Coach is encouraged to attend all three virtual series professional development sessions.

Time: 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

October 25, 2024 - *The Role of a K-3 Instructional Coach*

Participants will learn how to establish an effective coaching model within their school building and how to use the Reflective Coaching Cycle as part of their daily coaching methods.

January 10, 2025 - *Coaching Challenges and Solutions*

Participants will explore ways to build trust and foster collaborative relationships while coaching and will work with one another to use problem-solving techniques to handle various coaching scenarios.

April 4, 2025 - *Showcase of Coaching for the Year*

Participants will discuss highlights regarding their coaching goals for the year and share examples of coaching goals accomplished.

Veteran Coaches – Coaching over 3 years

The same registered Instructional Coach is encouraged to attend all three virtual series professional development sessions.

Veteran Coaches will be given a survey to complete when they join the consortium which asks the coaches about topics of interest. Based on the survey results, topics will be determined for each of the dates listed below. The Veteran Coaches' sessions will be designed to allow districts to voluntarily sign-up to share their best practices during a portion of one of the coaching sessions.

Time: 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

November 15, 2024 - Topic TBD

January 24, 2025 - Topic TBD

April 11, 2025 - Topic TBD

Contact Information

For information, contact Beth Wharton, K-3 Coordinator, Division of Early Childhood Services, Office of Kindergarten to Third Grade Education, at Beth.Wharton@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
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