

Teacher Talk



News for the Office of Adult and Continuing Education Teacher Community

A Laser-like Focus on Student-Centered Instruction

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May 2015



Stephanie Moore and Peter Romani meet with Patient Care Technician student Tiffany Adams (center) at Mid-Manhattan Adult Learning Center.

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Spring PD

Students and educators know that a highly-skilled teacher can make all the difference in a classroom. But what contributes to an effective teacher's success? Researchers agree that the best teachers accelerate student achievement by designing instruction based on each learner's needs.

In Step with Fellow NYCDOE Educators

The Chancellor's 2014–2015 Citywide Instructional Expectations call on all schools to 1) ensure knowledge of students and their work, and use this

knowledge as the starting point for planning, 2) Establish a clearly articulated instructional focus, and 3) develop a culture of collaborative professional learning that facilitates school and individual development.

Our recent full-day professional development sessions on differentiation—targeting educational gain in Mathematics and ESL instruction—support our efforts to meet these expectations and help our students reach their goals.

Data-Aligned Capacity Building

The April 2nd theme of targeting gain and improving instruction in the areas of Math and the lower and upper ESL levels were identified as priority areas based on an analysis of our student data.

For more information on the instructional expectations visit: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/CommonCoreLibrary/About/InstructionalExpectations/default.htm>

Tips for Growing Beautiful Data...

The month of May takes on special significance in the world of adult education. It is the month to **spring forward** in post-testing and educational gain!

If you have students who need a post-test, don't wait a moment longer. **Test every student in your classroom!**

Boost your educational gain by targeting those areas of instructional need and differentiating instruction. Also, watch for these two upcoming hot items: a special OACE-produced video on using the TABE Item Analysis for instructional planning, and an NYC RAEN participant-created BEST Literacy Item Analysis!

Who We Are...



Magtanggol Bulaan is a CTE instructor at BALC with 43 years of educator experience; the last 11 with OACE.

What You Should Know about ...Getting Gain

Region 8 teachers Roxanne McNeil-Moody and David Tarica planned and facilitated a Math session with Math instructional specialist, Lori Allen, to help teachers improve student understanding of Measurement and Data



Our shared success for the current year rests heavily on each OACE teacher's purposeful use of time and lesson planning skills. Strategic post testing and focused, rigorous instruction are the essential first steps to achieving educational gain.

- ✎ Identify students who have not shown gain and analyze each student's data
- ✎ Align instruction with TABE, BEST Plus, or BEST Literacy content that students have not mastered
- ✎ Test students who are closest to making gain first



Opportunities!



Virna Feliciano (R1), Jerseydis Ruiz (R1), Roza Ng (R4), Fernando Gomez (R2), Evens Barreau (R6), Osse Willens (R2), and Carolyn Reus (R1) participated in BEST Literacy training at Mid-Manhattan ALC on Monday, March 23rd. Luckisha Amankwah, Central team AP, facilitated the session.

TABE Training

May 6, MMALC, 9am-4 pm
 June 1 & 4, MMALC, 5-8 pm
 June 6, MMALC, 9 am-4 pm
 June 6, BALC, 9 am-4 pm

BEST Plus Refresher

May 11, BALC, 1-4 pm
 May 14, QALC, 5-8 pm
 May 30, BALC, 9 am-12 pm
 May 30, BALC, 1-4 pm
 June 1, QALC, 5-8 pm
 June 3, BALC, 5-8 pm

BEST Literacy

May 27, QALC, 1 pm-4 pm
 June 5, BALC, 5 pm-8 pm

BEST Plus Initial

May 15, QALC, 9 am-4 pm
 June 2, BALC, 9 am-4 pm
 June 6, BALC, 10 am-5 pm
 June 6, QALC, 9 am-4 pm

To register for these and other sessions, please visit the NYC RAEN website at <http://tinyurl.com/n9zp326>.

Perspectives on Professional Development

What did we think about our 'Targeting Gain' PD sessions?

89% strongly agreed/agreed that they learned something they could use in their practice

⇒ **BALC Hub**—"Adapting reading passages/informational text to dialogues in order to use listening and speaking..."

Here are some of the things we learned at our three locations:

- ⇒ **MMALC Hub**—"Using pictures as a springboard to writing;" "Plenty of time for small groups to brainstorm..."
- ⇒ **QALC Hub**—"activities to reinforce vocabulary", "more pictures, less teacher talk, more student centered lessons..."

We'd like to know more about:

- ⇒ Teaching students to write summaries of what they read
- ⇒ Science PDs
- ⇒ TASC Test items...

And :
 30 of us (25%) have been inspired by their colleagues and would like a chance to present!



Facilitators from Region 7, Anna Malik and Donna Korol, are all smiles with a participant after Review, Recycle, Repeat, an engaging session on strategies for ESL students at the upper NRS levels. Donna and Anna presented at BALC.