

# Math Coaching

Twitter Math Camp 2017 Morning Session



**Chris Shore**  
*The Math Projects Journal*  
Temecula Valley USD

**#TMC17**

**#MathCoachTMC**

**@MathProjects**

**shore@mathprojects.com**



Month

Day

# CALIFORNIA

## Our Axioms

### **Teacher action is the difference.**

**“The greatest influence in the quality of the education that a student receives is the decisions that a teacher makes on a daily basis.”**

-- Dr. William Schmidt, University of Michigan



### **Leadership action is critical.**

**“Indeed, there are virtually no documented instances of troubled schools being turned around without intervention by a powerful leader.”**

-- Dr. Kenneth Leithwood, University of Toronto



### **A program and a plan are imperative.**

**“The meta-research shows that math coaches are effective. We see small bumps in student data in years 1 & 2, and large spikes in years 3 & 4.”**

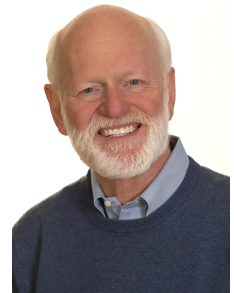
-- Dr. Maggie McGatha, University of Louisville



### **Coaches are the Bridge.**

**“Coaching is destined to be the leadership approach of the twenty-first century.”**

-- Marshall Goldsmith, *Coaching for Leadership*



## The Bridge Builders



**Vision**  
**Followers**  
**Humility**  
**Influence**

**Passion**  
**Faith**  
**Focus**  
**Impact**



# What is the vision for your math program?

**Things you would see a  
your 21<sup>st</sup> Century classroom.**

**Your vision statement in 18 words or less.**



## Getting into the Classrooms 4 Major Coaching Models

Invitation  
Rotation  
Application  
Prescription

Which are you working in?

### Opportunities to Build Relationships

- PLC Support
- PLC Participation
- Social Hangouts
- Cross Traffic
- Working Observations
- Handshake Introductions
- Visitations
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Jim Knight's  
*Principles of Partnership*

**Equity:**

Instructional coaches and teachers are equals.

**Choice:**

Teachers should have choice in what and how they learn.

**Voice:**

Teachers should have opportunities to express their point of view.

**Dialogue:**

To arrive at mutually acceptable decisions, partners engage in authentic dialogue.

**Reflection:**

The freedom to consider ideas before adopting them is an integral part of professional learning.

**Praxis:**

Teachers should apply their learning as they learn.

**Reciprocity:**

Instructional coaches should expect to get as much as they give.

## How Instructional Coaches Can Build Teachers' Trust

Carla Finkelstein of Towson University claims that there are plenty of reasons for resistance to being “helped” by an instructional coach:

- Teachers believing that they've been singled out as deficient;
- Fear of being judged and exposed as ineffective with students;
- Fear that deficiencies unrelated to the presenting issue will be revealed;
- A belief that the instructional coach may report on them to the principal;
- Worries about being admonished by the principal;
- Discomfort examining their own practice;
- Anxiety about having to change.

*“The coach is responsible for mitigating resistance. Unless the coach successfully does this, many teachers never sincerely engage in the learning process.”*

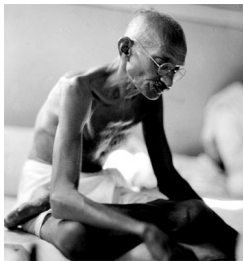
Finkelstein offers the following recommendations in building trust and overcoming resistance:

- *Let the teacher “drive” the process.*
- *Adopt a curious, problem-solving stance.*
- *Walk the walk.*
- *Communicate clearly and transparently.*

*“Trust is not something coaches can achieve at some magical point and then ignore,” Finkelstein concludes. “These recommendations are ongoing, recursive, and interconnected. Effective coaches attend to trust building at all times.”*

“Thank You So Much for the Truth!” by Carla Finkelstein in *Phi Delta Kappan*, April 2016 (Vol. 97, #7, p. 19-24)

**How are you going to build your relationships?**



## The New Classroom

“In a nutshell, the CCSS expect that, instead of knowing the answer, students must now be able to create the answer, make claims and produce evidence from text to support their claims.

Instead of working mathematics problems, students must be able to apply mathematics concepts to real-world situations and write about their thinking in moving to a solution. This change requires a different style of instruction than what many have come to call “sit and get.”

In the past, teachers have been giving students the answers and expecting them to give the answers back. Now, students must find the answers, demonstrate understanding by applying their knowledge to real-world situations and explain them in writing. That means that, in most cases, teachers will have to encourage much more student work and student discourse and engage in far less teacher talk.”

-- Achieve The Core

# Guiding Principles for School Mathematics

Full statements of the Guiding Principles follow; *Principles to Actions* elaborates the unique importance of each, as summarized briefly below each statement. The first Guiding Principle, Teaching and Learning, has primacy among the Guiding Principles, with the others serving as the Essential Elements that support it.

## **Teaching and Learning.**

*An excellent mathematics program requires effective teaching that engages students in meaningful learning through individual and collaborative experiences that promote their ability to make sense of mathematical ideas and reason mathematically.*

## **Access and Equity**

*An excellent mathematics program requires that all students have access to a high-quality mathematics curriculum, effective teaching and learning, high expectations, and the support and resources needed to maximize their learning potential.*

## **Curriculum**

*An excellent mathematics program includes a curriculum that develops important mathematics along coherent learning progressions and develops connections among areas of mathematical study and between mathematics and the real world.*

## **Tools and Technology**

*An excellent mathematics program integrates the use of mathematical tools and technology as essential resources to help students learn and make sense of mathematical ideas, reason mathematically, and communicate their mathematical thinking.*

## **Assessment**

*An excellent mathematics program ensures that assessment is an integral part of instruction, provides evidence of proficiency with important mathematics content and practices, includes a variety of strategies and data sources, and informs feedback to students, instructional decisions, and program improvement.*

## **Professionalism**

*In an excellent mathematics program, educators hold themselves and their colleagues accountable for the mathematical success of every student and for personal and collective professional growth toward effective teaching and learning of mathematics.*



## Effective Mathematics Teaching Practices

**Establish mathematics goals to focus learning.** *Effective teaching of mathematics establishes clear goals for the mathematics that students are learning, situates goals within learning progressions, and uses the goals to guide instructional decisions.*

**Implement tasks that promote reasoning and problem solving.** *Effective teaching of mathematics engages students in solving and discussing tasks that promote mathematical reasoning and problem solving and allow multiple entry points and varied solution strategies.*

**Use and connect mathematical representations.** *Effective teaching of mathematics engages students in making connections among mathematical representations to deepen understanding of mathematics concepts and procedures and as tools for problem solving.*

**Facilitate meaningful mathematical discourse.** *Effective teaching of mathematics facilitates discourse among students to build shared understanding of mathematical ideas by analyzing and comparing student approaches and arguments.*

**Pose purposeful questions.** *Effective teaching of mathematics uses purposeful questions to assess and advance students' reasoning and sense making about important mathematical ideas and relationships.*

**Build procedural fluency from conceptual understanding.** *Effective teaching of mathematics builds fluency with procedures on a foundation of conceptual understanding so that students, over time, become skillful in using procedures flexibly as they solve contextual and mathematical problems.*

**Support productive struggle in learning mathematics.** *Effective teaching of mathematics consistently provides students, individually and collectively, with opportunities and supports to engage in productive struggle as they grapple with mathematical ideas and relationships.*

**Elicit and use evidence of student thinking.** *Effective teaching of mathematics uses evidence of student thinking to assess progress toward mathematical understanding and to adjust instruction continually in ways that support and extend learning.*

# 8 Practices

---

## Mathematical Practices

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

# Teaching Students to THINK, COMMUNICATE, COLLABORATE & CREATE through Effective Teaching Principles



## 4 Claims:

Concepts & Procedures, Problem Solving, Communicate Reasoning, Modeling & Data Analysis

### Math Goals

(Dual Targets)



### Content Target:

### Practice Target



1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.



### Representations

(Multiple Representations)

### Meaningful Discourse

(Feedback)

### Purposeful Questioning

(Dig Deeper & Reach Higher)

### Procedural from Conceptual

(Progression)

### Tasks & Access

(Engagement & Low Floor/High Ceiling)



### Productive Struggle

(Monitor & Adjust)

### Evidence of Student Thinking

(Collect & Reflect)

**Rigor: Fluency, Deep Understanding, Application, Dual Intensity**

The Hour Glass of Coaching Conversations

Affirm  
Frame  
Listen  
Ask  
Tell  
Results  
Encourage  
Offer  
Follow-Up

=



≠



**How will you serve the new 21<sup>st</sup> Century classroom?**



### 3 Giant Needs of Teachers

**Time**  
**Resources**  
**Training**

<b>Need</b>	<b>Systems</b>	<b>Structures</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>Pre-Conferences Post-Conferences</b>	<b>Late Starts Release Days New Staff Meetings</b>
<b>Resources</b>	<b>“Curate, don’t create”</b>	<b>Google Drive Wed Site Learning Management System (Haiku) 180 Blog</b>
<b>Training</b>	<b>Elbow Coaching Observation Feedback Long-Term P.D. After School P.D.</b>	<b>Lesson Study Learning Walks Hotties Peer Fairs/Mini-Conferences</b>

# Great Oak High School Release Day Note Format

## Members in Attendance:

### Norms



### Strengths



### Obstacles



## UPO Analysis

### **(\*) Common Core Standard** (\*if priority)

#### *Academic Vocabulary:*

- Unwrapped Concept (Students need to know)
  - Unwrapped Skill/Sub Skills (Students need to be able to do)
    - DOK Level
      - CIA Questions (e.g. CR #3, SR #5, PT #1)

## CCSS Notation - Standard text

### *Academic Vocabulary:*

- Unwrapped Concept (Students need to know)
  - Unwrapped Skill/Sub Skills (Students need to be able to do)
    - DOK Level
      - CIA Questions (e.g. CR #3, SR #5, PT #1)

## CIA Decisions



## Planning/Schedule/Lessons



## Resources



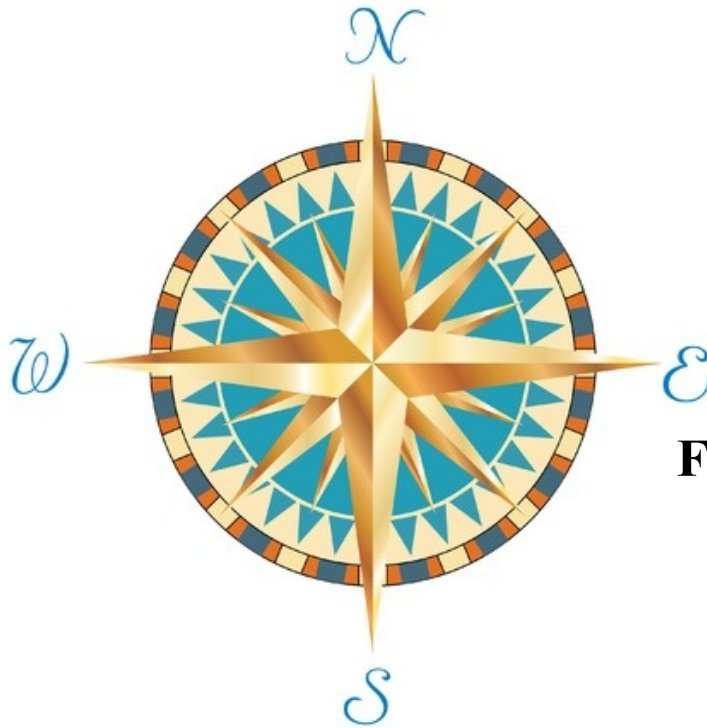
## Parking Lot Discussions





## Ways to Influence

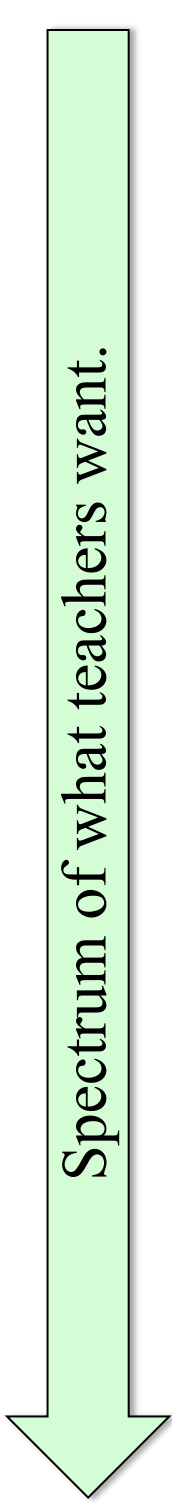
**Advocate for the 3 Giant Needs: Time/Resources/PD  
& Educate Them**



**Meet and Learn  
with your  
Fellow Math Coaches**

- **Frame the Dialogue**
- **Communicate Best Practices**
- **Fulfill their 3 Giant Needs**
- **Relentlessly Advertise**
- **Show & Share Results**
- **Teach like a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Champion**
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# The Spectrum of Coaching Effectiveness



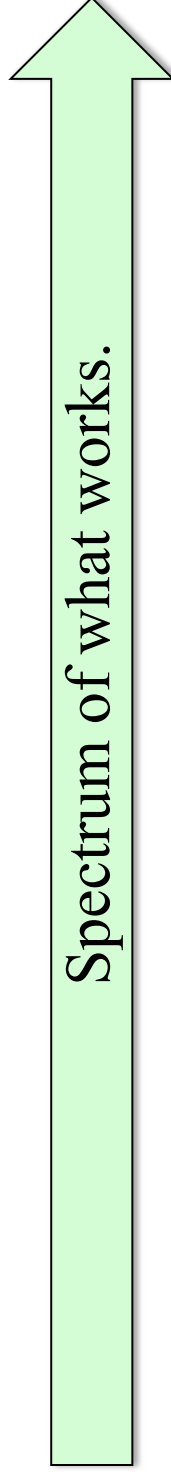
**Resources**



**Co-Teaching**



**Teacher  
Reflection**



**Coaches' Top 20**  
**Ranked Results of Math Coaches Survey of Important Topics**  
Provided by So Cal Math Specialists Network

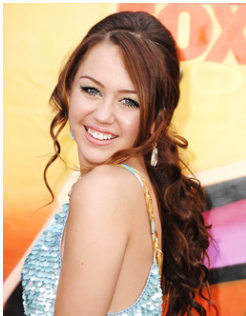
- 1) **Math Performance Tasks**
- 2) **SBAC/PARCC information, resources and how to use them**
- 3) **Pedagogy**
- 4) District assessments
- 5) **Supporting teachers with increasing content knowledge**
- 6) **Professional development ideas, including the role of administrators**
- 7) **Good sites or resources**
- 8) **“Those Kids,” How to support struggling and unmotivated learners**
- 9) Building relationships with teachers, administrators, and others
- 10) Role of professional social media (Twitter, blogs, Edmodo, etc.)
- 11) Math Apps
- 12) Coaching Models
- 13) The new state data and reports
- 14) Course Pathways & Placement
- 15) CCSS progression documents/ Unit Planning Organizers
- 16) Textbooks adoption/piloting
- 17) Community inclusion
- 18) State framework document & unpacking of standards
- 19) Classroom management
- 20) STEM connections

**BOLD Type: 7 of the top ten correlate with the 3 Giant Needs of teachers.**

**What do you need from your North?**

**What do you need from your East/West?**

**What do you need for your South?**



## Passion

### **No-Options Engagement**



- Demand Their Best Effort. It is the most loving thing we can do.
- No-Options: Make failure more painful than success.
- Engagement: No Quiet Deals, No Gravity Storms.
- 100% Gradebook
- It's not an issue of knowledge; it's a matter of will.

### **Boot Camp Numeracy**



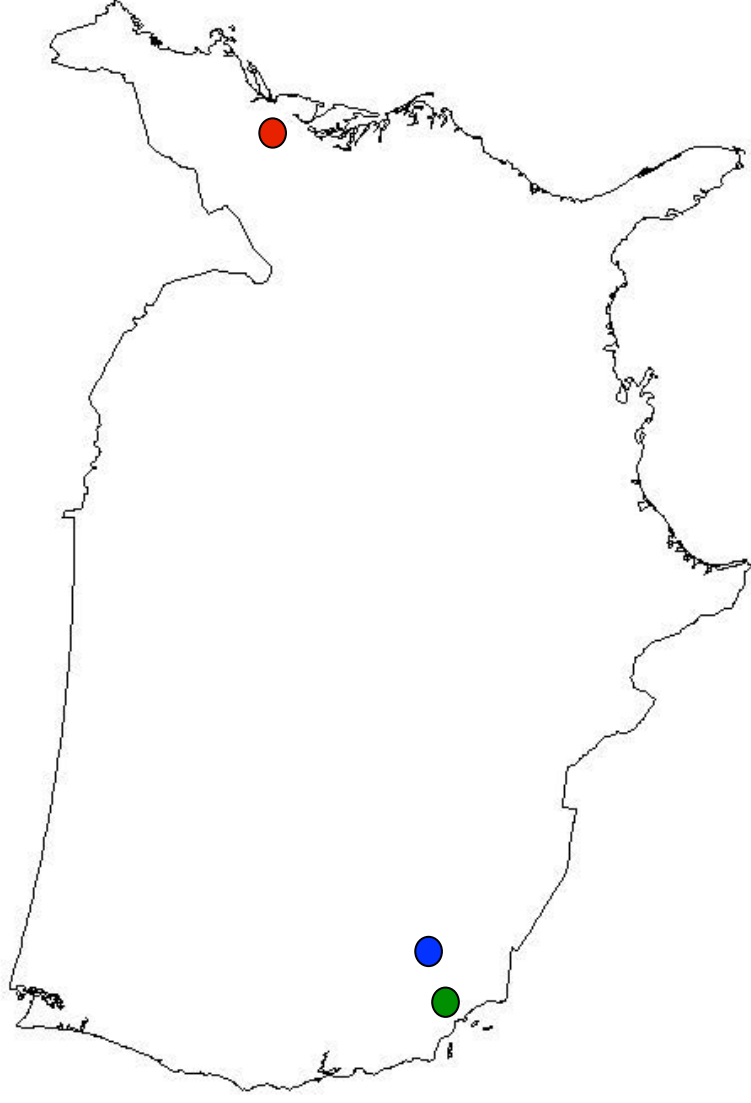
- Numeracy is the #1 indicator of math success.
- Students don't flunk current content; they flunk prior content.
- Refresh, Refine & Accelerate.
- Before a lesson, week, or unit.
- Use your textbook pre-assessment for prerequisite skills

**Which Passion resonates most?  
(No-Options Engagement,  
Boot Camp Intervention)**



# Which Teachers Do You Want to Move?

---



**GOAL = MOVE THE WHOLE TRAIN**

**MOST POTENTIAL = AVERAGE TEACHERS**



# Close the True Gap

---

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Standards**

**Focus  
Gap**

**Majority Group**

**Sub-Groups**

**True  
Gap**

```
graph TD; FG[Focus Gap] --- MG[Majority Group]; MG --- SG[Sub-Groups]; MG --- TG[True Gap];
```

# Collect and Reflect

---



Compare

Team Data to the Goal



**not**

**Teacher Data to Teacher Data**

## **Mile Markers Purpose & Directions**

### **End of Year Math Performance Task Anchor Papers**

#### **Purpose**

As we travel down the road towards teaching students 21<sup>st</sup> Century, we need “Mile Markers” to show us how much progress we are making. That progress is measured in the students’ ability to Think & Communicate, therefore, we need some evidence from year to year on our improvement in this endeavor.

Since the Performance Task is the best indicator of our progress with the new standards, our Semester 2 Final PT can easily serve as that piece of evidence. Rather than write these ourselves, course leaders chose from a set of professionally vetted tasks for each core math class. (Math 6, 7, 8, Accelerated 7, 8, Compacted 6, 7, 8, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2).

Since we are on this journey together, ONE collective set of THREE samples for each these Mile Markers (a high, medium and low anchor paper) will serve as our odometer. That will allow us to look at *our* results from year to year, and assist us in our collaborative instructional decisions.

#### **Directions**

All you need to do is ...

- 1) Give the Semester 2 CIA Performance Task sometime within the last 2 weeks of the school year. Strands at each site should agree upon the same day.
- 2) Don’t “grade” the task. Simply sift through and sort into piles of High, Medium and Low. From those categories, chose ONE High, One Medium, and One Low example.
- 3) Give these THREE samples to your Department Chair.

A Math Coach will collect these samples from your site’s Department Chair. From these samples, the Math Coaches will select one high, one Medium and one Low example for each secondary core math course. These will be entirely anonymous. Any students’ names will be blanked from photocopies. Please do not have teacher or school names on the papers.

These three examples will serve as the “District Mile Markers” for the next year. They will be posted on the math web site and shared in the Google drive for our collaborative use.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Gratefully,  
Your Math Coaches

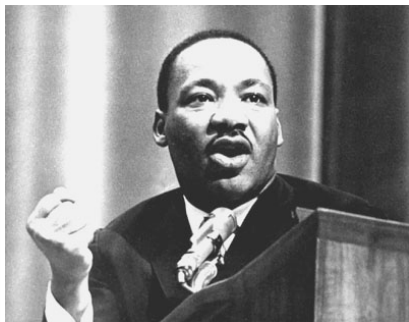
# Leading & Lagging Indicators

**Leading (inputs/control)**



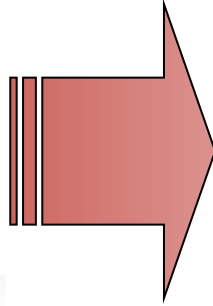
**Lagging (outputs/goals)**

**What will be your progress monitoring protocols?**



## The Mindset Shift

Fixed  
Mindset



Growth  
Mindset ....



... of the teachers!

***They are that smart  
&  
We are that good!***

**What excuses and distractions do you need to eliminate?**





# **Ditch Meeting**

**My burning question is ...**

**The answers I received are...**

# Our Noble Cause

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

# Think & Communicate



**Claims-Based Grading Technology**

PLC Focus =  
*What do we do when they know it?*

Mile Marker



**Principles to Action Lesson Study (SMP) Learning Walks (ECI)**

**No Option Engagement**

PLC Focus =  
*What do we do when they don't know it?*

Mile Marker CAASPP



**Principles to Action 1<sup>st</sup> Instruction Training**

(Progression:  
*Conceptual > Procedural > Practice thru Tasks*)

**Boot Camp Intervention (Tier 2)**

**Data Analysis/External Measures (MDTP)**

**Revisit Pathways/Placement**

PLC Focus =  
*How do we know if they learned it?*

Mile Marker  
+2% Final Exam  
+1% EAP  
CAASPP



**Curriculum Support**

UPO's/Pacing Guides/CIA's  
Resources  
Release Days (District & Site Strands)  
After School Content Training

PLC Focus =  
*What do we want them to learn?*

Mile Marker  
+2% Final Exam  
+1% EAP  
CAASPP



**Boot Camp Intervention (Tier 1)**

**Rubric Grading/ Calibrate Grades**

**Infrastructure**

Dual Web Site: Blog & Haiku  
Organic Curriculum



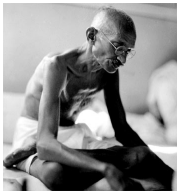
# IMPACT

21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom Action Plan for \_\_\_\_\_

How will you ...



Communicate your **Vision**?



Develop *Relationships*?



Serve your teachers in *The New Classroom*?



Influence your **North**? Your **East & West**? Your **South**?



Fire up your teachers for *Engagement and Boot Camp?*



Develop your **PLC/Data Collection** protocols? (Move the whole train.)



Clear the **Donkeys** from the Bridge?



Other Ingenious Ideas:

Next Steps:

## **Quotes on Math Coaching**

**A coach is a trusted friend to educators,  
a colleague,  
a sounding board, and  
a witness to the good.**

**-- Jim Knight**

**The purpose of the Instructional Coaching  
Model is to help close the student  
achievement gap and accelerate learning for  
all students by building teacher capacity  
through implementation of effective  
instructional practices**

**-- Katherine Casey**

**We have found that the single factor common  
to every successful change initiative is that  
relationships improve. If relationships  
improve, things get better. If they remain the  
same or get worse, ground is lost.**

**-- Jim Knight**



**Coaches move a school forward one conversation at a time.**

**-- Jim Knight**

***For both our students and our teachers, we need a more noble destination than the end of Unit 10 by the end of June.***

**-- Chris Shore**

**Few people can be more confident that they are making a difference than a coach. If you want to make our world a better place, there are few ways more powerful than being a coach.**

**-- Jim Knight**