Foundational Best Practices

Teacher Induction: Essential Elements of Instruction

54 hours, PreK-12, Year long course

The Essential Elements of Instruction are just that, ESSENTIAL! It is time to refine your skills and remind yourself why you became a teacher... to engage students in the love of learning. This workshop focuses on foundational instructional skills such as classroom management, procedures and routines, determining an instructional starting point so all students experience success, and utilizing the principles of learning in order to increase student attention. Also covered is monitoring student progress, adjusting instruction, designing specific learning objectives and techniques for self-analysis. This course includes follow-up observations and mentoring throughout the school year to guide you in implementing your new skills. EEI is offered as a 6-day course: 3 days in the summer and 3 days throughout the school year.

Topics Covered:

- Day 1 Overview of Essential Elements & Classroom Responsibilities, Active Participation
- Day 2 Anticipatory Set, Motivating Students, Objectives
- Day 3 Getting Off to a Smooth Start: Classroom Management, Procedures & Routines
- Day 4 Closure, Task Analysis, 4 Part Objective, Bloom's Taxonomy, Discipline in the Christian School
- Day 5 Task Analysis II: Lesson Design, Retention, The Joy of Teaching
- Day 6 Monitor & Adjust Instruction, Diagnostic-Prescriptive Teaching, Hit the Reset Button



Biblical Worldview & Lesson Integration

3-6 hours, PS-12

Our counter-cultural approach to education offers students the opportunity of a lifetime. In this workshop, we work through the concept of self, Imago-Dei, the understanding of Truth and the human condition. We will also work through how to help students develop a Biblical worldview, planning authentic Biblical Integration in the classroom, and finish with hands on practice in integration and lesson planning. New teachers and experienced teachers at all grade levels will benefit from this training.

Classroom Management

3 hours, PreK-12

Creating a classroom environment that is conducive to learning is a critical element of classroom instruction. At the core of every well-run classroom is a teacher who has clear expectations and consistent procedures and routines. Join as we examine how to keep your classroom running smoothly.

Need more? Ask about adding one more hour as we learn about "Discipline with Dignity."

EEI Refresher

6 hours, K-12

Has it been some time since you have reviewed the Essential Elements of Instruction? Is it time for you to brush up on your skills? Then this course is for you! We will review research-based practices for retaining information, such as including the following in your lessons: anticipatory set, closure, objectives, active participation, and elements of motivation.

It's All About Engagement

6 hours, PreK-12

You are using Active Participation techniques and Cooperative Learning Strategies in your classroom, now what? How about turning a worksheet into active engagement, and learning how to capture your students' attention? We will practice Cooperative Learning structures that will likely be new to your students. We will spend time in grade level groups revamping lesson plans to create an ALL About Engagement lesson. This workshop promises to engage YOU!

Methods of Assessment for Learning

3 hours, K-12

The objective of teaching is student learning. One of the ways we track student learning is through assessment. In this course, we will identify different types of assessment used in schools, how to understand and evaluate data provided in these assessments, and then how to use the information provided to inform lesson design and curriculum needs.

My 52 Minutes Matter

1-2 hours, 6-12

When you teach students in the upper grades and you only have 52 minutes a day with them, every minute matters. Your principal expects a lot during those minutes! You expect a lot from your students during those minutes! During this session, we will talk about routines, responsibility, and refinements for making the most of your minutes in a way that helps students get the most out of your class.

Standards-Based Teaching

3-6 hours, K-12

Many Christian schools depend on boxed curriculum which can be inefficient. Moving teachers away from scripted curriculum guides and identifying the standards adopted by each school is the first step. Taking the teachers through the process of task analysis and creating a plan for mapping out the school year in a sequential way helps them learn to approach their lessons with confidence.

The Ultimate Guide to Positive Student Relationships

3 hours, PreK-12

During this session, teachers will learn the basic principles for developing positive relationships with students. From the time they greet the teacher, walk in the door, and sit in their assigned seat, children have an overwhelming sense as to whether they belong and will be successful in their new classroom. Great teachers use proven strategies and make it seem effortless to reach out to students. How do they fit it all in and teach great content, too? If you build your school and classroom communities on relationships, mutual respect, and expectations with a Christ-centered focus, your students will thrive.

Turn Parents into Partners

3 hours, PreK-12

Effective communication with parents is a critical part of all classrooms and often determines a parent's viewpoint of your classroom and school. This workshop will help you with strategies to effectively communicate with parents. We will work through problem solving techniques and skills for improving the parent-teacher relationship all while demonstrating professionalism and caring feeling tone. Walk away with tips and strategies on how to partner with parents.