

A stylized tree where the trunk is a black hand with fingers spread, and the canopy is composed of numerous black dots of varying sizes. The background is a gradient from dark purple on the left to light blue on the right. There are faint leaf patterns in the background and some leaves are highlighted in yellow and green.

Mentors and Student Teachers Module 3

Goals for This Presentation

- To learn how student teachers and mentors can build productive mentoring relationships
- To recognize the various kinds of support that student teachers want and that mentors can provide



Qualities of an Effective Mentor: A Reflection



- Think about a significant role model in your life and the qualities that make him/her special. Make a mental list of those qualities.
- Reflect on the qualities that you believe you have as a mentor that make you special. Make a mental list of those qualities.
- Do you share qualities with your role model?



Some Key Components of Building a Positive Relationship with Your Student Teacher

- Meet regularly
- Maintain confidentiality
- Participate in support team meetings
- Attend professional development activities together
- Provide professional assistance



Setting the Ground Rules for Your Relationship with Your Student Teacher

Agree on the following to avoid potential confusion or conflict:

1. Regularly scheduled meeting times and places,
2. Best means of dialogue for questions as they arise, and
3. Preferred means/times of contact outside of the school day when your student teacher has questions.



What are your Potential Relationship Deposits and Withdrawals?

Think about some possible deposits into the relationship bank account between you and your student teacher.

Think about some possible withdrawals from the relationship bank account between you and your student teacher.

Consider discussing the relationship bank account with your student teacher, in order to come to agreement on these areas.



Refer back to the Survey of Student Teachers' Perceived Needs in Module 1

Possible Areas for Support:

1. Ideas about instruction
2. Personal and emotional support
3. Advice on locating and accessing materials and resources
4. Information on school and district procedures
5. Additional techniques for classroom management



Consider These Ideas to Support Instruction

- Have **reflective discussions** on planning, student work, and lessons taught.
- Provide **guidance on ways to engage** students in the content being taught.
- **Team teaching** is a great way to support instruction and build confidence.



Ideas to Provide Personal and Emotional Support

- Stress the need for life outside the classroom. Balance is important!
- Be available to listen.
- Recognize your student teacher as a near-future peer or colleague.
- Remind your student teacher that making mistakes is normal.
- Designate time for venting/sharing.



Support Ideas for Locating and Accessing Materials/Resources

- Show your student teacher around the building, pointing out special services, leveled libraries, etc.
- Provide textbook or online content information, including teachers' manuals, Learning Management Systems, log in's...
- Explain procedures for accessing resources (library systems, etc.).
- Explain/demonstrate record-keeping procedures.
- Help develop efficient procedures.



Time Issues Reported by Student Teachers

- Management Guidance **NEEDED!**

- Catching up on paperwork
- Classroom cleanup
- Displaying student work
- Faculty and other meetings
- Finding instructional resources
- Grading papers
- Lesson planning
- Modifying lessons
- Preparing for parent conferences
- Record keeping
- Student routines and procedures
- Tutoring



Support Student Teachers with Information on School and District Procedures

- Review school and district rules.
- Again...Explain processes for accessing materials and resources (include technology).
- Review schedule for meetings.
- Describe special activities.
- Explain unwritten rules.



Additional Ideas for Supporting Your Student Teacher

- Discuss student attendance policies
- Help with class seating and room arrangement
- Provide guidance on organizing for first time teaching
- Assist in organizing materials and establishing procedures
- Coordinate efforts with the University/Site Supervisor on areas of concern



Ideas for Supporting Your Student Teacher with Parent/Family Relationships and Student Progress Documentations

- Provide examples of letters / emails to families/ caregivers
- Explain appropriate timing for family / caregiver contacts
- Identify methods for documenting family / caregiver contacts
- Explain written progress report forms and procedures for progress monitoring



Ideas for Classroom Management Support

- Share a few guidelines for expected behavior in the classroom
- Provide ideas for positive reinforcement
- Assist in setting goals and determining consequences
- Help your student teacher identify when to write a referral or contact families / caregivers



A Summary: Supporting Your Student Teacher Throughout the Placement

- Meet regularly throughout the week
- Build a relationship of trust
- Use this framework and the Student Teacher Guidelines to facilitate discussions on teaching and learning
- Assist your student teacher in focusing on improving student learning
- Assist your student teacher with the non-instructional responsibilities of a teacher-of-record



Our Ultimate Goal

Mentor (cooperating) teachers best support student teachers by helping them to focus on improving student learning, rather than just the myriad tasks they need to complete.





Consider using the Support Ideas provided in Module 3 as a guide for future discussions with your student teacher.



Thank you for your support of SHSU Bearkat Student Teachers

We appreciate all your efforts on behalf of our students and hope that the mentoring process proves to be a rewarding experience for both you and your student teacher.



Completing the Mentor Orientation Workshop

Please complete the survey/short quiz at the following website.

Once we receive your survey results, we will email you a certification of completion for 3 hours of CPE credit.

Thank you!

[Link to Survey/Quiz](#)

