

Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment

Numbers to Know

Susan Rich – 525-4996
Teri (Secretary) – 525-5131
Chris Roe – 525-4906
Ruth (Secretary)- 525-6605

BTSA Participants' Kick-Off and Engage

The BTSA program is off and running this year with 417 Beginning Teachers and Site Support Providers. Each year as the program grows we are faced with the challenge of meeting the needs of our four diverse counties while planning BTSA events. The planning process for this year involved making schedules that would “fit” with the schedules of BT’s and Site Support Providers at all grade levels and varying school calendars.

This year, we offer each of the four events six times. Each event includes a Saturday training for teachers who did not want to be out of their classrooms. The beginning teachers may earn units for their participation in BTSA when attending on weekends or off-track days. Saturday and off-track

participation should please districts that stated substitutes were hard to find. Saturday attendance has been lower than hoped. Perhaps numbers will increase as the year progresses. Spread the

word.

For first-year BTSA participants, we have completed the “Environment” phase of the training and are finishing up the “Engagement” as well. Teachers have been

working on their classroom “environments” as you may have noticed and connecting with students and keeping them “engaged” in the learning process.

Second-year BT’s have been working on a combined entry that



Beginning Teachers from Sylvan Union & Ceres Unified School Districts share space at a recent “Engagement” training.

addresses creating and maintaining effective environments and engaging all students. They have also begun to tackle understanding and organizing subject matter. Ask your BT’s about these standards and their work on them through a process entitled Backward Planning.

Coming Events...

EQUITY FOR ALL STUDENTS?

Are your teachers moving Toward Equity with all students? Toward Equity, a BTSA program designed to build a climate of respect and understanding, will be offered this March and April. Watch for the flyers coming your way.

IIP Drafting is on the Calendar...

In late November, the BTSA program held its first of seven Individual Induction Plan Drafting sessions. This event is designed to assist the Beginning Teachers with an area of teaching that they would like to improve.

This is where you could be of great assistance to your BT. Before

they attend the IIP drafting date, check with them to see if they have thought of an area that could use some fine tuning in their classroom or practice. In the IIP drafting process, we will give BT’s a chance to include evaluative comments from their administrators when choosing their Individual Induction Plans.

**BTSA
Director
Susan Rich says...**



Has your SSP come to visit you and share details about the BTSA program? Ask them about it!

Think of things that will make the life of a new teacher a bit easier. Surprise treats are always welcomed and very appreciated, especially in the dark, wet winter months.

Check with your BT's and SSP's BTSA schedules. Are they attending all meetings together? Do they attend on Saturdays?

Remind BT's to spend their BTSA money before district deadlines.

Send your BT and SSP to a conference together to promote both a learning experience and a time for deeper bonding.

Find Yourself Singing the Blues?

You are definitely not alone. As administrators, you may know the cycle that Beginning Teachers (and veteran teachers as well) go through. December can be a difficult, depressing month. The Administrators' Academy presented by Sue Rich and Catherine Kearney deals with how administrators can help new teachers manage stress. At the beginning of the year they start out with unparalleled enthusiasm for their newly chosen profession. Soon after, they realize that all is not rosy in the garden. But

this time of year, particularly in November and December, they begin to wonder if they have chosen the right profession. Because you know this is coming, be there to give them the support

they will need. Make their job as stress-free during this time as possible (even though your job is even more stressful with all the deadlines!). Part of our job is to keep these Beginning Teachers in the field. Good luck!



Administrators' Academy presenters Sue Rich & Catherine Kearney.

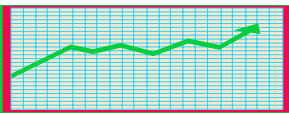
CSTP's: The Driving Force Behind the Mission

The BTSA program supports Beginning Teachers in their first and second years in the profession through a series of workshops connected to the California Standards for the Teaching Profession. These six standards guide first year teachers as they develop their Individual Induction Plan (IIP). Second year teachers delve further into the

CSTP's to refine their teaching. Ask your BT's about the CSTP's. To learn more about the CSTP's, check out the following website:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/cstppublication/cstpreport.html>

(There is no copy right concern as this is public domain material. You are free to reproduce this for staff and may want to think about using the standards in PAR programs.)



BTSA Numbers Keep on Growing!

As mentioned earlier, our numbers are growing by leaps and bounds here in the counties supported by our BTSA program. To give you an idea, here are our latest figures:

County	BT's	SSP's
Amador	1	1
Calaveras	16	8
Tuolumne	17	10
Stanislaus	255	106

The larger Stanislaus County district participants are:

District	BT's	SSP's
Sylvan	44	10
Ceres	39	14
Turlock	34	20
Salida	20	10
Patterson	23	3
Stan. Union	12	5