

BTSA

BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT AND ASSESSMENT

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BTSA Wraps Up Another Successful Year

Beginning teachers and site support providers are reaching closure on another year of successful teaching, effective support, and thoughtful reflection on what constitutes good educational practice. Portfolio Completion Day, the last of the four BTSA events, is a day for work, reflection, discussion, and celebration. On this day, all participants have the opportunity to put this year into perspective and look ahead to the next.

Since the start of the school year, all of the beginning teachers, have, with the help of their support providers, been focusing on the elements of good teaching. With one eye on the *California Standards for the Teaching Profession* and the other on their own practices, they have built the foundation for successful teaching. During the last three months they have been examining their teaching as it relates to one specific goal — their Individual Induction Plan (IIP). They have been collecting evidence of their professional growth and discussing the implications of each piece of evidence with their support providers. Now on Completion Day they take one last thorough look at the whole year, put it into perspective, and compose a letter describing their successes, hardships, growth and hopes for the future. This letter fronts the portfolio that is submitted at the end of the day for review and feedback.



Support and learning is often mutual for BT's and SSP's. Pictured above Judy Wardlaw/SSP & Patricia Roland/ BT from the Oakdale district.

Portfolio Completion Day ends with a look toward the future: staff development opportunities during the summer and ways to end this year and begin the next. And finally, we all celebrate together the successful completion of yet another year of teaching, dedicated to growth, improvement, and the most important goal of all — high achievement by all of our students.

An Invitation To:

Portfolio Read Day: June 4th
9 AM SCOE Boardroom
Contact Teri Maybee at 525-5131 to register.

Portfolio Read Day is your opportunity to view and help us evaluate the portfolios submitted by our beginning teachers. This is your best opportunity to see for yourself the essence of a formative assessment portfolio and gain new teachers' insights into the power of reflections.

THE STATE SURVEY: We're Serious about Evaluation

Every administrator knows the value of good evaluation data. That's why we're asking you to take just a few minutes of your time to help us find out how we can better serve your needs. The *BTSA State Survey* is your conduit to our program. It's quick, easy and so valuable. Here's all you have to do. Go on the Web to www.btsa.ca.gov/ and scroll down to BTSA Statewide Survey on the right side. From there you just follow the routing cues and you're on your

way. You'll be asked questions about the quality of our service to beginning teachers, the effectiveness of your support providers, and the impact of our overall program. We hope that you'll give us a few minutes of your time now (*the survey window closes on May 30th*) so we can gather the information we need to better serve your needs. We appreciate your taking the time to do this.

Getting Off on the Right Foot

One of the most valuable insights we can impart to our new and emerging teachers is this: *How you start the year will have an enormous impact on how well the year goes.* We know that. Our new teachers need to know it too. Here’s what we can do to help. First, if they’re coming back for their second year, help them organize the ending of this year, store their materials securely, and start their planning for the fall. Whatever information you can give them about their next year’s assignment, will, of course, help them plan and reflect over the summer about what will help their students achieve. Second, if you have new teachers coming in next year, choose their assignments carefully with one eye on helping them get off to a good start in your school. Start protecting them now by making sure they have a furnished room and appropriate supplies to start the new school year. Keep them informed about the in’s and out’s of your school and which teachers can help them get started and assist them along the way. All of these will help them succeed and your students achieve.

For our part, we’re offering three sessions of **Ready, Set, Engage**. This workshop, by veteran trainer, *Nancy Barbosa*, will give your



Heather Morganson congratulates her beginning teachers at the Portfolio Read Day. Supportive relationships like these often last throughout a career to the mutual benefit of all...including the kids.

new teachers — and your vets — the tools and insight they’ll need to get off on the right foot . We’re also offering guidance in **Long Term Planning: Course and Unit Organizers**. This training will help teachers frame their school year and the units they teach. Here’s an opportunity for teachers to see the forest and the trees in time for them to keep them both healthy.

Organizing content, engaging students and getting off on the right foot at the beginning of the year — this is the formula for an effective classroom dedicated to student achievement and low-maintenance employees.

Training Opportunities

<u>Ready, Set, Engage</u> Monday, June 23 Tuesday, July 22 Thursday, August 7	8:30-3:00 SCOE Fee: \$35/Free to BTSA BT's Lunch Provided
<u>Course and Unit Organizers</u> Course Organizers: June 16 Unit Organizers: June 17	8:30-3:30 SCOE Free to BTSA BT's Breakfast Provided
<u>Administrators' Workshop</u> Wednesday, July 30th SCOE Thursday, September 25th SJCOE* Thursday, November 13th SCOE * San Joaquin COE	8:00-4:00 Free Breakfast/Lunch Provided

For registration information, contact Teri Maybee 525-5131, Ruth DesRoches 525-6605

Please encourage your teachers to attend.

Administrators' Workshop: The Learning to Teach Continuum

The two factors that will most directly impact your professional life as an administrator over the next decade are: 1) budgetary constraints and, 2) the availability of ‘highly-qualified’ teachers. Once the State’s fiscal dilemma is resolved, the teacher shortage will, no doubt, still be around. Here’s your opportunity to take a close look at the issues surrounding the entire teacher preparation and induction program offered in the central valley. Knowing the significance of this workshop, veteran BTSA director, Sue Rich and Kathy Athey, will personally conduct this

workshop so that you see the connections among all facets of teacher preparation, how to help your teachers be successful from the start of the year, the *California Standards for the Teaching Profession*, the Learning to Teach Continuum and the newly formulated 2042 Induction Program. This one is a **MUST** for every administrator who has or will have new teachers in the next five years. And that’s everyone. See the insert above for dates and times. You are invited and encouraged to attend.