

BTSA INDUCTION NEWS

BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT, ASSESSMENT, AND INDUCTION

Numbers to Know

BTSA Director: Irma Bravo Lawrence, 238-1306

BTSA Consultant: Vicki Stewart, 238-1329

BTSA Consultant: Lisa Tiwater, 238-1330

BTSA Support Staff: Aurora Contreras, 238-1309

Ruth Des Roches, 238-1311

Helen Markiss, 238-1318

SB 1209 Updates & Implications

The passage of SB 1209 has implications for all BTSA Induction programs. The goal is to ensure that all teachers who enter the classroom have knowledge of the subject matter and the pedagogical skill to teach all pupils. This legislation was signed for implementation in January of 2007 and programs have been working on the implications for change since then. SB 1209 addresses more than the BTSA Induction programs. Teacher examinations, requirements for the Clear Credential and the Teaching Performance Assessment for the Preliminary Credential are also impacted. For BTSA Induction, the focus must be application of knowledge and skill acquired in the teacher preparation program coursework. As Induction programs are updated, the work will result in more relevant post preliminary credential professional development to earn the Clear Credential. This effort will eliminate duplicative requirements from work in the university teacher preparation



programs throughout the State's BTSA programs.

An additional update is in regard to the work that the CCTC is currently undertaking. The Commission will be reviewing the twenty program quality standards by which all Induction programs were approved. The Commission is currently calling for experienced professionals in the BTSA world, English Learners and Special Education to meet beginning in January with the goal of making recommendations by July, 2008.

The revisions offer the opportunity to rethink the status quo. Modifications for SCOE's BTSA Induction Consortium will be considered and guided by the BTSA staff, BTSA Council, Leadership Team, trainers, support providers, and participating teacher feedback. We have learned a great deal since the passing of 2042. Our knowledge on how to develop well-prepared teachers has grown and reached a new height.

Induction Program Review (IPR) Update

Last year's Induction Program Review resulted in our program working on three areas for improvement during this academic year. One of the standards not met has been taken care of through the work in the All Kid's Institute which is an Induction requirement. However, two other areas are now part of the work of the BTSA Council and the Consortium districts. The support provider ratio to participating teachers is being addressed as is the district evaluation of support

provider performance during the year of service. There will be more information shared at the next BTSA Council meeting scheduled for:

Date: February 6, 2008

Location: SCOE Petersen Event Center

Time: 3:30-5:00pm

Your districts representative will follow up with you regarding the latest updates.

Formative Assessment / Portfolio

Margaret Heritage of the National Center of Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST) recently wrote an article in *Kappan* which gives a comprehensive overview of formative assessment. BTSA PTs experience a formative assessment system for the purpose of measuring personal professional growth against the California Standards for the Teaching Profession.

As participating teachers are taken through the induction process, they become very familiar with the formative assessment portfolio. It is frequently the case that participating teachers recognize the core elements of formative assessment and incorporate them in their teaching.

The first element that Heritage speaks to is identifying the individual's performance against the standards and documenting, with evidence, the growth over time.

The second element is feedback. The portfolio work provides teachers with the opportunities to measure

their performance against descriptors, and understandable feedback which is useful and motivating to the individual.

The third element is involvement. Formative assessment is a system that, allows participating teachers to engage in a partnership with the support provider in a self assessment system. Research shows that teaching habits of practice are formed during the first two years of teaching.

The careful drafting of the Individual Induction Plan will guide the professional development activities to complete the year's work.



SCOE BTSA Website
<http://www.stancoe.org>

We are currently working on updating our SCOE BTSA website to include more detailed information on the BTSA Induction program. We will also be including forms that were not previously accessible via the internet. Participating teachers and support providers will be able to view and obtain forms, schedules and information from our BTSA Induction Handbook. Once the website has been completely updated, we will email you a direct link to the SCOE BTSA website!

Lisa Tiwater and Vicki Stewart: The Two New BTSA Consultants

We are please to announce our newest staff arrivals! Lisa Tiwater and Vicki Stewart have recently joined the SCOE BTSA Induction Team.

Lisa comes to SCOE from Ceres Unified School District where she was a staff development and curriculum coach for a number of years. She has also taught kindergarten, first and second grades. She also served as a BTSA trainer for both BTSA Induction and the All Kids Institute. National Board Certification is one of her many distinguishing honors. Lisa lives on 20 acres in Ballico with her family, in-laws, pets, almond trees and her garden. She very much loves the country life.

Vicki Stewart comes to SCOE from Modesto City Schools where she served as the BTSA Induction Coordinator as well as a full release support provider for a number of years. Her background is in special education with most of her experience as a resource specialist, and she also taught many years in Reading Recovery and first grade. Vicki lives in the downtown area of Modesto in an old, but very remodeled home.

Both Lisa and Vicki are passionate about teacher induction and enjoy their new positions and challenges.

BTSA NEWS !!

The window to register on the State website for BTSA participation has now closed. By January 14th, CCTC will release the official list of this year's participants in our program. Intern credential holders are not eligible. Once we have received the information, it will be shared at the next BTSA Council meeting.

SAVE THE DATE:

*Important
DATE!*

Site Administrators, Support Providers, and District Administrators are invited to the 9th annual BTSA Induction Portfolio Read where we will be reading over 363 participating teacher portfolios. Please save the date for:

Day 1- May 22, 2008

Day 2- June 12, 2008

Location: SCOE Petersen Event Center

Time: 9:00am-5:00pm

Feel free to attend one day or both! We look forward to seeing you there!