Teacher Induction Programs:

What Matters and What Works



LEARNING POLICY INSTITUTE Research. Action. Impact. Linda Darling-Hammond @LPI_Learning 12/4/18

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Induction for Beginners In High-Performing Nations

Regularly available to all

Guided by trained Senior / Mentor Teachers

- ✓ In-classroom coaching
- Curriculum and lesson planning
- ✓ Seminars on key topics

Reduced teaching load

Typically 2 years

- 4 years in Toronto, Canada where 98% of beginning teachers are still teaching after 4 yrs.
- Attrition in Ontario, Finland, and Singapore is 3-4% annually for all teachers compared to 8% overall in the U.S. and 20-30% for beginning teachers.

(Darling-Hammond et al., 2018, Empowered Educators)

High-Quality Induction Boosts Retention and Effectiveness

Elements of high-quality induction:

- Coaching from a trained mentor
- Common planning time with teachers in same subject or grade level
- Reduced teaching load
- Seminars on key issues
- Supportive communications with administrator(s)
- Extra classroom assistance

Ingersoll, R. M., & Strong, M. (2011). The impact of induction and mentoring programs for beginning teachers: A critical review of the research. *Review of Educational Research, 81*



Induction Needs

- Vary by nature and quality of preparation
- Vary by assignment

Include:

5

6

- Someone at hand to answer immediate questions
- Planning and curriculum support
- Productive feedback
- Opportunities for observing expert others
- Deep dives on particular challenges (working with parents, serving students with disabilities, etc.)

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Other Levers for Retention and Effectiveness

- High-quality pre-service training with extended student teaching
- Early hiring that enables planning
- Repeated assignment in same grade level / subject area and in area of training
- Regular opportunities for collaboration
- Administrative supports
- Supportive professional development



	m Change
FROM:	TO:
Sit and get	Content-focused
Drive-by	Active
One size fits all	Collaborative
Disconnected from teachers' classroom and students	Using models & modeling
	Coaching
	Feedback and reflection
	Sustained over time
	(2) - OH WOW! PARADIGM