THE IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVE DATA USE IN ADOLESCENT LITERACY INSTRUCTION

Though data are increasingly accessible through advancements in dashboards, warehouses, and longitudinal systems, these tools are of limited use unless educators can understand, interpret, and apply data in the classroom. To put data to work for students, educators need to establish a data-driven collaborative inquiry process.

As part of this process, teams of educators develop research questions, systematically collect and interpret data, and seek and apply research-based solutions.

The Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools Data Use Research Alliance aims to cultivate a culture of collaborative inquiry and strengthen teacher, staff, and administrator capacity to use data to improve adolescent literacy.

GOALS OF THE ALLIANCE

The goals of the alliance are to help members:
- Identify best practices in data use that improve adolescent literacy instruction.
- Identify and apply the tools, processes, and skills required to build a data-driven collaborative inquiry community around adolescent literacy instruction.

RESEARCH AND ANALYTIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

MNPS has worked with REL Appalachia to hold four events in 2014:
- A two-part, professional development workshop on best practices for data use and collaborative inquiry in literacy instruction.
- Workshops to help identify root causes, intended outcomes, and practices related to data use and collaborative inquiry in literacy instruction.

To help further support the alliance in meeting its goals, REL Appalachia will work with alliance members to:
- Develop a valid and reliable survey for assessing educators’ data use and collaborative inquiry practices.
- Familiarize educators with a research-based five-step process for data use.

ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP

The alliance is led by a core planning team from Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools that includes the Director of Information Management, Coordinator of Business Intelligence, Lead Data Coach Coordinator, Director of Federal Programs, Director of Literacy, Executive Director of Instruction, and Director of Talent Management, a secondary school principal, and middle school literacy coach.

All events are open to alliance and non-alliance participants.

Questions?
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