Common Materials and Vision Training Needs

This resource lists common needs for teacher and leader training. Some systems opt to have teachers and leaders together for these trainings so that they can learn side-by-side through digging into materials. Others opt to offer add-on sessions for leaders around the “leader layer” of giving content-specific feedback on teachers’ implementation.

Training for Teachers and Leaders

Training on Vision: The vision (often as discussed as a walkthrough tool) serves as the foundation for the work. Teachers and leaders need to understand why the vision is important, what it looks like in action, and how the materials help us achieve the vision. When training on vision, it is important to focus on:
- The instructional shifts of the standards
- Training on indicators or actions in the vision and where they show up in curricular materials
- Analyzing a classroom or lesson using the walkthrough tool version of the vision to help people form a shared bar for instruction

Training on Materials: Teachers and leaders need time to dig into the materials and understand how they are structured. Materials training focuses on getting to know the structure and supports, as well as understanding what it looks like to use the materials in daily practice. When training on materials, it is important to focus on:
- Structure and resources in materials
  - The guiding philosophy or instructional priorities of the curriculum, supported by research
  - How the curriculum is organized (over the course of the year, a unit, and a lesson)
  - The curriculum’s scope and sequence, and other information about the pacing of objectives
  - Lesson structure and conventions
  - Anchor Texts and/or mathematical practices for each grade
  - Assessment (end of module or unit, as well as shorter-cycle assessments)
  - Considerations for differentiation and modification, and any curriculum-related changes for intervention services
- Materials in action
  - Observing a model lesson and practicing teaching a lesson
  - Discussing policies related to using and modifying the curriculum, scheduling, assessment, and grading
  - Reviewing supports and practicing lesson preparation