



PA High School Coaching Initiative Newsletter

The ANNENBERG FOUNDATION

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May 06

Regional Network Meetings New Dates for 2006-07

In May, over 150 coaches, administrators, mentors and other school district staff personnel met for our third networking meeting where participants engaged in thought-provoking conversations convened around topics of interest suggested by the larger group and also generated from the March networking meetings. Participants were also given an opportunity to meet in "home" or school teams to share the wisdom and best practices learned from their colleagues. Topics included but were not limited to creating evaluation tools, redesi-

gning the coaching logs, designing professional development sessions and discussing issues of confidentiality. Feedback from these sessions will help shape next year's networking meetings.

In the 06-07 school year, our networking meetings will be regional. The tentative dates for our networking meetings are:

December 11 – Eastern part of the state (Lehigh Valley, PA)

December 14 – Western part of the state (Cranberry, PA)

May 7 – Statewide initiative meeting for all districts (Penn State)



Update From PLN

"Unofficial transcripts" for the Regional Courses will be mailed to each participant by the first week of June. Official transcripts can be requested from the University of Pennsylvania's Registrar Office. The phone number is 215.898.6411.

Update From RFA

During May, RFA is completing its site visits. They took place in four districts – Erie, Lancaster, Philadelphia and Scranton. Teachers, coaches, administrators and mentors have graciously welcomed us into their work and provided a great deal of insight into how the Initiative is developing in particular places. This in-depth data will be analyzed with survey data to provide a fuller picture of the first year implementation of the Initiative. Thank you to all in those four dis-

tricts who have made the visits possible. RFA has shared data from the Coaches' survey at both the March and May Networking Meetings. You can find the two PowerPoint presentations about the Coaches' survey on the PA Coaching website.

RFA will continue to analyze data and provide formative feedback to partners and other Initiative participants. We hope to provide a first look at teacher survey data at the June training in Hershey.



**Mark Your
Calendar!**

- ◆ **June 25-28;**
August 14-16;
September 24-26,
2006

Centralized Course training at Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA

- ◆ **July 21, 2006**
Phase I cumulative report due to Philadelphia Foundation
- ◆ **Sept. 12, 13, 14, 2006**

PLN and Foundations training for new coaches. Location TBA

All events can be found on the calendar at
www.PaCoaching.org





Capturing Our Coaches In Action

In April and May, teachers, coaches, students, staff, administrative teams and the mentors facilitated the videotaping of classes, professional development sessions, coaches' meetings and interactive coaching opportunities at Sci Tech High School in the Harrisburg School District and at Strong Vincent HS, Central HS and East HS in the Erie School District. Coaches and teachers demonstrated best practices for collegial sharing as they worked together building capacity and engaged in their own professional learning communities. Coaches and teachers, supported by the Foundations, Inc. mentors modeled teaching strategies and collaborative coaching opportunities and focused on the pre-planning, visiting and debriefing sessions with teachers. As we move into our second year of the PAHSCI, our goals are to refine our strategies for student engagement and to help each other reshape our thinking and problem solving abilities to promote greater student achievement.

Many thanks to everyone in these schools who made this videotaping possible and to show how to create a culture of coaching in schools that encourages planning, reflection and problem solving.



Summer Centralized Training

***Make your reservations now for August
and September!***

This summer our PLN and Foundations Centralized Training will be held at the Hershey Lodge. Due to increased lodging costs during the summer months, all rooms will be double occupancy. You can reserve rooms now by calling 800.533.3131 and indicating that you are part of the PA High School Coaching group.

Check-in is 4 p.m. and check-out is 11 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Keck at skeck@caiu.org.