

Focusing Students on Achievement Sessions & Instructional Units

The end result of the Focusing Students on Achievement program is to provide teachers (and school leaders) with a set of structured and practiced Goal-Focused Communication skills that cause students to clarify their career, school, and classroom goals and to take responsibility for achieving them.

Session 1: Basic Goal Focused Communications (GFC) (Relationships, Communication Styles, & three Questions)

Instructional Units:

Three elements of a teaching-relationship

Communication Styles (know when to use each style)

- Directing
- Informing
- Engaging

Three questions to focus students on achievement

- What?
- Where?
- How?

Product of Work:

- Using prompt cards, conduct a Basic Goal-Focused Communication conversation that includes the three Questions (What, Where, and How) with a colleague

Session 2a: Conducting Basic Level GFC Guided Practice for Principal and School Leaders

Instructional Units:

- Elements of a demonstration
- Student Involvement
- Elements of a guided practice (Basic)

Session 2b: Basic Level GFC Guided Practice for Teachers

Activities:

- In-class, mentored practice of Basic Level Goal-Focused Conversations using teachers' students as subjects

Product of Work:

- Without the aid of prompt cards, conduct a Basic Level Goal-Focused Conversation that includes the three questions (What, Where, and How) with students in the teacher's class
- In addition to the three questions, teachers repeat the student's plan and make a follow-up appointment

Session 3: Intermediate Goal-Focused Communications (Goal-Focused Communication Characteristics and Structure)

Instructional Units:

Characteristics

- Congruent
- Accepting
- Respectful
- Encouraging

Structure

- Affirmation
- Reason
- Three questions
- Plan
- Appointment

Product of Work:

- Conduct with a colleague an intermediate level Goal-Focused Conversation that is Congruent, Accepting, Respectful, and Encouraging and which structure includes Affirmation, Reason, Three Questions, Plan, and Appointment

Session 4a: Conducting Intermediate Level GFC Guided Practice for Principal and School Leaders

Instructional Units:

- Determine programmatic Goal-Focused Communication with the School Leaders
- Responsibility for monitoring and adjustment

Session 4b: Intermediate Level GFC Guided Practice for Teachers

Activities:

- In-class, mentored practice of Intermediate Level Goal-Focused Communication conversations using teachers' students as subjects

Product of Work:

- Teacher conducts three intermediate level Goal-Focused Communication conversations with students in the his/her classroom that are Congruent, Accepting, Respectful, and Encouraging and which structures includes Affirmation, Reason, Three Questions, Plan, and Appointment and that are focused on student's career, school, or classroom goals