

Entry 6

Professional Logs

Involvement in and Contributions to School and District Improvement (To enhance and Support School and District)

Name: Bobbi Ehrlich

School: Bluemont Elementary
Eisenhower and Anthony Middle Schools

Date	Event (E.g., committee meeting, QPA/NCA activity)	Contribution / Insight	Impact on You, Other Teachers, Students, Parents
1/13	Elementary Music Teachers Meeting	This meeting was a debriefing of the overall year so far as well as things that need to be addressed with administration. Since I have not been in the schools much, my only contribution was that the 45 minute class periods for young elementary students are difficult and not a conducive learning environment – an experiment gone wrong.	This meeting was a good chance for all of the teachers to get together and come to agreements, especially about the schedules that work best for the learning of their students. This will give them the chance to take this to administration and hopefully improve the scheduling for next year.
1/15	Elementary Honor Choir Collaboration Meeting	This meeting was to go over the music for the elementary honor choir and discuss the plans made to get through the day with the students. We sang through all of the music so as to have a better feel and understanding of what it will sound like when teaching the students. I participated in this singing.	This meeting was a chance for teachers to discuss travel, care of students, rehearsal preparation expectations, and other concerns. Listening to all of the things that the teachers were dealing with or worried about was good to help me know what I may have to remember to work through in the future with my students when doing honor groups. The teachers had the chance to work through problems and will therefore have a better honor choir experience for their students.
1/27	Bluemont Elementary Faculty Meeting	This meeting was to go over the schedule and procedures for state assessments that are coming up. The meeting included cooperative learning as the strategy for getting the information across. I was able to participate in this even though I will not be a part of the state assessment.	This meeting reminded me that everyone has to be involved and understand the going-ons in the building, even if they are not a part of your classroom. All of the teachers left the meeting with an understanding of how state assessments were going to work and how to fit the needs of the students.

2/3	Bluemont Elementary Faculty Meeting	This meeting was held to discuss the possibility of opening a summer school in conjunction with Boys and Girls Club. They also discussed what needed to be done in preparation for parent teacher conferences coming up.	This meeting impacted me in that it helped me to see what teachers have to do to get ready for parent-teacher conferences. It also helped the teachers have open communication about this stressful time for them. This way, everything will be ready and communication with students and parents will not have any disconnect.
2/17	Bluemont Elementary Faculty Meeting	This meeting was held to reflect on how teaching is going and how positive reinforcement can impact the classroom. This discussion was done in table groups. I was able to contribute that I believe that positive reinforcement is important because if a student feels good, they are more likely to repeat that action, even if they had other poor behavior in the past.	This meeting allowed teachers to reflect on their classroom practices and remind themselves that discipline is the most natural response to poor behavior, but that positive reinforcement can head up the problem before it escalates and gets out of hand.
3/3	Eisenhower Middle School Faculty Meeting	This meeting was just a run down of things going on around the building as well as input on professional development for the summer.	This reminded me that there is a lot going on in the building and it is important to be aware as it affects the behavior of the students in your classroom (like the way announcements are being dealt with at lunch may make them upset).
4/21	Eisenhower Middle School Faculty Meeting	This meeting was to discuss the new bill that is passing through legislature and how it will affect the teachers in the district.	This will hopefully not have any effect on teaching or learning for the teachers in the district.

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Reflections

Involvement in and Contributions to School and District Improvement (To enhance and Support School and District)

In regards to involvement in and contributions to school and district improvement, I found that I was a very passive participant. Most of this I believe was due to the fact that only being in each placement for 8 weeks, I didn't feel like a huge team player, but rather an observer of what was occurring in these meetings and seminars. Most of my time was spent observing and listening, contemplating ideas. This is my general personality and I would say would be a strength of mine in this category. I am very capable of sitting back and listening to what people are considering and just taking it all in. Therefore, my weakness follows through with this, that I don't have a tendency to speak up unless I feel like my opinion or idea has a chance to win favor. If it's just a possibility but doesn't seem strong, I will more than likely simply keep it to myself.

My professional goal in this category is to become more proactive, looking at the needs of the school and district and how I can help. I believe that this will be easier when I am in a school district where I feel more ownership. I hope to be able to come into planning meetings knowing what will be discussed and having brainstormed ideas. I believe I have a creative and ingenuitive mind, so this would be something I could do if I set my mind to it.