Using Google Forms for Classroom Walkthroughs

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Background That Led to Your Inquiry:

After completing my first year as a principal I knew I had to get into the classroom more often than my first year. I felt the constraints of running the building which led me to be in my office too much. I knew if I wanted to improve as an instructional leader I must be in classrooms more often. I needed to create time and have an effective tool to collect data. In order to be successful I knew it had to be easy to implement and not a lot of time to make a big impact. In joining IPLI, I had an accountability piece that required me to make the time.

Statement of Your Wondering:

With this purpose, I wondered what impact would I have by being in classes more often? What areas could be impacted: relationships with staff, relationships with student, better understanding of instruction, student achievement, my personal health by walking and moving more, impact on student discipline

Methods/Procedures:

I used Google Forms to collect data. Before I left the classroom data was collected and I was done. I used the data from the Walkthrough Form to make adjustments along the way. I gave a survey to teachers about being in the classroom for walkthroughs to gain feedback. After two weeks, I realized I hadn't been in math classes at all. The easy-to-read pie chart prompted me to focus on math the next week. Allowed me to see which classes I was in more or less. I needed to be in special education classes and special area classes more so I made adjustments to my calendar. Even using the Google Form, I still needed to budget time by actually blocking out my schedule. On Friday, I would block time for the next week. It made me accountable to the process. Teachers lacked collaboration especially during math instruction. I told my SLT team this on a Friday. The next Monday I observed four of the 7 classes already using collaboration. Technology use is still a work in progress. Core instruction of reading and math is still low. RTI iPad App use is higher. Creation was an area that needed increased, so 4th nine weeks during computer lab time all students are creating either a Google Slide or iMovie on a content area of Social Studies or Science. Teachers found it beneficial. They want to see it continue in the future.

Stating Your Learning and Supporting it with Data:

As a result of analyzing my data, I learned the following items. I enjoy being in classrooms! It made me happy when I was done. I became a better instructional leader. I am better connected with certain staff members and more students.

It benefits all areas as indicated in the survey.

Providing Concluding Thoughts:

I will continue to do walkthroughs for the rest of this year and years to come. Over time I may adjust the questions to look for different trends. I will continue to use the feedback to make our school better. I have learned the teachers in my building are compliant. When I ask, suggest, or share feedback they are quick to take action to get it done and make changes. This project was very powerful in helping me become a better leader. IPLI provided the accountability piece to make such a big impact on me and my school.

References:

N/A