**CIT Action Research Proposal**

**(Facilitated by Mentors)**

*”Action research is a disciplined process of inquiry conducted by and for those taking the action. The primary reason for engaging in action research is to assist the “actor” in improving and/or refining his or her actions.”* Copyright © 2000 by Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

**Action Research** is a systematic inquiry done by teachers to gather information about, and subsequently improve how well their students learn. Although there are a number of models for doing action research, the basic process consists of four steps: **identify an area of focus, collect data, analyze and interpret data,** and **develop an action plan.**

**Name of Mentor Facilitator**(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. With the members of your action research group, write a thoughtfully crafted “Area-of-Focus Statement” that briefly describes the subject of your relevant action research.
2. Define the “variables” of your action research plan. A variable is a characteristic of your study that is subject to change (your teaching practice, student outcomes, etc.). Defining variables will assist you in selecting the type of data that you will collect.
3. Develop Essential Questions/Professional Learning Targets to guide your work. You will need to provide an agenda and minutes for each meeting that reflect the EQ and targets for that session.
4. Develop a statement of resources. This must include a central text, and should also include 2-4 additional resources that directly relate to your area of focus (books, articles, Internet reports, etc.).
5. Develop measurable data collection tools and ideas. (Some suggestions include: surveys, questionnaires, exhibits, portfolios, interviews, rating scales, inventories, visual recordings, photography, journals, mapping, teacher-constructed pre and post tests, student work.)
6. Describe the membership of the action research group. Provide all names, roles, and please include ID# as well.
7. **\*\*NEW\*\*** For uploading into TrueNorthLogic, you will need a list of dates your group will be meeting (whether Zoom or in Person or a combination).

**Please submit this form and the attached timeline to** **CIT@rcsdk12.org** **no later than DECEMBER 9th. If you are making changes to the attached suggested timeline, please make sure you attach your revised timeline. Teachers conducting Action Research that meet the expectations below will receive 20 hours of PD credit for this school year. Video cameras are available to be checked out.**

**Action Research Project Timeline and Expectations**

**December 9th** Action Research Plan due to CIT Program Director

The team

* Will decide on a team facilitator or will agree to rotate the role.
* Will read *[text related to topic]*
* Will meet to discuss assigned chapters and to identify strategies to try.
* Will meet to discuss the impact of the strategies being used.
* Decide on a pre-assessment to use with students (eg. writing assignment, lab, pre-test, etc.)

**November-December**

The team

* Will decide on a base line assessment and give it to their students in early September. (This is considered initial data.)
* Will analyze the initial data to assess areas of strength and weaknesses.
* Will meet with each other in late September/early October to discuss the baseline assessments and to review possible strategies to use.
* Will implement some of the suggested strategies in the text.
* Will videotape a lesson in which at least one of the strategies is being used. (This is considered data to examine.)
* Will meet with each other to discuss the impact of the strategies being used.
* Will modify instruction as necessary based upon the ideas gathered from the resources that are being read, the discussions taking place at the meetings and/or workshops attending.

**December-May (Realign your area of focus and Action Research Plan when necessary.)**

The team

* Will meet to continue to discuss how to modify instruction as necessary based on the ideas gathered from the text, the discussions taking place at the meetings and/or workshops attending.
* Will continue to discuss the strategies each member is implementing.
* Will continue to implement the chosen strategies from the text.
* Will videotape a lesson in which one of the strategies is being used. (This is considered data to examine.)
* Will meet with each other in March to discuss the impact of the strategies being used.
* Will give a post-assessment to compare to the pre-assessment.
* Will meet in May to have a reflective discussion about the strategies implemented and to determine future direction of the Action Research.
* Will submit a reflection to CIT@rcsdk12.org no later than May 15