

IT WORKED!

One-on-One Data Meetings and Data-Driven Instruction

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By the first practice test results, we saw that they were low. Almost two thirds of our students needed extra help and almost half of those were very close to proficiency but failed by one or two questions. We tested the students, got the results now what should we do?

We decided to share the results with the teachers and discuss what we could do. Our Dean of Academics and Coach met with each classroom math teacher. The Dean of Academics provided the report of cut scores and student scores that showed which students were very close, bubble kids, and which ones need more help. After defining names of students, as a coach I provided a report that showed which standards were missed for each identified student.

These meetings were data sharing meetings, and we tried to make sure all discussions were about students and standards that they missed and teachers did not feel criticized.

After our data meetings with each teacher, we asked our teachers to hold meetings with their specified students in the same format. During math lab classes while other students were working on their individual assignments teachers pulled those students one by one to share and discuss their scores, to determine what were the issues during the test and have students to set their own goals for next practice. In one of those meetings one of our students stated that she got a low score because she was stuck on one question and did not want to skip. The teacher and student practiced viewing questions and bookmarking those that are challenging in the first step and doing the questions easier to her first. The student raised her score by 200% better.

Student feedbacks and the next practice scores showed that we were on the correct path and the benefit of holding all of those meetings with each student. Students take ownership and teachers were happy to share responsibility with students who can actually make differences to their success. It was successful to me because meetings made the big picture zoom in to teachers and students eventually and my teachers wanted to continue these meetings for coming years and we catch up our previous year summative scores even before the last practice. These meetings were also beneficial for enhancing student teacher relationships.

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