

The Role of the Instructional Coach

New Fairfield Public Schools



NFPS Coach Description

The role of the coach is to **build teacher capacity** and their understanding of **instructional practices** as related to New Fairfield's **curriculum** and pedagogical philosophies. An instructional coach is a learner who models **continuous improvement** and goes above and beyond to ensure **student success**.

Furthermore, a coach promotes teacher reflection, provides guidance and structure where needed, and focuses on strengths, collaboration and common issues of concern. They are responsible for ensuring high-quality instruction in classrooms through modeling, co-planning, co-teaching and providing feedback to teachers.

**Knowledgeable
Scholars**



**Talented
Communicators**



**Critical & Creative
Thinkers**



**Engaged Global
Citizens**

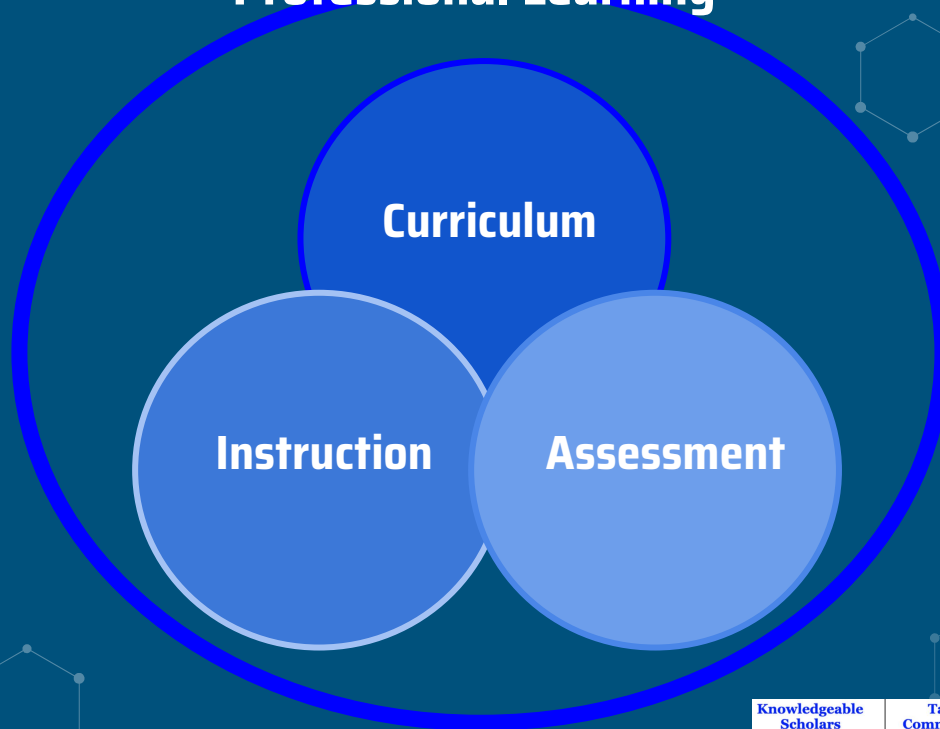


**Self-determined &
Self-reliant
Individuals**



Strengthening Our Core Systems for Teaching and Learning

Professional Learning



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NFPS Coaching - Instruction



- Model lessons in classrooms on a daily/weekly basis
- Support the instructional development of all teachers in understanding the New Fairfield **curriculum, varied assessments, and innovative instructional approaches**
- Assist teachers with **resources, materials, tools, information, etc.** to support classroom instruction and planning, including new resources
- Support teachers/administrators in **using data** to improve instruction on all levels
- Support teachers by **sharing multiple instructional strategies/processes** during planning times and coaching cycles
- Informally observe (non-evaluative) lessons and provide **feedback** for a teacher's professional growth and students' success

NFPS Coaching - Curriculum



- Leads the **development and implementation of a standards-based curriculum**, including common grade-level/course assessments
- Facilitates the **writing of curriculum** in their subject area
- Provide **direction and coordination for how the curriculum is taught** consistent with district initiatives and recognized best instructional practices
- Assist teachers with **resources, materials, tools, information, etc.** to support classroom instruction and planning, including new resources
- Support teachers/administrators in **using data** to improve instruction on all levels
- Develop staff members' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors through a variety of **professional development** targeted topics and designs

NFPS Coaching - Professional Learning

- Create an articulated schedule with building administration that includes coaching cycles and appointment times whereby teachers can utilize the coaches available time effectively
- **Lead PLCs, faculty meetings and professional learning opportunities** associated with best practices and research
- Develop staff members' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors through a **variety of professional development targeted topics and designs**
- **Provide job-embedded informal professional learning** beyond the coaching responsibility.





What does this look and sound like?

- Curriculum / unit overview and planning sessions
- Demonstrations / Collaborative teaching
- Learning walks
- Lesson study
- Data analysis sessions
- Assessment design
- Coach consultation
- New teacher mentoring
- Curriculum design work sessions





Why coaches?

- Effective curriculum design and development
- Fidelity of curriculum implementation
- Ongoing instructional best practices in our classrooms
- Analysis and effective use of student assessment data
- Responsiveness to student learning needs
- Differentiated, collaborative professional learning for teachers
- Teacher growth and retention
- Enhanced student learning outcomes

Coach → **Teacher** → **Student**





Coach  ***Teacher***  ***Student***

