

Instructional Leadership
Show

Episode #70

"Getting Into Classrooms" When You Can't Get Into Classrooms

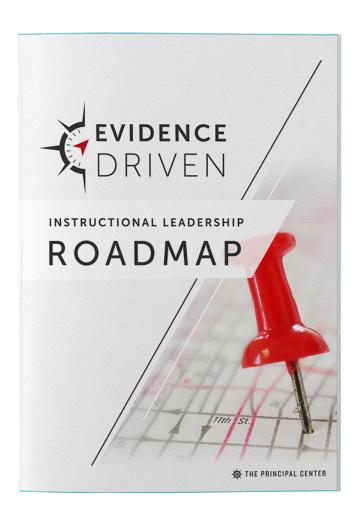


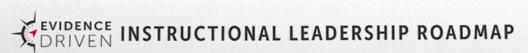
Our Essential Question



How can we practice evidencedriven instructional leadership when we can't physically get into classrooms?

PrincipalCenter.com/roadmap





Stage	Productivity	Walkthroughs	Conversations	Framework	500 Classrooms	High-Performance Instructional Leadership
Focus	Get Current!	Get Into Classrooms!	Get Into Feedback Conversations!	Get Aligned & Specific!	Get Consistent & Impactful!	Get Strategic!
Level 1	I'm overwhelmed and can't even think about getting into classrooms	I rarely get into class- rooms for informal visits, and do only the minimum required formal observa- tions	I give teachers feedback only in the annual evalu- ation process or when I see something out of the ordinary	I evaluate teachers as sat- isfactory or unsatisfactory based on my professional judgment	I'm afraid to visit class- rooms because I don't know what I'll see, and neither teachers nor stu- dents expect to see me	I know only what I see during formal observa- tions, and don't have any sense of teachers' typical practice or how it relates to our school's goals or strategic plan
Level 2	I'm keeping my head above water, but can't get into classrooms consis- tently	I get into classrooms a few times a week, but I'm in- consistent and don't make it around to everyone	I give teachers written feedback from my infor- mal visits, without having a conversation	I evaluate teachers ac- cording to a leveted rubric based on the evidence I've collected	I get into classrooms as I'm able, but I'm often thrown off-track by having to deal with unpleasant surprises; my visits catch teachers and students off-guard	I have a general sense of each teacher's practice, but am unclear how it re- lates to our school's goals and strategic plan
Level 3	I'm staying on top of my work so I can get into classrooms regularly	I get into three classrooms a day, every day, so I see every teacher on a 2-week rotation	I share my written evi- dence with the teacher immediately, and have an evidence-based feedback conversation on the spot or soon after my visit	I have regular, evi- dence-based conver- sations with teachers using the language of our instructional framework	I visit three classrooms a day, every day, so teachers and students are used to seeing me, and my feedback conversations are having an impact on teacher practice	I have a good sense of each teacher's practice in specific areas and how it relates to our school's goals and strategic plan
Level 4	I have well-optimized systems to keep me orga- nized so I can confidently get into classrooms every day, without worrying about my other work	I visit every classroom every two weeks, and rotate my visits so I see each teacher at different times of day	I differentiate my feedback conversations using the boss (directive), coach (reflective), or leader (reflexive) roles depending on each teacher's needs, always sharing my written evidence immediately	I gather evidence of teacher practice using the language of our instruc- tional framework, and have discipline-specific conversations with each teacher	Teachers and students expect to see me in classrooms, and I can see the impact it's having on students and on teacher practice in specific areas of our instructional framework	I have a clear sense of each teacher's level of performance in specific areas of our instructional framework and how it relates to our school's goals and strategic plan, so I can identify our biggest opportunities for school improvement.

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EVIDENCE INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP ROADMAP





PRODUCTIVITY

Get Current!

I have well-optimized systems to keep me organized so I can confidently get into classrooms every day, without worrying about my other work



WALKTHROUGHS

Get Into Classrooms!

I visit every classroom every two weeks, and rotate my visits so I see each teacher at different times of day



CONVERSATIONS

Get Into Feedback Conversations!

I differentiate my feedback conversations using the boss (directive), coach (reflective), or leader (reflexive) roles depending on each teacher's needs, always sharing my written evidence immediately



FRAMEWORK

Get Aligned & Specific!

I gather evidence of teacher practice using the language of our instructional framework, and have discipline-specific conversations with each teacher



500 CLASSROOMS

Get Consistent & Impactful!

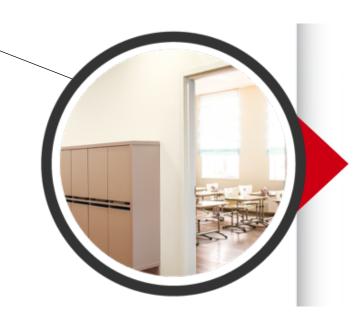
Teachers and students expect to see me in classrooms, and I can see the impact it's having on students and on teacher practice in specific areas of our instructional framework



HIGH-PERFORMANCE INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP™

Get Strategic

I have a clear sense of each teacher's level of performance in specific areas of our instructional framework and how it relates to our school's goals and strategic plan, so I can identify our biggest opportunities for school improvement



WALKTHROUGHS Get Into Classrooms!

I visit every classroom every two weeks, and rotate my visits so I see each teacher at different times of day

Barriers To In-Person Walkthroughs

- Safety protocols
- Online-only instruction
- New divisions of labor
- New modalities of instruction



Prioritize Presence Over Feedback & Evidence Collection



When you're able to safely get into classrooms, make it a priority to be **present** and **pleasant**.

Should I "Pop In" To Online Classes?

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If your school is conducting live online classes using a videoconferencing platform, set expectations about admin pop-ins.

Pop-In Priority: Present & Pleasant



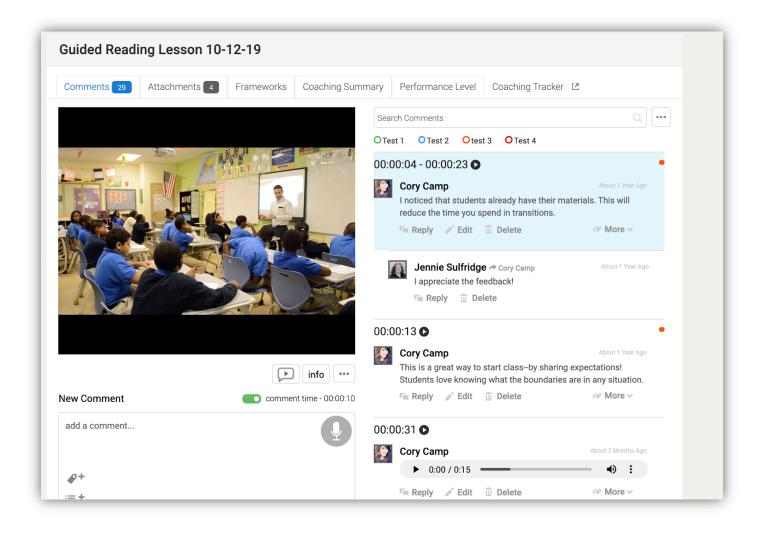
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Other Ways to Gather Evidence: Option #1: Schedule 1:1 Conversations



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Other Ways to Gather Evidence: Option #2: Teacher-Submitted Video



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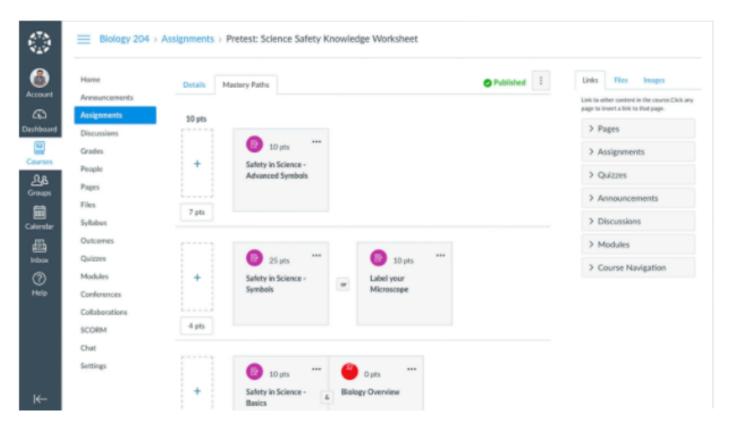
Other Ways to Gather Evidence: Option #3: Join or Save Videos of PLCs



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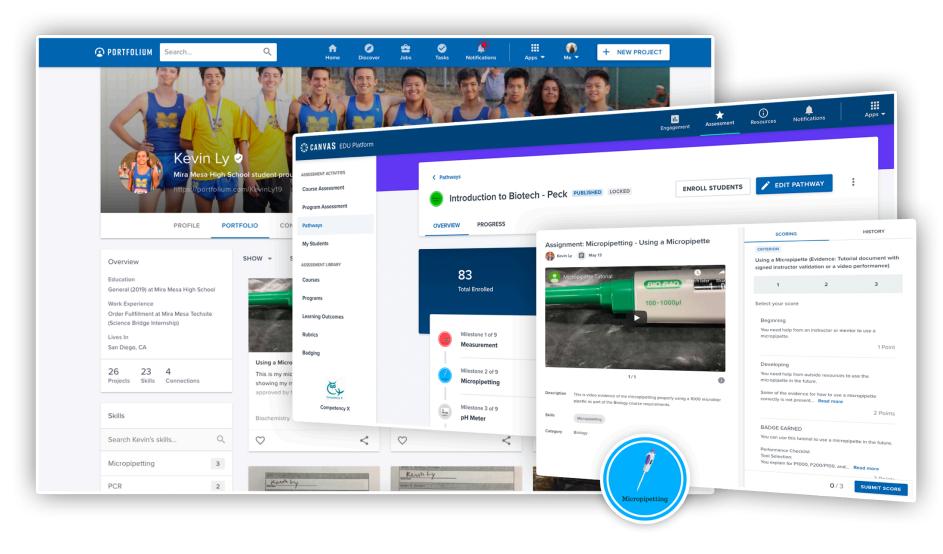
Other Ways to Gather Evidence: Option #4: Existing Artifacts

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Other Ways to Gather Evidence: Option #5: Student Work



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Other Ways to Gather Evidence: Option #6: Data



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Other Ways to Gather Evidence: Option #7: Video Observation Cycle





- Preconference
- Recorded or live video observation
- Postconference

Sources of Evidence

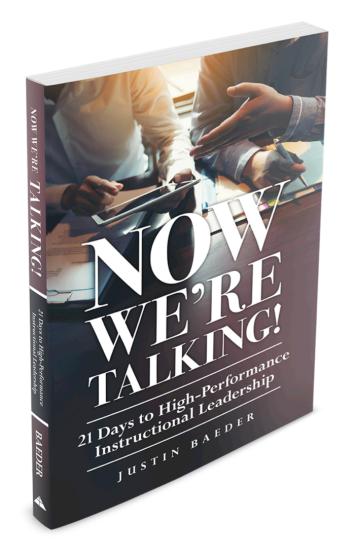
Our *sources* of evidence must be aligned with the *nature* of the evidence we're collecting

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Structured Cycles

Chapter 20:
Choosing an
Instructional
Focus for an
Observation Cycle



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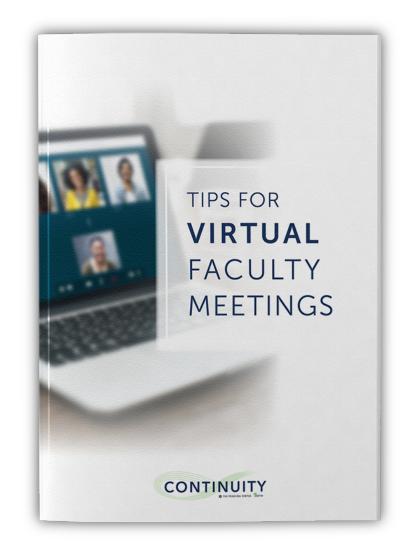
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