

Principal Inquiry Cycle

Phase I: Analyze evidence to develop problems of practice.

Step i: Analyze evidence of student learning to identify a student learning problem.

1. What are some concerns about student learning?
2. What evidence supports these concerns?
3. What is the specific student learning problem to be addressed in this inquiry cycle?
4. Why this one over others?

Step ii: Analyze evidence of instruction to identify a contributing teaching problem of practice.

1. When you think about this student learning problem, which Learner-Centered practices would effectively address it?
2. Which concern you the most--what is the specific problem of teaching practice to be addressed in this inquiry cycle?
3. Why this one over others?

Phase II: Determine an area of focus.

Step i: Analyze evidence of principal leadership and determine an instructional leadership area of focus.

1. What leadership practices would a principal be engaging in if she was effectively addressing the teaching problem of practice and identified student learning problem?
2. Which concern you the most--what is the specific problem of principal instructional leadership practice to be addressed in this cycle of inquiry?

3. Why this one over others?

Step ii: Generate a theory of action.

If the principal...

then the teachers will be able to...

so that students will be able to...

Step iii: Determine evidence of success.

Area of Change	Principal Practice	Teaching Practice	Student Learning
What is the current reality?			
What will success look like?			
How will success be measured?			

Step iv: Determine a date to formally analyze the impact of this inquiry cycle.

Date:

Phase III: Implementation and support

Step i: Restate the principal area of focus and co-create the learning plan.

Possible Actions: classroom observations, co-planning, PD, examining student work, coaching

Learning Plan		Why do you think these actions are likely to improve principal performance?
Learning Session 1: Date: Time:		
Learning Session 2: Date: Time:		
Learning Session 3: Date: Time:		
Learning Session 4: Date: Time:		
LS 5: Date: Time:		

Evidence Gathering: How will evidence of the principal's practice be gathered? What will be observed? How will the information be shared?

Steps for next session:

Phase IV: Analyze impact.

Step i: Analyze student and teacher evidence.

1. What has changed with student learning since the beginning of this cycle? What is the evidence?
2. What has changed with teaching practice since the beginning of this cycle? What is the evidence?

Step ii: Analyze the principal leadership practice evidence.

1. What has changed with the instructional leadership practice since the beginning of this cycle? What is the evidence?

Step iii: Determine whether to continue with the same area of focus and inquiry cycle or adjust accordingly.

Next steps: