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SHAKER HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Shaker Heights, Ohio

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

SPRING TENURED TEACHER EVALUATION



Teacher: Jody Podl

School: Shaker Heights High School

General Appraisal

Mrs. Podl is a quality teacher within the English Department. This was my opinion, through informal observations and conversations. However, in an effort to complete the tenured teacher evaluation process, Mrs. Podl asked me to formally visit her classroom and observe her and her students within the academic setting.

Pathwise-Based Classroom Observation: When I visited Mrs. Podl's classroom, I was delighted to observe a vibrant and educationally sound lesson, which featured a teacher leading her students and everyone understanding his/her role within the learning environment. More specifically, Mrs. Podl led an organized lesson, which was grounded in prior knowledge and/or curriculum information. Throughout the period the students were attentive and energetic. This was easy to surmise as Mrs. Podl called on different students for oral commentary and feedback. In addition, when the students were working cooperatively in groups, Mrs. Podl canvassed the room, making sure that each group of students were working effectively and making good use of instructional time. In many, I witnessed a superb lesson because the students were privy to solid instruction. Furthermore, the lesson/activities were varied and allowed for everyone to be involved at some point during the period. It is hoped that Mrs. Podl will continue to create and facilitate lessons, which encourage critical thinking, enthusiasm for learning and encourage everyone within the classroom to be a participant.

Domain C (Teaching for Student Learning):

Mrs. Podl provided artifacts, which clearly fell under the student learning. One was an example of Demystifying Learning. After careful reading, I discovered how Mrs. Podl was able to relate her experience with taking golf lessons to her students and their difficulties with being proficient learners. More precisely, through her own challenges of hitting a golf ball, Mrs. Podl learned that it wasn't that many of her students couldn't read or they wouldn't write; it was that they couldn't always figure out what to do or how to do it. In the end, her experience on the golf course taught her how to be a better and more comprehensive classroom teacher. **Artifact 1:** A detailed Mythology Syllabus. This information provided the students with a road map and hopefully allowed the students to feel more comfortable with the material and with assignment dates. **Artifact 2:** This particular offering allowed for me to see how Mrs. Podl believes in the importance of breaking down information and giving student multiple opportunities to get it right. Ironically, this was another important lesson that Mrs. Podl learned while taking golf lessons. The artifact shared was a sampling of a *Small Group Project: Nature Myths and Fables*. The document mired how to effectively eat an elephant and/or lesson

one bite at a time. Moreover, it expressed the objective of the lesson and the process. Finally, it listed specific information (e.g. Myths, students within each group).

Domain D (Teacher Professionalism):

Mrs. Podl provided a copy of the magazine: *Your Teen for Parents*. Within this particular copy, Mrs. Podl was featured through an article she submitted. The article was entitled: *Rotary or Cell* (A phone links us to our respective worlds). This was truly an interesting read, which continues to express how Mrs. Podl brings many of her own experiences into the classroom and/or tries to share information which may greater the understanding of those involved (i.e. youth/students, parents etc...). In a capsule: It is important that educators *flashback* in order to develop professionally and/or spark growth in their understanding of students and how to create quality instructional methods, which will lead to greater academic success for students.

Administrative Check List: Please see attached document.

5/29/09 Eric Hutch
Date Principal's Signature

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of this report

Teacher's signature

While I have signed this I also intend to submit a supplement by: _____
Date

Teacher's Initials