Staff Development Theme: Philosophy and Vision 75 minute training session

Rationale:It is important that all team members be working toward similar goals. A shared educational philosophy can help teams come together and improve collaboration and a day to day basis.

Notes: This session can serve as an introduction to sharing or reviewing the philosophy for the organization.

General outline:

- I. Introduction
- II. Reflection
- III. Relating to our work

Detailed Outline:

- I. Introduction (10 minutes)
 - A. Why do we do the work we do? Discuss value and importance.
 - B. Individual brainstorm of words or phrases that describe the value and importance of our work.
- II. Reflection, Think-Pair-Share: (20 minutes)
 - A. By yourself, take a few minutes and read over the philosophy and highlight some key words or phrases that stand out to you. (5 minutes)
 - B. Share these words/phrases with your neighbor. (5 minutes)
 - C. Let's now share these words/phrases out in a group. Chart out on paper or on the board. (10 minutes)
 - D. Before moving on... group brainstorm: Are there any words or phrases that you think are missing? (2 min)
- III. Relating to our Work: (40 minutes)
 - A. Partner/triad choose key word or phrase. (2 minutes)
 - B. Small group discussion: examples of key word or phrase in teacher behaviors, attitudes, strategies to use with families and/or children (5 minutes)
 - C. Illustrate key word/phase. (15 minutes)
 - D. Share key word/phrase with whole group (5 groups, 3 minutes each = 15 minutes, plus transition, comments, 20 minutes)

Note: be sure to anticipate how many groups you want sharing out at the end. The partner of triad worked well with a group of 12 people. You can easily ask for groups of 4 or 7.

- IV. Final thoughts, reflection: (5 minutes)
 - A. Keeping key words/phrases present in our work
 - B. Key questions: How are they reflected in how we interact with children? The activities/curriculum we plan with the children? How we interact with families? How we interact with each other? How we set up the room environment?

Are you interested in purchasing the script or in having Stephanie or Tami present this session to your team? Contact us now to get more information.

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