

Strengths and Areas of Growth Assessment Example

	Strengths	Areas of Growth
Positive Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom teachers host Morning Meetings • Teachers care for all students and intervene with behaviors to keep students safe • Teachers collaborate with one another 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set clear expectations for sharing time so that it is safe for all students to share • Teachers are offered collaborative planning time to problem-solve issues in the classroom and whole school community
Effective Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students know the procedures in the classrooms and most common areas • Teachers have established quiet signal • Behavior incidents have decreased 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase knowledge and skills of cafeteria/playground/special areas to align with <i>Responsive Classroom</i>
Engaging Academics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers communicate purpose of activity/lesson to students • Some teachers use a few Academic Choice lessons throughout the year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create more active/interactive lessons • Allow students more choice • Embed energizers or interactive learning structures throughout lessons
Developmentally Responsive Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers scaffold lessons that reflect students' developmental abilities • Teachers set up classroom according to partnering/seating preferences of students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Choice reflects the range of ability of the students in the class • Increase movement and interactions during lessons to meet students' developmental needs

Goal-Setting Examples

Example #1

Create a climate in the building where both teachers and students feel accepted for who they are and are able to take risks, knowing they will be supported.

- Support teachers in increasing the use of reinforcing language
- Email “reinforcing language of the day”
- Create a graffiti board
- Develop a blog
- Give articles
- Show video during PD
- Role-play using reinforcing language
- Create scenarios and have staff generate reinforcing language
- Put expectations up and have groups generate language to be used
- Practice using reinforcing language with one another around another task
- Use part of the Teacher Language Professional Development Kit—show video or do the reinforcing language session

Example #2

Increase staff collaboration around *Responsive Classroom* ideas.

- Set up buddy teachers to check in
- Create a “How Pinteresting” bulletin board in teachers’ lounge
- First 6 weeks of staff meetings focus on sharing ideas with one another and giving staff information based on survey interests
- Jigsaw activity—meet with grade level to discuss, then disperse to vertical teams to meet
- Create a Wiki on various topics
- Do a photo walk-through—show slides during start of staff meeting
- Expert group determination—Morning Meeting, Teacher Language, Interactive Modeling, Logical Consequences, Energizers, Classroom Organization, Problem-Solving Conferences
- Reinforcing Language Week—leave love for your colleague

Example #3

Align school discipline code with *Responsive Classroom* beliefs.

- Do a Carousel activity in examining current discipline code
- Start from nothing and build—what would we want discipline code to look like
- Have a small parent group come in and look at current discipline policy
- Contact other *Responsive Classroom* schools in district to see what discipline policies look like
- Draft with *Responsive Classroom* Team and give to staff to examine
- Build Plusses and Wishes with vertical or grade level teams
- Create a schoolwide constitution—each grade level sends up two ideas on how to revamp discipline code

Example #4

Help teachers examine teacher language and implement the practice with more fidelity.

- Teacher Language Professional Development Kit (one full-day PD staff meeting)
- Create a blog for people to post about their journey
- Goal-setting workshop around each type of language
- Book study on *The Power of Our Words*
- Article study at staff meeting
- Academic Choice at staff meeting on one type of language to focus on
- Use *The Responsive Classroom Assessment Tool for Teachers* with partner teachers
- Provide demo lessons in each grade level
- Facilitate peer observations
- Set up Breakfast Club meetings
- Have a panel discussion with volunteer teachers

***Responsive Classroom* Goal-Setting Planning Sheet**

Choose a focus

- A strength you want to continue to improve

- An area that is not as strong

- A problem that has already been identified and you are looking for a solution

Create subtopics

- How will this focus be broken down?

Choose and plan projects

- What projects will help achieve the overarching goal?

Logistics

- ▶ How long/often will this be worked on?

- ▶ What responsibilities will each team member have?

- ▶ Who is the target audience for this goal?

- ▶ What indicators will you be looking for that your goals are being met through these projects?

Resources

- ▶ What resources will you use? (articles, books, consultants, panel members)

- ▶ Where are these resources located?