



The TEACHER CENTER of Broome County
Teacher Study Group Grant Award
2001-2002

FINAL REPORT
DOCUMENT PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES

Identifying Students At Risk

The final report must be word-processed and submitted both in print and on disk using this form. Include information under each of the following headings.

Describe the initial goal of the group noting any adjustments that had to be made as time passed.

Our group had proposed a course of study that we hoped would enable us to better identify and support our primary students at risk for failure. We also wanted to evaluate if our philosophy of valuing each student for her strengths, supporting each student in her learning journey was still sustained in the current research. Using current, researched based assessment tools, more effective observation techniques, and an increased knowledge base of possible learning disabilities, we hoped to more accurately assess the causes for failure to learn.

Describe the ACTION PLAN that the group followed.

Our Action Plan was to read and discuss current research; research based assessment tools, more effective observation techniques, and learning disabilities. We wanted to discuss the ways to more accurately assess student's needs, modify teacher instruction, and redesign learning tasks for those students most at risk for failure.

Describe how the action plan was implemented.

Our Action Plan was for each member of the group to search for books, journal articles, speakers that spoke to our questions. Each member took on the responsibility for this task. We then took turns outlining our findings at each meeting, sharing pertinent copies of articles. Following this, our group would then discuss the points made, contributing our own ideas and experiences.

Evaluation of the impact of the study group effort on teacher/student performance.

- What evidence is there that teaching practices have changed?
- What evidence is there that student achievement is improving?

- What evidence is there that the goals of the study group has/has not been met?

Each of us felt enriched with new knowledge and information on a variety of topics. As an example, a student with possible Asperger's Syndrome now has a posted schedule to follow and visual cues to follow when redirection is needed. Several of our student's with possible ADHD now have behavior modification plans in place. Our participation at CSE meetings has improved due to increased knowledge bases. Lesson Accommodation is easier to plan based on the fact that we are now looking for each student's strength to build on. We feel enriched as professionals, better able to do the job that we love and struggle with everyday. We thank the Teacher Center for their support.

Comment on the value of the study group process? Did it work for you?