Kansas Mentor & Induction Center
2016-17 Mentor Forums

Mentor Forums
Mentor forums, which provide mentors with a venue to develop their skills and their understanding of adult learning, constitute a key component of professional development. Forums provide a professional learning environment where mentors can reflect on their own practice with support from their colleagues. Trained mentors meet quarterly with other mentors from across the state in sessions facilitated by KMIC’s NTC national trainers.

KMIC offers ongoing mentor learning through Mentor Forums. Trained mentors come together in a Professional Learning Community for a number of purposes:

• To create a collaborative community of practice for mentors
• To deepen mentoring skills and advance induction practices
• To support program implementation
• To provide for mentor accountability in a supportive environment
• To support each mentor’s emerging leadership

A curriculum of mentoring provides a framework, but the topics addressed and the learning processes are selected in response to the assessed mentors’ needs. Time is allocated to strengthen the mentor community of practice, to revisit mentoring concepts and strategies, to practice and deepen skills, to model and analyze best mentoring practices or the use of formative assessment protocols, and to problem-solve issues of practice.
Kansas Mentor and Induction Center partners with school districts to provide a system for high quality professional development for mentors of new teachers to encourage teacher retention and develop quality educators for enhanced student achievement in Kansas schools.

**Quality Mentors + Quality Educators = Student Success**

Interwoven into the mentor forums are opportunities for each mentor to meet with a coaching partner to discuss and assess their personal level of mentoring practice and to set goals. Structures, tools and protocols aligned with the formative assessment processes used with beginning teachers help guide the process.

Coaching partners are encouraged to continue their interactions and support of one another in the months when they are not physically meeting. Coaching partners serve as a resource, a co-learner, and an advocate for his/her mentor colleague—one who helps facilitate the partner’s learning.

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Please contact KMIC for times and locations or to register.

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