

EPISODE 266

Breaking The Ice In Your First Round Of Visits To Classrooms



INSTRUCTIONAL
LEADERSHIP SHOW



Essential Question



How can I break the ice and get people used to classroom walkthroughs right at the beginning of the school year?



Expect Awkwardness



- "Oh, can I help you?"
- "Are you here for a student?"
- "Class, please stand and say good morning when __ comes into the room."
- "What did you think when you stopped by?"

If We Don't Break The Ice



- Launch right into formal or formal-ish observations
- Typical feeling of high stakes & stress
- Greater difficulty having authentic conversations
- Reversion to feedback giver/receiver roles

It's Never Too Late



- Start any time
- The sooner the better
- First day of school is best
- If it's on a random day, send a follow-up email

What To Do



- Visit every teacher you supervise
- Stay 1-2 minutes
- Smile and wave—be “present and pleasant”
- Do not leave a note or send an email
- Do not give feedback or debrief

Breaking Through Your Internal Resistance



- Responding immediately to all emails
- Hiding out in the office
- Finding reasons to go back to the office
- Letting people interrupt with non-urgent issues

Narrow Your Focus



You're not giving feedback for improvement.

Simply break the ice—be “present and pleasant.”

Follow-Up Email



Dear Staff,

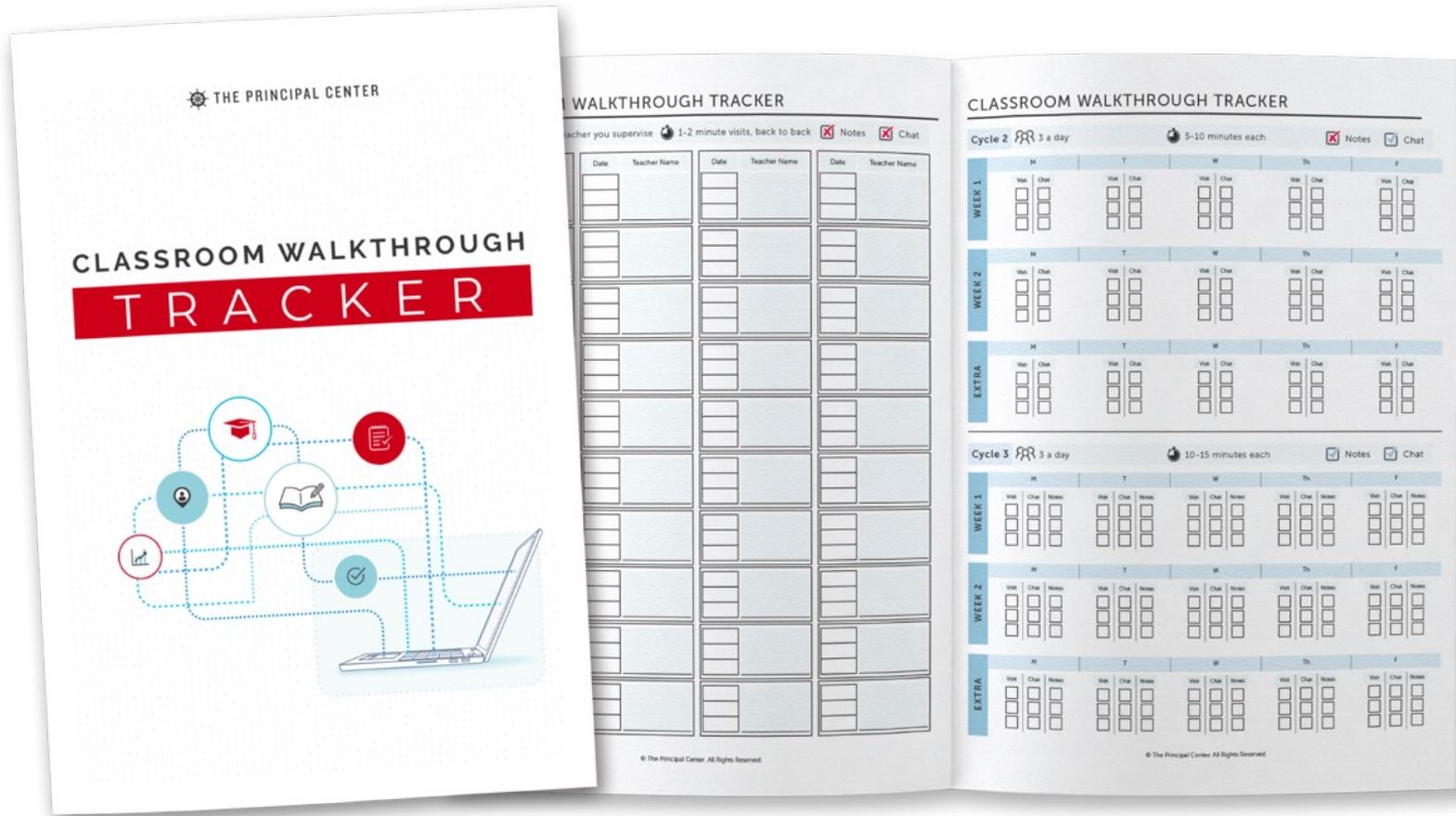
I made some time to stop by every classroom, and it was a pleasure to see our students hard at work.

Thanks for all you do every day!

Justin



Classroom Walkthrough Tracker



PrincipalCenter.com/tracker-pdf



3-Cycle Startup Plan



PrincipalCenter.com/3cycle-pdf



Your First Three Cycles



Cycle 1

 Every teacher you supervise  1-2 minute visits, back to back Notes Chat

Cycle 2

 3 a day  5-10 minutes each Notes Chat

Cycle 3

 3 a day  10-15 minutes each Notes Chat

Keep The Momentum Up



- The next day, start Cycle 2 with 3 visits/day
- Stay 5-10 minutes & pay closer attention
- Continue to be present & pleasant
- No notes, written feedback, or written questions
- Brief chat as necessary & convenient

Accountability



One Thousand

C  N V E R S A T I O N S



The Scoreboard Is Live!



HOME / CLASSROOM WALKTHROUGH SCOREBOARD

Welcome to the Classroom Walkthrough Scoreboard! We'll update this page each week with the latest tallies of your classroom conversations.

Next Update: Sunday, August 25



How It Works

- RSVP with one click
- Reply to Sunday email
- Scoreboard updated weekly
- Strive for 500/year

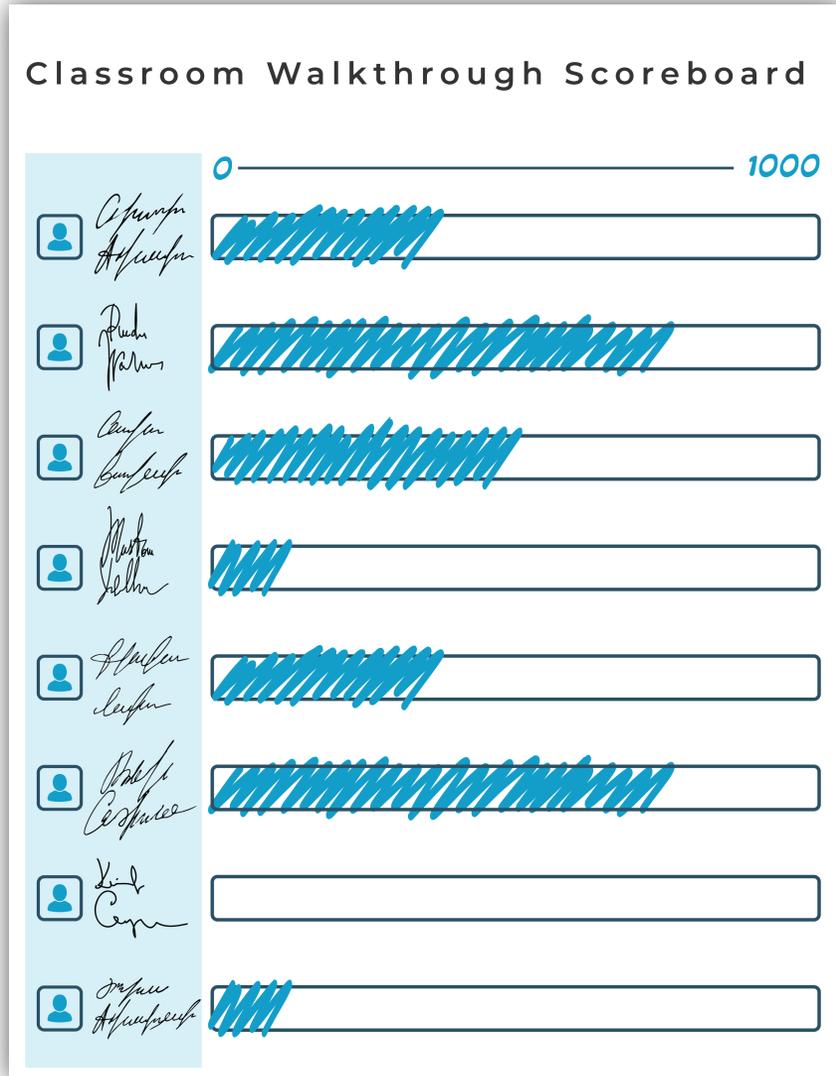


Who & What's Included



- Requires active Instructional Leadership Association membership (\$99/month)
- Sign up for one year to get Evidence-Driven Classroom Walkthrough Certification Program (\$1999 value)
- Request a quote for your group

The Scoreboard



- Total classroom walkthroughs
- No denominator—no penalty for missing days

Dashboard.PrincipalCenter.com/Scoreboard



THE PRINCIPAL CENTER All Programs Customer Service

HOME / CLASSROOM WALKTHROUGH SCOREBOARD

Classroom Walkthrough Scoreboard

0 ————— 1000

<i>A. Brown</i>	
<i>P. Davis</i>	
<i>C. Green</i>	
<i>M. Hill</i>	
<i>H. King</i>	
<i>D. Lopez</i>	
<i>V. Moore</i>	

00:02 / 00:28

Ask A Question

How would you like to answer?

VIDEO AUDIO TEXT

👉 You can practice before sending

Welcome to the classroom walkthrough scoreboard.

THE PRINCIPAL CENTER



Repertoire Rapid Setup



- For each teacher: First Name, Last Name, Email
- Any format is fine
- Sample file: PrincipalCenter.com/repertoire-roster-csv
- Send to justin@principalcenter.com

REPERTOIRE^{ai}

