

EPISODE 311

Gathering Decisional Information From Classroom Walkthroughs



INSTRUCTIONAL
LEADERSHIP SHOW



Essential Question



How can classroom walkthroughs
inform my decisions beyond
individual feedback conversations?

A Definition



Instructional leadership is the practice
of making and implementing
operational and improvement
decisions
in the service of student learning.

Indirectness



- Much of our work to improve teacher practice is indirect
- Much of the information we obtain about teacher needs is indirect
- Not everything that matters happens through explicit observation & feedback

Implicit Information



- Personalities and their interactions
- Multiple dimensions of each person
- Capacity & readiness
- Shared understanding

Example: Schedule Change



- Change: tighten up schedule to reduce transition time
- Intention: use time more efficiently for learning
- Unintended consequence: not enough transition time; activities not able to start on time; staff more stressed
- Decisional information: teachers & students not arriving on time; needing bathroom breaks

Example: New Curriculum



- Change: Adoption of new math curriculum
- Intention: Full & rapid transition to new materials & approach
- Decisional information: learning curve steeper than expected; teachers need more support & time; need some clarifications about design of curriculum





Student-Specific Information



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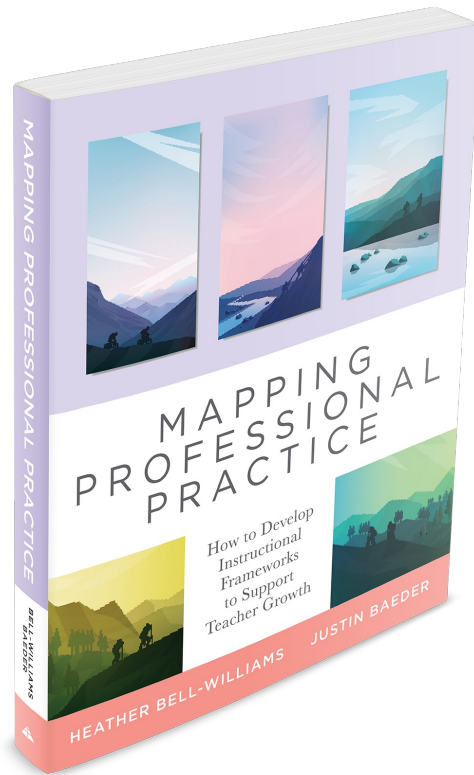


Student-Specific Information



- How is the student doing at various times of day and in various classes?
- What interactions are working well—or not?
- What does this student need to succeed?
- Direct behavioral intervention

Initiative Timing



- How ready are we?
- Who should go first?
- Who will need more time/support?

See Ch. 11 of *Mapping Professional Practice*: Supporting Organization-Level Initiatives with Instructional Frameworks



Theory of Action for Instructional Leadership



Confidently get into three classrooms every day

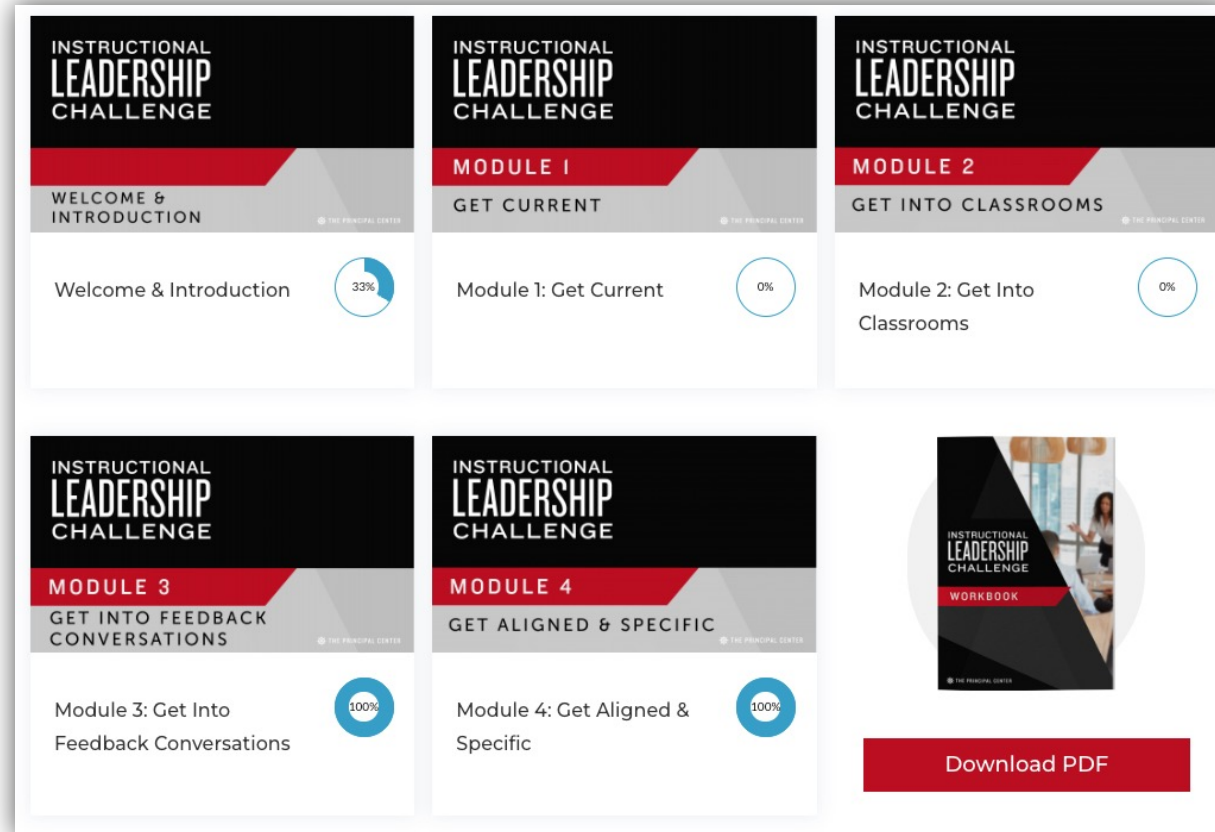


Have feedback conversations that change teacher practice



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