

November 2023



**Leveraging
TeachersFirst
to Support Teacher
Growth & Development**

**Midwest Conference for
Educational Coaches
(MCEC)**

MCEC NOV 2023



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@howlingmonkey2

This session is brought to you by:



TeachersFirst

- | Classroom Resources
- | Professional Learning
- | MySciLife

Resources for Today's Session

Complete the form with your name & email for access to the slide deck and a few extras that we'd love to share with you.

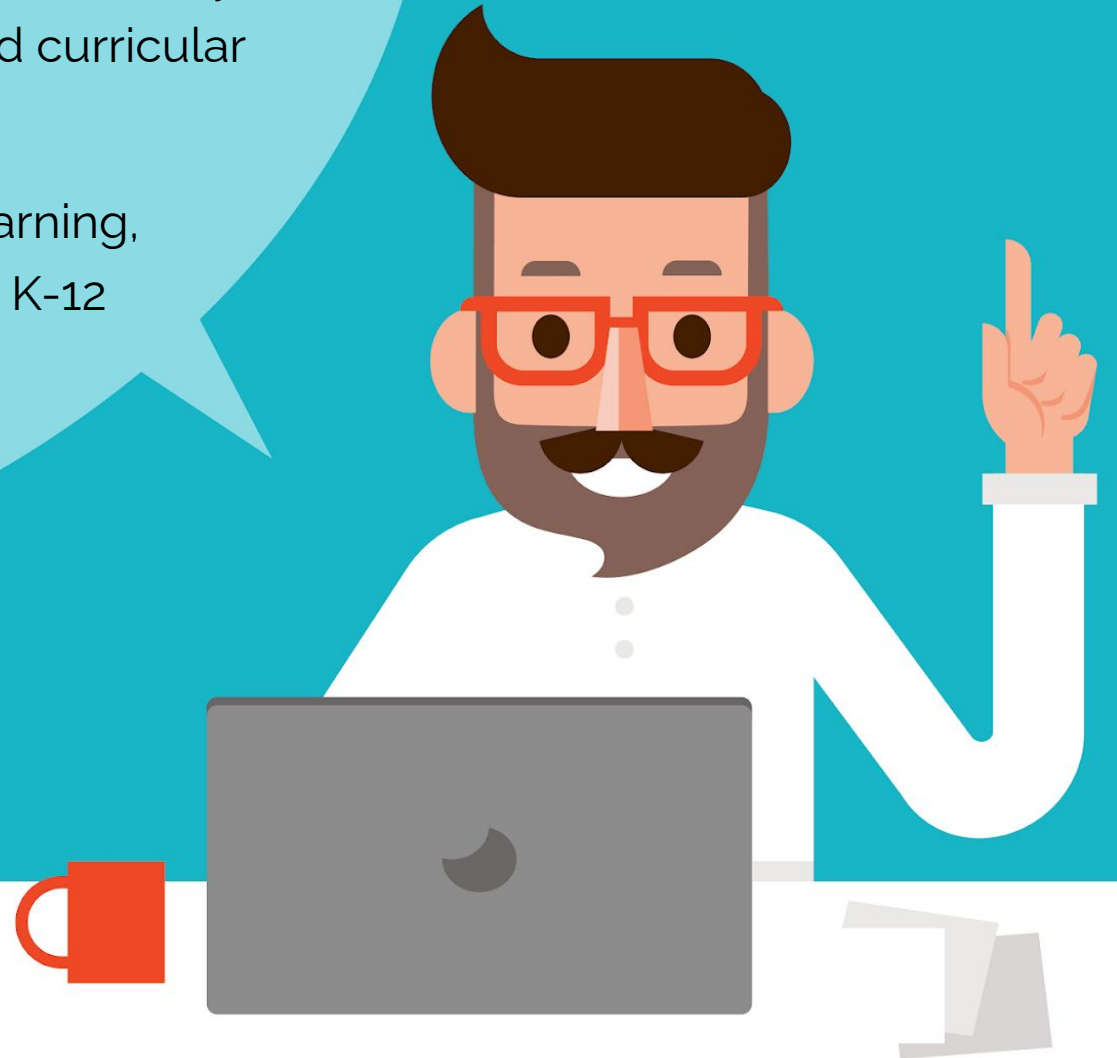


<https://bit.ly/MCEC23>

WHAT IS TeachersFirst?

TeachersFirst is a searchable web portal designed for teachers, by teachers to provide access to free curated and reviewed curricular resources and professional learning opportunities.

This ad-free site is brought to you by The Source for Learning, a nonprofit educational services organization that offers K-12 and Early Childhood Education resources and SFLBroadband.



TeachersFirst

Resources Overview

1 TeachersFirst Website - **Instructional Planning Resources**

2 TeachersFirst Website - **Searchable Database**

3 Created by TeachersFirst - **Instructional Resources**

4 Professional Learning Opportunities



TEACHERSFIRST WEBSITE – Instructional Planning Resources

Help! I Lost My
Library/Media
Specialist



Building
Schoolwide
Literacy



Adapt-a-Strategy



FEATURED EDTECH RESOURCES
Reviewed by



15,000+ Teacher-reviewed Resources Since 1998!



Writing & Digital Storytelling Treasures

This week we feature writing, poetry, and digital storytelling tools for you and your students. December includes the birthdays of authors Emily Dickinson and Rudyard Kipling, as well as the publishing of the holiday classic, A Christmas Carol. Explore our collections to find resources to celebrate these occasions and more!

Classroom Planning Calendar



- Jan 9 OK2Ask Make the Most of Your TeachersFirst Membership [🔗](#)
- Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 15 100th Day of school- date varies
- Jan 16 OK2Ask My Students Need That! Chrome Features & Extensions for Accessibility [🔗](#)
- Jan 18 Twitter Chat: Project-Based Learning
- Jan 29 "The Raven" was published on this date
- Jan 30 OK2Ask Engage & Inspire: Comics in the Classroom [🔗](#)
- Feb 1 Black History Month

VIEW

[Complete Calendar](#)

Weekly
Newsletter



Classroom
Planning
Calendar

TEACHERSFIRST WEBSITE – Searchable Database

1

Thousands of
teacher reviewed
classroom
resources

2

The EDGE – find
tech tools to
create projects

3

Over 100 Special
Topic Pages
listing the 'best of
the best'



CREATED BY TEACHERSFIRST – Instructional Resources



READING TREKS

MySciLife

*GETTYSBURG BY THE
NUMBERS*

*ACROSS THE WORLD
ONCE A WEEK*

*GLOBETRACKER'S
MISSION*

CURRICONNECTS



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING Opportunities

OK2Ask

Live 90-minute,
hands-on, virtual
workshops



Twitter Chats

Twice a month on
latest tech tools and
education topics



JOIN @SFLOK2ASK FOR
OUR NEXT TWITTER CHAT

#OK2Ask

OUR CHAT TOPIC

DIFFERENTIATING INSTRUCTION
FOR ALL LEARNING



Book Studies

Twice a year in the
winter and summer.



TeachersFirst Blog

Provides short,
informative Edtech
articles



Professional Learning Units

Self-paced PD

COMMUNICATION **WORK**
INTERPERSONAL **ETHIC**
INSTRUCTION **LEADERSHIP**
ENTREPRENEURIAL
ORGANIZATION and PLANNING **TECHNICAL**



LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!





RELATIONSHIP!



RELATIONSHIP!



RELATIONSHIP!



Frameworks driving
HOW we work with a
teacher:

- Triple E
- SAMR
- TPACK
- TIM
- Learning Preferences
- Personality Styles



Coaching Styles



Useful Resource

- Modeling
- Providing Resources
- Providing Alternatives
- Give Customized Examples



Encouraging Sage

- Co-Planning
- Co-Teaching
- Stories & Examples
- Limited Choices



Collegial Mentor

- Consultant
- Troubleshooter
- Demonstrations
- Discussion



Expert

- Observation
- Data & Statistical Studies
- Theories & Models
- Prepare to be Challenged



Personality Types



DOVE

- Supportive
- Agreeable
- People-oriented
- Avoids Confrontation



OWL

- Logical
- Methodical
- Detail-oriented
- Exacting



PEACOCK

- Enthusiastic
- Friendly
- Optimistic
- Talkative



EAGLE

- Decisive
- Independent
- Direct
- Strong-willed



Coaching Style Scenarios



Scenario 1: Support Student Voice & Choice

Coaching Style

Useful Resource

Personality Style

Dove

Teacher A has been asked by their principal to incorporate more student-centered strategies and alternative assessments and comes to you for ideas.

Which TeachersFirst resources would help?

Scenario 1 - Response



BLOG POSTS

The coach would find and share 3 blog posts from the TeachersFirst website that talk about project ideas and student voice and choice. For example: ***Choice Boards for the Classroom.***



OK2ASK ARCHIVE

The coach would find and share an OK2Ask webinar archive for the teacher to review. For example: ***Engage & Inspire: Choice Boards for Differentiation***



VIDEO TUTORIAL

To provide variety of tools the coach sends a short (less than 5 minutes) tutorial video on how to search the TeachersFirst Edge and offers to follow-up should the teacher need assistance.

Scenario 2: Exploring Emerging Technologies

Coaching Style

Encouraging Sage

Personality Style

Peacock

Teacher B has asked you “how they get involved with this AI stuff” because it seems like it would make things easier.

Which TeachersFirst resources would help?

Scenario 2 - Response



LIVE OK2ASK

The coach would search the current OK2Ask webinar schedule and recommend an upcoming AI-focused session. For example: ***Tech Made EZ with Twee.***



BLOG POST

The coach would recommend a single AI-focused blog post and a time for face-to-face follow-up and discussion. For example: ***Enhancing Education with AI: American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month Lessons.***



CO-PLAN/TEACH

At the close of the blog post discussion, the coach makes an appointment to plan and teach a lesson using a similar process as described in the blog post for an upcoming lesson the teacher is planning to teach.

WHAT MAKES OK2Ask Webinars Different?

OK2Ask webinars are FREE 90-minute, hands-on technology integration workshops infused with structured practice activities and classroom implementation ideas. There are 8-9 sessions every quarter with two half-day mini-conferences in the summer. Certified trainers lead each workshop, and additional coaches moderate the chat.

PEDAGOGICAL CONVERSATIONS

- How the topic might change your instruction
- Share ideas with participants from around the globe
- Leave ready to implement a new strategy

STRUCTURED HANDS-ON PRACTICE

- Try things out during the session
- Get help with process/procedure as necessary
- Plan activities for your classroom

PARTICIPATION

- 6 required comprehension checkpoints points per workshop
- Complete everything within a week
- Verified prior to the issuance of certificates

what90 OK2Ask[®]
MINUTES
LOOK LIKE



Scenario 3: Professional Learning Needs

Coaching Style

Collegial Mentor

Personality Style

Owl

The coach performs a routine check-in with Teacher C and finds her looking for professional learning opportunities as it is time for her to recertify. She wants to get it done, but also enjoys learning.

Which TeachersFirst resources would help?

Scenario 3 - Response



PLUs

The coach shows her how to quickly find Professional Learning Units on the TeachersFirst website. The coach explains they are rolling out self-paced units on a variety of topics for 1 credit each.

For example: ***Instructional Playlists***



BOOK STUDY

The coach shares the Book Study page on the TeachersFirst site and explains that studies are offered twice a year. They represent a deep dive into a technology integration topic for a focused period of time:

For example: ***Personalized Reading***



FOLLOW UP

The coach makes an appointment to follow up and discuss how the teacher can implement the things learned. Helps with identifying and troubleshooting any perceived barriers to implementation.

Scenario 4: Content Area Support

Coaching Style

Expert

Personality Style

Eagle

Teacher D is looking for resources to introduce the Sustainable Development Goals in a lesson he is planning for his first graders. He comes to the coach to ask for help finding resources for engaging his class.

Which TeachersFirst resources would help?



Scenario 4 - Response



READING TREKS

The coach introduces Reading Treks as a strategy and shows the teacher completed treks on the TeachersFirst website. REading Treks are engaging and provide additional context around the text for students to investigate.
For example: *Ada's Violin*



HELP ARTICLES

The coach introduces the “Help I Lost My Library Media Specialist” series of informational articles. These cross-disciplinary resources help infuse literary resources. For example: *There is No Planet B - Climate Change and its Impact on the Earth*



CO-TEACH

The coach and teacher select Ada's Violin to support the classes introduction to the Sustainable Development Goals. The trek will be used whole-class and the plan is to employ a gradual release model of co-teaching.

Scenario 5: Content Area Support

Coaching Style

Useful Resource

Personality Style

D.O.P.E.

During an inservice, multiple teachers ask how to find resources specific to their subject and grade level.

Which Teachers First resources would help?



Scenario 5 - Response



SEARCH TF DBASE

The coach quickly demonstrates how to search the TeachersFirst database for content resources and explains the benefit of the teacher review and the classroom implementation ideas.



SPECIAL TOPICS

The coach shares the Special Topics Collections as a way to easily find a finite number of resources to investigate on a topic. This is especially helpful for Dove and Peacock profiles who like limited choices.

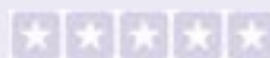
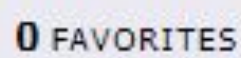
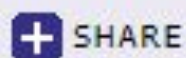


TF NEWSLETTER

The coach encourages teachers to sign up to receive the TeachersFirst newsletter as a strategy to get new websites delivered via email weekly. A quick look at the email provides both prospective new content as well as professional learning opportunities.

But Why: A Podcast for Curious Kids - Vermont Public Radio

LESS



But Why? Kids have lots of questions, and this podcast is all about answering them. Some of the diverse questions answered at the time of this review were - Why ...[less](#)

But Why? Kids have lots of questions, and this podcast is all about answering them. Some of the diverse questions answered at the time of this review were - Why Do We Poop and Fart? Why Don't Spiders Get Stuck in Their Webs? Why Do We Celebrate Halloween? Why Do People Get Cancer? Kids are encouraged to send in an audio of their questions through an adult to get it answered. Most podcasts run in length between 20 and 30 minutes, and many will recommend additional resources about the topic. Don't have the time to listen to a podcast? Not to worry, there is a summary right under the audio.

tag(s): [podcasts](#) (65)

IN THE CLASSROOM

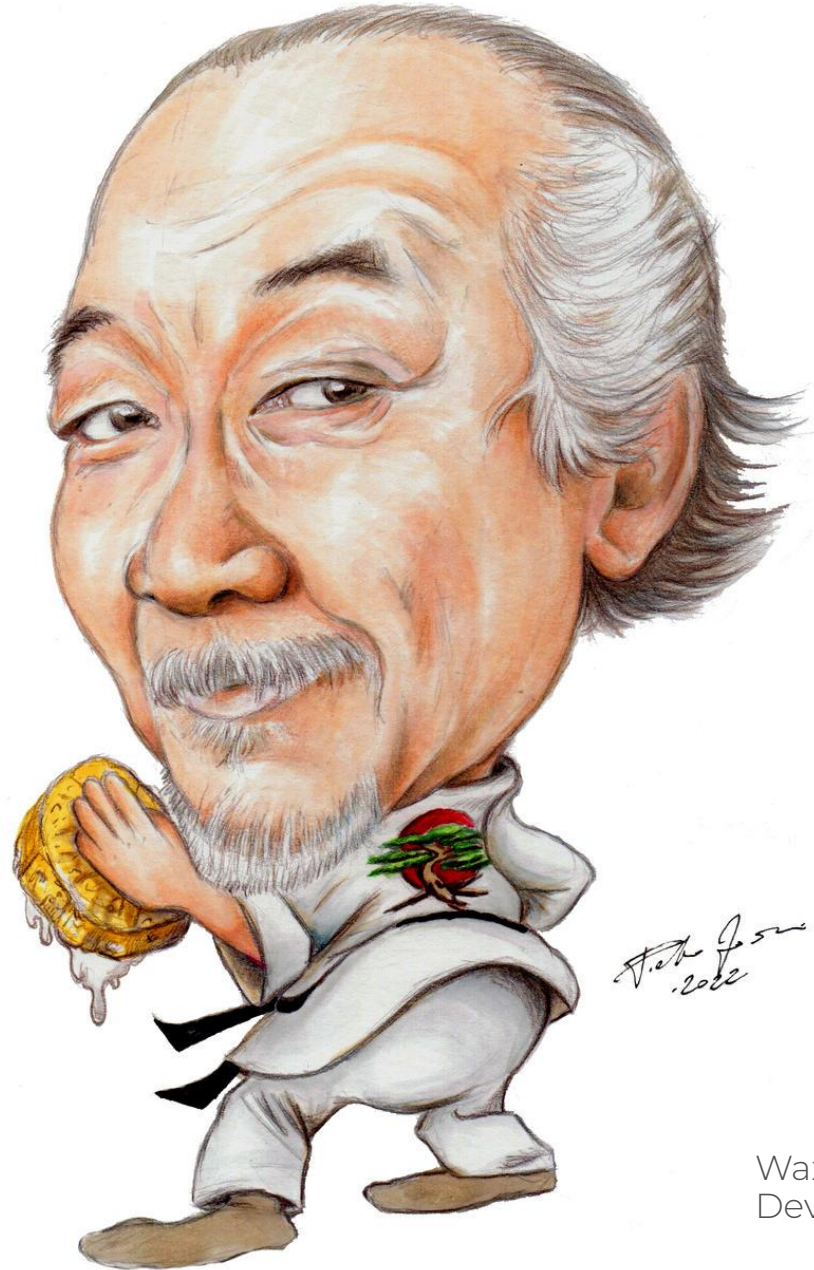
Listen to several podcasts together as a class. Enhance learning by challenging students to reflect on their learning and what they would like to learn more about using a tool such as Flip, [reviewed here](#). Then have students come up with their own questions to be answered and submit them on a tool such as Dotstorming, [reviewed here](#), and then to vote on their 3 favorite questions to submit.

Planning for Differentiated Coaching





The Quintessential Coach is...



Wax On! Wax Off! by Peterbundle85 via
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Thank you!

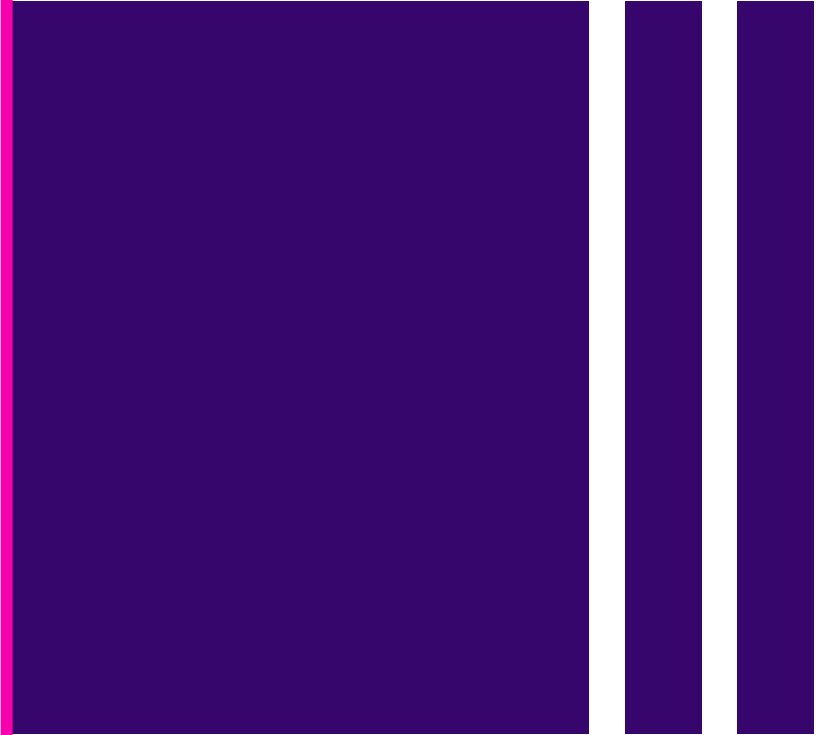
Have follow-up questions for us?



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