

## Possible Mentoring Activities

### PERSONAL

- Provide file folders and help the novice organize all the TIPS he/she will acquire. Help them develop a workable system so that all the good ideas are not lost.
- Keep a Success Book for the novice. Weekly record any of those small steps forward or accomplishments made by the novice. Capturing “quatable quotes” from the novice or the students would be fun to share at a later point. Include photos of the class as they are engaged in various activities. Help the novice identify samples of their work that might become part of a professional portfolio.
- Periodically provide reflective prompts such as
  - “This week, I am most proud of . . . “
  - “This week, I noticed by students . . .”
  - “The most important lesson I’ve learned this week is . . .”
  - “In thinking about other colleagues I’d like to work with, I’d like to work with \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.”

An additional idea is that the mentor could also respond to the prompts so that reactions could be shared.

- Encourage the novice to ask for student input about the effectiveness of their learning. Provide the Classroom Climate Questionnaire\* and decide on the best way to use it. It could be that the mentor is the one who gives the questionnaire to the novice’s students. The students may feel more comfortable sharing their true opinions. Help the novice interpret the responses and develop any needed strategies to attend to areas of concern.
- Talk with the novice about the power of teacher efficacy. When a teacher feels able and capable of making a difference with students—they generally do. Use the *How Efficacious Are You?*\* questionnaire as a starting point for your discussions.
- Engage in goal setting conferences with the novice at appropriate points during the year—at the end of each grading period would be good and definitely at the end of the first semester. Modeling the process for the novice would be especially helpful.
- Provide articles of professional interest. Check back to talk with the novice about the ideas they gained from the reading.
- Suggest websites and other online resources\* that provide additional mentoring opportunities.