



# Marshall University Early Education Outreach Program 2007-2008 Inquiry Support System Professional Development Program

Compiled from the 2007-2008 Inquiry Support System Professional Development for WV Pre-K

## 2007-2008 YEAR ONE FINAL EVALUATION SYNOPSIS

*Participating counties: Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Logan, McDowell, Mingo, Roane, and Wyoming*

### Would you recommend participation in the ISS to others?

<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
98%	2%

#### **Why or why not?**

- *“It has changed my teaching methods, my way of thinking about learning and taking even the youngest child seriously.”*
- *“We learned so much! So many great ideas!”*
- *“Because of the great ideas and sharing.”*
- *“The knowledge you gain to help in your classroom is great!”*
- *“It is a great opportunity for us to learn about 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills.”*
- *“Very informative, it gives you a whole new way of looking at teaching.”*
- *“It has made us think about the children’s curiosities and the amount of things children are capable of if they are allowed to explore and have greater input of their interest.”*
- *“To give justification to your work in PreSchool.”*

### To what extent did your participation in the MUEEOP’s Inquiry Support System affect your classroom practices?

<b>A large extent</b>	<b>To somewhat extent</b>	<b>Very little extent</b>	<b>No extent</b>
54%	41%	5%	0%

### Please rate the following:

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
Organization of Presentation	75%	24%	1%	0%
Team’s knowledge of Material	82%	17%	1%	0%
Team’s Style of Presentation	74%	22%	4%	0%
Team’s Ability to Answer Question	78%	22%	0%	0%
Team’s Ability to Relate to Audience	78%	20%	2%	0%
Overall Rating of Team	74%	25%	1%	0%
Usefulness of Modules and Resources	62%	34%	4%	0%
Usefulness of Audio-Visual Aids	59%	39%	2%	0%
Usefulness of Hands-On Activities	61%	31%	7%	1%

### The most valuable aspect(s) of participation in the ISS:

- *“Working with other teachers from different counties and hearing different learning strategies.”*
- *“The ideas of using the camera as a tool for documentation.”*
- *“Affirming ‘social competency’ aspects of 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills.”*
- *“Getting the WV Early Learning Standard Handbook. I had never seen one before.” “I really enjoyed the sessions. I have learned and applied a lot of knowledge. Thank you.”*

- *“The camera, articles and everything.”*
- *“I learned how digital technology and literacy can help children in the classroom.”*
- *“It was helpful to hear how other counties work with PRE-K. The knowledge I acquired from this experience was valuable for myself and the children I work with.”*
- *“Learning to be more child initiated when planning. Using technology more in the classroom.”*
- *“It gave me a different perspective toward education, that all learning styles can be met and each child can be successful.”*
- *“The understanding of how having a quality Pre-K impacts a child’s education forever.”*

**The aspect(s) I’d like to see improved/enhanced with the ISS:**

- *“The presentation of ideas in a more step-by-step manner. Example: Tell how you accomplish the results you get.”*
- *“Adequate time to complete activities.”*
- *“More contact with leaders (such as month to month contact).”*
- *“I would like to see the meetings (monthly) improved and more to come out of them.”*
- *“More training on technology.”*
- *“I really liked getting together with the community groups. We plan to continue those next year. Maybe these could incorporate more things that pertain to us.”*
- *“Integration/explanation of how to use with ECERS and creative curriculum.”*
- *“How to send and do things on computer!”*
- *“More hands-on, if possible.”*
- *“More classroom observation and model classes.”*
- *“More content in follow-up meetings.”*
- *“Some people have had trouble making this ‘strategy’ correlate with CC and ECERS. Perhaps something could be done to show them how.”*
- *“I thought we would be able to see the photos that we sent Monica. Like a slide show, at the meetings.”*
- *“More contact for those of us who are alone.”*

**How have I changed over the past year as a professional?**

- *“I think I have changed by allowing the children to be a huge part of the planning in our classroom.”*
- *“I have had times of confusion, but I am working hard to make positive changes.”*
- *“Displaying more of the children’s work and involving the children in planning.”*
- *“I now have much more information to work with.”*
- *“More conscious of the importance of evaluating the environment.”*
- *“I have embraced technology.”*
- *“I have taken more time to reflect and I have become an active listener.”*
- *“I now have the ability to talk with parents.”*
- *“I try to let the children solve their conflicts. I let the children reflect more.”*
- *“I have grown, learned to stand up for myself more. Defend what I do more.”*
- *“More open towards technology.”*
- *“More awareness of individual learning process.”*
- *“I have changed a great deal. I realize how important play is.”*
- *“I have used technology a lot more than what I thought I would in a pre-k classroom.”*
- *“I have developed my style of teaching to meet the interest of the child.”*
- *“We de-junked our room.”*
- *“I have become more focused and organized.”*

**Has participation in the ISS impacted my personal views about young children? If so, how?**

- *“Yes, I look at things so differently now, especially the importance of play.”*
- *“Yes. I understood why it was important for the children to help arrange the room.”*
- *“Yes, more patience!”*
- *“Yes, I see them as planners and respect them more for their decisions.”*
- *“They are capable of doing more than I previously thought.”*
- *“Some what, this is how I was taught in the beginning.”*

- “Yes—made me realize how important my job is.”
- “Yes—kids are cute but they need to be taken seriously.”
- “Yes, they can do anything if given the chance to try.”
- “Children can do more than we give them credit for.”
- “Yes, watching and listening how they can learn so much by learning and investigating about one topic.”
- “Yes, I have learned to value their opinions more than what I ‘have to do’ in not as important. That they are learning whether I teach it or they learn it through experiences or activities.”
- “Some I already had most of these views.”
- “Yes. I believe young children are able to do more with technology than what I previously thought.”
- “No, it has reiterated my previous thoughts on early childhood.”
- “Yes. I am more in tune with their ideas and interests.”
- “Yes the impact of play—how it defines and enriches all children.”
- “Not really. I just allow them to do more on their own.”
- “Just gave support to my views.”
- “I realize young children are more competent than I previously thought.”

### **How will I continue to integrate inquiry-based/21<sup>st</sup> Century learning into my classroom?**

- “I will continue using digital technology.”
- “I hope to continue in many areas and focus on the areas of weakness that I documented on the checklist.”
- “One area--emailing families.”
- “Through technology, print rich environment, and projects”
- “Continue co-constructing knowledge with students and camera. Hopefully, will even make a movie of some area of interest, with the students!”
- “Self evaluation of myself and the classroom.”
- “I am learning every day along with them.”
- “Learning more and more every day.”
- “By continuing to use computers and cameras. By allowing children to say what they want to learn about.”
- “I will use the basics but will place creative curriculum and ECERS 1<sup>st</sup> in my class.”
- “Documentation of pictures for assessments.”
- “I am purchasing a computer just for the children to use in the classroom.”
- “Still use open-ended questions, technology.”
- “By constantly evaluating myself.”
- “Emails, computers, project approach, curiosity, child-initiated learning.”
- “I hope I can do a better job next year. I feel I didn’t completely accomplish my goals.”
- “Ensure that as an administrator, teachers and aides are utilizing the tools (21<sup>st</sup> Century) provided for them.”

### **What is the greatest accomplishment I’ve experienced with this approach and how have I shared this accomplishment with others (parents, administrators, peers, etc...)?**

- “I’ve experienced the birth of a true ‘school family’ one of socially competent children. Photos, notes, and newsletters have demonstrated this to parents, administrators, and children.”
- “Weekly emails and communications with parents.”
- “The enthusiasm from the children.”
- “I have grown by listening more to my students.”
- “Letting the children have experiences with the camera.”
- “Talked to parents about their children in the new learning environment (21<sup>st</sup> Century).”
- “The knowledge the children obtained through inquiry based learning.”
- “Everything doesn’t have to be in a seat. Explain this is O.K. with parents.”
- “Including technology especially the camera and using photos to document and share with parents.”
- “Discussed with parents how we have let children use camera, and computer, and let children be children.”
- “The camera and all the communications with parents.”
- “I don’t feel like I accomplished much if anything.”
- “The use of digital cameras. People come into our room are amazed at the learning ability through the little children.”
- “Parent communication/email”

- *“My room environment, my ECERS scores”*
- *“Seeing the students take care of the camera and use it appropriately. I have shared these pics with families.”*
- *“The excitement of the children when they accomplish and understand.”The greatest accomplishment is seeing the sparkle in a preschoolers eyes when they learn something.”*
- *“I have learned the value of play and have tried to communicate this.”*
- *“Learning ‘less is really more.”*
- *“E-mailing pictures to parents, de-cluttered room, removed desk”*
- *“Using camera, slide show, sharing copies with parents”*
- *“My greatest accomplishment has been supporting inquiry more effectively.”*
- *“Assuming board members, superintendents, assistants, principals, and parents of the ability of young children to develop inquiring minds.”*

### **What would I say to an educator who was thinking about participating in the ISS program?**

- *“It is a challenge, but worth the time.”*
- *“It is a great program.”*
- *“It will change your way of thinking.”*
- *“Great experience.”*
- *“I would recommend it highly. If only to remind him/her of the importance of teaching 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.”*
- *“It is great and they should definitely do it.”*
- *“Do it! It is a mountain of information, and if you use it you can keep climbing.”*
- *“Just try it and be open minded.”*
- *“You should do it, it is a great program.”*
- *“This is great! It is time concurring but I did learn a lot.”*
- *“There is not enough information about how to integrate into creative curriculum and ECERS.”*
- *“You will learn a lot of info for your classroom.”*
- *“It’s a wonderful program.”*
- *“It’s a must for early educators.”*
- *“Never quit learning. Attend if you can.”*
- *“It would be a good learning experience.”*
- *“Be flexible! Just try it and you’ll see remarkable things from your students.”*
- *“Summer institute good but follow-up not worth the time.”*
- *“Try it, you’ll like it! It gives you a fresh perspective.”*
- *“Excellent! Take part-- it is a learning experience.”*

### **Additional comments/final thoughts:**

- *“Thank you for sharing this program.”*
- *“Has been fun. I don’t accept change well.”*
- *“I enjoyed this year, it opened my eyes to a lot of different teaching techniques. Thank you!”*
- *“Some ideas are unrealistic in the county pre-k setting. Limited resources, both money and people, make some things unrealistic.”*
- *“Monica and Clayton have been great. A lot of thoughts and inspiration.”*
- *“I enjoyed my week at Marshall last summer and Clayton and Monica relationship with the group.”*
- *“I have learned a great deal!”*
- *“I have thoroughly enjoyed it.”*
- *“I wish that teachers would give more time for aids to voice an opinion.”*
- *“Nothing stays the same—children today face different things than children of yesterday.”*
- *“Thank you Monica! Thank you Clayton!”*
- *“Keep up the good work!”*
- *“Thanks for a great year!”*