Professional Development Master Teacher (PDMT) Initiative

The Professional Development Master Teacher (PDMT) Initiative promotes high quality teaching and learning by strengthening both pedagogy and content through laboratory-based, circular professional development experiences. Professional Development Master Teachers (PDMTs) who exemplify the use of best instructional practices share their expertise effectively with both new and experienced teachers through circular, job-embedded professional development experiences.

Key Information

Learning Labs

The classrooms of 44 PDMTs are designated as Professional Development Learning Labs. Each individual visit to a PDMT Learning Lab includes a pre-visit conversation to discuss the focus for the visit and a post-conference to ensure the successful implementation of new strategies in the visiting teachers’ classrooms. Visiting teachers develop and implement a lesson plan as a result of the visit and analyze student work samples before attending the post-conference to discuss the impact of teacher learning on student learning. This completion of the circular PD process provides support to visiting teachers as they implement strategies learned during the Lab visits. Teachers request individual visits through an online request form.

Link to Request Form

Link to PDMT Guide

Link to Strand Managers Guide

Visits to PDMT Learning Labs also provide unique opportunities for both new and experienced teachers to analyze first-hand the implementation and effectiveness of instructional strategies studied during professional development courses. Course Learning Lab visits are scheduled by the course facilitator and are evaluated through a CMS developed course reflection.

Professional Development (PD) Instructors

PDMT Professional Development (PD) Instructors promote effective teaching by strengthening both pedagogy and content. The 12 PD Instructors serve as an extension of the Teacher Professional Development Department and receive on-going professional development to prepare them for developing and teaching effective courses on high-demand topics. Designing effective professional development for educators is critical, both to continued adult learning related to practice and to student achievement. PDMT PD Instructors provide the district with well thought-out collaborative professional development for teachers by teachers. Many PDMT PD Instructors add value to their courses by utilizing a lab-based experience. Teachers attending
professional development provided by PDMT PD Instructors attend with the sole intent of becoming the best teachers they can for their students. They leave feeling more confident and prepared. Courses offered by PDMT PD Instructors are advertised monthly in Direct Line.

Link to PDMT Course Offerings

**Leadership Academy**

On-going leadership development is offered four times per year to PDMTs in order to allow them to continue to grow professionally and positively impact teaching and learning both in their schools and throughout the district. Leadership Academies are developed and facilitated by Teacher PD staff. Previously collaboration has occurred between CMS and both UNC-Charlotte’s Writing Project and Queens University.