

Microsoft Peer Coaching Curriculum Overview – 8 core sessions:

Session 1

Principals and participants work through a series of exercises to help them define what peer coaching might look like in their school. They focus on the following questions:

- How will coaching support the school’s educational goals?
- What activities are teachers pursuing that support these goals?
- Which of these activities could be enriched through the use of technology?
- Who will be coached and when will coaching occur?
- What roles and responsibilities will coaches adopt?

Session 2

Session 2 helps participants complete their vision for coaching and begin to turn that vision into a concrete plan of action. Participants create products they could use to explain their coaching programs, practice communication and collaboration skills in planning meetings, and create Coaching Portfolios they can use with their collaborating teachers.

Sessions 3, 4, and 5

In Sessions 3–5, participants focus on lesson design and coaching skills as they work through a series of activities that require them to cooperatively rework a lesson so that it is more engaging and integrates technology. Key activities include, identifying what makes an effective learning activity, and applying the lesson improvement process in a collaborative work environment.

Session 6

Participants integrate new skills and knowledge gained during Sessions 1–5 by focusing on implementing coaching. Key activities include:

- Discussing and reflecting on ways coaches have worked with collaborating teachers by using a reflection protocol.
- Exploring the Web resources and updating Portfolio tools.
- Setting goals and action steps and updating Coaching Plans.

Session 7

In the first part of Session 7, participants and their principal (or designee) participate in activities related to how to improve staff development throughout a school. Key activities include:

- Reviewing research.
- Looking at characteristics of effective professional development.
- Setting new goals for their coaching programs.

The second part of the session is spent on:

- Reflection and sharing of “best coaching practices.”
- Exploration of online professional development resources.

Session 8

Session 8 is designed to help participants reflect on their coaching work as they explore resources related to collaborating with local and global communities. Participants will:

- Write a Coaching Chronicles article featuring examples of collaboration, success stories, tips, and resources
- Celebrate their work as coaches.
- Set new coaching goals.

In addition to the 8 core sessions, Washington State facilitators add two additional technology-focused sessions that focus on the emerging and available technologies of their coaching cohort.