

What to Bring for Looking at Student/Adult Work

Looking at Student Work (LASW) or adult work takes many forms including essays, drawings, projects, reports, performances, video or computer presentations, portfolios, etc. It is usually in response to a teacher's assignment for class work or homework. Adult work such as a family and community engagement plan, recruitment strategy, school handbook and other documents are also used. It may be completed by an individual or group.

As you think about the kind of student or teacher/educator work to bring, you might consider thinking about an instance in which students were successfully engaged in learning or one in which they were not as engaged as you had hoped. What evidence — adult and student generated - might you bring that is associated with their engagement? Evidence might include such things as teacher generated lesson plans, unit plans, and descriptions of activities, associated assessments and rubrics. Evidence might also take the form of student generated work such as completed projects, test responses and results, journals or notebook entries, student reflections, and other student generated products.

We would also like to ask you to bring an artifact from your school or district that signifies either educational equity or inequity. We will use these artifacts to explore how we might better meet the needs of all of our learners. Consider the following questions relating specifically to issues of equity and diversity. How does my conception of equity impact what I assign? What I look for in student work? What I do with what I find in my student's work? When we look at student work what are we looking for? How are we looking for what is standard and what is different? Whatever you choose to bring, keep in mind that it should be something about which you have a real question or concern which you are curious about, or would benefit from several pairs of eyes looking at it. This is an opportunity to have others help you examine the work in a safe way.

Possible Samples:

- Written work (or artwork) from several students/adults in response to the same assignment
- Several pieces of work from one student/adult in response to different assignments
- The same assignment from students/adults who performed successfully, adequately and poorly
- Work done by students/adults working in groups (include work of at least two groups that were given the same assignment)
- Math/Science work that allows us to explore how we are working toward the mathematic and science achievement of all students.
- NOTE: We strongly encourage you to consider bringing work from your lowest performing student(s), the student who challenges you and whose needs are not being met.

Tips:

- Collect multiple samples from students/adults at different levels (2-4 samples)
- Remove student/adult names from samples (white-out if possible)
- Remove scores written on the work and/or teacher comments
- Bring 8-10 copies of work, assessment or rubric related to the assignment
- If video or other a presentation, a 5-10 minute clip is sufficient

Further guidance and information about selecting student work and about CFGs in general are available on the National School Reform Faculty web site: http://www.nsrfharmony.org.