Project Statement: Adopting the Shifts

Currently, I work as a teacher at a middle school in North Carolina. At this school many of the teachers are struggling with effective discipline strategies with their students. This instructional opportunity arose after a meeting with the Curriculum Facilitator. The discipline system being used allows school administration to track the types of behavioral offenses based on location, time of day, and teacher. The current concern is that the same teachers are always struggling with discipline in their classrooms, and there was an interest in finding a way to help them with student discipline by offering them an opportunity to learn new strategies and best practices for dealing with behavior. If effective this would lower the number of behavioral offenses taking places, and therefore decrease the amount of time students spend outside of the classroom setting in places such as In-School Suspension and Out-of-School Suspension.

The instructional opportunity being proposed is the use of a distance learning course through Canvas®, a learner management system, which would allow teachers to communicate with each other and share ideas while also giving them strategies. The proposed plan for this course is for it to contain approximately five to six modules for teachers to use to gain strategies to use in their classroom to better combat student discipline, offer face-to-face opportunities for teachers to share ideas with each other in open discussion, and after successful completion of the course, teachers will be offered continuing education credits that can be used to renew their licensure. For this course I will focus on the first two modules that will be offered to teachers, and I will not include the face to face sessions. The first two modules will consist of learning the difference between discipline and punishment and the first of “five responsive shifts – Adopting a Socio-Emotional Lens,” proposed by Teaching Tolerance (2013). An illustration provided in the article by Teaching Tolerance has been provided on the second page.
(Teaching Tolerance, 2013)
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Module 1 Part 1
Project Statement

References