

## MENTORSHIP IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

by:

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Mentoring new teachers is an essential task that guarantees the continuity of quality instruction. During this period of transition from theoretical knowledge acquired through pre-service training to actual classroom practice, new teachers tend to struggle with content presentation and using proper strategies. A mentor assists them by demonstrating sound teaching practice, making their expectations clear, and enhancing novice teachers' confidence. This assistance is not merely the sharing of information but also professional development and perseverance during the initial stages of their teaching practice.

Sufficient content knowledge is vital to equip novice teachers to become credible and effective instructors. Mentors are responsible for reinforcing their subject matter knowledge by involving them in collaborative lesson planning, sharing of resources, and constructive critique sessions. Concomitantly, pedagogy also needs to be highlighted to make lessons not only correct but also enthralling and student-focused. By introducing novice teachers to diverse teaching approaches, classroom management strategies, and differentiated instruction, mentors assist them in addressing multiple learners' needs.

Finally, mentoring is about creating a culture of professional learning and collaboration. When new teachers are supported both in content knowledge and pedagogy, they are better positioned to succeed and stay in the profession. This, in turn, has a positive impact on the entire school community as learners are provided with relevant, effective instruction. Experienced teachers transfer the torch of excellence

through mentoring, and the values of dedication, innovation, and quality teaching continue to thrive.

*References:*