Idaho Definition of Effective Teacher and Principal

Definition of Effective Teachers

Idaho's effective teachers have the knowledge, skills, and commitments that ensure equitable learning opportunities and growth for all students. They strive to close achievement gaps and to prepare diverse student populations for postsecondary success. They facilitate mastery of content and skill development, and identify and employ appropriate strategies for students who are not achieving mastery. Effective teachers also develop in students the skills, interests and abilities necessary to be lifelong learners, as well as skills needed for democratic and civic participation. They communicate and model high expectations to students and their families and find ways to engage them in a mutually-supportive teaching and learning environment. Because effective teachers understand that the work of ensuring meaningful learning opportunities for all students cannot happen in isolation, they engage in collaboration, continuous reflection, on-going learning and leadership within the profession.[1]

Definition of Effective Principals

Idaho's effective principals recognize their accountability for the collective success of their schools, including the learning, growth and achievement of both students and staff. As the school's primary instructional leader, effective principals enable critical discourse and data driven reflection about curriculum, assessment, instruction and student progress, and create structures to facilitate improvement. Effective principals are adept at creating systems that maximize the utilization of resources and human capital, foster collaboration, and facilitate constructive change. By creating a common vision and articulating shared values, effective principals lead and manage their schools in a manner that supports the school's ability to promote equity and continually improve its positive impact on students and families.[1]

1. Adapted from the State of Colorado's definition of Effective Teacher and Effective Principals