

Charleston Literacy Coaching

The UF Lastinger Center Certified Literacy Coaching Program will develop cadres of skilled instructional literacy coaches who have a strong grasp of highly effective instruction, peer coaching, mentoring, and job-embedded professional development. The program equips literacy coaches to act as content area experts as well as peer coaches that approach coaching in a respectful, teacher-centered way. The Certified Instructional Literacy Coaching Program equips literacy coaches with the following skills:

- Provide teachers with professional learning opportunities to increase their use of high impact literacy strategies.
- Plan and lead job-embedded literacy professional development based on school and teacher data.
- Share best practices of how to leverage the talents of the teachers within the school in order to distribute instructional leadership responsibilities and create a culture of collective responsibility.
- Utilize structured dialogue to support dynamic, fluid, learning by teachers implementing effective literacy strategies, which improve teaching and positively impact student learning.
- Apply an inquiry stance that energizes participants and their colleagues, and generates meaningful data to guide improvement.

The Lastinger Center will provide Charleston County School District with the following:

- Skilled UF professional development specialists to facilitate every session in order for all literacy coaches to receive the most effective learning experience.
- A coaching binder with all materials necessary for both institutes and follow-up. This includes a variety of coaching resources and articles.
- Access to a UF Online platform for submission of videos for certification. Participants are able to access all instructional literacy coaching materials and extra resources, as well as connect as an online learning community.
- A highly skilled and trained UF Coaching team that provides individualized video feedback during the professional development experience, as well as certifies participant videos. This includes allowing participants who do not pass the video certification the first time to get individualized feedback and support to resubmit videos for certification.
- A Literacy Coaching model that promotes distributed leadership and a collaborative learning community in schools.

The UF Certified Literacy Coaching program is truly a capacity-building effort to not only improve the effectiveness of literacy coaching in Charleston schools, but also to enhance the district's ability to develop new literacy coaches and provide ongoing support to existing coaches. In Year 1 of the project, UF will facilitate each session. However, in Year 2 UF facilitators will co-facilitate sessions with leadership from Charleston County to provide selected participants with an apprenticeship experience while developing a new cohort of Certified Literacy Coaches.