5 Things to Look for in a PD Partner

Instructional coaching is an essential component of effective continuous professional development for teachers. Use this checklist when evaluating a potential coaching partner. Look for:

1. Instructional coaches matched to teachers based on subject area, grade level, and classroom experience to create a cohesive partnership that meets teacher’s needs.

2. Year-long collaborative partnerships between a teacher and their dedicated coach. This allows teachers to work with a coach that they trust and who is familiar with their teaching style to build upon what they learn.

3. Teacher-driven professional development that can be applied immediately in the classroom supports teachers with tangible strategies that lead to student growth.

4. Unlimited access to virtual coaching sessions and messaging with a coach allows for frequent touchpoints on the teacher’s schedule.

5. Evidence-based coaching that follows a defined framework with proven success in classrooms. Consistency across the board allows teachers to work towards goals that are aligned with their district needs in a framework that provides results.

And 3 Things to Avoid

1. Rotating teams of coaches which offer teachers no continuity and may hinder their progress.
2. Large group PD sessions with limited ability to personalize for individual teachers.
3. Coaching that cannot scale from a single teacher to a group of teachers or a whole department.

Contact an HMH representative today to learn more.