New School Psychologist Mentoring Program:

What You Can Expect: Cycle One

The focus of Cycle One is Professional Practice and Delivery of Service. It is generally helpful to have someone observe and provide feedback on your practice. Observations can be an affirmation of what is working well and can help determine any challenges for improvement. The following steps are designated to assist you in exploring your personal level of performance in Domain Two: Professional Practice and Delivery of Service.

- You and your mentor will review the guiding questions for this domain with a focus on those areas that you can control and/or assist with establishing and maintaining.
- Your mentor will observe you and collect evidence on what is happening in your environment in working with the students and/or teachers.
- Your mentor will share the evidence and help you explore what is going well and what challenges you are facing in this area. Your mentor may offer suggestions and resources or you may request them. You will select a component of focus for the next two to four weeks.
- You will observe an experienced school psychologist to see how he/she interacts with the environment and students/teachers.
- You will talk with one other school psychologist about your focus area.
- You will formulate a plan and implement some of the strategies that you have found useful. When you are ready, you will invite your mentor to observe you again. Evidence only in the area of your focus will be collected.
- You will meet for the second time to discuss the evidence. You will continue to explore what is working well and what is still challenging. You will determine your current level of performance in each of the components related to Domain Two and consider goals for professional development. You will use the evidence to determine what your next steps will be.
- Some time during this cycle you will be expected to attend a workshop about communication. During that time, the major emphasis will be on parent conferences. You will be instructed on what to bring to the workshop. The purpose is to assist you as you prepare for conferences and consider the power of communication.