

P&I evaluation protocol: School Based Programming – Classroom Observation

Overview

The goal of this evaluation is to assess the extent to which teachers are incorporating the core components of evidence-based curricula and implementing contract requirements related to those curricula as part of DHS' statewide ATOD prevention programming efforts. Fidelity to the model will be assessed for Slick Tracy, Amazing Alternatives, Power Lines, and Class Action. The classroom observation provides a simple way to supplement the information collected from teachers about their own implementation. In addition, it can be used to build relationships with teachers so they feel better supported in their implementation of the curricula. By identifying teachers' strengths and challenges with implementation, targeted support and guidance can be provided to enhance fidelity to the curricula models.

Data collection

Administration

- Please plan to observe **one class session for each teacher and each curriculum they teach per year**. If they are teaching more than one term (e.g., semester, trimester, quarter), you only need to observe one class session of each curriculum per school year.
- There are instructions for completing the observation throughout the form. Please remember to fill out the ENTIRE form, including the information at the top (school, teacher name, start/end dates, and class period), which is critical for tracking purposes.
- Plan to bring a copy of the curriculum to the observation so you can follow-along with the teacher. Be sure to ask the teacher which session he/she is teaching when you are there so you can assess how it's being implemented.

Tracking

- Create a tracking document (see attachment) with a list of all of the teachers you are need to observe so you can track the dates of the observation.
- As with most tools, it is important to collect information from as many teachers as possible. Our goal is to observe all teachers.

Consent

- The information requested is not personal or sensitive in nature so there is no need for a formal consent form.
- Although participation in this activity is ultimately voluntary, teachers should be strongly encouraged to participate.
- Teachers will be able to opt out, but only if they explicitly request to do so.

Other information

- Prior to implementing this evaluation, send all participating teachers a letter (see attachment) that outlines the purpose of the evaluation and their role and responsibilities in data collection.
- You may wish to also provide a face-to-face orientation with teachers about the checklists and the data collection process in order to increase buy-in for this evaluation, answer questions, ensure understanding, and continue building relationships.

Data entry and analysis

Wilder Research will enter all of the data and conduct the data analysis. Therefore, at the end of each term (e.g., semester, trimester, quarter), please mail a copy of each observation form completed in a sealed confidential envelope to Rena Cleveland at Wilder Research (451 Lexington Parkway North, Saint Paul, MN 55104).

Reporting

Wilder Research will be reporting on the implementation of each curriculum across all P&I communities in aggregate, as well as P&I community-specific results. Aggregated results will be made available to DHS and all P&I grantees. Community-specific results will be made available to DHS and the relevant P&I communities.