

ABMP School Forum 2022

Activity Instructions

Bridging the Gap: Facilitating Communication Between School Directors and Instructors

GOALS FOR THE GROUP ACTIVITY:

In this group activity, you will work with fellow instructors and directors to identify a possible challenge that may occur in a real-life school situation. Groups will navigate through three approaches to Mindful Communication in order to uncover value and hidden intent in each other's and one's own viewpoints, and practice conscious, effective ways to create receptive and respectful collaborative relationships.

DIRECTIONS:

1. On your own, fill in the top two boxes on the Activity Form (who is in conflict and what is the challenge?)
2. Share your challenge with participants at the table.
3. As a group, choose one challenge to navigate together.
4. Choose a facilitator to keep the group on task and a scribe to take notes for the group.
5. Approach the challenge using the three approaches presented.
6. Choose two members of the group to role-play a mindful conversation between Viewpoint A and Viewpoint B using the thoughts and ideas generated on the Activity Worksheet.
7. Members of the group who are not actively role-playing will observe the exchange and make note of what they see and hear. This can be done on your own Activity Worksheet or on a separate sheet of paper.
8. Spend 5 minutes receiving feedback from the role-play participants and observers on what they experienced and witnessed.
 - a. How did the person representing Viewpoint #1 feel about the conversation? What did they experience?
 - b. How did the person representing Viewpoint #2 feel about the conversation? What did they experience?
 - c. What did the observers witness? What was positive about the exchange? What could be improved about the exchange?

Activity Worksheet

<p>What is your role at the school?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ </p> <p>With whom is the challenge?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> Instructor <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ </p>	<p>1. List the challenge:</p> <p>What is your viewpoint (A)?</p> <p>What is their viewpoint (B)?</p>
<p>2. Approach the Challenge with Positive Inquiry</p> <p>What are the positive purposes behind the point of view?</p> <p>What are the possible benefits of this option or approach?</p>	<p>3. Approach the challenge as a Devil's Advocate</p> <p>What might be drawbacks to this point of view?</p> <p>Self-Reflection: What hidden or unconscious intent could be behind your point of view?</p>
<p>4. Approach the challenge using Mindful Communication Skills</p> <p>List 1–3 "I" statements:</p> <p>List 1–3 physiological responses you noticed:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Self</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Other</p>	<p>Did you catch yourself interrupting? Did you feel interrupted?</p> <p>Did you hear any new ideas or possibilities that you are open to?</p>