Role of the Principal in Supporting Beginning Teachers

Early career teachers have much to offer school sites and can reinvigorate learning with the energy and skills they offer to students and colleagues. The school principal plays a primary role in ensuring new teachers have a positive start and remain in the profession. The impact of a school leader who creates a positive learning community focused on student achievement supports the entire school community, including early career teachers.

**Principals can support new teachers by:**

- Being aware of the challenges new teachers face and supporting them throughout their first year and beyond
- Understand that new teachers are still learning, anticipate areas that teachers may not have experienced in their preparation programs (first day of school, year-long pacing, report cards, parent conferences, various school drills and safety procedures, available support personnel, behavior challenges, etc.)
- Support teachers in understanding resources available to them to support teacher and student success
- Understanding the components of the SCOE Teacher Induction program and how the goals of the program align with site and district goals/expectations and your role in supporting the teacher through the induction process
- Knowing the role of the mentor and their role in supporting your newest staff members
- Ensuring new teachers are welcomed to site, ensuring they know key staff, colleagues and are introduced to the school community