



THE MAKING OF A LEADER



SPOTLIGHT



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CREATING A CULTURE OF GROWTH AND LEARNING

The Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) shows the important role leadership plays in creating a culture of growth. Using OLAC's tools and resources, East Palestine Middle School is fostering a school environment where the learning experience is engaging and meaningful for students and staff.



HOW I'M USING OLAC TOOLS?

Our work with OLAC began when several of the online modules were recommended to us within our School Improvement Diagnostic Report. As a team, we began to look at how the practices shared in the modules could be used in our school. Through this process, we've become more focused on our approach for moving forward. More importantly, we're learning from what has already been implemented in our school and building from our successes and shortcomings.

As a team, we are creating a culture for school improvement that's linked to improving teaching and learning. We use the OLAC tools to refine those aspects of our professional learning communities (PLCs) that we know are areas of strength, but we also reinforce those practices where we are trying to grow.



MY FAVORITE OLAC TOOLS

My favorite tools are all of the archived presentations from past Action Forums. There are great things happening in schools across Ohio and being able to see evidence of that is so important. Other resources that have been helpful are the videos that show how high-performing schools are using building-leadership teams (BLTs) and teacher-based teams (TBTs) efficiently and effectively. We've also used the supporting resources that go with those modules.

If I had to choose one module that stands out, it would be *Creating Cultures Grounded in Data* because it sets the stage for how the OIP can be used as a way to change the culture and the important role leadership plays within the process.



OLAC'S IMPACT

OLAC's tools and resources have helped increase my teachers' confidence and inspired our team to roll up our sleeves to improve student learning and become more purposeful and intentional with our planning. The OLAC tools have also allowed us to see what other schools are doing, and figure out how to make certain strategies and approaches work for our own school and staff.

As part of the Ohio Leadership for Inclusion, Implementation, & Instructional Improvement (OLI4) cohort, this experience has allowed me to examine the resources more closely and share the practices back in our school. It's powerful when you create a shared purpose with your BLT and TBT to support your school and students.

Your turn! We're excited to showcase voices from the field stories through our blog, e-newsletters, and social media. If you have experienced results using OLAC tools and would like to be featured, please contact Jim Gay at jimgay@basa-ohio.org.