

2011 Spring Leadership Retreat

Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness: Trends and Issues

with Dr. Al Bertani



Date: April 15, 2011 Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Anchorage Downtown Marriott Hotel, Anchorage

Cost: \$150 for ASDN members, \$125 for groups of 5 or more, \$50 for RAPPS Districts, \$250 for all others

Register Online at www.asdn.org click on School Year Institutes, or go to www.regonline.com/akleader2011

Improving student learning and public education outcomes in the United States is heavily reliant on improving teacher quality. There is a growing consensus among practitioners, policy makers, and the general public that the most direct and promising strategy for accomplishing our learning goals is to improve teacher quality. Multiple research studies have identified the quality of the teacher as the single most important factor in improving student learning and public education outcomes.

Across the United States, teacher effectiveness and teacher quality are hot topics with a number of states making significant changes in their policies and procedures regarding teacher evaluation. As noted by the Teacher Performance Assessment Consortium sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education – “Any serious and systematic effort to improve the quality of teachers entering or already practicing in our nation’s schools must include the development of a reliable and valid measure of how well they perform in the classroom”. This workshop will explore the current trends and issues in evaluating teacher effectiveness.

Workshop objectives include:

1. Identifying the components of high quality instruction that produce learning results drawing on personal and professional experiences of participants working in classrooms and schools.
2. Examining leading teacher evaluation frameworks including the Framework for Teaching by Charlotte Danielson, the i-Observation by Robert Marzano, and The Skillful Teacher by Jon Saphier.
3. Analyzing trends and issues reflected in policy and procedural changes regarding teacher evaluation across the United States.
4. Discussing implications of these trends and issues for local district and state-level policies and procedures in Alaska.

Target Audience: Site Administrators, teacher leaders and central office administrators

Al Bertani currently serves as an independent consultant in the United States and Senior International Associate with the Innovation Unit in London, England. His work focuses on: leadership and organization development; professional learning; large-scale change; strategic and policy planning and development. During his thirty-eight years in education, he divided his career between working in public schools and higher education having served as a classroom teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, college professor, university administrator, and senior research associate. His most recent work includes: serving as a member of the Design Team and leading the Consultancy Support for CISCO’s Global Education Leaders Program; chairing the Transition Team for the Urban Education Institute at the University of Chicago; designing and facilitating the College Board Leadership Institute for Principals for The College Board in New York City; and working as Senior Designer for the Alaska School Leadership Institute - Rural Alaska Principals Project sponsored by the Alaska Staff Development Network. Dr. Bertani has presented in Alaska on the topic of professional learning communities at the 2009 and 2010 Alaska School Leadership Institutes in Anchorage, and as part of the Failure is Not an Option Summer Institute in Kenai in 2008. He also has developed and lead two webinar series for ASDN: *The Nuts and Bolts of Professional Learning Communities (2009)* and *Growing Your Professional Learning Community (2010)*.

