



Dimension 2: Applying Learning

Examines teacher's assessments of opportunities and support for trying new approaches to teaching, and examines how staff stability and relationships may interfere with trying new approaches.

Instructions

1. Read the description of this dimension.
2. Review the sample results from SEQUAL studies.
3. Think about the personal reflection questions.
4. Engage with your group on the discussion questions.

Sample SEQUAL results:

- 82 percent of teaching staff agreed that they participated in professional development activities over the past year that have improved their teaching.
- 74 percent of teaching staff agreed that they feel comfortable trying new approaches to teaching, but somewhat fewer (62 percent) agreed that their coworkers are supportive of their doing so or that coworkers themselves are interested in trying new ways to teach.
- One-half of teaching staff agreed or somewhat agreed that staff changes make it difficult to try new ways to teach.

Personal Reflection:

1. Have there been times in your career when you felt resistance to trying new ideas or approaches to your work?

Group Discussion:

1. Trying new strategies can often be difficult for a variety of reasons. What factors do you think impact whether or not teaching staff in a classroom try new strategies?