

James Castaldo Reflection

My perspective is that I feel that Marc and I collaborated to create something meaningful and important to my classroom. From the very beginning Marc came to me and asked me what I would like to improve on or area I would like to grow in. I immediately answered with elementary art self assessment and reflection. I was happy that Marc allowed me to pick the subject of the project and in result, has made this experience that much more valuable to my teaching practice.

Art assessment in general can be a confusing and complicated subject due to the nature of what art is and what it means to person creating it. He took the time to research my goals as an art teacher, became familiar with my curriculum and observed the dynamics in my classroom. From there Marc and I discussed what self-assessment systems and reflections I already had in place. We talked about what was successful about these systems and what needed improvement. He also observed these systems in action. Marc then began his researching process and filled me in on his learning throughout the process. This was particularly important to have some scholarly research behind the decisions we about to make in designing the rubrics and reflections. Marc created many rubrics that were meaningful to the success criteria that I assess my students in and incorporated some new learning from his research. From there I combined what Marc created with what I already had in place and in result is an efficient and effective vehicle for students to set goals, reflect on the learning process, self assess and reflect on their art making.

I have already implemented these rubrics into my classroom. I have observed that students are much more in tune to the success criteria aligned to the learning goals. I look forward to seeing how the formative reflection and summative assessment will work in the long run in my classroom. This project has been something that has really helped me improve in the areas of self-assessment and reflection. I feel that this experience was collaborative, meaningful and valuable to my teaching practice. This is also going to be key to the entire art department as the state's student learning objectives will go into effect next year. This research and the assessment rubrics will be key as we embark on this new state requirement. I have a great appreciation for the work that Marc did with my classroom. I know that if Marc continues to work with teachers the way he worked with me, he will help them to grow as successful and effective educators.