Taking Stock of Available Writing Resources

You can use the following questions to survey faculty and staff about the writing resources you currently have available. The questions can be transferred into an online survey tool such as SurveyMonkey or Zoomerang, or you can print the following pages and distribute paper copies.

Please scroll down to view the survey questions for NCTE 1.2: Taking Stock of Available Writing Resources, which begin on page 2 of this document.
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1. What kinds of support for teaching writing are available for new teachers?
   ____ Instructional materials developed in-house (e.g. writing assignments, lesson plans, assessment rubrics, etc.)
   ____ Published materials (e.g. books, journals, etc.)
   ____ Professional organization resources (e.g. NCTE, ASCD, etc.)
   ____ School-based professional development/in-service events (e.g. workshops, webinars, etc.)
   ____ Other professional development events (e.g. conference attendance, regional meetings, university-sponsored, etc.)
   ____ Mentorship from other faculty
   ____ State-sponsored initial educator support
   ____ Other (please specify) ____________________________

2. In your experience, how often are writing-related books, articles, and other instructional materials shared among teachers and school leaders?
   ____ Very often
   ____ Somewhat often
   ____ Not very often
   ____ Rarely
   ____ Never

3. When are relevant books, articles, and other instructional materials shared among teachers and school leaders?
   ____ Informally through individual recommendations
   ____ Between faculty who have a mentoring relationship
   ____ At faculty meetings
   ____ During in-service or other professional development activities
   ____ Other (please specify) ____________________________

4. How much expertise do you feel you already have about the teaching of writing?
   ____ A great deal
   ____ Some
   ____ Not much
   ____ None

5. What kinds of expertise do you already have about the teaching of writing? (Open response)
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6. What kinds of writing-centered professional development opportunities are available for you and your colleagues? (Check all that apply)
   _____ School-based professional development/in-service events (e.g. workshops, webinars, etc.)
   _____ District-based professional development events
   _____ Other professional development events (e.g. conference attendance, regional meetings, university-sponsored, etc.)
   _____ Web-based training modules
   _____ Reading and discussion groups with other faculty/professional learning communities
   _____ Mentoring from other faculty
   _____ University coursework
   _____ Other (please specify) ____________________________

7. What kinds of technological support for writing are available for students at our school? (Check all that apply)
   _____ Personal computers or laptops
   _____ Computer labs
   _____ Mobile computer labs
   _____ Access to high-speed internet
   _____ Specialized writing instructional software
   _____ Platforms for new media composition (e.g. Moodle, blogs, wikis, etc.)
   _____ Electronic library resources
   _____ Library faculty/staff
   _____ Other (please specify) ____________________________

8. What kinds of technological support for writing are available for teachers at our school? (Check all that apply)
   _____ Personal computers or laptops
   _____ Computer labs
   _____ Mobile computer labs
   _____ Access to high-speed internet
   _____ Access to web-based professional development
   _____ Specialized writing instructional software
   _____ Platforms for new media composition (e.g. Moodle, blogs, wikis, etc.)
   _____ Computing/technical support staff
   _____ Electronic library resources
   _____ Library faculty/staff
   _____ Other (please specify) ____________________________
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9. To the best of your knowledge, who do students ask for help with their writing besides teachers? (Check all that apply)
   ____ Parents/guardians
   ____ Siblings
   ____ Friends
   ____ School-based support staff/tutors
   ____ Private tutors
   ____ Library faculty/staff
   ____ Counselors
   ____ Other (please specify) ____________________________

Open Response:
10. How can teachers support one another while developing and maintaining the writing initiative at our school?

11. In what ways can instructional leaders at our school support writing instruction and improvement?

12. What existing programs at our school might incorporate a writing initiative?