ACTIVITY: Examining State Policies using NTC’s “Support from the Start” (link) (and copies provided).

DIRECTIONS

Part I. Review your own state’s policy summary and answer these questions. (10-15 min.)

1. Write down your thoughts or comments as you review the policies within your own state. (Does anything come as a surprise to you? If not a surprise, share how you became aware of these policy requirements.)
2. How does the district in which you work adhere to these mandates?
3. In what ways does the district in which you work go beyond state mandates to support new teachers?
4. What are the reasons your district has been a leader in this area?
5. If your state is a policy leader on new teacher support, can you describe what has happened (or who have been the main stakeholders) to enact such policies?
6. If your state is not a policy leader, what might be the reasons for lack of such policy support?

Part II. Group Discussion (30 minutes)

Working with elbow partners (where possible, work with others from your district):

1. Discuss your answers to the questions in Part I.
2. Using the interactive tool provided, write your collective answers so that they show up on the screen.
3. As participant answers to the questions are shared on the screen, discuss at your tables the strategies that could be used to inform or address improving policies at the state and district levels.