

#### Teacher Learning Opportunities: changes in the framing of teacher instructional talk in collaborative meetings

Jessica G. Rigby Vanderbilt University, Peabody College (soon to be University of Washington)

> Christine Andrews-Larson Florida State University

I-Chien Chen Michigan State University





MIST: Middle School Mathematics and the Institutional Setting of Teaching

- What does it take to improve middle school mathematics instruction at the scale of a large urban district in the US?
- Relevant data sources:

 Interpersonal: informal advice networks and audio transcripts

# Study Sample

- Case study (Yin, 2003): Creekside Middle School, 2009-2011
- Primary data sources:
  - Audio recordings of teacher collaborative time (TCT) focused on instruction
     (Informal Advice Network Surveys)

# **Conceptual Frame**

Framing Theory (Cress & Snow, 2000)

#### **Diagnostic Framing:**

- How to help students learn math
- How to help students succeed on tests
- Students can not learn

#### **Prognostic Framing:**

- Adjust Instruction
- Cover topics
- o Other

### Nature and Depth of Talk about Mathematics

(Horn & Little, 2010; Stein & Lane, 1996)

#### How Teachers Talked about Mathematics

Concepts and Explanations

 a. "Conceptual Lite"

 Terms and Procedures
 Topic Only

## Methods: Analysis

- Qualitative Analysis of Audio Transcripts:
   Coded in NVivo with deductive and inductive codes
  - Memos, matrices
- Analysis of District Context

   Examined qualitative and quantitative data across all schools in the district over the same time period to contextualize the findings

### Finding One: Content of Mathematics







## Finding Four: Role of Administrator



#### Administrative Framing

#### **Administrator Presence**



### Implications for Design: *Teachers*

Kind of math mattered

- Conceptual lite is unlikely to help students know how to apply mathematical concepts to standardized tests.
- Given administrator (and district and federal) press on student success on standardized tests, teachers will likely revert to teaching procedures.
- Need to build teacher capacity to concepts & explanations.

## Implications for Design: *Administrators*

- Administrator press can shift teachers' attention
  - Provide aligned PD for principals (and APs) as well as teachers, so that they are able to either
    - A) give substantive support in implementation (if they have deep content knowledge)
    - B) press for ambitious practices (if they don't have deep content knowledge)



# Thank you!

Jessica G. Rigby jrigby@uw.edu

