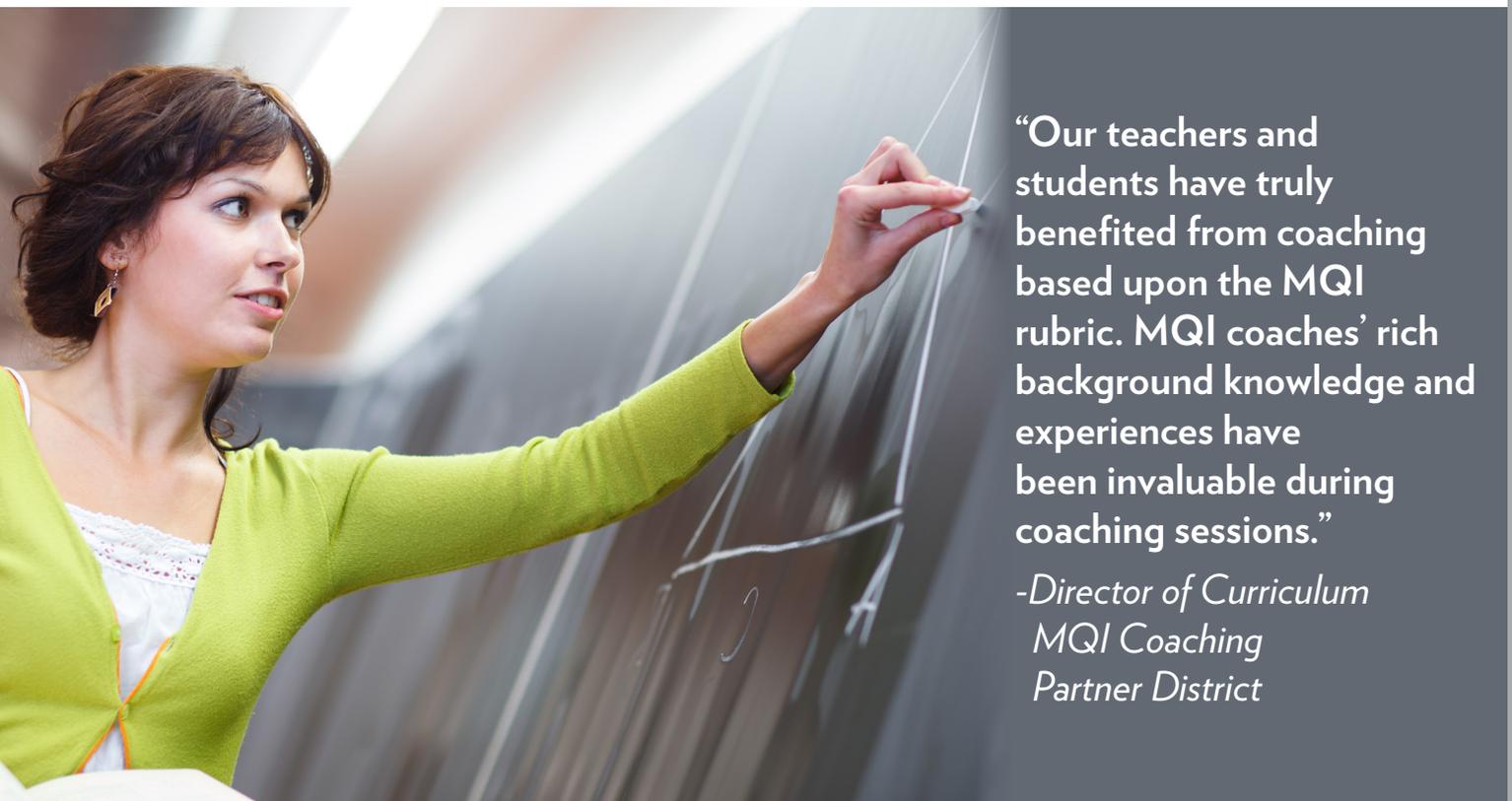


# MQI COACHING

## A LENS FOR IMPROVING THE MATHEMATICAL QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION

Achieving Common Core-aligned mathematics instruction is not easy. MQI Coaching offers a valuable resource for teachers.

- The **Mathematical Quality of Instruction (MQI)** instrument is a **math-specific rubric** that provides teachers with a framework for analyzing math instruction.
- **Video-based, virtual coaching cycles** help teachers to reflect on their own practice and look closely at their work and the work of their students.
- Our **MQI Video Library** provides teachers with examples of a wide range of instruction, as well as exemplars of specific **Common Core-aligned practices**.
- MQI expert coaches offer **individualized feedback**, meeting teachers where they are, and helping teachers to self-identify a pathway for improvement.



“Our teachers and students have truly benefited from coaching based upon the MQI rubric. MQI coaches’ rich background knowledge and experiences have been invaluable during coaching sessions.”

*-Director of Curriculum  
MQI Coaching  
Partner District*

## TEACHER TESTIMONIALS

*“MQI and coaches are amazing and have been so helpful in improving my math lessons. I really think my students can see a difference in what we do every day.”*

*“Sometimes I think I have a great lesson planned with lots of time for students to problem solve together, but after I watch the videotape, I see that I did too much of the talking. These videos have been eye-opening!”*

*“I was planning to retire, but now I am going to keep teaching because I want to keep learning and improving what I am doing in the classroom. I love videotaping and working with my coach!”*

*“MQI is causing me to focus on parts of my teaching that I never focused on like this before...I have been able to really focus on questioning techniques. I ask better questions in my classroom now to get students thinking about math and talking about what is in their heads. I used to do more telling, but now I do more questioning. It is great!”*

*“Having MQI to focus on with my teaching and our coaching sessions has helped me to be very specific in what I want to reflect upon in my teaching. My coach has affirmed things I do really well as a teacher, and has helped me to refine some areas that I wanted to be sharper in.”*

## WHAT IS THE MQI?

The MQI is a Common Core-aligned observational rubric that provides a framework for analyzing mathematics instruction in several domains (described below). Within each of the four domains, individual codes contain score points that categorize instruction into different levels of quality.

As part of the MQI Coaching process, teachers learn to apply these score points to short instructional segments from our MQI Video Library. Doing so introduces teachers to the instrument, both providing definitions for key elements of instructional practice and a grounding in good, better, and excellent instruction within each area. This work supports teachers in the transition to watching, reflecting on, and improving their own instruction through the lens of the MQI.

### MQI DOMAINS:

#### **Common Core-Aligned Student Practices**

To what extent are the students, as opposed to the teacher, doing the mathematics of the lesson—engaging in mathematical thinking and reasoning, communicating about mathematics, and solving high-cognitive demand tasks and contextualized problems?

#### **Working with Students and Mathematics**

To what extent does the teacher use student mathematical ideas or misconceptions to move the lesson forward?

#### **Richness of the Mathematics**

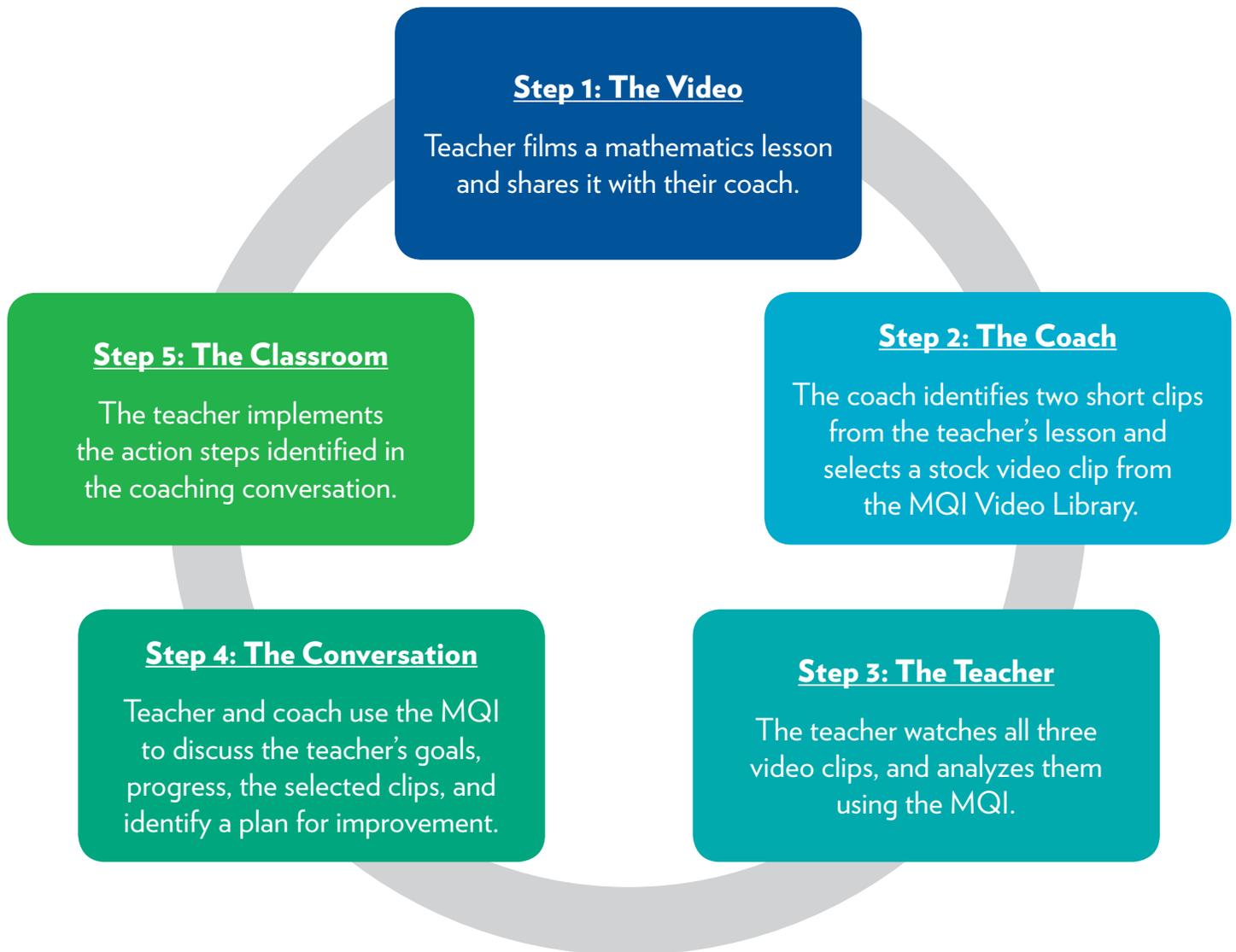
To what extent are teachers and students making sense of the mathematics of the lesson? Are there elements of “why” and not just how?

#### **Errors and Imprecision**

Is the mathematics of the lesson clear and correct?



## MQI COACHING CYCLE



## ZOOMING IN ON THE MQI COACHING CYCLE: THE CONVERSATION

When the teacher and coach meet (either virtually or in person), they use the MQI framework as a guide for the teacher's reflection. For each of the video clips (stock video or teacher's own), the teacher and coach use the MQI to guide their discussion through several phases:

- Teacher and coach use the MQI code(s) to **describe**, without judgment, what happened in the clip, focusing on one or two MQI codes.
- They **elevate** the instruction in the video clip, describing what this moment would have looked like if it were incrementally improved on the MQI code(s) of focus.
- Teacher identifies **next steps** that might lead to such elevated instruction.
- At the end of the conversation, the teacher decides on an action plan, goal(s), and MQI code(s) of focus for the **next coaching cycle**.



## CONTACT US

Contact us to learn how you can get MQI Coaching in your school or district.

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## ABOUT US

We are committed to providing high-quality professional development to help teachers, schools, and districts improve their mathematics instruction. We have experience providing MQI-based professional development in urban and suburban school districts across the country. Current and past partners include:

- Appleton Area School District (WI)
- Arlington Public Schools (MA)
- Boston Public Schools (MA)
- Brockton Public Schools (MA)
- Cambridge Public Schools (MA)
- Derby Public Schools (KS)
- Eugene School District (OR)
- Framingham School District (MA)
- Milwaukee Public Schools (WI)
- New York City Public Schools (NY)
- Portland Public Schools (ME)
- West Linn-Wilsonville School District (OR)

## CENTER FOR EDUCATION POLICY RESEARCH AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

The Center for Education Policy Research (CEPR) at Harvard University is a unique partnership among districts, states, foundations, and university-based researchers designed to leverage the overwhelming amount of data to address education policy questions and improve outcomes for all students.

## AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH

Established in 1946, American Institutes for Research is an independent, nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization that conducts behavioral and social science research on important issues and delivers technical assistance, both domestically and internationally, in the areas of education, health, and workforce productivity.