

Ideas with

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CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT/RESILIENCY

Pencils, Peace & Professional Growth

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THRIVE IN FIVE aka Where Do All the Pencils Go

Presented by: Ingrid "Ms Michele" Bazin

School: North Dade Middle | Location #: 6591

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Workshop Overview

THRIVE IN FIVE is a hands-on, heart-centered workshop created for teachers in their first five years who are navigating the highs, lows, and hilarious realities of early career teaching. From figuring out where the pencils go (literally and figuratively) to finding your rhythm in the classroom, this session offers real talk, real tools, and a supportive community.

Through interactive activities, group reflection, and a touch of humor, participants will explore topics that directly impact teacher retention—classroom management, emotional wellness, peer connections, and knowing when to set boundaries.

This isn't a sit-and-get. This is a laugh, learn, reflect, and build kind of space.

Target Audience

- Teachers in Years 1–5
 - Instructional Coaches & Mentors
 - New Teacher Support Staff
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Learning Objectives

Participants will:

- ☒ Build strategies to navigate classroom management and logistics
 - ☒ Reflect on wellness and create a plan for professional sustainability
 - ☒ Identify peer and mentor support systems
 - ☒ Learn how to protect their time, energy, and purpose
 - ☒ Leave with a customized “Survival Guide” for the school year
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Session Breakdown

Part 1: Welcome & First-Year Teacher Bingo (15 min)

Objective: Create community and laughter through shared experience.

Activity: A light-hearted bingo game full of “only a teacher would understand” moments—like being voluntold for a committee or surviving a day with no plan.

Part 2: Real Talk – “Where Do the Pencils Go?” (25 min)

Objective: Reflect on the real challenges of managing supplies, students, and expectations.

Activity: Participants receive a pencil box (shh—it’s a surprise). We unpack the mystery of disappearing pencils and use it as a metaphor for classroom systems, student behavior, and educator boundaries.

Part 3: Chaos or Control? Scenario Roundtable (30 min)

Objective: Practice problem-solving and build confidence.

Activity: Participants anonymously submit their biggest classroom management concern. We work through real-life scenarios in small groups, share solutions, and support one another with collective wisdom.

Part 4: Your Circle Is Your Superpower (20 min)

Objective: Map out personal and professional support networks.

Activity: Teachers complete a Support Map and reflect on how to find a mentor, keep a teacher bestie, and build their classroom tribe.

Part 5: Build Your Survival Guide (40 min)

Objective: Empower teachers to set goals that support longevity and joy.

Activity: Each participant sets 3 goals using the Survival Guide worksheet: one for growth, one for boundaries, and one for connection. Includes bonus tips about summer pay, union dues, sick day cash-out, and PD day insights.

Materials Provided

- Bingo Cards
- Pencil Boxes & Pencils
- Support Map Template
- Year 5 Survival Guide Worksheets
- Markers, Sticky Notes, and Prizes

Professional Alignment

This session supports the **Florida Educator Accomplished Practices (FEAPs)**:

- **Standard 1 – Quality of Instruction:** Supports instructional planning, organization, and responsiveness.

- **Standard 2 – Learning Environment:** Promotes a respectful and emotionally supportive classroom culture.
- **Standard 4 – Professional Responsibilities:** Encourages reflection, peer collaboration, and professional growth.

It also directly addresses key teacher retention strategies recognized in Florida’s mentoring programs and new teacher support initiatives.

Presenter Bio

Ingrid “Ms Michele” Bazin is a dynamic educator, event curator, and community-builder. A third-year teacher honored as **Teacher of the Month** twice and **Rookie Teacher of the Year** nominee, she is passionate about helping new educators stay grounded and inspired. Her approach mixes structure, soul, and a whole lot of laughter—because thriving in teaching starts with being honest about what it takes to stay.