

## Critical Times and Events

The mentoring cycle describes the formal interactions between the mentor and the mentee. It is important for mentors to understand that beginning teachers also need support outside of the formal mentoring cycle. These informal interactions may occur at any time and often represent a beginning teacher learning opportunity (TLO).

The list below contains some of the critical times in the academic year when mentors must engage their mentees in a coaching dialogue and be prepared to offer additional assistance. It also includes some events around which the beginning teacher may need some support from his/her mentor. The list is not intended to be exhaustive.

Beginning teachers will benefit from a mentor's support at/during/while they prepare for:

- the beginning of the school year
- parent nights
- interim reports
- report cards
- parent conferences
- IEP meetings
- field trips
- formal testing
- meetings with the principal
- the end of the school year