

Sierra Fish Confer

Minimize

Identifying a topic: Narrowing student achievement gaps of African American female students.

Research question: What strategies can be used to support African American female students in the classroom?

Rationale: When deciding on a research topic I thought of a problem that is occurring within my classroom and others in my school. A trend in student achievement shows African American female students scoring lower than any other racial or gender group of students. The lower achievement occurs in all subject areas. This topic is important because students are not reaching their potential and the longer we wait to address this issue the more of an impact it will have on their education experience and achievement. Researching how to narrow this achievement gap between groups of students will benefit the marginalized students. Determining how to shrink or even remove the gap in achievement with strategies will help educators level the playing field within their classroom. Every student deserves a teacher that advocates for them. Seeing my African American female students scoring at the bottom of the class continuously is a red flag indicating change needs to happen. I need to advocate for these students and help narrow the achievement gap. I am realistic about the vastness and historical aspect that has an impact on this topic. I will chip away at achievement gaps by finding strategies to help support students in my classroom.