



August 2019

Dear Administrator,

The Santa Cruz/Silicon Valley New Teacher Project is excited to continue offering participating teachers and mentors access to Talent, a secure web-based platform for uploading and annotating video to improve teacher practice. Using Talent, new teachers will periodically be filming in their classrooms as part of their Induction work. ***Talent is a password-protected site that prevents video from being viewed by anyone other than the mentor and teacher.***

This easy to use and secure system allows mentors and participating teachers to harness the power of this technology. If you wish to learn more about Talent, [HERE](#) is the link to a brief YouTube video on the subject:

The positive impact of video-based observation and feedback on mentoring, teaching and student learning has been a consistent theme in the feedback we have received through our annual survey. In 2017-18, **97% of participating teachers** reported that video observation by their mentor had a positive influence on their teaching practice and **96% agreed that video observation advanced student learning.**

We are informing you about participating teachers' use of video in their classroom in the event that you receive any questions from parents. **Because of the very limited nature of the sharing, most districts/schools do not feel the need to obtain additional student permission for this type of filming. Please feel free to reach out to our leadership team if you have any questions or concerns.**

Sincerely,

Melissa and Candace

Melissa Roberts
Director
Santa Cruz/Silicon Valley New Teacher Project
mroberts@santacruzcoe.org

Candace McIsaac
Program Director (Silicon Valley)
Santa Cruz/Silicon Valley New Teacher Project
cmcisaac@santacruzcoe.org