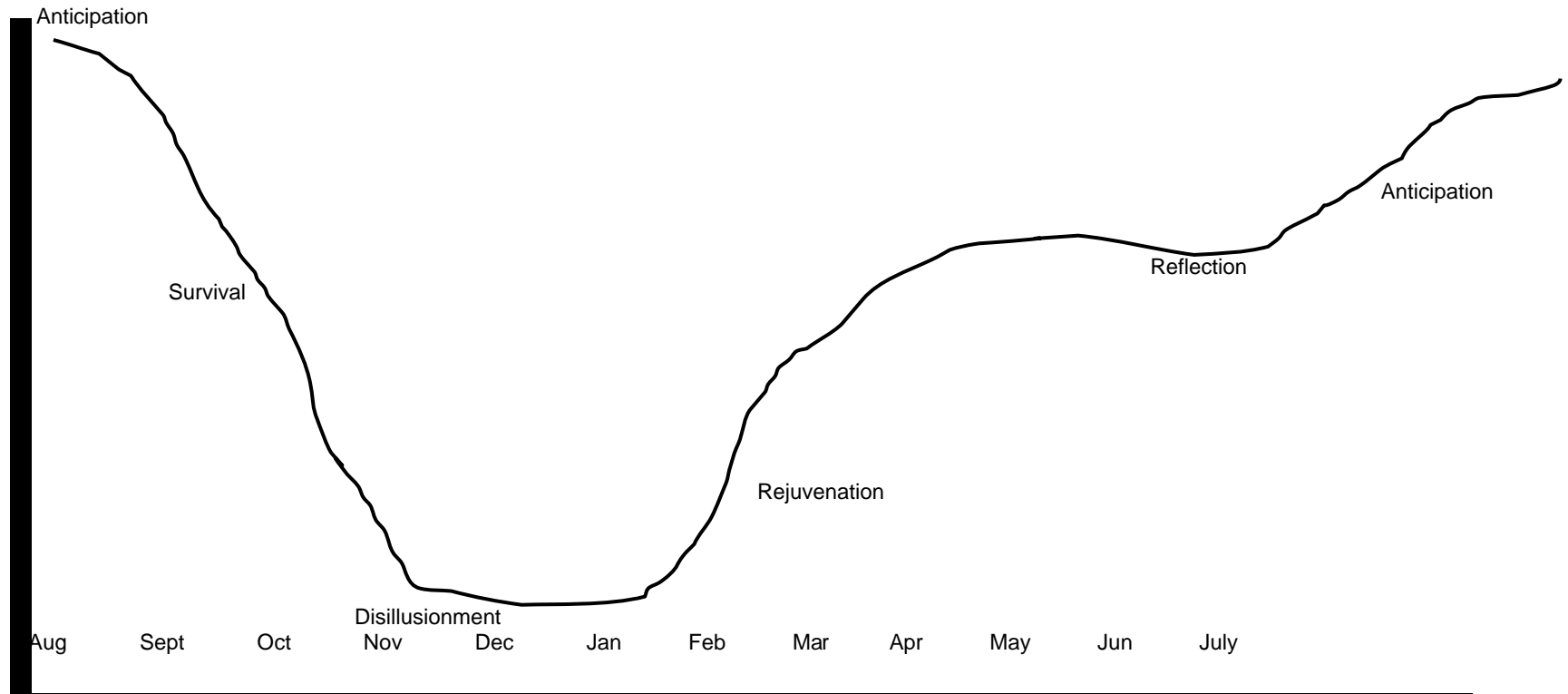


Phases of First Year Teacher's Attitude Towards Teaching*



Anticipation - Teachers have just completed a teacher training program. They are eager and excited about their initial teaching assignment. They have “big plans” about how it is going to be.

Survival - Reality hits. New teachers can become overwhelmed with all the aspects of the job they didn't anticipate. They are working 60 hour weeks. They still maintain their enthusiasm but are getting tired.

Disillusionment - New teachers are working hard, but feel they are not getting anywhere. They are shocked at reality and wondering if this is the right profession for them. Illness often characterizes this phase. This phase also corresponds with parent conferences, first report cards, back-to-school night, and the first evaluation conference!!

Rejuvenation - New teachers have just had a few weeks off for winter break. They have completed half the year and can see the end in sight. They have gained some coping strategies to manage the problems they may encounter. They begin to feel a sense of confidence. They begin to focus on curriculum development. They are more optimistic about their capabilities.

Reflection - Towards the end of the year, new teachers begin to reflect on changes that they want to make for the next year. They begin to critically analyze the past year, thinking ahead to what they will change for next year.

Anticipation "2" - New teachers begin to look forward to the next year but their eagerness to try again is more reality-based. The level of anticipation never quite reaches the height that it was prior to their first teaching position.