



CanyonPD.com

# SESSION CATALOG

DISCOVER YOUR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING SOLUTION  
PD WITH PURPOSE



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# OUR APPROACH

## A CONTINUUM OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



### AWARENESS

Create a shared vocabulary, provide opportunities to assess current reality and introduce initial tools and resources through short micro-sessions



### AGENCY

Assist educators in internalizing the use of tools and resources to produce a specific result or outcome through custom full and half-day sessions.



### EFFICACY

Initiate practices that provide the opportunity for educators to extend embedded practices beyond the initial context of the learning through custom full-day sessions and aligned coaching or mentoring.

### COSTS

FULL DAY.....	~ 6 Hours.....	\$1800
HALF DAY.....	~ 3 hours.....	\$900
MICRO-SESSIONS.....	~ 1.5 - 2 hours.....	\$600 - \$700

\*Travel Costs extra

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## OTHER CONTRACTED SERVICES

PK-12 COURSE AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

CUSTOM ASYNCHRONOUS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COURSE DEVELOPMENT AND HOSTING

LEADERSHIP CONSULTATION AND MENTORING

**CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**CanyonProfDev@GCE.com**

# WHO ARE OUR SESSIONS DESIGNED TO SUPPORT?

## **Family (FAM)**

For family members of PK–12 students or anyone who supports PK–12 families.

## **Instructional Coach (IC)**

For individuals who support teachers in improving classroom and instructional practices.

## **Leader (LDR)**

For individuals who hold, or aspire to hold, a educational leadership position or role.

## **Paraprofessional (PP)**

For individuals who support PK-12 students directly through small-group or one-to-one classroom interventions.

## **School Bus Driver or Bus Aide (BUS)**

For individuals who drive school buses or assist with student management on PK–12 bus routes.

## **School Counselors (COUN)**

For individuals who support PK-12 students in academic, social-emotional or career counseling capacities.

## **Support Staff (SS)**

For individuals in non-teaching roles who support the school’s internal and/or external stakeholders.

## **Teacher (TCH)**

For individuals who plan and deliver instruction in PK–12 classrooms.



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Canyon PD can customize sessions to any audience.

Ask us how.

CanyonProfDev@GCE.com

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Teacher  
Paraprofessional  
Bus Driver and Bus Aide

DATA-DRIVEN PRACTICES

Teacher  
Counselor  
Leader

DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

Teacher  
Paraprofessional

INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING

Teacher  
Paraprofessional

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH EXCEPTIONALITIES

Teacher  
Paraprofessional

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Teacher

ENGINEERING DESIGN PROCESS

Teacher

INQUIRY INSTRUCTION

Teacher

STEM BEST PRACTICES

Teacher

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Behavior Management and Engagement Sessions

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

This multi-day workshop series offers practical strategies for creating structured, engaging classrooms. Participants can explore ways to strengthen routines, refine instructional practices, and address behavioral challenges to support positive learning environments where students can thrive.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### Topic I Rapport Building Through Fostering Relationships

This session highlights how strong teacher–student and teacher–family relationships shape a positive classroom culture. Participants can reflect on communication strategies that build trust, enhance collaboration, and support engagement.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Teacher relationships with students and families as a foundation for classroom climate and learning
- Communication practices to guide trust and collaboration
- Strategies to strengthen connections with students and families

#### Topic II Establishing a Foundation With Rules, Consequences and Rewards

Examine how a focused classroom management plan with clear expectations and consistent systems can promote fairness and accountability. The session emphasizes proactive reflection and recognition practices that reinforce positive behavior.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose and balance of rules, consequences, and rewards
- Clarity and consistency to promote accountability
- Practices that encourage positive student choices

#### Topic III Setting Clear Expectations With Routines and Procedures

Explore how clear routines and procedures create structure and independence. The session differentiates between routines, policies, and procedures while introducing strategies that strengthen consistency and organization.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Differences among routines, policies, and procedures
- Routines that build student responsibility and autonomy

#### Topic IV Engaging Every Learner Strategies to Boost Engagement

Discover evidence-based techniques to increase participation and motivation. The session examines how cooperative learning structures and active strategies enhance collaboration, communication, and higher-order thinking.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Dimensions of engagement: behavioral, emotional, and cognitive
- Evidence-based strategies to support active learning
- Cooperative structures that strengthen collaboration and critical thinking

#### Topic V Effective Lesson Planning by Designing for Purpose and Impact

This topic focuses on the essential components of clear, intentional lesson design. Participants can explore how alignment to grade-level standards, purposeful instructional methods, and formative assessments work together to support student learning. Examples and sample plans illustrate how thoughtful structure and flexibility enhance engagement and instructional flow.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment of lesson objectives with standards and outcomes
- Use of formative assessment to guide instructional decisions
- Selection of effective strategies for whole-group, small-group, and mini-lesson formats

#### Topic VI Building Your Teaching Persona Through Confidence and Consistency in the Classroom

This reflective session helps educators identify and refine their teaching style to promote confidence, consistency, and authenticity. Participants can explore how tone, body language, and communication influence classroom culture and student engagement. Practical tools support the development of a professional teaching presence that balances warmth with structure.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding how teaching style shapes classroom dynamics
- Strategies to build confidence and consistency in instructional delivery
- Techniques for communicating professionalism and authenticity

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Behavior Management and Engagement Sessions

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **DE-ESCALATING STUDENT BEHAVIORS TEACHER EDITION** **TWO-PART SERIES**

This two-part series builds a foundational understanding of student behavior by examining how the brain responds to stress and how underlying factors influence challenging actions. Across both sessions, educators learn proactive, evidence-based strategies that strengthen self-regulation, support emotional well-being, and create a calm, constructive classroom environment.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

##### **Part I Understanding Behavior and the Brain**

Explore the science of student behavior and the brain's "fight, flight, freeze, or fawn" response. Identify underlying causes of challenging behavior and examine proactive supports that help students develop self-regulation skills.

Key Focus Areas:

- Antecedents and root causes of challenging behaviors
- Strategies to support student self-regulation
- Explicit and proactive teaching of coping strategies

##### **Part II Responding to Stress and Promoting Regulation**

Continue the exploration of behavior and stress by examining how trauma and emotional regulation affect learning. Practice evidence-based techniques that promote calm and constructive responses to challenging situations.

Key Focus Areas:

- The difference between the learning and survival brains
- Soothing the nervous system
- Evidence-based de-escalation strategies
- Creating a calm, supportive classroom climate

#### **SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL EDUCATORS** **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND CULTURAL CONNECTION** **TWO-PART SERIES**

This two-part series can equip international educators with practical tools to navigate classroom management and cultural adjustment within U.S. schools. Participants can have the chance to explore strategies to build positive relationships, support diverse learners, and align instruction with cultural expectations while maintaining professionalism and confidence in new educational settings.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

##### **Part I Classroom Management for International Educators**

This session provides international educators with practical classroom management tools tailored to U.S. education systems. Participants can explore strategies for building relationships, managing diverse classrooms, and aligning instruction to cultural and behavioral expectations.

Key Focus Areas:

- Key components of effective classroom management
- Strategies to strengthen student-teacher relationships
- Differentiated instruction to support a variety of learners

##### **Part II Bridging Cultures A Practical Guide for J-1 Visa Teachers**

Explore classroom management approaches that can support international educators working in U.S. schools. Review strategies for relationship-building, managing diverse classrooms, and aligning instruction with cultural and behavioral expectations.

Key Focus Areas:

- Cultural nuances in U.S. education
- Communication and relationship-building strategies
- Professional ethics, boundaries, and legal responsibilities

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Behavior Management and Engagement Sessions

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### THE POWER OF RELATIONSHIP

Examine the connection between rapport building and classroom management and explore the role of intentionality in fostering relationships. Review methods to establish, nurture, and mend relationships throughout the year.

Key Focus Areas:

- The impact of relationships on classroom management
- Strategies to grow teacher/student relationships
- Creating an environment where students can feel safe and heard

#### BECOMING A STRONG CLASSROOM LEADER

Examine ways to create and refine classroom procedures that encourage consistency and effective learning. Review evidence-based methods to teach, practice, and reinforce procedures aligned with classroom goals.

Key Focus Areas:

- The process of establishing and refining classroom procedures
- Strategies to implement procedures that support engagement
- Developing rapport with students
- Maintaining consistency across learning environments

#### ESTABLISHING ROUTINES IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOM

Explore strategies that support structure and smooth transitions in early childhood settings. Discover how classroom design, predictable routines, and clear expectations promote independence, teamwork, and engagement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Routines and procedures that support smooth transitions
- Environments that promote independence and collaboration
- Management strategies that enhance teamwork and engagement

#### PROCEDURES ARE YOUR PAL

Examine ways to create and refine classroom procedures that encourage consistency and effective learning. Review evidence-based methods to teach, practice, and reinforce procedures aligned with classroom goals.

Key Focus Areas:

- The process of establishing and refining classroom procedures
- Strategies to implement procedures that support engagement
- Maintaining consistency across learning environments

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Sessions can be combined to create a customized experience that meets your needs. Contact us to learn more!**

[CanyonProfDev@gce.com](mailto:CanyonProfDev@gce.com)

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Behavior Management and Engagement Sessions

### 📍 PARAPROFESSIONAL SESSIONS 📍

#### DE-ESCALATING STUDENT BEHAVIORS PARAPROFESSIONAL EDITION TWO-PART SERIES

Challenging student behaviors often have underlying causes linked to stress, trauma, or unmet needs. This session helps paraprofessionals recognize how the brain responds to stress and how those responses appear in classroom settings. Participants can learn practical, relationship-based strategies to de-escalate situations calmly, support emotional regulation, and maintain safety and dignity for every student.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

##### **Part I Understanding Behavior and the Brain**

This session builds a brain-based understanding of student behavior by examining the observable signs of “fight, flight, freeze, and fawn” responses. It also introduces proactive de-escalation techniques and clarifies how paraprofessionals can reinforce calm, predictable environments that support student regulation.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Brain-based understanding of student behavior
- Observable signs of “fight, flight, freeze, and fawn” responses
- Techniques for proactive and supportive de-escalation
- Role of paraprofessionals in reinforcing calm, predictable environments

##### **Part II Calming Escalation Advanced Skills**

Building on foundational concepts from Part I, this session focuses on recognizing when students move from learning mode to survival mode. Participants can practice strategies that calm the nervous system, restore trust, and promote recovery after conflict. Through guided reflection and discussion, paraprofessionals will identify ways to partner with teachers in creating consistent, supportive responses.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Differences between the learning brain and the survival brain
- Importance of co-regulation and calming routines
- Collaborative approaches for post-incident recovery
- Reinforcing consistent, trauma-informed strategies

This session may include team-based practice scenarios drawn from the ‘Responding to Escalation as a Team’ framework.”

#### BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS FOUNDATIONS OF EFFECTIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Positive relationships are the cornerstone of classroom success. This session highlights how paraprofessionals can build rapport, establish consistent routines, and model respectful communication.

The session asks participants to reflect on how their daily interactions contribute to a positive climate and explore tools for maintaining trust and predictability with students.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Relationship-building as a foundation for behavior support
- Importance of clear routines and consistent expectations
- Communication strategies that promote mutual respect
- Reflective practices that strengthen classroom climate

#### FOSTERING A POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Creating a respectful and welcoming classroom environment requires intention and consistency. This session provides paraprofessionals with strategies to promote belonging and accountability. The session asks paraprofessionals to explore how fairness, empathy and restorative practices contribute to a culture where every student feels valued and capable of success.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Building a sense of belonging to strengthen student success
- Using restorative approaches to repair relationships
- Balancing rules, routines and empathy
- Understanding factors that influence student behavior

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Behavior Management and Engagement Sessions

### 📍 PARAPROFESSIONAL SESSIONS 📍

#### SUPPORTING ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

Engaged students are less likely to display off-task or disruptive behaviors. This session helps paraprofessionals understand how engagement and behavior connect, providing strategies to encourage participation and collaboration. Participants can explore how to assist teachers in maintaining student focus and enthusiasm throughout lessons.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Link between engagement and positive behavior
- Types of engagement: behavioral, cognitive, and emotional
- Strategies to redirect attention and promote on-task learning
- Ways paraprofessionals can reinforce participation and motivation

#### PREVENTING POWER STRUGGLES

Power struggles often arise when stress or frustration overtakes problem-solving. This session provides paraprofessionals with tools to de-escalate potential conflicts before they escalate. Participants can examine common triggers, learn how to respond with empathy and neutrality, and develop strategies to help students regain control while preserving positive relationships.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Identifying triggers that lead to conflict and defiance
- Maintaining composure and emotional control in tense situations
- Using neutral language and tone to defuse power struggles
- Encouraging student choice and ownership to restore calm

### DID YOU KNOW?

Student engagement can be the thread that connects nearly every part of teaching and learning. Many sessions in this catalog, from lesson design and differentiation to classroom culture and restorative practices, reinforce engagement as the foundation for success.

**CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE!**  
**CanyonProfDev@GCE.com**

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Behavior Management and Engagement Sessions

### 📍 BUS DRIVER AND AIDE SESSIONS 📍

#### DE-ESCALATING STUDENT BEHAVIOR BUS DRIVER EDITION

The bus environment plays an important role in each student's day. This session examines how stress and emotion influence behavior during transitions and how predictable routines can promote calm and safety. Participants can review approaches for maintaining supportive interactions and fostering consistency across routes and stops.

Key Focus Areas:

- Connections between stress responses and student behavior
- Predictable routines and calm interactions
- Practices that promote safety and respect on the bus

#### SUPPORTING STUDENTS ON THE MOVE THE ROLE OF THE BUS AIDE IN STUDENT SUCCESS

Bus aides are more than just extra hands—they're essential members of the student support team. This session explores how to create calm, structured, and caring bus environments where students feel safe and respected. Participants can reflect on effective communication with drivers, strategies for responding to student needs, and techniques to promote positive behavior and relationships on the bus.

Key Focus Areas:

- Building strong driver-aide communication and teamwork
- Supporting positive behavior and student relationships
- Promoting safety, consistency, and care throughout each route

#### BEHAVIOR BASICS CALMING STRATEGIES FOR BUS AIDES

Every ride presents moments that can either escalate or calm a situation. This session introduces practical, trauma-informed strategies for maintaining safety and composure when students experience heightened emotions. Participants can learn how to recognize early signs of agitation, apply de-escalation techniques, and use calm communication to restore order and promote a supportive environment on the bus.

Key Focus Areas:

- Recognizing early indicators of stress and escalation
- Applying verbal and non-verbal de-escalation techniques
- Maintaining safety and composure through calm communication



### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

## **FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT FOUR-PART SERIES**

Engage in a deeper exploration of formative assessment as both an instructional and evaluative process. Examine the ten dimensions of formative practices, distinguish between formative and summative assessment, and identify strategies that empower students as partners in learning. This multi-day experience blends facilitator-led discussion, reflection, and team-based planning to support the creation of growth-focused classrooms.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding..*

### **Part I Foundations of Formative Assessment**

Discover how formative assessment strengthens instructional practice by blending teaching and evaluation to promote growth. Examine the key differences between formative and summative assessment, explore essential dimensions of formative practice, and identify strategies to use data to inform immediate instructional adjustments.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Role of formative assessment in guiding instruction
- Data use for timely instructional adjustments
- Developing an action plan for formative implementation

### **Part II From Doing to Learning**

Connect classroom activities directly to learning intentions and academic standards. Reflect on the importance of clear communication so that students understand expectations and purpose. Strengthen your approach to designing, sharing, and assessing learning targets to help students move beyond completing tasks toward genuine understanding.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment of classroom activities with learning intentions and standards
- Clear communication of expectations
- Clarity of purpose in learning tasks

### **Part III From Intentions to Success**

Examine how success criteria clarify expectations and guide student achievement. Explore ways to design and communicate success criteria that link standards, learning intentions, and outcomes. Make learning visible so students know what success looks like and how to reach it.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Creation and communication of success criteria
- Connection between standards, intentions, and outcomes
- Clarity of success indicators for students

### **Part IV From Intentions to Success**

Review strategies for simplifying assessment while maximizing impact. Explore digital and classroom-based approaches that reduce grading time, increase student engagement, and promote responsive instruction. Discover how timely feedback and formative assessment work together to drive learning and ownership.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Simplified and efficient assessment practices
- Use of web-based tools for formative assessment
- Timely, data-informed feedback for student growth

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Data-Driven Practices

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **MOTIVATING STUDENTS BY PROVIDING ACTIONABLE STUDENT FEEDBACK**

This session offers practical strategies to help educators provide actionable feedback. Participants can examine how clear, specific feedback and well-designed rubrics can increase motivation, clarify expectations, and support continuous student improvement. Through guided discussion and application, participants can explore ways to promote reflection, self-assessment, and ownership of learning.

Key Focus Areas:

- Actionable feedback that supports motivation and engagement
- Rubrics that clarify expectations and streamline communication
- Reflection and self-assessment practices that build student ownership

#### **ENHANCING DATA AND ASSESSMENT LITERACY**

Examine how to collect, interpret, and apply data to guide instruction and improve learning outcomes. Reflect on types of assessments, evaluate data collection methods, and explore tools that support data-informed decision-making. Strengthen your assessment literacy so that data becomes an integral part of meaningful instructional planning.

Key Focus Areas:

- Value of using data to guide instruction
- Application of data to lesson design and adaptation
- Practical strategies for assessing and reteaching

#### **DOES DATA DRIVE YOUR INSTRUCTION?**

Investigate how different forms of data, anecdotal, formative, benchmark, and summative, inform instructional decisions. Learn to organize and interpret data from multiple sources to plan lessons, form strategic groups, and ensure that every decision is guided by meaningful information.

Key Focus Areas:

- Types and purposes of instructional data
- Reflection on data use for instructional planning
- Application of data insights to small-group instruction

#### **COLLABORATIVE TEAMS TO DRIVE EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION**

Explore the essential role of collaboration in driving instructional improvement and student success. This session highlights research-informed strategies for building high-performing teams that enhance communication, strengthen collective efficacy, and contribute to a positive school culture. Participants can reflect on current team practices and identify opportunities to improve effectiveness and alignment.

Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose and benefits of collaborative teams
- Strategies for building high-performing teams to support student growth
- Approaches for strengthening current team structures and practices

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Data-Driven Practices

### 📍 COUNSELOR SESSIONS 📍

#### USING DATA TO STRENGTHEN A COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELING PROGRAM

Effective counseling programs are guided by data that inform goals, highlight impact, and advocate for student success. This session provides a framework for collecting, analyzing, and communicating data that supports continuous improvement. Participants can examine how to align program outcomes with schoolwide priorities and use evidence to tell their story to stakeholders with clarity and confidence.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Data sources that inform counseling program evaluation
- Analysis and interpretation techniques for decision-making
- Data-driven advocacy for program growth and student achievement
- Communication strategies for sharing results with leadership teams

Find More Counseling Sessions [Here](#)



# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Data-Driven Practices



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### DATA-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP TURNING INSIGHT INTO ACTION

Explore how leaders use data to drive improvement and build shared accountability. Participants can examine practical methods for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting information that tells the story behind outcomes. This session highlights how to connect data insights to decisions that strengthen growth and engagement.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Key data sources and analysis methods
- Trend interpretation and decision support
- Measurable goals and progress indicators
- Results communication and shared accountability

#### DATA-INFORMED COLLABORATION SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE TEAM PRACTICES

Collaboration and data use are essential to continuous improvement. This session focuses on helping leaders support teams in analyzing evidence, refining instruction, and evaluating outcomes. Participants can explore strategies to promote productive collaboration and strengthen a culture of shared responsibility.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose and benefits of data-informed teamwork
- Collaboration structures and routines
- Reflection protocols and feedback cycles

#### CURRICULUM MAPPING COHERENCE THROUGH VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT

Curriculum mapping connects instruction across grade levels and subjects to promote consistency and growth. Participants can explore methods for developing maps and pacing guides that ensure alignment with standards while minimizing instructional gaps. Coaching support can extend this work into implementation and evaluation.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment and coherence across courses and grades
- Gap/overlap analysis across the curriculum
- Maps and pacing guides aligned to shared goals

#### DATA LEADERSHIP BUILDING SYSTEMS FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Learn how to establish systems that make data-driven reflection routine across your organization. Participants can explore methods for aligning assessment, accountability, and communication practices to sustain long-term improvement.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Data review structures and cadence
- Assessment alignment with priorities
- Feedback loops for continuous improvement

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Differentiated Instruction

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### ACCELERATING LEARNING THROUGH BLOOM'S TAXONOMY

Discover how Bloom's Taxonomy provides a framework for scaffolding and extending learning. Examine differentiated objectives and tiered activities that encourage deeper understanding, critical thinking, and higher-order learning. Discussion and examples connect Bloom's structure directly to lesson planning and classroom practice.

Key Focus Areas:

- Bloom's Taxonomy as a differentiation framework
- Tiered learning experiences and scaffolding
- Strategies for extending thinking and deepening understanding

#### UTILIZING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO SUPPORT DIFFERENTIATION AND STUDENT ACCESS

Artificial intelligence (AI) can enhance differentiated instruction by offering new ways to personalize learning and remove barriers for learners. This session explores practical strategies for using AI tools to support multiple means of representation, engagement, and expression to help educators meet various learning needs. Participants can examine classroom-ready examples and reflect on how AI can complement student-centered practices through flexible instructional design.

Key Focus Areas:

- AI applications that support differentiation and accessibility
- Multiple means of representation, engagement, and expression
- Strategies for planning differentiated lessons using digital tools
- Approaches that promote flexible and responsive instruction

#### UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING (UDL)

Examine how Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles create classrooms where all students have access to success. Explore the UDL framework through multiple means of engagement, representation, and expression. Learn ways to identify and remove barriers to learning while designing lessons that encourage accessibility and active participation.

Key Focus Areas:

- UDL framework and classroom application
- Lesson design using multiple means of engagement and representation
- Accessibility and participation through barrier reduction



### PARAPROFESSIONAL SESSIONS

#### USING GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS TO SCAFFOLD INSTRUCTION

Graphic organizers are powerful tools for helping students process, organize, and retain information. In this hands-on session, paraprofessionals will learn how to explicitly model and support students' use of graphic organizers across grade levels and content areas. Practical strategies can help participants guide students through complex ideas while reinforcing teacher-led instruction.

Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose and benefits of graphic organizers for student learning
- Explicit modeling and guided support techniques
- Cross-curricular applications for organizing and deepening understanding

## DID YOU KNOW?

We can create custom  
full- and half-day professional learning experiences  
for your support staff.

Contact us to learn more  
[CanyonProfDev@GCE.com](mailto:CanyonProfDev@GCE.com)

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Instructional Planning

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING FIVE-PART SERIES

This professional learning sequence guides educators through designing purposeful, standards-aligned lessons that promote engagement, differentiation, and student achievement. Participants can explore how intentional planning connects objectives, instruction, and assessment to create coherent, meaningful learning experiences. Each session builds on the previous one, providing reflection, collaboration, and application opportunities that can strengthen classroom practice.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding..*

##### **Part I The Basics and Beyond**

Examine the essential components of lesson design and how consistent, intentional planning supports effective teaching. Reflect on the alignment between standards, objectives, and instruction, and explore strategies for using formative assessment to guide daily decisions.

Key Focus Areas:

- Core components of lesson design
- Alignment between standards, objectives, and instruction
- Formative assessment to inform lesson decisions

##### **Part II Unpacking Bloom's Taxonomy**

Explore how Bloom's Taxonomy supports deeper learning and differentiation. Review both the original and revised versions to develop objectives that guide students from foundational knowledge to creative application.

Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose and structure of Bloom's Taxonomy
- Integration of Bloom's domains in lesson design
- Differentiated objectives for learners

##### **Part III Writing Essential Questions**

Discover how essential questions inspire curiosity and guide purposeful learning. Practice crafting questions that connect meaningfully to learning goals and encourage engagement and inquiry.

Key Focus Areas:

- Structure and purpose of essential questions
- Criteria for writing effective questions
- Promoting inquiry and engagement through questioning

##### **Part IV Targeted Mini-Lessons**

Learn how to design and deliver concise, skill-focused lessons that maintain engagement and reinforce mastery. Examine how mini-lessons connect to larger learning goals and support flexible grouping.

Key Focus Areas:

- Role of mini-lessons in effective instruction
- Mini-lessons that strengthen small-group and whole-group learning
- Focused instruction that extends understanding

##### **Part V Small Groups, Big Learning Opportunities**

Explore how small-group instruction enhances differentiation and engagement. Learn to use formative data to form purposeful groups to enhance and extend whole-group instruction. Establish routines, and create a collaborative classroom culture.

Key Focus Areas:

- Using data to form purposeful small groups
- Collaboration and engagement in group learning
- Small-group routines that promote differentiation

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Instructional Planning

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO UNPACKING AND IMPLEMENTING STANDARDS-BASED INSTRUCTION**

Explore a clear, four-step process for unpacking and implementing standards. Learn to interpret content standards, align them vertically across grade levels, break them into student-centered learning goals, and design progressions that guide differentiation and track growth. Apply these strategies across content areas to make standards practical and meaningful.

Key Focus Areas:

- Interpretation of content standards
- Vertical alignment across grade levels
- Manageable, student-centered learning goals
- Learning progressions that guide differentiation

#### **ACCELERATED LEARNING FOSTERING HIGHER-LEVEL THINKING AND KNOWLEDGE RETENTION**

Explore practical strategies to promote higher-level thinking and support long-term knowledge retention. Grounded in the Learning Pyramid, it highlights active learning practices that foster critical thinking, problem-solving, and engagement. Participants can examine ways to strengthen instructional design through action-driven objectives and reflect on how active participation can improve comprehension and interaction.

Key Focus Areas:

- Principles of the Learning Pyramid and their impact on engagement
- Using action-driven verbs to foster critical thinking and problem-solving
- Strategies for shifting instruction from passive to active learning

#### **EFFECTIVE LESSON PLANNING DESIGNING FOR PURPOSE AND IMPACT**

This session focuses on the essential components of clear, intentional lesson design. Participants can explore how alignment to grade-level standards, purposeful instructional methods, and formative assessments work together to support student learning. Examples and sample plans illustrate how thoughtful structure and flexibility enhance engagement and instructional flow.

Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment of lesson objectives with standards and outcomes
- Use of formative assessment to guide instructional decisions
- Selection of effective strategies for whole-group, small-group, and mini-lesson formats

See also Classroom Management Workshop Series Topic V

#### **TEACHING WITHIN BLOCK SCHEDULES**

Explore the opportunities and challenges of teaching within a block schedule. Assess your instructional practices, identify ways to maximize extended class time, and develop lessons that sustain energy and focus. Learn how pacing and intentional structure can enhance learning within longer instructional periods.

Key Focus Areas:

- Benefits and challenges of block scheduling
- Reflection and refinement of instructional practices
- Lesson design that sustains engagement throughout extended periods

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Instructional Planning

### PARAPROFESSIONAL SESSIONS

#### SMALL GROUP AND LESSON MANAGEMENT

Small-group instruction allows students to receive individualized support while maintaining classroom structure. This session helps paraprofessionals learn how to organize and manage small groups effectively. You'll explore techniques for maintaining attention, promoting independence, and supporting transitions so teachers can focus on targeted instruction. Practical examples illustrate how clear routines and communication lead to smoother, more productive small-group learning.

Key Focus Areas:

- Effective routines and procedures for small-group learning
- Techniques to promote independence and engagement
- Communication strategies for maintaining flow and consistency

#### THE POWER OF MINI-LESSONS

This session focuses on how paraprofessionals can support short, targeted learning segments that boost student engagement and understanding. Explore the structure of a mini-lesson, focus, modeling, guided practice, and independent application. Discuss how to reinforce learning during and after the lesson. Finally, reflect on ways to collaborate with teachers to provide timely feedback and promote student success.

Key Focus Areas:

- Core components of a mini-lesson
- Strategies to reinforce learning during and after instruction
- Collaboration and feedback practices that strengthen learning outcomes

#### UTILIZING BLOOM'S TAXONOMY AND WEBB'S DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE

Paraprofessionals play a key role in supporting differentiated learning and helping students think critically. This session introduces two essential frameworks, Bloom's Taxonomy and Webb's Depth of Knowledge (DOK), to guide instructional planning and support. Participants can explore how to scaffold questions, adjust tasks, and reinforce higher-order thinking within small-group and one-on-one settings.

Key Focus Areas:

- Components and levels of Bloom's Taxonomy and DOK
- Applications for scaffolding questions and supporting critical thinking
- Differentiation techniques to meet a variety of learner needs

#### EFFECTIVE PRACTICES FOR PARAPROFESSIONALS STRATEGIES THAT WORK

This session focuses on collaboration, communication, and classroom presence—the cornerstones of paraprofessional success. Participants can explore how their daily interactions and proactive communication strengthen classroom management and student learning. Mindfulness and stress-reduction techniques are included to promote a calm and supportive environment for both staff and students.

Key Focus Areas:

- Professional collaboration and communication in the classroom
- Mindfulness and emotional regulation for calm, consistent support
- Strategies for creating a positive and productive classroom climate

#### SUBSTITUTE TEACHER WORKSHOP

This asynchronous workshop equips substitute teachers with the skills and confidence to manage classrooms. Participants can explore relationship-building, proactive management, and engagement strategies that ensure continuity of learning. Each module includes reflection, planning, and scenario-based practice to promote confidence in any classroom setting.

Key Focus Areas:

- Relationship-building and classroom management
- Strategies for engagement in varied instructional contexts
- Routines, expectations, and organization for substitute success

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Support for Students with Exceptionalities

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### TEACHING STUDENTS WITH EXCEPTIONALITIES WORKSHOP SERIES

This multi-day workshop series offers practical strategies for creating structured, engaging classrooms. Participants Deepen your understanding of IDEA and its essential components while exploring practical strategies that promote access and achievement for students with exceptionalities. Review disability categories, the principles of FAPE, and the continuum of services that guide individualized support. Strengthen advocacy, communication, and collaboration skills to navigate the IEP process and help all students thrive.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### **Topic I Understanding IDEA and the Framework for Student Support**

Gain a clear overview of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and how it ensures access to Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Explore the 13 disability categories, the continuum of placement options, and how these frameworks guide individualized planning.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- IDEA provisions and the principles of FAPE
- Overview of disability categories and eligibility criteria
- Continuum of placement and service delivery options

#### **Topic II The IEP Process**

##### **Collaboration, Communication and Compliance**

Explore the stages of the IEP process from referral and evaluation to implementation and progress monitoring. Learn how paraprofessionals, teachers, and leaders contribute to collaborative meetings, data collection, and effective communication that supports meaningful student outcomes.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Roles and responsibilities in IEP development
- Strategies for effective communication and documentation
- Supporting student goals through collaboration and monitoring

#### **Topic III Accommodations, Modifications and Supplemental Aids**

Learn how to differentiate between accommodations, modifications, and supplemental aids that support access to learning. Review real-world examples and reflect on how small instructional adjustments can make a significant impact on student success.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Differences between accommodations and modifications
- Practical tools to support classroom access and participation
- Reflection and planning for individualized supports

#### **Topic IV Behavior, Discipline and Student Rights**

Understand the legal and ethical considerations related to discipline and behavior under IDEA. Examine manifestation determinations, functional behavior assessments, and the importance of consistent data collection to guide supportive interventions.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Legal requirements related to behavior and discipline
- Functional behavior assessments (FBA) and behavior intervention plans (BIP)
- Positive, proactive approaches to discipline and support

#### **Topic V Building Collaborative, Supportive Learning Environments**

Explore how educators, families, and specialists can work together to promote academic and social growth for all learners. Reflect on collaboration models, communication strategies, and systems that promote shared accountability and student advocacy.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Strategies for collaboration among general and special education staff
- Communication tools that build trust with families and stakeholders
- Advocacy and shared accountability for student success

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Support for Students with Exceptionalities

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **SUPPORTING ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

Explore approaches that foster English language development in a supportive, low-risk environment. Examine the stages of language acquisition and understand how receptive, productive, and interactive communication each contribute to overall proficiency. Review strategies that promote vocabulary growth and language use across listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Key Focus Areas:

- Characteristics of English learners at varying stages of development
- Receptive, productive, and interactive communication
- Language use and vocabulary development across all domains

#### **THE INS AND OUTS OF INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS (IEPS)**

Gain clarity on the IEP process and the essential role of general educators. Examine how IEPs differ from 504 plans, review each step of development, and identify accommodations and modifications that support classroom success. Learn strategies for participating in meetings, implementing plans, and advocating effectively for students.

Key Focus Areas:

- Differences between IEPs and 504 plans
- Steps in IEP development and implementation
- Accommodations and modifications in general education classrooms

#### **SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH AUTISM**

Gain insight into autism spectrum disorder and its impact on behavior, communication, and learning. Review the value of structure, predictability, and routine while exploring how positive behavioral interventions and applied behavior analysis foster calm, successful learning environments.

Key Focus Areas:

- Autism spectrum disorder and related behaviors
- Classroom structure and supportive routines
- Positive behavioral interventions and management strategies

#### **TEACHING EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS CREATING AND MAINTAINING A SUPPORTIVE CLASSROOM**

This interactive, full-day workshop explores how educators can create learning environments where all students are supported and able to thrive. Participants will engage in reflective discussions and collaborative activities to deepen their understanding of how supportive teaching practices influence student confidence and achievement. The session highlights practical strategies and tools for addressing a variety of learning needs and fostering a positive, connected classroom community.

Key Focus Areas:

- Benefits of a supportive learning environment and its effect on engagement and achievement
- Strategies to address varied learning needs within the classroom
- Adapting instruction to provide multiple ways for students to learn and participate
- Building a classroom culture grounded in respect, safety, and connection
- Practices that encourage active participation and expand access to learning
- Reflection and goal setting for strengthening classroom support and belonging

#### **THE SIX METHODS OF TEAM TEACHING**

Explore six co-teaching models that enhance student learning and teacher collaboration. Reflect on your partnership strengths, identify growth opportunities, and apply strategies that make co-teaching more seamless and productive. Strengthen your ability to design classrooms where collaboration supports a variety of learning needs.

Key Focus Areas:

- Co-teaching strengths and improvement areas
- Six models of co-teaching and classroom application
- Collaborative strategies for instructional success

### TEACHER SESSIONS

## STRATEGIES FOR SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA, DYSGRAPHIA AND DYSCALCULIA THREE-PART SERIES

This three-part professional learning series reviews practical tools to recognize and support students with common learning differences that affect reading, writing, and mathematics. Participants can explore foundational knowledge, early indicators, and evidence-based classroom strategies to strengthen academic confidence and success.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

### Part I Understanding Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia

Gain foundational knowledge of dysgraphia and dyscalculia, exploring how these learning differences affect writing, organization, and mathematical reasoning. Examine how to recognize common classroom indicators and connect these observations to supportive instructional responses.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Characteristics and early indicators of dysgraphia and dyscalculia
- Classroom impacts on written expression and mathematical fluency
- Strategies for identifying and documenting student needs

### Part II A Deeper Diver into Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia Tips, Tricks, and Strategies

Dive deeper into practical classroom strategies that address the specific challenges of dysgraphia and dyscalculia. Participants can review targeted supports, technology tools, and scaffolding techniques to strengthen confidence and self-efficacy.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Evidence-based interventions for writing and math difficulties
- Assistive technology and classroom accommodations
- Targeted support strategies to build confidence and self-efficacy

### Part III Dyslexia Introduction and Early Indicators

Explore the characteristics and early signs of dyslexia and how timely support can transform reading outcomes. Review strategies that align with structured literacy and phonological awareness practices. (For a deeper exploration of dyslexia and structured literacy, see our Science of Reading courses.)

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Characteristics and early indicators of dyslexia
- Phonological awareness and decoding strategies
- Early intervention practices and classroom supports



# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Support for Students with Exceptionalities

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### STRATEGIES FOR SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH ADHD WORKSHOP SERIES

Examine how educators can effectively support students with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) through proactive, strengths-based practices. Participants can explore the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional dimensions of ADHD while gaining tools to enhance focus, executive functioning, and classroom engagement. The series emphasizes collaboration with families and staff, use of assistive technologies, and implementation of consistent strategies that empower students to succeed.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

##### **Topic I Understanding ADHD Characteristics and Classroom Impact**

Explore the cognitive, behavioral, and emotional characteristics of ADHD and how they influence learning, motivation, and relationships in the classroom. Reflect on how environmental factors, task design, and teacher expectations can either support or hinder student success.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Characteristics of ADHD and their influence on learning and behavior
- Environmental and instructional factors that impact focus and regulation
- Strengths-based perspectives to foster student confidence and engagement

##### **Topic II Classroom Management and Structure for Success**

Examine evidence-based management strategies that create supportive, structured classrooms. Discuss proactive approaches that promote consistency, organization, and predictability while minimizing distractions and behavioral challenges.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Classroom routines that promote structure and stability
- Positive behavior supports and redirection techniques
- Preventive approaches to reduce off-task behavior

##### **Topic III Teaching Executive Functioning Skills**

Delve into practical tools for teaching organization, time management, and task prioritization. Review strategies to scaffold independence and help students monitor progress and manage transitions effectively.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Tools for strengthening executive functioning skills
- Scaffolding strategies for organization and planning
- Methods for promoting student self-monitoring and independence

##### **Topic IV Emotional Regulation and Resilience**

Explore how to help students recognize and manage emotions, develop coping strategies, and build resilience. Consider how mindfulness, movement, and relational trust can support focus and calm in the classroom.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Emotional regulation and self-awareness techniques
- Mindfulness and movement for focus and stress reduction
- Building trust and resilience through consistent support

##### **Topic V Collaboration and Consistency Beyond the Classroom**

Understand the importance of engaging families, counselors, and support staff to create a coordinated approach. Learn how technology, assistive tools, and consistent communication foster student success across settings.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Family and staff collaboration strategies
- Assistive technology to support focus and organization
- Unified approaches that reinforce learning and behavioral consistency

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Support for Students with Exceptionalities

### PARAPROFESSIONAL SESSIONS

#### SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL DISABILITIES (EBD)

Students with emotional and behavioral disabilities often need targeted support to build self-regulation, social skills, and confidence. This session helps paraprofessionals recognize the root causes of challenging behavior and apply trauma-informed strategies that promote safety and consistency. Participants can learn how to work collaboratively with teachers and specialists to create environments that balance empathy with accountability.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Characteristics and common needs of students with EBD
- Trauma-informed practices and de-escalation techniques
- Collaboration with teachers, counselors, and behavior teams
- Building consistency and structure to foster emotional growth

#### THE INS AND OUTS OF INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLANS (IEPS) PARAPROFESSIONAL VERSION

This session builds a practical understanding of the IEP process and the essential role of paraeducators in supporting students with disabilities. Participants can learn how IEPs differ from 504 plans, explore the stages of IEP development, and identify how accommodations and modifications translate into classroom practice. The facilitator will highlight strategies for communicating with special education teachers and contributing meaningfully to IEP meetings and progress monitoring.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Differences between IEPs and 504 plans
- Steps in the IEP development and implementation process
- Accommodations and modifications that promote belonging and success
- Effective communication and advocacy within the paraprofessional role

#### SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH AUTISM

Gain insight into autism spectrum disorder and its impact on behavior, communication, and learning. Review the value of structure, predictability, and routine while exploring how positive behavioral interventions and applied behavior analysis foster calm, successful learning environments.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Autism spectrum disorder and related behaviors
- Classroom structure and supportive routines
- Positive behavioral interventions and management strategies

#### AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD) STRATEGIES FOR SUPPORT

This session provides an accessible overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), emphasizing both understanding and practical application. Participants can learn how structure, predictability, and communication systems support student success. The facilitator will introduce Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), and other evidence-based approaches paraprofessionals can use to enhance engagement and independence.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Characteristics of Autism and the concept of neurodiversity
- Special education Inclusion practices that support communication and social interaction
- Role of structure, routine, and visual supports in behavior management
- Practical strategies aligned with PBIS and ABA principles

#### SUPPORTING NONVERBAL AND MINIMALLY VERBAL STUDENTS

Learn practical ways to support students who communicate without spoken language. This session introduces strategies for using augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) tools, visual supports, and sensory-based techniques to promote connection and engagement. Participants can explore how collaboration with teachers and specialists helps ensure consistent communication support across learning environments.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Communication tools and AAC strategies
- Visual and sensory supports for engagement
- Collaboration with teachers and specialists

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP USE OF TECHNOLOGY AS A TOOL FOR LEARNING**

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Learn how to teach students responsible, effective digital practices. This session covers safe internet use, intelligent source curation, and ethical digital footprints, empowering educators to cultivate digital leadership in the classroom.

Key Focus Areas:

- Conducting efficient internet searches using filters and operators
- Evaluating internet search results
- Understanding levels of usage rights
- Finding useable and citable electronic images

#### **THE T IN STEM**

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In classrooms, technology can power access to learning. This session highlights digital tools and engineering processes that support engagement and problem-solving. Participants can explore ways to use technology meaningfully to enhance instruction and collaboration.

Key Focus Areas:

- Leverage technology to enhance learning
- Integrate digital tools with active learning strategies
- Build professional learning networks for continued growth

#### **TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION IN THE CLASSROOM**

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Reflect on classroom practices and student learning as they relate to effective technology integration. Analyze how effective technology integration supports higher level learning and comprehension. Identify research-based strategies that support effective technology integration.

Key Focus Areas:

- Reflect on current technology use
- Identify types of student interactions with technology
- Reimagine technology integration to improve learning outcomes

#### **CHOOSE YOUR STEM TOOLS**

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Purposefully selecting STEM resources can drive active learning and inquiry. Guided by a "Plan, Picture, Passion, Problem-Solve" framework, the facilitator will review research on STEM integration and explore a wide range of tools, from low-cost construction materials to advanced robotics and coding platforms. Aligning these tools with the Engineering Design Process and content standards is a way to ignite student interest and solve real-world problems.

Key Focus Areas:

- STEM integration tools and strategies
- Active learning and global connections
- Inquiry and innovation in the classroom

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Engineering Design Process

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **ENGINEERING DESIGN NOTEBOOK**

Examine how design notebooks support documentation, reflection, and iteration throughout the engineering process. Explore strategies for modeling effective documentation, fostering accountability, and helping students organize their design thinking from concept to revision.

Key Focus Areas:

- Documentation of the engineering process
- Reflection and iteration in STEM learning
- Accountability and organization in student design work

#### **ELA AND STEAM NOVEL ENGINEERING**

Explore how storytelling can serve as an entry point for interdisciplinary STEM learning. Learn how a single text can connect reading, writing, math, and engineering to build conceptual understanding and creativity. The session focuses on designing integrated lessons that blend literacy and design thinking.

Key Focus Areas:

- Literacy integration through narrative-based inquiry
- Connection between design thinking and literacy standards
- Interdisciplinary, story-centered lesson design

#### **INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE CLASSROOM**

Examine how innovation and entrepreneurial thinking enhance creativity and problem-solving within academic contexts. Explore design-based strategies that connect classroom learning with applied problem-solving, encouraging students to approach challenges with curiosity and initiative.

Key Focus Areas:

- Connections between innovation, design, and entrepreneurship
- Design principles for applied problem-solving
- Strategies that foster creativity and initiative

#### **ENGINEERING DESIGN CHALLENGES THAT BUILD STEM THINKING**

Explore how design challenges can deepen problem-solving and collaboration in STEM classrooms. Examine ways to structure open-ended tasks that encourage analysis, iteration, and creativity. Learn how to align design challenges with standards while fostering curiosity, persistence, and teamwork throughout the engineering process.

Key Focus Areas:

- Structure and purpose of STEM design challenges
- Collaboration and problem-solving through inquiry
- Alignment of design challenges to content standards
- Creativity, iteration, and perseverance in the design process

#### **DESIGN THINKING IN ACTION PROBLEM SOLVING WITH A PURPOSE - SEED DROP**

Experience design thinking through a hands-on “Seed Drop” challenge that brings real-world problem-solving to life. Participants can move through the stages of empathizing, defining, ideating, prototyping, and testing while engaging in collaborative reflection. This session explores how design thinking strengthens creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking across content areas, with practical strategies to integrate science, math, and ELA standards into innovative classroom projects.

Key Focus Areas:

- Design thinking process through hands-on experimentation
- STEM and core content standards
- Creative problem-solving in the classroom

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## Inquiry Learning

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **INQUIRY LEARNING WORKSHOP SERIES**

Explore how inquiry learning shifts the focus of instruction from teacher-led delivery to student-driven exploration. Participants can examine how lessons and projects can be structured to help students ask meaningful questions, engage in hands-on discovery, and construct understanding through collaboration and reflection. This experience introduces the core components of inquiry learning and provides practical entry points for classroom implementation.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### **Topic I Foundations of Inquiry Learning**

Examine how inquiry-based approaches differ from traditional methods, emphasizing the shift from passive to active learning. Participants can consider how to select relevant phenomena that spark curiosity and develop plans to incorporate inquiry strategies that promote student voice and choice.

Key Focus Areas:

- Active learning
- Phenomena-driven investigation
- Student voice and choice

#### **Topic II Skills and Strategies for Inquiry Teaching**

Explore the essential skills and practices that support inquiry-based instruction. Participants can identify strategies that guide questioning, foster curiosity, and empower students to take ownership of their learning.

Key Focus Areas:

- Inquiry teaching framework
- Instructional skills for inquiry
- Curiosity and engagement

### **BALANCING RIGOR AND RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH INQUIRY**

Examine how inquiry-based instruction supports both high expectations and meaningful connections. Explore approaches for designing lessons that challenge students to think deeply while fostering collaboration and trust. Reflect on how thoughtful questioning, dialogue, and structure can sustain a classroom culture that values curiosity, care, and academic growth.

Key Focus Areas:

- Rigor and relational trust in inquiry-based environments
- Inquiry design strategies that promote challenge and collaboration
- Classroom culture that supports curiosity and academic growth

### **STUDENT-LED INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION DESIGN**

Empower students to take ownership of the scientific process through guided inquiry and exploration. Participants can examine how student-generated questions drive meaningful investigation, reflect on ways to scaffold experimental design, and explore techniques for supporting evidence-based conclusions. This session highlights practical structures for balancing autonomy and support so students learn to think and act like scientists. Consider pairing this session with our PBL sessions.

Key Focus Areas:

- Developing student-generated questions and hypotheses
- Structuring inquiry with manageable levels of autonomy
- Supporting students through data collection and analysis
- Strengthening reasoning and communication of findings

### **PROBLEM SOLVING THROUGH HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN**

Discover how Human-Centered Design and the Engineering Design Process support creative, student-driven problem solving. Explore each step of the design process and discuss strategies that foster empathy, innovation, and collaboration through hands-on learning.

Key Focus Areas:

- Human-Centered Design and the Engineering Design Process
- Design principles to classroom challenges
- Collaboration and creativity among students

# Instructional and Classroom Practices

## STEM Best Practices

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **BEST PRACTICES IN STEM**

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Explore how to guide students through the engineering design process using structured, hands-on projects. Examine ways to connect science, math, and technology through lessons that emphasize design, prototyping, and problem-solving. This session highlights approaches that promote creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration across STEM disciplines.

Key Focus Areas:

- Engineering design process in classroom projects
- Creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration
- Accessible and engaging STEM applications

#### **LEVEL UP STEM THROUGH CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT**

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Combine STEM instruction with social-emotional learning and character education. This session highlights research-based strategies that blend problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience, fostering curiosity, collaboration, and confidence among learners.

Key Focus Areas:

- Integrate STEM and character development
- Problem-solving, empathy, and teamwork with a character mindset
- Experiences that develop both skills and mindsets

#### **SEE ALSO STEM STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR LEADERS**

# Subject Specific Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

READING INSTRUCTION

Teacher  
Paraprofessional

WRITING INSTRUCTION

Teacher

MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTION AND  
COMPUTATIONAL THINKING

Teacher

SCIENCE INSTRUCTION

Teacher

# Subject Specific Reading Instruction

## 📍 TEACHER SESSIONS 📍

### SCIENCE OF READING PART A WORKSHOP SERIES WITH REQUIRED ASYNCHRONOUS COURSES

\*This series is approved by the Arizona Department of Education and meets the requirements for the first 45 hours of required Science of Reading training.

\*Due to the nature of this training, pricing differs from our traditional cost structure. Please contact us for details.

Engage in a comprehensive professional learning series designed to strengthen your understanding of the Science of Reading and its classroom applications. Explore essential literacy components, evidence-based instructional practices, and assessment strategies that promote reading success for all students. Sessions may be offered in person, virtually, or through a hybrid format to meet your school's needs.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- An Overview of the Science of Reading
- Systematic Instruction
- Explicit Instruction
- Reading Assessments
- Multisensory Instruction
- Phonological Awareness
- Phonics
- Phonics Word Study and Spelling
- Advanced Word Study
- Fluency
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension

### SCIENCE OF READING PART B WORKSHOP SERIES WITH REQUIRED ASYNCHRONOUS COURSES

\*This series is approved by the Arizona Department of Education and meets the requirements for the second 45 hours of required Science of Reading training.

\*Due to the nature of this training, pricing differs from our traditional cost structure. Please contact us for details.

Deepen your expertise in the Science of Reading through this advanced professional learning series that fulfills Part B of the Arizona K–5 Literacy Endorsement requirement. Building on foundational knowledge from Part A, this experience focuses on the application of evidence-based practices, data-driven instructional planning, and intervention design to meet a variety of learner needs. Participants can engage in collaborative learning, lesson refinement, and implementation strategies that translate research into impactful classroom practice. Sessions may be offered in person, virtually, or through a hybrid format to meet your school's needs.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Applying the Science of Reading in daily instruction
- Designing and delivering differentiated interventions
- Using assessment data to inform instruction and monitor progress
- Supporting struggling readers through targeted instructional practices
- Integrating writing and language development within structured literacy
- Supporting students with dyslexia and other reading disabilities

### SEE ALSO [LITERACY LEADERSHIP STRATEGIC PLANNING](#)

# Subject Specific Reading Instruction

## 📍 TEACHER SESSIONS 📍

### ELEVATING VOCABULARY (ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY)

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Explore evidence-based approaches to strengthen vocabulary instruction across grade levels. Reflect on current practices, define key vocabulary concepts, and examine three research-supported strategies that enhance word learning and application. Collaborative discussion encourages identification of actionable steps to build vocabulary instruction that deepens comprehension and engagement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Vocabulary concepts and instructional strategies
- Research-based approaches to vocabulary acquisition
- Action steps to elevate classroom vocabulary instruction

### THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPLICIT VOCABULARY INSTRUCTION

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Examine critical components of vocabulary acquisition through a focus on morphology, semantic mapping, and Frayer's Diagram. Reflect on current methods, analyze how these tools support word knowledge and comprehension, and identify opportunities to strengthen explicit vocabulary instruction.

Key Focus Areas:

- Components of vocabulary acquisition
- Morphology, semantic mapping, and Frayer's Diagram
- Reflection and planning for enhanced vocabulary instruction

### INTERPRETING CHALLENGING TEXTS (SECONDARY)

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Engage in a professional learning experience designed to help educators deepen understanding of how context and perspective shape literary interpretation. Participants can explore how socio-historical factors and genre conventions influence meaning and consider how personal experiences affect the way readers connect with texts. The session provides practical approaches for guiding students through complex works while promoting critical thinking and appreciation for various perspectives.

Key Focus Areas:

- Socio-historical context in literature
- Genre as a framework for interpretation
- Personal experience and reader perspective

### USING RESEARCH BASED COMPREHENSION STRATEGIES

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Examine how evidence-based comprehension strategies enhance understanding and engagement with complex texts. Explore six major reading strategies and consider how modeling these practices across content areas supports student mastery of comprehension skills.

Key Focus Areas:

- Role of comprehension strategies in meaning-making
- Six evidence-based strategies for comprehension
- Modeling comprehension across subject areas

# Subject Specific Reading Instruction

## **TEACHER SESSIONS**

### **UTILIZING TRADE BOOKS IN THE CLASSROOM**

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Explore how trade books can serve as powerful tools to support comprehension and create engaging learning experiences across content areas. Participants can reflect on strategies for selecting high-quality texts and designing lessons that foster deeper understanding. The session highlights practical approaches for using trade books to connect reading, thinking, and discussion in meaningful ways.

Key Focus Areas:

- Effective use of trade books to support comprehension
- Selection of high-quality and engaging texts
- Lesson design to promote critical thinking and understanding

### **CLOSE READING STRATEGIES**

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Examine the process of close reading as a means to build comprehension through vocabulary, fluency, background knowledge, and word recognition. Explore key comprehension strategies and instructional routines that support skill development across grade levels.

Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose and process of close reading
- Strategies for deepening comprehension
- Instructional routines that promote reading growth

# Subject Specific

## Reading Instruction

### 📍 PARAPROFESSIONAL SESSIONS 📍

#### AN OVERVIEW OF THE SCIENCE OF READING STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT ALL STUDENTS

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Understanding the Science of Reading equips paraprofessionals to reinforce literacy instruction effectively. Participants can explore Scarborough's Reading Rope and the Simple View of Reading while learning how phonological awareness, phonics, and fluency work together to build comprehension. Practical strategies emphasize explicit, systematic support that complements classroom instruction.

Key Focus Areas:

- Key models and principles of the Science of Reading
- Strategies for supporting phonological awareness and phonics
- Reinforcement of reading comprehension through structured practice

## Did You Know?

**Our Science of Reading workshops meet all Arizona requirements.  
Not in Arizona? Contact us to discuss your state's requirements.**

**Book a Consult with our Literacy Specialists to discuss options  
<https://canyonpd.org/LiteracyConsult>**

# Subject Specific Writing Instruction

## TEACHER SESSIONS

### WRITE ON! THREE-PART SERIES

This three-part professional learning series explores a progression of writing strategies that strengthen student confidence, organization, and written expression. Participants can examine foundational skills, practice targeted instructional techniques, and apply practical tools that support students with narrative, expository and argumentative writing,

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

#### Part I Narrative Writing

Explore how narrative writing develops from Kindergarten through Grade 8. Examine key elements of effective storytelling and reflect on how graphic organizers support the writing process. Learn practical strategies to enhance clarity, creativity, and student ownership in narrative writing.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Components and progression of narrative writing
- Graphic organizers as instructional tools
- Strategies for developing student voice and structure

#### Part II Expository Writing

Examine the features of expository, informative, and explanatory writing and how these genres overlap to strengthen clarity and organization. Explore research-based methods for teaching expository writing that help students communicate information precisely and purposefully across content areas.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Features of expository, informative, and explanatory writing
- Research-based strategies for teaching expository writing
- Instructional materials that support effective communication

#### Part III Argumentative Writing

Analyze the essential elements of opinion, persuasive, and argumentative writing. Reflect on how argumentation skills progress across grade levels and consider classroom strategies that build reasoning, evidence, and clarity. Learn how structured writing instruction can strengthen critical thinking and expression.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Opinion, persuasive, and argumentative writing comparison
- Components and progression of effective argument writing
- Classroom strategies for teaching structured reasoning and clarity

### THE WRITING PROCESS WHY INSTRUCTION MATTERS

Explore the role of daily, explicit writing instruction in fostering student growth and confidence. Examine essential components of effective writing and grade-level progressions across genres. Reflect on the distinctions among opinion, persuasive, and argumentative writing to build a comprehensive approach to developing skilled, expressive writers.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Importance of daily writing instruction
- Components and grade-level progression of effective writing
- Comparison of opinion, persuasive, and argumentative writing

### WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Examine strategies for integrating writing across all content areas to strengthen comprehension, critical thinking, and communication. Explore ways to design meaningful writing tasks that align with disciplinary standards, incorporate a wide variety of genres, and promote authentic learning. Collaborative planning time supports the development of cross-curricular writing opportunities that connect literacy and content mastery.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Writing-to-learn practices across disciplines
- Low-stakes writing to increase engagement
- Integration of writing in daily instruction

# Subject Specific

## Writing Instruction

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### UTILIZING GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS TO SUPPORT THE WRITING PROCESS

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Explore a range of graphic organizers that scaffold student thinking and support the writing process across grade levels and subjects. Reflect on how organizers enhance cognitive skills, promote organization, and deepen understanding. Learn ways to integrate these tools flexibly to build independence and success in writing.

Key Focus Areas:

- Types of graphic organizers for writing development
- Cognitive skills supported by visual organization
- Cross-curricular integration of graphic organizers

# Subject Specific

## Mathematics Instruction and Computational Thinking

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### NUMERACY IN THE ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM WORKSHOP SERIES

#### COACHING RECOMMENDED AS AN ADDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT

Engage in a collaborative learning experience designed to strengthen mathematical understanding and support student success. Participants can explore how conceptual understanding enhances problem-solving, promotes real-world connections, and deepens confidence in mathematics. This workshop highlights the relationship between mindset, conceptual learning, and procedural fluency, offering research-based strategies that teachers can adapt for their classrooms.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### **Topic I Growth Mindset and Conceptual Understanding**

Explore how students' beliefs about their abilities can shape their engagement and confidence in mathematics. This session highlights the connection between growth mindset and the development of deep conceptual understanding.

##### Key Focus Areas

- Connection between growth mindset and students' conceptual understanding of mathematics
- Influence of mindset on motivation, confidence, and persistence in problem-solving

#### **Topic II Conceptual and Procedural Knowledge**

Examine how conceptual understanding and procedural skills work together to build mathematical proficiency. Participants can reflect on when and how each type of knowledge supports student learning.

##### Key Focus Areas

- Relationship between conceptual and procedural knowledge
- Role of each in developing mathematical competency and fluency

#### **Topic III Research-Based Strategies for Conceptual Learning**

Learn practical, evidence-based strategies that promote reasoning, flexibility, and meaningful connections in mathematics. This session emphasizes instructional approaches that strengthen conceptual thinking.

##### Key Focus Areas

- Evidence-based practices that promote flexible and transferable mathematical understanding
- Classroom techniques supporting inquiry, reasoning, and connections among concepts

#### **Topic IV Connecting Procedural and Conceptual Fluency**

Explore how procedural fluency grows from strong conceptual foundations. Participants can consider balanced approaches that build accuracy, efficiency, and understanding.

##### Key Focus Areas

- Importance of integrating procedural and conceptual fluency as key elements of mathematical proficiency
- Balanced approaches that build accuracy, efficiency, and understanding

#### **Topic V Application of Mathematical Thinking**

Discover strategies that can help students apply mathematical understanding to new and varied situations. This session highlights ways to strengthen transfer, problem-solving, and long-term reasoning.

##### Key Focus Areas

- Connections between classroom learning and problem-solving
- Strategies that support knowledge transfer and long-term mathematical reasoning

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### MATHEMATICS IN MEANINGFUL CONTEXTS (GRADES 3–5)

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Explore approaches that help students make connections between mathematical concepts and daily applications. Examine strategies for designing engaging lessons that emphasize relevance, reasoning, and exploration. Reflect on how applied problem-solving enhances comprehension and student engagement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Mathematics connected to meaningful contexts
- Practical problem-solving and engagement strategies
- Instructional design that promotes understanding

#### MULTIPLICATION FACTS AND FLUENCY

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Examine the research and progression of multiplication fluency through understanding rather than memorization. Explore activities, models, and scaffolds that support automaticity and confidence in mathematical reasoning.

Key Focus Areas:

- Progression of fluency development
- Strategies for fact instruction
- Conceptual mastery of multiplication and number sense

#### DATA STORIES CHART AND DATA ANALYSIS

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Explore ways to develop data literacy through analysis, interpretation, and communication. Examine how to help students read, represent, and reason with visual data. Learn strategies to integrate data storytelling into instruction and support analytical thinking across subjects.

Key Focus Areas:

- Chart and graph interpretation and categorization
- Differentiation between analysis, interpretation, and inference
- Integration of data analysis into instruction

#### THE M IN STEM

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Explore how mathematics supports every aspect of STEM through reasoning, design, and problem-solving. Examine strategies to make mathematical concepts relevant through applied learning, modeling, and inquiry. This session highlights ways to increase student engagement and strengthen understanding through integration.

Key Focus Areas:

- Mathematical reasoning within STEM instruction
- Integration of math, design, and inquiry processes
- Relevance and engagement in applied mathematics

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### MATHEMATICAL MODELING THROUGH DESIGN CHALLENGES

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Explore how mathematical modeling supports reasoning, creativity, and application across STEM and core subjects. Examine ways to structure design challenges that require estimation, measurement, data analysis, and problem-solving. Learn strategies to help students connect mathematical thinking with inquiry, design, and reflection.

Key Focus Areas:

- Structure and purpose of mathematical modeling in instruction
- Application of measurement, data, and reasoning skills
- Integration of modeling within design and inquiry challenges
- Reflection and communication of mathematical thinking

#### APPLIED MATHEMATICS MOVING BEYOND MEMORIZATION

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Explore approaches that shift math instruction from repetition to application. Examine how modeling, data analysis, and interdisciplinary connections help students see mathematics as a tool for solving complex problems. Learn ways to design lessons that promote reasoning, collaboration, and conceptual understanding while maintaining rigor and relevance.

Key Focus Areas:

- Application of mathematics through modeling and problem-solving
- Connections between mathematics and interdisciplinary learning
- Lesson design that promotes reasoning and collaboration
- Strategies for balancing rigor and engagement in secondary math

# Subject Specific

## Science Instruction

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **INTRODUCTION TO THREE-DIMENSIONAL SCIENCE INSTRUCTION**

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Explore the three dimensions of science learning—Science and Engineering Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Disciplinary Core Ideas—using state science standards as a guide. Examine how to design lessons that connect these dimensions and engage students in purposeful, inquiry-based exploration.

Key Focus Areas:

- The structure and purpose of three-dimensional learning
- Application of Science and Engineering Practices in classroom instruction
- Design of integrated, inquiry-based science experiences

#### **LIKE WATER OFF A DUCK** **EXPLORING PHENOMENA THROUGH MODELING**

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Experience a hands-on science investigation built around the concept of superhydrophobicity. Reflect on how modeling supports scientific understanding and explore ways to adapt this approach to your classroom.

Key Focus Areas:

- Experiencing modeling as a Science and Engineering Practice
- Using phenomena to spark curiosity and engagement
- Designing opportunities for scientific modeling in lessons

#### **SCIENCE STANDARDS** **ALIGNMENT AND PROGRESSION**

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Develop a clear understanding of your state's science standards and how they progress across grade levels. Explore tools for curriculum mapping, identify points of vertical and horizontal alignment, and plan for coherent learning experiences.

Key Focus Areas:

- Navigating and interpreting state science standards
- Aligning curriculum to support coherence and progression
- Designing instruction that builds on prior knowledge

#### **SCIENCE BEST PRACTICES** **START WITH A STORY**

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Discover how storytelling can anchor science learning and inspire curiosity. Explore how narratives and picture books can introduce phenomena, connect to core concepts, and support literacy integration.

Key Focus Areas:

- Using storytelling to frame inquiry and engagement
- Integrating science concepts through narrative exploration
- Connecting ELA and science for deeper understanding

# Subject Specific

## Science Instruction

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **INTEGRATING SCIENCE AND LITERACY**

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Explore how reading, writing, and discussion can strengthen science understanding. Learn strategies for supporting students in using text-based evidence, scientific vocabulary, and critical thinking to communicate ideas clearly.

Key Focus Areas:

- Integrating literacy practices within science instruction
- Supporting evidence-based reasoning through reading and writing
- Designing lessons that merge scientific inquiry with literacy development

#### **SCIENCE ARGUMENTATION AND DATA ANALYSIS EVIDENCE IN ACTION**

---

Explore how data collection and analysis lead to evidence-based reasoning in science classrooms. Participants can examine strategies for guiding students to make claims supported by data, use visual representations effectively, and engage in structured scientific argumentation. This session highlights how questioning and discussion promote analytical thinking and communication.

Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding the role of argumentation in science learning
- Guiding students to analyze and interpret data
- Using evidence to support scientific claims and reasoning

# Project-Based Learning (PBL) Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

ELEMENTS OF PBL

[Teacher](#)

SEE ALSO: PBL STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION

[Leader](#)

# Project-Based Learning (PBL)

## Elements of PBL

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### ELEMENTS OF PBL

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Explore the essential components that make PBL effective and engaging. Participants can identify common misconceptions, examine how PBL supports college- and career-readiness skills, and find entry points using your existing curriculum. This session offers practical tools for planning meaningful, standards-aligned projects that drive student engagement and deep learning.

Key Focus Areas:

- The core elements and misconceptions of PBL
- Entry points for project design within current content
- Backward-planning from final product to project launch

#### PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE MEANINGFUL PROBLEM-SOLVING

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Discover how meaningful challenges can inspire student learning and creativity. Participants can collaborate with peers to brainstorm project ideas connected to upcoming units, explore actionable designs, and develop strategies to engage students in meaningful inquiry.

Key Focus Areas:

- Project design that aligns with current needs
- Brainstorm relevant and actionable project ideas
- Align projects with student interest and curricular goals

#### THE INS AND OUTS OF PBL

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Examine each phase of the PBL cycle and how it fosters student ownership and inquiry. Participants can explore project ideas, experience the PBL process firsthand, and practice integrating it into your teaching routine. This session supports a practical understanding of how to launch and sustain inquiry-driven instruction.

Key Focus Areas:

- The full PBL cycle and phases
- Project ideas to connect with curriculum goals
- Student-centered learning through inquiry

#### PROJECTS THAT ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS AND AUDIENCES

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Explore strategies for identifying and engaging partners who can enrich project-based experiences. Examine ways to connect learning with community involvement and develop opportunities for students to share their work with various audiences. This session highlights practical models and communication tools that support collaboration and presentation skills.

Key Focus Areas:

- Building and sustaining community and stakeholder partnerships
- Opportunities for students to present and share learning
- Communication tools that can strengthen collaboration and engagement

# Project-Based Learning (PBL)

## Elements of PBL

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **PLANNING FOR SUCCESS PBL AND STANDARDS ALIGNMENT**

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Learn how to design projects that align with academic standards and measurable outcomes. Participants can identify benchmarks, plan formative assessments, and scaffold supports to meet a wide variety of needs. Through collaboration and modeling, you'll leave with tools to design engaging, standards-aligned PBL experiences.

Key Focus Areas:

- Align PBL design with standards and outcomes
- Scaffold instruction to meet varied student needs
- Integrate formative assessment to guide instruction

#### **PROJECT DEVELOPMENT STREAMLINING PBL PLANNING**

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Discover how to simplify PBL planning using structured templates and time-saving strategies. Participants can organize project deliverables, entry events, and assessment criteria using Canyon PD's Project Planner framework. This session can help participants front-load preparation so that classroom time centers on coaching and feedback.

Key Focus Areas:

- The essential components of a PBL unit
- PBL Project Planner to streamline organization
- Planning ahead to maximize in-class feedback and engagement

#### **DRIVING QUESTIONS DESIGNING POWERFUL LAUNCH POINTS FOR PBL**

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Explore how well-crafted driving questions can spark curiosity and sustain meaningful learning. Participants can practice writing questions that guide inquiry, align with standards, and inspire creative solutions. This session equips participants with tools to refine and evaluate driving questions for maximum student engagement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Difference between open, closed, essential, and driving questions
- Standards-aligned driving questions
- Questioning to guide and sustain inquiry

#### **COACHING AND MENTORING MINDSET IN PBL**

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Learn how to balance the roles of teacher, coach, and mentor within a PBL environment. Participants can explore how each role contributes to student autonomy, engagement, and problem-solving. This session supports the mindset shift from directing learning to facilitating it through questioning and feedback.

Key Focus Areas:

- Difference between the roles of teacher, coach, and mentor
- Practices that hinder or support student-centered learning
- Practicing a coaching mindset through reflection and dialogue

#### **SEE ALSO [PBL STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR LEADERS](#)**

# School Climate and Culture Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

COMMUNICATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Teacher  
Support Staff

COMMUNITY BUILDING AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

Teacher  
Leader  
Support Staff  
Bus

CULTURE AND STUDENT WELL-BEING

Teacher  
Paraprofessional  
Support Staff  
Counselor  
Leader

PERSONAL GROWTH, PERSONAL WELL-BEING AND  
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Teacher  
Support Staff  
Counselor  
Leader

# School Climate and Culture

## Communication and Conflict Resolution

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### FROM CONFLICT TO COLLABORATION DEFUSING TENSE SITUATIONS

Explore how to turn challenging conversations into opportunities for understanding and growth. Reflect on the psychology of conflict and learn to approach tense moments with empathy, clarity, and composure. Examine strategies that promote professionalism, trust, and collaboration even in moments of disagreement, helping participants build stronger, more resilient relationships across your school community.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Psychology of conflict and communication dynamics
- Active listening, empathy, and emotional composure
- Strategies for navigating difficult conversations
- Professionalism and trust in collaborative problem-solving

#### CAN STUDENTS COLLABORATE WITHOUT CONFLICT?

Explore strategies for addressing and resolving student conflict in ways that promote learning, respect, and accountability. Examine the teacher's role as a neutral facilitator who models calm communication and fairness. Learn to guide students through restorative conversations that help them identify root causes, express perspectives constructively, and rebuild positive classroom relationships.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Mediation strategies for resolving student conflict
- Teacher facilitation and neutrality in conflict situations
- Restorative conversations that promote accountability
- Classroom norms that prevent recurring disputes

#### RESPECTFUL COMMUNICATION AND CLASSROOM COLLABORATION

Discover how to teach students the interpersonal and problem-solving skills needed for effective group work. Explore classroom routines and language structures such as the "ask three before me" approach that encourage independence, peer support, and respectful collaboration. Learn how to build team norms that help students navigate disagreement, share responsibilities, and value all ideas.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Collaboration skills and peer problem-solving
- Group norms that promote respect and accountability
- Routines that build independence and teamwork
- Language and structures for positive peer interaction

#### CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Examine your school or workplace culture through the perspective of parents, guardians, and caregivers. Identify cultural differences among stakeholders and strengthen cultural competence to build meaningful partnerships. Explore communication strategies that promote trust, inclusivity, and collaboration while honoring many family perspectives.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Cultural competence and communication impact
- Inclusive strategies for engaging parents and caregivers
- Partnerships that promote student success

#### BUILDING TEACHER AND PARENT RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Explore how clear, empathetic communication fosters strong relationships among teachers and families. Reflect on your current practices, identify techniques that build trust, and incorporate digital or AI tools to streamline and clarify interactions. Strengthen collaboration through communication practices that ensure every voice is acknowledged and valued.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Positive professional relationships and collaboration
- Communication strategies for trust and clarity
- Technology tools for inclusive, effective communication

#### SEE ALSO FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

# School Climate and Culture

## Communication and Conflict Resolution

### 📍 SUPPORT STAFF SESSIONS 📍

#### NAVIGATING COMMUNICATION WITH CONFIDENCE

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Explore how effective communication can transform conflict into cooperation. Participants can identify common triggers, practice de-escalation techniques, and develop strategies that promote understanding and professionalism in all interactions.

Key Focus Areas:

- De-escalation and conflict management strategies
- Professional communication techniques for calm, respectful dialogue
- Tools for fostering positive, solution-oriented interactions

#### HANDLING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

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Explore ways to improve your communication strategies when engaging in difficult conversations with parents and colleagues.

Key Focus Areas

- Why conversations can be hard
- Why we avoid hard conversations
- Strategies for success when having a difficult conversation

#### BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

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Positive communication is the foundation of strong relationships with staff, students, and families. Participants can explore how empathy, consistency, and modern communication tools, including AI supports, enhance collaboration and build a connected school community.

Key Focus Areas:

- Communication practices that strengthen collaboration
- Empathy and professionalism in all interactions
- Technology and AI tools that support connection and clarity

# School Climate and Culture

## Community Building and Customer Service

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **COMMUNITY BUILDING PRACTICES WORKSHOP SERIES**

Explore the core concepts of restorative practices and how they promote belonging, responsibility, and mutual respect. Participants can reflect on their own classroom management approaches and examine how restorative frameworks, such as the Social Discipline Window and Fair Process, can transform classroom culture.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### **Topic I Foundations of Community Building Practices**

This session introduces the foundational principles of restorative practices and their impact on classroom and school culture. Reflect on how relationship-centered approaches and fair processes can foster trust, accountability, and belonging within the learning environment.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Foundational concepts and their influence on personal and professional growth
- Current management practices and opportunities for stronger relationships
- Strategies to apply the Social Discipline Window and Fair Process principles

#### **Topic II Crucial Components of Restorative Practices**

Dive deeper into the emotional and relational dimensions of restorative approaches. Consider how emotions drive behavior and learn practical ways to apply affective language and questioning to promote empathy, accountability, and trust.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- The influence of emotions on behavior and engagement
- Using affective statements, questions, and conversations to build community
- Repairing harm and strengthening relationships through fair processes

#### **Topic III Restorative Practices Through Circles**

Circles can be a powerful tool for creating inclusive dialogue, problem-solving collaboratively, and sustaining a positive school climate. This session offers guidance for planning, facilitating, and sustaining restorative circles that support both students and staff.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Use of circles for connection, reflection, and repair
- Techniques for setting circle purpose, using a talking piece, and guiding discussion
- Use of circles to address conflict, promote healing, and support staff well-being

### **FINDING COMMON GROUND**

#### **PROBLEM SOLVING THROUGH RESTORATIVE CIRCLES FOR STAFF TEAMS**

Explore how restorative circles can serve as a powerful tool for collaboration, communication, and problem-solving among educators. Engage in practical activities and discussions designed to strengthen team dynamics, promote shared ownership, and build a culture of continuous improvement.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Restorative circles for collaborative teams
- Problem-solving and solution development
- Tools and techniques for efficient, data-focused meetings

# School Climate and Culture

## Community Building and Customer Service

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

#### **FROM FEELINGS TO SOLUTIONS FOSTERING POSITIVITY AND RESILIENCY**

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Explore how emotional literacy and positive relationships promote well-being and resilience for educators and students. Reflect on the science of stress and anxiety, and consider practical ways to create calm, connected learning spaces. Strengthen your capacity to model emotional balance and foster environments where everyone feels supported.

Key Focus Areas:

- Brain response to stress and anxiety
- Strategies for reducing anxiety and promoting resilience
- Relationships that support well-being and learning

#### **BUILDING A DEEPER CONNECTION FOSTERING HOPE AND WELL-BEING**

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Examine how intentional connection fosters belonging, hope, and motivation across learning environments. Reflect on how communication, empathy, and trust influence behavior and engagement. Apply relationship-building strategies that create supportive, positive classroom and school cultures.

Key Focus Areas:

- Rapport and meaningful connections
- Communication and understanding in addressing behavior
- Strategies for supportive, positive learning environments

#### **EMBRACING A NEW PERSPECTIVE PRODUCTIVE STRUGGLE**

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Explore how to recognize and guide productive struggle as a critical part of learning. Differentiate between productive and unproductive struggle and determine when to support and when to step back. Learn strategies that help students develop perseverance, confidence, and reflective thinking.

Key Focus Areas:

- Productive versus unproductive struggle
- Sources of student struggle
- Reflection and resilience in learning

#### **WHY MINDFULNESS MATTERS**

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Explore how mindfulness practices support focus, emotional regulation, and calm in both educators and students. Learn techniques such as breathing exercises, visualization, and gratitude journaling, and consider how to integrate them into daily routines. Strengthen your capacity to cultivate attention and self-awareness throughout the day.

Key Focus Areas:

- Mindfulness and executive functioning
- Strategies for focus and self-regulation
- Mindfulness toolkit for personal and classroom use

# School Climate and Culture

## Community Building and Customer Service

### TEACHER SESSIONS

#### **BUILDING STUDENT ACADEMIC AND LIFE SKILLS TWO-PART SERIES**

Engage in a learning experience focused on integrating character education into academic instruction and daily classroom practice. Explore approaches that help students develop essential life skills, communication strategies, and decision-making abilities while promoting civil discourse and appreciation of a variety of points of view. The session also highlights ways to access and utilize national, state, and local resources to strengthen character education initiatives on school campuses.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

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#### **Part I Character Education in Practice**

Examine strategies for fostering civil discourse, communication, and decision-making in the classroom. Consider how character education principles can be woven into academic lessons and school culture to support social and emotional growth.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Character education implementation
- Civil discourse
- Appreciation for varying point of view
- Community resources

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#### **Part II Strategies to Support Academic Skill Development**

Explore practical techniques for helping students build strong study habits, take ownership of their learning, and use feedback effectively. This session emphasizes ways to promote autonomy, confidence, and lifelong learning skills that contribute to academic and personal success.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Study skills
  - Student ownership
  - Feedback for growth
  - Academic autonomy
-

# School Climate and Culture

## Community Building and Customer Service



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### BUILDING BRIDGES FOSTERING COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

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Strong communities are built through shared purpose and collaboration. This session focuses on cultivating belonging, mutual respect, and engagement across teams while addressing common barriers to connection.

Key Focus Areas:

- Strategies for collaboration and engagement
- Challenges to building a sense of belonging
- Systems that strengthen organizational connection

#### FACILITATING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

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Challenging conversations can build understanding when approached with intention and empathy. This session introduces communication techniques that support constructive dialogue and maintain professionalism under pressure.

Key Focus Areas:

- Communication frameworks for difficult dialogue
- Reflective questioning and empathy
- Strategies for maintaining focus and composure

# School Climate and Culture

## Community Building and Customer Service

### 📍 SUPPORT STAFF SESSIONS 📍

#### CUSTOMER SERVICE FOR SUPPORT STAFF THREE-PART SERIES

Every interaction contributes to a school's culture and reputation. This session explores what great customer service looks like in education and how it supports positive relationships. Participants can reflect on communication habits, practice de-escalation techniques, and identify strategies to ensure that all visitors and families feel welcomed and valued.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

##### **Part I Character Education in Practice**

Examine strategies for fostering civil discourse, communication, and decision-making in the classroom. Consider how character education principles can be woven into academic lessons and school culture to support social and emotional growth.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Character education implementation
- Civil discourse
- Appreciation for varying point of view
- Community resources

##### **Part II Effective Parent and Family Engagement**

Families are essential partners in student success. This session focuses on how support staff can strengthen family-school relationships through approachable, service-minded communication. Participants can explore what families value most, reflect on their role in creating a welcoming atmosphere, and practice strategies that foster trust and belonging within the school community.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Parent and family priorities in a school setting
- Communication practices that build confidence and connection
- Approaches that foster engagement and a welcoming environment

##### **Part III Representing Your School with Pride**

Support staff are ambassadors of the school's mission and values in every interaction. This session encourages participants to consider how consistency, professionalism, and teamwork contribute to a positive school image. Through reflection and practical examples, participants can explore how small actions can have a big impact on building community trust and pride.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Professionalism and consistency in representing the school
- Team-based approaches to positive culture and communication
- Building trust and pride through daily interactions

# School Climate and Culture

## Community Building and Customer Service

### 📍 SUPPORT STAFF SESSIONS 📍

#### YOU HAD ME AT HELLO: BUILDING OUR SCHOOL'S STORY ONE VISITOR AT A TIME

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Every school communicates its mission and values through daily interactions. This session invites participants to consider how first impressions and professional interactions reflect a school's culture. Participants can explore approaches that promote consistency, authenticity, and a welcoming atmosphere for families, students, and community members.

Key Focus Areas:

- Daily interactions that reflect mission and values
- Consistency and authenticity in communication
- Approaches that promote a welcoming environment

#### YOUR PERSONAL BRAND REPRESENTING YOUR SCHOOL WITH PRIDE

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Every staff member contributes to how the school is perceived by families and the community. This session focuses on the connection between professionalism, communication, and personal conduct. Participants can reflect on how tone and presence—both in person and online—shape perceptions and support the school's reputation.

Key Focus Areas:

- The relationship between professional behavior and perception
- Elements that contribute to positive first impressions
- Personal and digital presence that align with organizational values

# School Climate and Culture

## Communication and Conflict Resolution

### BUS DRIVER AND AIDE SESSIONS

#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE ON THE MOVE** **REPRESENTING YOUR SCHOOL FROM THE FIRST STOP TO THE LAST**

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Every interaction on the bus shapes how students and families experience your school community. This session focuses on customer service, communication, and professionalism for transportation staff. Participants can explore strategies to greet students positively, manage conflict respectfully, and represent the school's mission with consistency and care.

Key Focus Areas:

- Positive communication and first impressions
- Professional conduct in public and student interactions
- Consistency in representing school values and expectations

# School Climate and Culture

## Culture and Well-Being

### TEACHER SESSIONS

## POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS AND STRATEGIES (PBSS) WORKSHOP SERIES

Engage in a collaborative learning experience designed to strengthen school-wide systems that promote positive behavior and student success. Participants can explore practical, research-based strategies for fostering supportive environments, establishing clear expectations, and developing consistent approaches that enhance both academic and behavioral outcomes.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

### Topic I Making Your School a More Effective Place for Students to Learn

Explore how comprehensive, school-wide systems can support the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of all students. Reflect on the unique needs of your student population and examine observable behaviors to inform proactive strategies.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- School-wide culture
- Social-emotional supports
- Data-informed reflection

### Topic II The Foundational Elements of PBSS

Examine the essential components of PBSS implementation, including the three tiers of support. Consider how to define desired outcomes and use data to evaluate progress, guide decision-making, and strengthen interventions.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Tiered supports
- Measurable outcomes
- Continuous improvement

### Topic III Creating a Vision

Assess current systems and strategies to develop an actionable plan that integrates PBSS practices, data collection, and staff collaboration. Create a vision statement that reflects your school's values and aligns with a culture of shared responsibility for student success.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Strategic alignment
- Action planning
- Shared vision

## BULLYING PREVENTION AMONG CHILDREN AND TEENS

Explore approaches to identifying, preventing, and addressing bullying behaviors in physical and digital environments. Review current research on cyberbullying and proactive prevention strategies that promote belonging and respect. Strengthen your ability to guide difficult conversations and foster positive peer interactions.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Forms of bullying, including cyberbullying
- Prevention strategies for inclusive environments
- Classroom culture of respect and belonging

## CANCEL THE COMPLAINTS: NEGATE THE NEGATIVITY

Examine the impact of communication and mindset on school culture. Learn to identify negative patterns and replace them with constructive, solution-focused dialogue. Strengthen your ability to foster positivity, build resilience, and maintain a supportive, collaborative professional environment.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Patterns of negative communication
- Techniques for constructive dialogue and solution thinking
- Strategies for maintaining positivity and resilience

### **TEACHER SESSIONS**

## **FOSTERING STUDENT AGENCY THROUGH A GROWTH MINDSET TWO-PART SERIES**

This two-part professional learning series explores how mindset shapes motivation, resilience, and classroom behavior. Participants can reflect on their own beliefs, practice actionable classroom strategies, and develop approaches for modeling persistence and optimism for students.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

### **Part I Understanding and Encouraging a Growth Mindset**

Examine how mindset influences motivation and resilience in the classroom. Explore the differences between fixed and growth mindsets and how beliefs shape behavior and performance. Learn strategies for encouraging persistence, curiosity, and optimism through intentional feedback and classroom language.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Fixed and growth mindset principles
- Classroom strategies for teaching persistence and optimism
- Feedback and language that foster motivation

### **Part II Modeling Growth Mindset Through Reflection and Practice**

Continue exploring a growth mindset by reflecting on how your own beliefs and actions influence the learning community. Identify personal barriers that limit growth and create an action plan for modeling resilience and adaptability. Strengthen professional practices that inspire persistence in others.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Personal reflection on influence and mindset
- Barriers to growth and perseverance
- Strategies for modeling resilience and self-awareness

# School Climate and Culture

## Culture and Well-Being

### PARAPROFESSIONAL SESSIONS

#### MEETING THE NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS

Every student brings unique strengths, needs, and perspectives to the classroom. This session helps paraprofessionals understand how cognitive and social-emotional development influence learning and behavior in K-8 settings. Participants can explore developmentally appropriate strategies for supporting learners, including students with disabilities and those needing additional emotional or behavioral support. The facilitator will also introduce ways to apply Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles to everyday tasks ensuring that every student feels included, capable, and supported.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Developmental characteristics that shape student learning and behavior
- Strategies for supporting special populations within the classroom
- Practical applications of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in paraprofessional roles
- Tools and technology that promote engagement, belonging, and growth

#### RECOGNIZING SIGNS OF STUDENT DISTRESS

Paraprofessionals are often among the first to notice when a student is struggling emotionally. This session equips participants with skills to recognize early warning signs of anxiety, withdrawal, or emotional dysregulation. Through discussion and real-world examples, participants can learn how to respond calmly, provide immediate support, and communicate observations effectively to teachers and counselors.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Common indicators of emotional distress in children and adolescents
- Techniques for providing calm, compassionate responses
- Communication protocols for sharing concerns with school staff
- Creating a supportive classroom climate that encourages students to seek help

#### PREVENTING BULLYING AMONG CHILDREN AND TEENS PARAPRO VERSION

Bullying impacts learning, safety, and classroom culture. This session helps paraprofessionals recognize, prevent, and respond to bullying behaviors in supportive, proactive ways. Participants can explore major forms of bullying, including physical, verbal, social, and digital, and discuss strategies for promoting kindness, belonging, and respect.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Types and characteristics of bullying, including digital forms
- Current research on technology-driven bullying
- Prevention strategies that promote respect and belonging
- Approaches for maintaining a positive, safe classroom environment

# School Climate and Culture

## Culture and Well-Being

### 📍 SUPPORT STAFF SESSIONS 📍

#### POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORTS AND STRATEGIES (PBSS) FOR SUPPORT STAFF

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Positive Behavior Supports and Strategies (PBSS) work best when every member of the school community contributes to a consistent, positive culture. This session builds upon the foundational PBSS training offered for teachers and highlights how all support staff play an essential role in implementation. Participants can explore the three tiers of PBSS, learn how data and consistency reinforce behavioral success, and identify specific strategies that align with your daily work. This training is most effective when delivered as part of a full-staff professional learning experience that unites teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff in a shared approach to student success.

Key Focus Areas:

- Foundational elements and tiers of PBSS
- Collaboration and role alignment across all staff
- Data collection and reflection to monitor behavioral progress
- Consistent reinforcement of positive behavior supports

#### EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND ENHANCED TEAMWORK

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A positive workplace culture depends on empathy, communication, and teamwork. This session offers opportunities to reflect on how emotional intelligence influences collaboration and morale. Participants can examine strategies that support strong workplace relationships and constructive communication across roles.

Key Focus Areas:

- Emotional intelligence in professional settings
- Communication and collaboration within teams
- Reflection on habits that contribute to positive culture

# School Climate and Culture

## Culture and Well-Being

### COUNSELOR SESSIONS

#### DEALING WITH STUDENT ANXIETY AND STRESS MANAGEMENT

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The number of students experiencing anxiety and stress continues to rise, making early awareness and support essential in every school setting. This session helps counselors and educators recognize common signs of stress and anxiety, apply calming techniques, and connect students with appropriate resources. Participants can also practice communication strategies to build trust and promote self-regulation in moments of distress.

Key Focus Areas:

- Signs and patterns of student anxiety and stress
- Calming and grounding strategies for school settings
- Communication and de-escalation techniques
- Referral and resource pathways for additional support

#### SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION INTRODUCTION

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Understanding suicide awareness and prevention is critical to maintaining a safe and supportive school environment. This session introduces educators and counselors to risk factors, early warning signs, and referral protocols. Participants can examine current data, review appropriate language, and strengthen confidence in responding with care and professionalism. The content aligns with The Mitch Warnock Act (ARS 15-120) and supports informed, compassionate prevention practices.

Key Focus Areas:

- Suicide-related language and communication norms
- Risk factors, early warning signs, and protective supports
- The educator's role and referral process
- Development of site-specific prevention and response resources

#### SUPPORTING GRIEF AND LOSS IN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

---

Grief can deeply affect students, families, and staff. This session helps school counselors and educators understand how grief presents across different ages and contexts, and how to respond with compassion and professionalism. Participants can explore developmentally appropriate approaches, communication strategies, and school-based supports that foster healing and connection within the learning community.

Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding how grief and loss manifest across developmental stages
- Communication strategies for sensitive conversations
- School-based practices that promote safety, care, and belonging
- Community partnerships and referral resources for continued support

#### BUILDING STUDENT COPING SKILLS AND EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

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Resilience grows through intentional practice and supportive relationships. This session provides practical tools to help students manage emotions, recover from setbacks, and build confidence in their ability to cope. Participants can explore classroom and counseling-based approaches that strengthen emotional regulation, problem-solving, and self-awareness.

Key Focus Areas:

- Emotional regulation and coping frameworks for K-12 students
- Strategies to integrate resilience-building into school counseling practices
- Reflection tools that encourage student self-awareness
- Collaborative supports that reinforce positive coping habits

# School Climate and Culture

## Culture and Well-Being

### 📍 COUNSELOR SESSIONS 📍

#### SUPPORTING STUDENTS FACING ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL BARRIERS

This session explores practical strategies for supporting students who may be experiencing academic, social, or personal challenges that affect school success. Participants can examine common factors that place students at risk, review early warning signs, and identify school-based supports that strengthen connection, confidence, and persistence. Through discussion and scenario-based application, counselors can explore approaches that promote access to resources and help students navigate obstacles with greater stability.

Key Focus Areas:

- Factors that contribute to academic or personal risk
- Early indicators that students may need additional support
- School-based strategies that strengthen connection and motivation
- Approaches for coordinating care with families, teachers, and community partners

#### CRISIS RESPONSE AND INTERVENTION SUPPORTING STUDENTS IN MOMENTS OF NEED

This session introduces school counselors to foundational practices for responding to student crises with clarity, calm and professionalism. Participants can examine common crisis indicators, review school-based response protocols and explore communication strategies that support safety and stability. Through guided scenarios, counselors can consider how to collaborate with staff, families and community partners while maintaining appropriate boundaries and following established procedures.

Key Focus Areas:

- Early signs and common types of student crises
- Response protocols that promote safety and stability
- Communication approaches for high-stress situations
- Collaboration with school teams, families and community supports

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Your Voice Matters!

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[CanyonProfDev@GCE.com](mailto:CanyonProfDev@GCE.com)

# School Climate and Culture

## Culture and Well-Being



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### CULTIVATING A HEALTHY CULTURE WELL-BEING AND RESILIENCE

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A thriving organization starts with a strong foundation of well-being and connection. This session explores frameworks and competencies that promote resilience, relationships, and sustainable growth. Participants can consider how leadership actions shape a supportive culture where staff feel valued and empowered.

Key Focus Areas:

- Well-being frameworks and competencies
- Leadership roles in fostering positive culture
- Sustainable systems that promote resilience

#### RUNNING ON EMPTY SUPPORTING EMPLOYEES AND BUILDING SELF-EFFICACY

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Examine how self-care and self-efficacy intersect to influence individual and collective performance. This session highlights strategies for supporting staff well-being and maintaining balance in demanding environments while strengthening confidence and trust.

Key Focus Areas:

- Self-care and educator well-being
- Systems of support and balance
- Shared responsibility for wellness

#### LEVERAGE STAFF EVALUATION TO DRIVE A POSITIVE CULTURE

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Explore how evaluations can be reframed as growth tools that promote trust, reflection, and professional learning. This session focuses on connecting evaluation data with organizational goals to build a culture of continuous improvement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment of evaluation and organizational goals
- Strengths-based feedback and reflection
- Data-informed professional learning

#### BEYOND THE OFFER BUILDING A WORKPLACE PEOPLE WANT TO STAY IN

---

Retention begins with relationships. This session examines factors that drive staff satisfaction and commitment including recognition, growth, communication and trust. Explore how to create an environment that supports long-term engagement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Employee satisfaction and motivation
- Communication as a retention tool
- Recognition and engagement practices
- Workplace culture and retention

# School Climate and Culture

## Personal Growth, Personal Well-Being and Leadership Development

### 📍 TEACHER SESSIONS 📍

#### PROFESSIONALISM FOR NEW TEACHERS

Engage in a reflective learning experience designed to strengthen understanding of professionalism within the education setting. Participants can explore the core characteristics of a dedicated professional and consider practical ways to model these behaviors in daily practice. This session encourages new educators to identify personal commitments and actionable takeaways that support growth, collaboration, and a positive school culture.

Key Focus Areas:

- Meaning of professionalism in education
- Characteristics of professional educators
- Key takeaways for ongoing professional growth

#### THE ART OF PRESENTING

Discover how to refine your presentation skills and connect authentically with your audience. Participants can identify your strengths, explore strategies to improve delivery, and learn how to engage others through purposeful storytelling and design. This session equips participants with techniques to present ideas clearly and confidently in any setting.

Key Focus Areas:

- Personal presentation strengths and growth areas
- Authentic connection through storytelling and delivery
- Strategies that enhance audience engagement and clarity

#### LEADING FROM THE CLASSROOM

Discover how leadership begins in the classroom. Participants can reflect on your strengths as a teacher leader, explore the balance between teaching and coaching, and identify ways to inspire collaboration within your school. This session includes tools like the Teacher Leader Assessment to help participants chart your growth and extend your influence.

Key Focus Areas:

- The evolving role of teacher leaders
- Personal leadership strengths and opportunities for growth
- The role of influence and collaboration from within the classroom

## School Culture

involves all staff!

Learn how to engage everyone.

Contact us at  
**CanyonPD.com**

# School Climate and Culture

## Personal Growth, Personal Well-Being and Leadership Development

### 📍 SUPPORT STAFF SESSIONS 📍

#### PROFESSIONALISM FOR SUPPORT STAFF THREE-PART SERIES

Professionalism defines how support staff contribute to a welcoming, trustworthy, and student-centered school environment. This three-part series highlights practical strategies for maintaining positivity, confidence, and professionalism both in person and online.

*These connected sessions explore related concepts that can be experienced individually or as a full series for a more comprehensive understanding.*

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##### **Part I Cancel the Complaints - Building a Positive Mindset at Work**

This session can help participants reframe negative thinking and foster optimism in their daily work. Through reflective discussion and practical examples, participants can explore the psychology of negativity, learn how to interrupt unproductive patterns, and strengthen a culture of encouragement and teamwork.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- The role of mindset and communication in shaping school culture
- Strategies to reduce negativity and build resilience
- Tools for creating positive, solution-oriented habits

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##### **Part II The Key to Success**

Professionalism influences every interaction within a school community. This session focuses on the traits and habits that define professional excellence, including integrity, reliability, and collaboration. Participants can use self-assessment tools to reflect on their current strengths, set goals for growth, and develop confidence in representing their role with pride.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Core traits of professionalism and workplace impact
- Self-reflection and goal setting for professional growth
- Strategies to strengthen credibility and consistency

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##### **Part III Your Digital Reputation - Professionalism in the Online World**

In a connected world, professionalism extends beyond the workplace. This session explores how digital communication and social media presence shape a school's image. Participants can learn how to build a positive online identity, maintain appropriate boundaries, and use technology responsibly to strengthen trust with families and colleagues.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding digital professionalism and personal branding
- Responsible social media and communication practices
- Maintaining a professional digital footprint aligned with school values

# School Climate and Culture

## Personal Growth, Personal Well-Being and Leadership Development

### 📍 SUPPORT STAFF SESSIONS 📍

#### CAREER PATHWAYS IN EDUCATION EXPLORING NEXT STEPS

Many paraprofessionals aspire to advance their careers in education. This session explores potential career pathways—from teacher preparation to specialized support roles—and identifies the skills, credentials, and experiences that open new opportunities. Participants can leave with a personalized action plan and an understanding of available resources and certification routes.

Key Focus Areas:

- Career pathways in education and support roles
- Certification and degree advancement options
- Building an individualized professional growth plan

#### CERTIFICATION EXAM PREPARATION STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

Approach your certification exam with focus and confidence. This session introduces practical strategies for study organization, test-taking, and stress management. Participants can explore ways to plan effectively, use time efficiently, and apply techniques that promote calm, clear thinking throughout the testing process.

Key Focus Areas:

- Study organization and preparation strategies
- Strategic approaches to test-taking and time management
- Practices that support calm focus and confidence

Notes:

- This session can be customized for specific certification exams such as Praxis, FTCE, or NES.
- Completion of this session does not ensure a passing score on the test.

#### REDUCING TEST ANXIETY AND BUILDING CONFIDENCE A MINDSET MICRO-SESSION

Feeling nervous before a major exam is common. This focused session introduces practical strategies to manage test stress and maintain focus during preparation and testing. Participants can explore simple techniques for staying calm, improving concentration, and approaching exams with confidence.

Key Focus Areas:

- Factors that influence focus and performance
- Techniques to promote calm and clarity
- Approaches that build confidence and resilience

**TEST PREP**  
can reduce test anxiety

Learn how to prepare.

Contact us at  
**CanyonPD.com**

# School Climate and Culture

## Personal Growth, Personal Well-Being and Leadership Development

### 📍 COUNSELOR SESSIONS 📍

#### TIME MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE OVERWHELMED SCHOOL COUNSELOR

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Counselors manage complex responsibilities that can make prioritization a daily challenge. This session provides practical frameworks for organizing time, managing caseloads, and maintaining focus on long-term goals. Participants can leave with actionable strategies for balancing competing demands and sustaining well-being throughout the school year.

Key Focus Areas:

- Organization and prioritization of responsibilities
- Systems and tools for managing workload efficiently
- Setting professional boundaries and maintaining balance
- Sustaining focus and well-being throughout the year

#### MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

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Motivational interviewing is a collaborative counseling approach that helps students identify their own reasons for change. This session introduces the foundational principles of motivational interviewing and demonstrates how to use purposeful questioning to strengthen motivation, ownership, and self-direction. Participants can explore how this approach can enhance conversations with students who show resistance, ambivalence, or disengagement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Foundational principles of motivational interviewing
- Questioning and reflection techniques to build student ownership
- Strategies to address resistance and support self-directed change
- Applications for individual and group counseling contexts

#### COUNSELING YOUR COUNSELORS

---

School counselors provide essential emotional and academic support to students, staff, and families. Yet those who guide others also need intentional care themselves. This session highlights strategies for promoting counselor well-being, reflection, and resilience. Participants can explore systems of care that help maintain emotional balance and sustain the capacity to serve their school communities with compassion and confidence.

Key Focus Areas:

- Emotional demands of the counseling profession
- Strategies to support counselor wellness and resilience
- Systems that promote reflection and emotional regulation
- Organizational practices that sustain counselor effectiveness

#### LEADING A COUNSELING TEAM BUILDING COLLABORATION AND CONSISTENCY

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Strong counseling programs depend on cohesive teams that share goals, communication practices, and professional standards. This session explores leadership strategies for uniting school counseling staff through collaboration, shared vision, and role clarity. Participants can reflect on how to align responsibilities, streamline communication, and build trust that supports both efficiency and well-being within the team.

Key Focus Areas:

- Leadership roles and structures in counseling teams
- Communication systems that strengthen collaboration
- Strategies for maintaining role clarity and shared accountability
- Practices that promote team cohesion and professional growth

# School Climate and Culture

## Personal Growth, Personal Well-Being and Leadership Development



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### LEADERSHIP WELL-BEING MODELING BALANCE AND BOUNDARIES

Strong leadership begins with modeling balance. This session explores how leaders can set healthy boundaries, manage workload demands, and prioritize wellness while maintaining high expectations for themselves and others. Participants can reflect on leadership habits that influence organizational health and identify ways to model sustainable practices that support the entire team.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Leadership modeling and professional boundaries
- Workload management and sustainability
- Organizational wellness and leader self-efficacy

#### CLAIM YOUR LEADERSHIP POWER

Leadership is not defined by title but by influence. This session helps leaders strengthen accountability, trust, and purpose-driven action within their teams. Participants can reflect on personal leadership habits and explore strategies to foster a culture of integrity and shared ownership. Drawing on concepts from *How Leaders Can Inspire Accountability* (Timms, 2016), the session emphasizes how small shifts in mindset and behavior can inspire lasting change.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Leadership influence and personal accountability
- Trust-building and modeling leadership behaviors
- Creating a culture of integrity and shared ownership

#### LEADING WITH AN INNOVATIVE AND ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET

Innovation begins with curiosity and courage. This session invites leaders to examine how an entrepreneurial mindset—one that values creativity, adaptability, and strategic risk-taking—drives growth and improvement. Participants can explore how to identify opportunities, foster collaboration, and inspire teams to think differently while maintaining alignment with organizational goals.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Characteristics and habits of innovative leaders
- Entrepreneurial mindset as a leadership lens
- Strategies that enhance creativity and innovation
- Collaborative, solution-focused conversations

#### FUTURE-READY LEADERSHIP ANTICIPATING CHANGE AND EMERGING TRENDS

The most effective leaders don't just respond to change—they anticipate it. This session explores how to recognize and analyze social, technological, and educational trends that influence schools today. Participants can examine forecasting tools, develop strategies to plan proactively, and build systems that help teams adapt with agility and confidence.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Trend analysis and environmental scanning
- Systems thinking for proactive planning
- Strategies for adaptive leadership and resilience
- Frameworks for anticipating and managing change



# Coaching and Mentoring to Support Instruction and Academics Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

ACADEMIC CONTENT COACHING

Instructional Coach

COGNITIVE COACHING

Instructional Coach  
Leader

INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING

Instructional Coach  
Leader

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

**Cognitive Coaching isn't about giving advice?  
It's about helping educators think more deeply  
about their instructional decisions.  
These sessions can help teachers engage in  
reflective conversations about teaching and learning.**

**CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE!  
CanyonProfDev@GCE.com**

# Coaching and Mentoring to Support Instruction and Academics

## Academic Content Coaching

### INSTRUCTIONAL COACH SESSIONS

#### ACADEMIC CONTENT COACHING AND CONSULTATION

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Receive individualized support through one-on-one or small-group content coaching. Participants can reflect on current practices, set targeted goals, and apply strategies that enhance daily instruction. Whether focused on planning, pedagogy, or student outcomes, this coaching experience will be custom designed to meet your needs and promote meaningful growth.

Key Focus Areas:

- Professional goals that align with student learning outcomes
- Reflective practices to strengthen instruction
- Personalized coaching cycles to drive growth and classroom impact

#### ALIGNING STANDARDS TO STRENGTHEN INSTRUCTION CURRICULUM MAPPING

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Explore how curriculum mapping ensures alignment across grade levels and prevents instructional gaps. Participants can reflect on how pacing guides and maps support continuity, student growth, and collaboration across teams. Through guided practice, you'll learn to design effective maps tailored to your school or district goals.

Key Focus Areas:

- The purpose of curriculum maps and pacing guides
- Aligning objectives across grade levels to ensure instructional coherence
- Developing maps and guides that support continuous student growth
- 

#### DESIGNING IMPACTFUL CONTENT COACHING CYCLES

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Examine how structured coaching cycles guide instructional improvement and professional learning. Explore the phases of goal setting, observation, feedback, and reflection to strengthen clarity and focus in coaching practice. Consider strategies for documenting progress, sustaining momentum, and aligning coaching priorities with school goals.

Key Focus Areas:

- Phases of an instructional coaching cycle to support improved content delivery
- Strategies for goal setting, observation, and reflection
- Tools for sustaining professional learning and instructional growth

### 📍 INSTRUCTIONAL COACH SESSIONS 📍

#### THE THINKING BEHIND THE COGNITIVE COACHING PROCESS

Explore the foundational principles of Cognitive Coaching and how they differ from traditional Instructional Coaching. Participants can examine the three key phases of Cognitive Coaching, learn how they foster self-directed growth, and discover practical strategies for guiding reflective conversations. This session offers tools and frameworks to help participants support teacher development and build a culture of continuous professional growth.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- The distinctions between Instructional and Cognitive Coaching
- The three phases of Cognitive Coaching to support teacher reflection
- Questioning strategies that promote growth and self-awareness

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

**Cognitive Coaching is about building teacher efficacy and guiding personal growth across the campus? Help educators learn how to talk about teaching and learning.**

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# Coaching and Mentoring to Support Instruction and Academics

## Cognitive Coaching



### LEADER SESSIONS



## COGNITIVE COACHING FOR ASPIRATIONAL LEADERS WORKSHOP SERIES

This extended experience builds leadership confidence in conducting reflective conversations that promote growth and professional autonomy. Through a blend of workshops, modeling, and side-by-side whisper coaching, participants can explore Cognitive Coaching principles that strengthen relationships, guide data-informed reflection, and support both new and veteran teachers in continuous improvement. Structured feedback and ongoing coaching help refine questioning, listening, and facilitation techniques.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

### Topic I Foundations of Cognitive Coaching

Explore the core principles of Cognitive Coaching and its connection to leadership, reflection, and professional growth. Learn how the inquiry–reflection–action cycle builds capacity and strengthens trust within teams.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Core principles of Cognitive Coaching
- The relationship between coaching and professional growth
- Understanding inquiry, reflection, and action cycles

### Topic II Building Reflective Dialogue and Listening Skills

Develop advanced questioning and listening skills to guide teachers toward greater self-awareness and autonomy. Examine frameworks for reflective conversations that promote ownership and solution-focused thinking.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Reflective questioning and listening strategies
- Frameworks for guiding reflective dialogue
- Encouraging teacher ownership and decision-making

### Topic III Whisper Coaching and Applied Practice

Engage in side-by-side coaching experiences that model effective facilitation and feedback. Practice whisper coaching techniques to support real-time reflection and professional learning.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Whisper coaching techniques for modeling reflection
- Real-time facilitation practice
- Strengthening coaching confidence through applied experience

### Topic IV Feedback for Growth and Continuous Improvement

Learn to provide feedback that reinforces growth, self-direction, and accountability. Explore feedback loops that connect data, reflection, and professional goals to sustain improvement across teams.

#### Key Focus Areas:

- Constructive and reflective feedback frameworks
- Using data to inform professional growth
- Building systems that support continuous improvement

## PRO-TIP

**Combine a Workshop Series with Coaching to  
reinforce implementation and accountability.**

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# Coaching and Mentoring to Support Instruction and Academics

## Cognitive Coaching



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### INTRODUCTION TO COGNITIVE COACHING FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

Coaching serves as a catalyst for reflection, trust, and growth. In this session, participants can explore the foundational principles of Cognitive Coaching and how they support professional autonomy and leadership development. You'll examine how questioning and reflection deepen learning and how structured dialogue strengthens self-directed improvement.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Core principles and benefits of Cognitive Coaching
- Phases of inquiry, reflection, and action
- Questioning strategies that promote reflection and problem-solving
- Goal alignment to professional vision and growth

#### THE THINKING BEHIND THE PROCESS FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS

Educational leaders often balance coaching with evaluation, making reflective dialogue especially critical. This session explores how Cognitive Coaching practices can complement evaluative responsibilities while maintaining trust and professionalism. Participants can examine how to use questioning and data analysis to guide performance reflection, align feedback to standards, and support measurable growth within formal observation systems.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Integration of Cognitive Coaching principles into evaluative leadership
- Alignment of feedback with instructional frameworks and standards
- Reflective dialogue to strengthen performance and accountability
- Data-informed coaching conversations that promote improvement

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Cognitive Coaching is easy to fit into your busy schedule.  
When done well, it can even save you time!**

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# Coaching and Mentoring to Support Instruction and Academics

## Instructional Coaching

### 📍 INSTRUCTIONAL COACH SESSIONS 📍

#### INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING WORKSHOP SERIES

This professional learning series explores how instructional coaching can empower teachers and strengthen school culture. Participants can engage in hands-on activities to refine their questioning, feedback, and goal-setting skills while keeping student learning at the center of each conversation. Each session builds upon the last, guiding coaches through the process of building trust, structuring a coaching cycle, and facilitating meaningful growth.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### **Topic I Building Rapport and Trust as an Instructional Coach**

Establish the foundation for effective coaching through relational trust and active listening. Explore strategies for creating psychological safety, modeling professionalism, and cultivating reflective dialogue that leads to growth.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Establishing trust and credibility with teachers
- Building rapport through empathy and active listening
- Creating a culture of reflection and collaboration

#### **Topic II The Coaching Cycle - Structure and Purpose**

Examine the phases of a successful coaching cycle and the key practices that make each stage impactful. Identify tools to support planning, observation, reflection, and data-informed goal setting.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Phases and components of the coaching cycle
- Strategies for observation and feedback
- Aligning coaching goals with school improvement priorities

#### **Topic III Gordon's Skill Development Ladder and Teacher Growth**

Learn how to apply Gordon's Skill Development Ladder to differentiate coaching support. Analyze where teachers fall within the continuum of skill development and adapt coaching approaches to meet them where they are.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding Gordon's Skill Development Ladder
- Differentiating coaching strategies based on teacher readiness
- Promoting continuous growth through scaffolding and reflection

#### **Topic IV Navigating Difficult Coaching Conversations**

Develop confidence in addressing challenges with professionalism and empathy. Practice communication techniques for giving constructive feedback, handling resistance, and keeping conversations student-centered.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Communication strategies for challenging conversations
- Balancing honesty, support, and accountability
- Maintaining focus on student outcomes during feedback discussions

#### **Topic V Coaching for Student Impact**

Shift the lens from teacher behavior to student outcomes. Explore how data, observation, and reflection can guide coaching that leads to measurable improvements in learning and engagement.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Student-centered coaching frameworks
- Using data and evidence to measure growth
- Connecting coaching goals to student success

### 📍 INSTRUCTIONAL COACH SESSIONS 📍

#### STRENGTHENING INSTRUCTION THROUGH DATA CONVERSATIONS

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Explore how collaborative data discussions inform instructional decisions and curriculum alignment. Reflect on approaches for facilitating teacher dialogue around student work, formative assessments, and achievement data. Learn structures that promote shared accountability and continuous improvement through evidence-based reflection.

Key Focus Areas:

- Structures for collaborative data dialogue
- Connecting data to instructional planning and curriculum alignment
- Facilitation techniques for reflective, evidence-based conversations

#### COACHING TIME MANAGEMENT IN THE CLASSROOM

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Enhance classroom efficiency and balance through practical time management strategies. Participants can explore techniques for prioritizing tasks, managing instructional time, and improving transitions in both block and traditional schedules. This session provides actionable tools to help participants streamline routines and maintain a healthy work-life balance.

Key Focus Areas:

- Time management challenges in various classroom settings
- Scheduling and prioritization strategies to improve efficiency
- Systems that maximize instructional time and minimize stress

#### HOW TO HAVE A DIFFICULT COACHING CONVERSATION AS A TEACHER LEADER

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Learn how to approach challenging conversations with confidence and empathy. Participants can explore strategies for asking purposeful questions, reducing tension, and maintaining a student-centered focus. This session provides practical tools to help participants communicate clearly, stay solution-oriented, and support progress during sensitive or high-stakes discussions.

Key Focus Areas:

- Preparing for and conducting productive coaching conversations
- Questioning strategies that uncover key issues
- Maintaining composure and student-centered focus during difficult discussions

#### LESS IS MORE

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Explore how simplifying your approach can amplify your instructional impact. Participants can focus on one educational tool or method, discover multiple ways to apply it effectively, and learn how “doing less” strategically can deepen learning outcomes. This session invites participants to refine, rather than add, to your instructional toolkit.

Key Focus Areas:

- The principle of “less is more” in instructional design
- Creative uses of a single tool for multiple purposes
- Streamlining instructional strategies to enhance learning impact

# Coaching and Mentoring to Support Instruction and Academics

## Instructional Coaching



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### THE EFFORT-TO-IMPACT MATRIX A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO TEACHER SUPPORT

Time and focus are essential for effective leadership. This session introduces the Effort-to-Impact Matrix as a framework for prioritizing coaching and mentoring efforts. Participants can examine how to identify high-leverage areas of support, streamline professional development, and create structures that empower teacher growth.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Effort-to-Impact Matrix as a planning and prioritization tool
- Analysis of teacher practices for targeted support
- Frameworks for efficient, high-impact coaching and mentoring

#### COACHING FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT LINKING EVALUATION AND GROWTH

This session focuses on aligning coaching practices with performance evaluation systems to support both accountability and development. Participants can explore how to use data from observations, self-assessments, and growth goals to guide coaching conversations that empower rather than intimidate.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Integration of coaching with evaluation frameworks
- Data-informed growth conversations
- Strategies for balancing accountability and encouragement

#### BUILDING A CULTURE OF REFLECTIVE FEEDBACK

Effective feedback is both an art and a system. This session invites participants to explore how consistent, reflective feedback can strengthen performance, motivation, and professional relationships. Participants can examine how to frame feedback for growth, balance strengths with next steps, and create systems where reflection becomes a shared habit.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Feedback culture that promotes professional growth
- Balance between affirming strengths and identifying next steps
- Frameworks for structured, reflective feedback conversations

## Schedule a Consult Today

<https://canyonpd.org/CPDConsult>

# Strategic Planning and Implementation Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

GENERAL STRATEGIC PLANNING

Leader

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION

Leader  
Counselor

LITERACY STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION

Leader

PBL STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION

Leader

STEM STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION

Leader

**Not sure where to start with your literacy planning?**

**Schedule a free consultation appointment with our literacy specialists.**

**<https://canyonpd.org/LiteracyConsult>**

# Strategic Planning and Implementation

## General Strategic Planning



### LEADER SESSIONS



## STRATEGIC PLANNING WHAT IT IS AND HOW TO LEAD IT WORKSHOP SERIES

Explore the purpose and process of strategic planning to strengthen alignment between vision, people, and priorities. Participants can examine each stage of the planning cycle—needs assessment, vision, values, goals, strategies, and communication—while gathering adaptable tools for your setting.

Note: This series focuses on planning components and processes; it does not produce a finalized plan.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### Topic I Strategic Planning Overview

Gain a foundational understanding of why strategic planning matters and how it drives long-term organizational improvement. Explore planning team roles, organizational identity, and the structures that support an effective planning process.

##### Key focus areas

- Rationale for strategic planning and its role in organizational improvement
- Exploration of organizational identity from multiple perspectives
- Composition and responsibilities of an effective planning team

#### Topic II Data-Based Decision-Making

Examine how multiple data sources inform strategic priorities and guide improvement efforts. Participants can review practical approaches for analyzing and applying data to support informed decision-making.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Types of data used in strategic planning
- Approaches to analyzing and applying data to inform decision-making

#### Topic III Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Learn how a systematic needs assessment identifies strengths, gaps, and opportunities for improvement. This topic outlines the foundational steps for gathering and organizing information that supports strategic planning.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose and structure of a needs assessment process
- Foundational steps for implementing a comprehensive assessment

#### Topic IV Vision and Mission Alignment

Explore how mission and vision statements guide organizational direction and shape strategic priorities. Participants can consider tools and processes for ensuring alignment between long-term goals and daily practice.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Role of vision and mission in guiding strategic priorities
- Methods for ensuring alignment between goals and organizational direction

#### Topic V Core Values and Organizational Culture

Reflect on the role of core values in defining organizational culture and influencing decision-making. Participants can examine current values and consider opportunities to strengthen alignment with strategic goals.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Purpose of core values in the planning process
- Reflection on current values and opportunities for growth

#### Topic VI Goals and Action Steps

Discover frameworks for developing measurable goals and aligned action steps that support improvement. This topic highlights approaches that help planning teams translate priorities into practical next steps.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Frameworks for setting measurable goals and objectives
- Approaches for developing aligned, actionable strategies

#### Topic VII Communication and Continuous Improvement

Learn strategies for communicating the plan clearly and engaging stakeholders throughout implementation. Participants can examine structures that support progress monitoring, reflection, and continuous improvement.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Strategies for communicating the plan effectively to stakeholders
- Structures for monitoring progress and sustaining improvement over time



# Strategic Planning and Implementation

## General Strategic Planning



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### STRATEGIC PLANNING FACILITATION AND CONSULTATION ONE-YEAR TIMELINE

Partner with a Canyon Professional Development facilitator to guide your team through a structured planning cycle—from vision and values to goal setting, communication, and reflection. The process emphasizes collaboration, critical thinking, and shared accountability.

Suggested Cadence:

- Leadership Team: Minimum of six meetings (two hours each)
- Focus Groups: Minimum of three meetings (two hours each) with students, families, and staff
- Governing Board (Optional): Up to two touch-points (one hour each)

Key Focus Areas:

- Priority alignment and stakeholder engagement
- Milestones, evidence, and progress measures
- Stakeholder communication coordination

Prerequisite Course Strategic Planning: What It Is and How to Lead It - Topic I: Strategic Planning Overview

#### STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION OF CORE INITIATIVES

Translate planning into coordinated action. This session supports leadership teams in developing implementation roadmaps, identifying change leaders, addressing barriers, and monitoring progress over time.

Best for organizations with an existing strategic plan.

Key Focus Areas:

- Implementation frameworks and timelines
- Change management and communication plans
- Progress monitoring and outcome measures

#### TAILORED GROWTH DESIGNING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PLANS FOR IMPACT

Explore how to design professional learning plans that align with individual goals, site priorities, and community context. Participants can examine tools that foster mentor development, support teacher success, and strengthen long-term impact. This session highlights adaptable strategies for creating flexible pathways that make professional learning purposeful and sustainable.

Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment between professional learning, goals, and priorities
- Systems that promote mentor growth and teacher development
- Sustainable practices for ongoing professional learning

# Strategic Planning and Implementation

## MTSS Strategic Implementation



### LEADER SESSIONS



### MTSS WORKSHOP SERIES

This multi-day workshop guides school teams through the design and refinement of an MTSS framework that supports both academic and behavioral success. Participants can explore how Tier I, II, and III interventions align with school priorities through data-informed decision-making and collaboration. The experience combines guided facilitation, coaching, and on-demand learning materials to support sustainable implementation and continuous improvement.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### Topic I Understanding Tiered Interventions

Examine how tiered interventions function within an MTSS framework to promote access and achievement. Explore how data informs decisions, how supports differ across tiers, and how collaboration ensures consistent implementation.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Function and purpose of each MTSS tier
- Academic and behavioral supports across tiers
- Collaboration and progress monitoring to guide decisions

#### Topic II Data-Informed Decision-Making in MTSS

Explore how effective data collection, organization, and analysis strengthen intervention systems. Participants can review tools for identifying at-risk students, monitoring progress, and evaluating outcomes at each tier.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Data collection and analysis for student identification and progress monitoring
- Differentiating between diagnostic, formative, and summative data
- Using data meetings to drive intervention refinement

#### Topic III Building a Collaborative MTSS Team

Strong systems depend on shared understanding and coordinated teamwork. Examine the roles of teachers, specialists, and leaders in implementing MTSS and learn strategies to build consistent communication and accountability.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Roles and responsibilities of MTSS team members
- Systems for collaboration and communication
- Processes for reflection, feedback, and adjustment

#### Topic IV Integrating Academic and Behavioral Supports

Review how academic and behavioral frameworks intersect to support the whole child. Participants can identify ways to connect PBIS principles with academic interventions and strengthen student support through proactive structures.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment of academic and behavioral interventions
- Common language and expectations across tiers
- Proactive approaches that build engagement and belonging

#### Topic V Sustainability and Continuous Improvement

Learn how to maintain and evolve MTSS systems over time. Explore strategies for evaluating implementation fidelity, reviewing data trends, and embedding continuous improvement cycles into school routines.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Evaluation and sustainability practices
- MTSS fidelity and progress monitoring tools
- Continuous improvement cycles and school-wide reflection

# Strategic Planning

## Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Strategic Implementation (MTSS)

### 📍 COUNSELOR SESSIONS 📍

#### MTSS LEADERSHIP

#### INTEGRATING COUNSELING INTO TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT

School counselors play a pivotal role in a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), bridging academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs. This session provides tools to strengthen your school's MTSS framework through effective data use, progress monitoring, and collaboration with educators and families. Participants can explore how counseling interventions align with tiered supports and how to communicate student progress across the system.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Integration of counseling practices into MTSS frameworks
- Tiered interventions that address academic and behavioral needs
- Data collection and progress monitoring for continuous improvement
- Collaboration and communication strategies across support teams

## CONSIDER

**An external partner like Canyon PD brings objectivity and structure to strategic planning which can help teams clarify priorities, strengthen collaboration, and stay aligned to their mission.**

**Contact us to learn more.**

**[CanyonProfDev@gce.com](mailto:CanyonProfDev@gce.com)**

# Strategic Planning and Implementation

## Literacy Strategic Implementation



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### BUILDING A SCHOOL-WIDE LITERACY ENVIRONMENT

Creating a truly literate school community extends beyond classroom walls. It is a collective commitment to the Science of Reading. In this interactive professional development session, the facilitator will share strategies for designing and sustaining a school-wide literacy environment that supports all learners. Participants can have an opportunity to examine key principles of the Science of Reading and learn how these elements can be reinforced through classroom practices, shared spaces, and school culture.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Literacy instruction and supports across grade levels and subject areas
- Literacy-rich environments in classrooms, hallways, and common areas
- Consistent language and expectations around reading instruction

#### LITERACY LEADERSHIP

#### SHAPING PERCEPTIONS AND SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION

Literacy leadership means more than understanding the Science of Reading. It's about shaping beliefs, supporting teachers, and ensuring strong implementation. The facilitator will share strategies to help Literacy Leaders communicate the “why,” behind the Science of Reading, build buy-in, and use implementation indicators to guide and measure progress.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Key implementation indicators of effective practice
- Assessment data to help teachers plan targeted intervention
- Strategies to sustain momentum and accountability

#### SUPPORTING STRUGGLING READERS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL BRIDGING THE GAPS

Middle school students face persistent reading challenges that limit their ability to access grade-level texts across all subjects. Drawing on findings from the RAND American Teacher Panel (2024), this professional development session explores how educators can identify and support “striving readers” in grades 6–8 by bridging foundational skill gaps while building advanced comprehension and disciplinary literacy.

Shapiro, A., Sutherland, R., & Kaufman, J. H. (2024). What's missing from teachers' toolkits to support student reading in grades 3–8: Findings from the RAND American Teacher Panel (RR-A3358-1). RAND Corporation. [https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RRA3358-1.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA3358-1.html)

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Common misconceptions about how older students learn to read
- Evidence-based instructional practices that integrate literacy across subjects
- Ongoing supports for struggling readers

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# Strategic Planning and Implementation

## PBL Strategic Implementation



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### PBL IMPLEMENTATION CONSULTATION DEVELOPING A PRELIMINARY PLAN

Begin exploring Project-Based Learning (PBL) implementation through a structured, two-hour consultation designed for school leaders or leadership teams. Participants can assess your current instructional landscape, identify initial priorities, and outline next steps for sustainable implementation. This session provides a foundation for long-term planning and capacity building at your site.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Assess readiness and identifying priorities for PBL implementation
- Outline next steps and sustainability considerations
- Build a foundation for long-term school-wide planning

#### PBL SITE IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION ONE-YEAR TIMELINE

Partner with a Canyon PD facilitator to guide your team through a comprehensive PBL implementation process. Participants can define your vision, analyze strengths and opportunities, set SMART goals, and design an actionable roadmap. This collaborative experience supports alignment, communication, and accountability across your site.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Define PBL within your school's mission, vision and instructional goals
- Building an implementation plan
- Planning for sustainability
- Assessing internal capacity for PBL implementation
- Implementing standards-based instruction
- Systems to monitor progress and communicate results to stakeholders

## PRO-TIP

**Not sure how to start PBL on your campus?  
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PBL specialists.**

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# Strategic Planning and Implementation

## STEM Strategic Implementation

### LEADER SESSIONS

#### STEM IMPLEMENTATION CONSULTATION DEVELOPING A PRELIMINARY PLAN

Begin exploring STEM integration through a structured, two-hour consultation designed for school leaders and leadership teams. Assess your current instructional landscape, identify priorities for STEM alignment, and outline next steps for sustainable implementation. This session provides a framework for establishing a shared vision and building capacity for long-term STEM development.

Key Focus Areas:

- Assess readiness and identify priorities for STEM integration
- Outline next steps and sustainability considerations
- Establish a foundation for school-wide STEM planning and growth

#### STEM SITE IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION ONE-YEAR TIMELINE

Partner with a Canyon PD facilitator to develop a comprehensive STEM implementation plan aligned to your school's vision and goals. Explore strategies for strengthening interdisciplinary connections, identifying existing resources, and designing systems that sustain long-term growth. This collaborative experience supports planning, communication, and evaluation processes that promote a cohesive and innovative STEM culture.

Key Focus Areas:

- Defining STEM within your school's mission and instructional priorities
- Designing sustainable implementation and evaluation frameworks
- Building systems to monitor progress and communicate results

#### BECOMING A STEM-CERTIFIED SCHOOL

Gain a clear roadmap for pursuing STEM certification. Explore the requirements, best practices, and core components of a high-quality STEM program. This session highlights strategies for curriculum alignment, partnership development, and creating engaging learning experiences that reflect certification standards.

Key Focus Areas:

- The STEM certification process
- Design an integrated, inquiry-based STEM curriculum
- Build partnerships and sustain implementation

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Our STEM specialists can help you  
design your STEM labs?  
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# Artificial Intelligence Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE CLASSROOM

Teacher

LEADING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Leader



### PRO TIP

**Make Artificial Intelligence work for you with customized learning sessions for all audiences.**

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# Artificial Intelligence

## Artificial Intelligence in the Classroom

### 📍 TEACHER SESSIONS 📍

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE CLASSROOM EMPOWERING STUDENT LEARNING

Examine how AI can enhance both teaching and learning. This session explores ethical classroom applications of artificial intelligence, shares age-appropriate AI tools, and demonstrates how to balance innovation with academic integrity.

Key Focus Areas:

- Classroom-ready AI tools and use cases
- Ethical student use of AI
- Redefine the teacher's role in an AI-enhanced classroom

#### CHATGPT AS YOUR TEACHING PARTNER

Learn how to use ChatGPT as an instructional assistant to streamline planning and promote higher-level thinking. Explore AI tools that support lesson creation, questioning strategies, and classroom engagement.

Key Focus Areas:

- Identify AI tools that support planning and instruction
- Practice prompt design to enhance learning outcomes
- Reflect on AI's impact on teaching and learning

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AS YOUR ASSISTANT

Unpack AI's potential to transform education responsibly. Explore AI's current capacities while considering how to maintain ethical standards and manage AI integration effectively.

Key Focus Areas:

- Generative AI and its applications
- Integrating AI tools ethically and efficiently
- Leveraging AI to reduce workload and improve planning

#### LEVERAGING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO BUILD LESSON PLANS

Discover how AI can simplify lesson planning and activity design. Through guided practice with ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Microsoft Copilot, educators can learn to use AI for efficiency and creativity while aligning with academic standards.

Key Focus Areas:

- AI tools for instructional design and planning
- Creative AI integration as an engagement strategy
- Maintaining academic integrity with AI-assisted work

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Artificial Intelligence can help teachers create multiple versions of the same assignment; each version tailored to different readiness levels without increasing planning time.**

# Artificial Intelligence

## Leading the Implementation of Artificial Intelligence

### LEADER SESSIONS

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AN INTRODUCTION

Artificial Intelligence is reshaping how schools operate and make decisions. This introductory session offers an overview of AI concepts, models, and ethical applications for school and district leaders. Participants can explore how AI supports data-informed leadership, organizational planning, and instructional innovation through responsible, human-centered integration.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Primary AI model types and applications
- Data-informed leadership through AI integration
- Ethical and responsible use of AI in education
- GCU's framework for AI awareness and adoption

#### FROM IDEA TO IMPACT BUILDING RESPONSIBLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PILOTS

Design thinking helps leaders move from challenges to creative, actionable solutions. In this interactive session, participants can explore how the design cycle—empathize, define, ideate, prototype, and test—supports continuous improvement and innovation. The session emphasizes collaboration, feedback loops, and iterative problem-solving that centers the needs of students and staff.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Principles and phases of design thinking
- Collaborative problem-solving models
- Innovation through empathy and iteration
- Systems for scaling creative solutions

## PRO TIP

AI can help educational leaders make faster decisions by revealing patterns in data, streamlining communication, and freeing up time for innovation. When used responsibly, it becomes a tool for insight, not replacement, enhancing creativity, collaboration, and continuous improvement across schools.

Our PD Sessions are designed to help leaders harness the power of AI.

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# Marketing and Branding Sessions

## TOPICS

MARKETING AND BRANDING YOUR SCHOOL

## AUDIENCES

Leader

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

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PD Plans  
so that you  
don't have to!**

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# Marketing and Branding

## Marketing and Branding Your School



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### CUSTOMER SERVICE FOR LEADERS WORKSHOP SERIES

Exceptional service builds trust, strengthens relationships, and reinforces a positive reputation. This multi-day professional learning experience explores how intentional service contributes to a culture of care and professionalism. Each session provides practical tools, guided reflection, and real-world examples to help staff build consistency and confidence in every interaction.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### Topic I The Role of Customer Service in Organizational Success

Explore how service shapes perception, strengthens relationships, and supports community confidence. Reflect on how aligning daily actions with organizational values builds long-term satisfaction and trust.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- The impact of service on reputation and relationships
- The connection between service, values, and trust
- Core principles of customer care and professionalism

#### Topic II The Power of First Impressions

First impressions create lasting perceptions. This session focuses on how tone, body language, and responsiveness influence interactions. Participants can consider how every role contributes to a welcoming experience and a consistent organizational image.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- The influence of first impressions on engagement
- The role of professionalism and empathy in communication
- Strategies that create welcoming, consistent experiences

#### Topic III Strengthening Service Skills Through Practice

Examine the elements that define excellent service and learn ways to apply them in daily interactions. Through guided activities, participants can reflect on empathy, problem-solving, and communication practices that improve consistency and satisfaction.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Core elements of effective service interactions
- Empathy and attention to detail
- Practical techniques for handling challenges with confidence

#### Topic IV Sustaining a Culture of Service

Exceptional service thrives when supported by shared commitment. This session highlights strategies for maintaining consistency, reinforcing expectations, and celebrating success across teams.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Systems and routines that sustain service quality
- Shared accountability for communication and follow-through
- Approaches for recognizing and modeling service excellence

## DID YOU KNOW?

**All workshop series can be broken down  
into smaller, micro-sessions.  
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# Marketing and Branding

## Marketing and Branding Your School



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### BRAND BUILDERS STORY, STRATEGY AND SYSTEMS WORKSHOP SERIES

Every organization has a story that shapes how people feel, connect, and engage. This multi-day professional learning experience helps participants strengthen your brand identity through intentional storytelling, clear communication, and consistent systems. Participants can reflect on how your mission and values come to life in daily interactions, develop messaging that resonates with your community, and explore ways to empower staff and stakeholders as brand ambassadors.

*This multi-day experience may be completed in full or divided into individual sessions. Each topic builds on the previous one to deepen understanding and application.*

#### Topic I Defining Your Brand Story

Clarify your organization's identity by aligning mission, values, and community perception. This session focuses on articulating what your brand represents and how it connects to your audience's needs and experiences.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Brand identity and alignment with mission and values
- Audience perception and community connection
- Core messaging that reflects organizational purpose

#### Topic II Communicating with Clarity and Consistency

Explore how consistent messaging builds recognition and trust. Participants can learn strategies for refining your brand voice, coordinating internal and external communication, and ensuring that every interaction reinforces shared purpose.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Clear and consistent communication practices
- Unified brand voice across teams and platforms
- Tools for message development and refinement

#### Topic III Empowering Ambassadors and Building Momentum

The best brands are those brands that are shared from within. This session highlights how to cultivate a culture of advocacy where every staff member understands and represents the organization's vision. Participants can explore practical strategies for equipping your community to tell your story with confidence and authenticity.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Community and staff advocacy for brand visibility
- Systems that sustain engagement and alignment
- Strategies to build long-term trust and connection

### SOCIAL MEDIA AND STORYTELLING FOR SCHOOL LEADERS

Explore practical, responsible ways to share your organization's story through digital platforms. Participants can examine examples of effective messaging, discuss audience engagement strategies, and reflect on how to maintain professionalism and alignment with organizational goals.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Purposeful storytelling across social and digital platforms
- Audience awareness and message consistency
- Professionalism and community engagement through communication



# Marketing and Branding

## Marketing and Branding Your School



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### SOCIAL MEDIA AND STORYTELLING FOR SCHOOL LEADERS

Explore practical, responsible ways to share your organization's story through digital platforms. Participants can examine examples of effective messaging, discuss audience engagement strategies, and reflect on how to maintain professionalism and alignment with organizational goals.

Key Focus Areas:

- Purposeful storytelling across social and digital platforms
- Audience awareness and message consistency
- Professionalism and community engagement through communication

#### BRAND REFRESH STRENGTHENING YOUR MESSAGE

Even strong brands need periodic reflection. This session helps leadership teams review how their school or organization's mission, vision, and values are represented across communications. Participants can analyze current messaging for clarity and alignment, identify opportunities for improvement, and gather tools to ensure consistent storytelling across platforms.

Key Focus Areas:

- Alignment between mission, vision, and messaging
- Consistency and tone across communication channels
- Strategies for refining and refreshing brand language

#### BUILDING COMMUNITY AND BRAND TRUST THROUGH TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION

Trust is built through clarity, consistency, and care. This session invites leaders to reflect on how communication practices shape community confidence and engagement. Participants can examine strategies for sharing information transparently, responding thoughtfully to concerns, and maintaining alignment between words and actions. The discussion centers on practical ways to strengthen relationships with families, staff, and the wider community.

Key Focus Areas:

- Transparent and responsive communication practices
- Alignment between messaging, actions, and organizational values
- Strategies for fostering trust and credibility with stakeholders



# Student Academic Readiness and Success Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND COUNSELING

Counselor

STUDENT CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS

Teacher  
Counselor



# Student Academic Readiness and Success

## Student Academic Support and Counseling

### COUNSELOR SESSIONS

#### DEVELOPING STUDENT MINDSETS AND ACADEMIC BEHAVIORS

Students thrive when they understand how their choices, habits, and attitudes influence achievement. This session focuses on practical approaches counselors can use to help students strengthen motivation, responsibility, and engagement in learning. Participants can explore conversation techniques, environmental factors, and proactive supports that promote academic persistence and success.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Factors that influence student motivation and engagement
- Counseling approaches that build ownership and accountability
- Strategies to promote persistence and self-efficacy
- Supports that address environmental and social influences on learning

#### EXPANDING ACCESS TO ADVANCED COURSEWORK

Access to rigorous academic opportunities benefits all learners. This session focuses on practical strategies to broaden participation in Advanced Placement (AP) and honors programs. Participants can examine enrollment data, identify patterns and barriers, and explore outreach and support systems that help more students thrive in advanced coursework.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Enrollment patterns and participation trends in advanced coursework
- Data-informed strategies for identifying and addressing participation gaps
- Outreach and preparation supports for a wider range of students
- Collaborative planning to expand access and student success

#### COUNSELING THE STUDENT-ATHLETE BALANCING ACADEMICS AND AMBITION

Student-athletes navigate a unique blend of academic, athletic, and personal expectations. This session equips counselors with practical tools to help students manage time effectively, set realistic goals, and maintain well-being while pursuing excellence in both school and sport. Participants can explore ways to support college readiness, promote healthy balance, and strengthen communication among families, coaches, and educators.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Academic and personal needs of student-athletes
- Strategies for time management and goal-setting
- Guidance for college and scholarship preparation
- Supports for maintaining emotional and mental wellness

#### DEALING WITH STUDENT ANXIETY AND STRESS MANAGEMENT

Test anxiety can affect students' performance, confidence, and overall well-being. This session helps school counselors understand the cognitive, emotional, and environmental factors that contribute to anxiety and provides practical strategies to reduce its impact. Participants can explore ways to help students manage stress, build self-regulation skills, and approach assessments with confidence and clarity.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding the causes and effects of test anxiety
- Techniques for building student confidence and self-regulation
- Counseling approaches to reduce stress and increase focus
- Collaborative strategies to promote supportive testing environments

# Student Academic Success and Readiness

## Student Career and College Readiness

### 📍 TEACHER SESSIONS 📍

#### EXPLORING STEM CAREERS

Examine the breadth of STEM-related careers and the skills that prepare students for them. Reflect on evolving fields within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and consider how classroom learning connects to emerging opportunities.

Key Focus Areas:

- Explore STEM career pathways
- Academic learning and workforce skills
- Career-aligned learning experiences

#### INSPIRING THE UNKNOWN

#### GUIDING STUDENTS TOWARD FUTURES THEY CANNOT YET SEE

Help students envision and prepare for emerging careers and industries through exploration of workforce trends, college pathways, and evolving technologies. Collaborate with peers to cultivate curiosity, spark career awareness, and nurture future-ready mindsets that inspire students to see possibilities beyond the present.

Key Focus Areas:

- Trends in workforce and college readiness
- Strategies to integrate career awareness into instruction
- Curiosity and adaptability through real-world connections
- Future-ready skills and mindsets

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# Student Academic Readiness and Success

## Student Academic Support and Counseling

### 📍 COUNSELOR SESSIONS 📍

#### SUPPORTING FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

First-generation students often face unique challenges as they navigate the transition to higher education. This session provides counselors with strategies to build confidence, increase access to information, and foster supportive family engagement. Participants can examine common barriers and explore ways to create structured guidance that promotes belonging and success.

Key Focus Areas:

- Common challenges and supports for first-generation students
- Family communication and engagement strategies
- School-based supports for college transition and retention
- Building partnerships with postsecondary institutions

#### FINANCIAL READINESS

#### HELPING STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE COST OF COLLEGE

Financial literacy plays a vital role in postsecondary decision-making. In this session, counselors will explore tools and resources to help students and families evaluate the true cost of college, financial aid options, and scholarship opportunities. Participants can practice ways to guide conversations about affordability, budgeting, and long-term planning.

Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding financial aid, scholarships, and cost-of-attendance models
- Using data tools to compare postsecondary options
- Building financial literacy and decision-making skills
- Encouraging informed and realistic planning conversations

#### PATHWAYS BEYOND COLLEGE

#### EXPLORING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION OPTIONS

Students can thrive when they understand the many routes to success after high school. This session can help counselors broaden conversations beyond traditional college pathways to include workforce training, apprenticeships, and CTE programs. Participants can review labor market trends, discuss community partnerships, and learn how to support students in identifying high-value, high-demand career options.

Key Focus Areas:

- Overview of CTE, apprenticeships, and workforce development opportunities
- Aligning career exploration with local and regional labor market data
- Guiding students toward high-demand career fields
- Promoting career readiness through applied learning experiences

# DID YOU KNOW?

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# Family and Community Engagement Sessions

## TOPICS

## AUDIENCES

NAVIGATING THE EDUCATION CONTINUUM

Family

FUNDING AND SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

Family

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Leader

TECHNOLOGY USE AND CYBER SAFETY

Family

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to connect with your University Counselor



# Family and Community Engagement

## Navigating the Education Continuum



### FAMILY SESSIONS



#### UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC SCWHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOUR CHILD GOES TO COLLEGE

This self-paced online course helps families feel prepared as their student begins the college journey. Participants can explore each stage of the experience—from the first year to graduation—through practical tips, communication tools, and campus resource highlights. Topics include FERPA, balancing independence and support, and encouraging academic success during times of change.

Note: Canyon Professional Development does not provide or award scholarships. Families seeking specific college scholarship or enrollment information may connect with their University Counselor for guidance.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Stages of the college experience and evolving family roles
- Communication practices that encourage independence and accountability
- FERPA basics and access to student information
- Campus and family resources that promote success

#### FINANCIAL AID FUNDAMENTALS FUNDERSTANDING FERPA A GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

This introductory session simplifies the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and clarifies how it applies in both K–12 and higher-education settings. Families gain insight into what FERPA protects, what can be shared, and how privacy rights evolve as students mature. Discussion centers on respectful communication and collaboration that support student growth while maintaining compliance.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- FERPA protections and family rights across K–12 and college contexts
- Boundaries for information sharing and privacy
- Communication approaches that promote trust and independence
- Best practices for supporting students within FERPA guidelines

#### WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE HIGH SCHOOL YEARS

This practical workshop helps families navigate the high school journey—from freshman transitions to senior milestones. Participants can examine ways to build advocacy skills, foster independence, and stay connected without taking over. Emphasis is placed on supporting multilingual families and aligning practices with Title I, II, and III priorities. Families receive tools and timelines that strengthen partnerships and encourage confidence through graduation.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Developmental milestones across high school years
- Strategies for fostering independence and advocacy
- Tools that enhance communication between home and school
- Practices that engage and support multilingual families

#### SUPPORTING CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS IN THE MIDDLE GRADES

Middle school is the perfect time to spark curiosity about future goals. This session helps families understand how early exploration, goal setting, and skill development prepare students for high school success and beyond. Participants can consider practical ways to connect academic habits, personal interests, and community opportunities to future career and college pathways.

Note: Canyon Professional Development does not award scholarships. For information about specific college scholarship opportunities or enrollment details, families can connect with their University Counselor.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- The importance of early awareness and goal setting in middle school
- Connections between academic habits, interests, and future pathways
- Practical strategies families can use to encourage curiosity and confidence
- Tools and conversations that help students see possibilities beyond the classroom

# Family and Community Engagement

## Funding and School Opportunities



### FAMILY SESSIONS



#### UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING

This online workshop helps families understand how public schools are funded and why community involvement can make a difference. Families explore where funding originates—state, federal, and local sources—and how funds are designated for specific purposes. The session clarifies terms such as tax credit donations, Title programs, and bonds or overrides, offering a realistic view of how school budgets operate. The experience concludes with actionable ways families can support and advocate for their schools.

Note: Canyon Professional Development does not manage or distribute public school funding or tax credit donations.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Overview of how public schools receive and allocate funding
- Roles of state, federal, and local sources in school budgets
- Common myths about how school funds can be used
- Action steps for family and community involvement

#### FINANCIAL AID FUNDAMENTALS FOR FAMILIES

This beginner-friendly session provides families with a clear overview of financial aid and college affordability. Participants can explore how financial aid works, how to apply, and how to compare award letters. The facilitator simplifies the FAFSA process, reviews scholarship and repayment options, and introduces strategies for managing college costs responsibly. The session promotes financial literacy and supports confidence in navigating college funding decisions.

Note: Canyon Professional Development does not manage or distribute public school funding or tax credit donations.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- FAFSA overview and key financial aid terminology
- Understanding and comparing financial aid offers
- Repayment and scholarship options
- Tools for building student financial literacy

#### YOUR FUTURE, YOUR MONEY FINANCIAL READINESS FOR STUDENTS

Designed for middle and high school students, this interactive workshop explores the connection between financial literacy and future success. Participants can learn the basics of FAFSA, scholarships, and budgeting while exploring early planning for college and career goals. The session highlights multiple postsecondary pathways—including trade programs, apprenticeships, and university options—and emphasizes how personal responsibility and financial habits influence long-term success.

Note: Canyon Professional Development does not provide or award scholarships. Students seeking specific scholarship or enrollment information can connect with their University Counselor for individualized support.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding financial aid and early planning
- Exploring college, career, and technical pathways
- Developing personal responsibility and money management habits
- Connecting financial literacy to future goals

## AT CANYON PD

We believe that families matter!  
Partner with us to help build meaningful partnerships.

[CanyonProfDev@GCE.com](mailto:CanyonProfDev@GCE.com)

# Family and Community Engagement

## Family and Community Engagement



### LEADER SESSIONS



#### THE ART OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

This online workshop explores the principles of family engagement as a shared responsibility among families, schools, and communities. Participants can learn research-based strategies that build trust, strengthen collaboration, and support student success from early learning through graduation. The session provides practical tools to sustain partnerships and promote academic and social growth across a variety of educational settings.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Foundations of family engagement and shared responsibility
- Strategies for building meaningful, sustained partnerships
- Connections between engagement and student success

#### PARENT ORGANIZATION UNIVERSITY

This interactive workshop equips parent organization leaders with tools to enhance collaboration, transparency, and sustainability. Participants can explore core responsibilities such as board roles, financial oversight, leadership development, and bylaw compliance. Through real-world examples and guided discussion, families gain confidence in supporting school initiatives, leading effective meetings, and building purpose-driven organizations that reflect shared community values.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Core roles and responsibilities within parent organizations
- Collaboration and community engagement strategies
- Best practices for transparency and fiscal accountability
- Leadership tools for sustaining effective partnerships

#### PARENT COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

This session helps families and educators reflect on school culture through the lens of parents, guardians, and caregivers. Participants can examine how cultural perspectives shape communication and apply strategies to strengthen relationships and trust. The experience emphasizes practical, inclusive approaches to fostering meaningful connections and ensuring every family feels respected and supported.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Understanding school culture from multiple family perspectives
- Applying cultural awareness to strengthen trust and communication
- Strategies for engaging families
- Practical tools for enhancing family-school relationships

#### FAMILY ENGAGEMENT THROUGH EVENTS AND STORYTELLING

Even small moments can strengthen school connections. This session offers creative ideas for engaging families through events, storytelling, and shared celebrations. Participants can explore ways to highlight student learning, nurture belonging, and communicate their school's mission through meaningful, community-centered experiences.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Designing family events that encourage connection and collaboration
- Using storytelling to celebrate learning and culture
- Strategies to strengthen belonging and community pride

## DID YOU KNOW?

Canyon PD's Thunder Vision program hosts  
in-person &  
asynchronous programming for  
seventh and eighth grade students?

Learn more at <https://www.canyonpd.com/thunder-vision/>

# Family and Community Engagement

## Technology Use and Cyber Safety



### FAMILY SESSIONS



#### UNDERSTANDING AND NAVIGATING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR K12 PARENTS

Designed for family audiences, this session explores AI's growing role in education. Participants can examine what AI is, how it supports learning, and how to guide students toward safe, informed, and responsible use.

This session does not provide individualized technology or privacy consultations but offers general education and awareness strategies.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- AI concepts and applications in schools
- Supporting responsible, ethical AI engagement at home
- Promoting digital literacy through family-school collaboration

#### SOCIAL MEDIA FOR FAMILIES NAVIGATING THE DIGITAL LANDSCAPE

This brief session introduces families to essential digital citizenship concepts. Participants can learn approachable ways to guide children in navigating online spaces safely, thinking critically about digital content, and making responsible technology choices.

This session does not provide individualized technology or privacy consultations but offers general education and awareness strategies.

##### Key Focus Areas:

- Digital citizenship and online safety
- Supporting healthy tech boundaries
- Encouraging critical thinking in digital spaces

**Consider...**  
**combining PD with Coaching to  
extend your impact.**

**CanyonProfDev@gce.com**



# OUR WHY



TO EMPOWER, EDUCATE AND  
INSPIRE OUR COMMUNITY SO  
THEY TAKE ACTION TO FULFILL  
THEIR PURPOSE AND  
SERVE OTHERS.

**CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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