

Engaged Classrooms

Engaged Classrooms offers an approach to instruction, classroom management, and discipline that fosters academic, social, and emotional learning and development in each and every student. Engaging Schools works collaboratively with teachers to create classrooms where students feel safe, cared for, engaged, and challenged to think, create, and perform. Students move from being passive recipients of academic content to active learners. Through the Engaged Classrooms approach, teachers take personal responsibility for students' learning and academic success by providing quality instruction and personalized support to ensure students meet standards of proficiency and excellence. Teachers provide academic learning, instructional and behavioral supports, and interventions when students do not learn or experience obstacles to learning.

“Psychological factors— often called motivational or non-cognitive factors— can matter even more than cognitive factors for students’ academic performance. These may include students’ beliefs about themselves, their feelings about school, or their habits of self-control. Indeed, there is a growing recognition in education, psychology, and economics of the importance of non-cognitive factors in achievement both in school and in the labor market.”

Carol S. Dweck, Gregory M. Walton, Geoffrey L. Cohen, *Academic Tenacity: Mindsets and Skills that Promote Long-Term Learning*

BENEFITS OF ENGAGED CLASSROOMS

Teachers learn: 1) a range of research-based instructional strategies, core practices, protocols, and procedures for engaging all learners; 2) ways to organize and manage their classes for student success; and 3) how to implement a preventative, problem-solving, and restorative approach to discipline.

Students learn: 1) core habits of learning, academic mindsets, and learning strategies; 2) ways to set goals, assess their own progress, and persist in difficult tasks; and 3) how to develop authentic strategies to tackle the heightened demands of the Common Core State Standards and master complex academic content.

Student outcomes include:

- **Increases** in: 1) course completion and GPA; 2) attendance; 3) self- and social awareness, self-management, relationship skills, and responsible decision making; and 4) academic perseverance.
- **Decreases** in: 1) course failure rates; 2) classroom disciplinary referrals; 3) in-school and out-of-school suspensions; 4) rates of late arrivals and absenteeism; and 5) drop-out rates.

RESEARCH-BASED PRACTICES

Engaging Schools incorporates the latest research-based practices. Teachers learn how to give students equitable access to a rigorous academic program by mastering critical core practices that include formative assessment,

responsive academic conferencing, group learning protocols, habits of learning, effective teacher talk, universal expectations, and consequences and interventions.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Engaging Schools engages in a collaborative and comprehensive approach to professional development in support of the growth and development of teacher practice, individually, in their teams, and as a whole staff. Professional learning services include: 1) the Engaged Classrooms Institute; 2) classroom instructional rounds; 3) proficiency modules; 4) embedded team coaching; 5) a peer classroom visitation framework.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Engaging Schools supports a coordinated effort involving district and school leaders. We work with school leaders to identify and support an on-site leadership team to guide implementation efforts. The team assesses, monitors, and revises plans to ensure continuous learning and improvement. We coach school leaders to: 1) foster a collaborative adult learning culture; 2) build shared commitment among staff; 3) focus resources on instructional improvement and classroom management; 4) fine-tune coaching, supervision, and evaluation models that foster teachers' competencies, dispositions, and efficacy; and 5) strengthen systems and make the necessary shifts to ensure sustainability.

MEASURING SUCCESS

Engaging Schools collaborates with schools to identify benchmarks for implementation of core practices in Engaged Classrooms. Systematic data collection, synthesis, and analysis is a critical process for monitoring implementation efforts, supporting continuous improvement, and measuring outcomes. Working with staff and students, we use standardized and validated surveys, focus groups, and observations to provide data.

ENGAGING SCHOOLS PUBLICATIONS

Engaging Schools resources that align with the Engaged Classrooms service include:

- *Getting Classroom Management Right: Guided Discipline and Personalized Support in Secondary Schools*
- *Making Learning Real: Reaching and Engaging All Learners in Secondary Classrooms*
- *Activators: Classroom Strategies for Engaging Middle and High School Students*

ENGAGING SCHOOLS

Engaging Schools has provided high-quality services for districts and schools nationwide for over 30 years and has a proven track record of working with middle and high schools. Within the district and/or school, Engaging Schools identifies and leverages existing assets to address specific challenges. Engaging Schools' work includes a needs assessment, planning, consensus building, implementation, and preparation for sustainability.

To learn more about Engaged Classrooms for your school or district, connect with us at 800-370-2515, x32 or explore Engaging Schools' website, www.engagingschools.org

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