

Virtual Professional Learning for Middle and High School Educators

The Learning Reality

For many districts, limits on the number of students permitted in physical classrooms and other constraints have resulted in entirely remote learning, or hybrid schedules that incorporate in-person and remote learning. With conditions changing, districts are pivoting between these learning environments, requiring teachers to navigate both contexts.

The Learning Challenge

Teachers are needing to integrate new platforms with tools to translate lessons into online environments, while nurturing relationships that drive learning. For many teachers, coaches, and administrators, these are uncharted territories. They welcome opportunities to learn how to integrate new strategies for virtual and hybrid learning environments that foster engagement and support every student's academic, social, and emotional development.

Effective virtual learning — especially with an equity lens — demands an even more responsive teacher presence, more refined facilitation skills, and more care and attention to the kinds of questions, discourse, and learning tasks that will hold every student's academic engagement.

The Professional Learning Opportunity

Best Practices for Virtual Learning - seven two-hour sessions

Before participating in these sessions, I thought that ramping up engagement for adolescent learners was about how to make class more entertaining. Now I think it's about setting an environment for students to feel successful through predictable responses and consistency while also respecting student voice and choice.

– Massachusetts educator, December 2020

This session was extremely helpful for me to conceptualize how to facilitate engaging, equitable, and positive online learning. I learned about many great tools that I will now rely on consistently. Thank you!

– Chapel Hill (NC) educator, August 2020

This series builds teachers' capacity to design, organize, and facilitate research-based, engaging synchronous lessons that stand alone, and can be supplemented with one-to-one or small group sessions, asynchronous learning tasks, and in-person instruction.

The approach uses experiences, well-researched strategies, and systematic rituals and routines that create remote class conditions where each and every student feels known and safe, challenged and creative, cared for and encouraged.

Best Practices for Virtual Learning ~ seven two-hour sessions

Audience:

- Middle and high school teachers
- Grade level and departmental teams
- Instructional leaders and ILT's

Session Topics:

1. Fostering and sustaining positive personal relationships
2. Organizing a virtual learning environment
3. Ramping up learning tasks for rigor and meaning
4. Strengthening engagement through student learning protocols
5. Integrating robust formative assessment
6. Responding to behavior concerns in remote learning environments
7. Ritualizing the virtual learning environment

Resource

All participants receive Engaging School's latest publication, *Engaged Classrooms: The Art and Craft of Reaching and Teaching All Learners*. This book has been called a "goldmine of insights and strategies that new and veteran teachers will come back to again and again" and "a comprehensive guide for making secondary education what it should be in the 21st century."

Series Dates

We are offering the same series on different dates and times to accommodate most schedules – choose the series that fits best with your availability.

- January 26 – March 9 (seven consecutive Tuesdays); 3:30 – 5:30 pm EST
- January 27 – March 10 (seven consecutive Wednesdays); 6:30 – 8:30 pm EST
- January 28 – March 11 (seven consecutive Thursdays); 3:30 – 5:30 pm EST

[Please click here for more information and to register.](#)