

HIGHWAY TO SUCCESS

Implementation Options for Levels One and Two

Successful implementation of the Highway to Success program at either the middle, junior, or high school levels depends on two important factors:

- 1. Determining the time and place for the program to be integrated into the ongoing curriculum of the school, e.g.: day of the week, period during the day, type of setting (homeroom, activity period, grade level(s), and/or existing subject area (English, social studies, study skills, personal development)).**
- 2. Providing adequate staff development for the teachers, guidance counselors, or other professionals who will work with the students, coaching them to take charge of their own learning and social behaviors within the context of the regular school program.**

The staff development program that accompanies and supports the use of the planning books by students is essential for the successful outcome of the Highway to Success program. This program focuses on developing student self-regulation skills.

An important foundational aspect of the Highway to Success program is drawn from the emerging research of the brain. The brain, itself, is engaged in a maturational development process. Interestingly, the last part of the brain to develop is the frontal cortex – seat of the “Executive Function”. Skills associated with this part of the brain include setting goals, planning, monitoring one’s own behavior, and inhibiting inappropriate behavior: the very skills needed for self-regulation.

Teachers who are successful in connecting with and teaching students utilize a wide array of professional skills ranging from high quality presentation of content and skills to classroom management. They are able to inspire students to do their best work. They are enthusiastic about “what” they teach. Teachers who are successful in encouraging students to take charge of their own behavior utilize these same skills

and are able to connect and facilitate the natural, maturational development process that is going on within the students as they are learning math, science, social studies, etc.

“Teacher as Coach” describes the role of the teacher in the Highway to Success program. With this understanding in mind, teachers will be well prepared to enable their students to become successful both in their academic classroom work and with their own developmental challenges.

Options for implementing the Highway to Success program.

- 1. Whole school adoption of either Level One or Two, providing time for the program by taking 5 minutes from each classroom period one day a week to create a 35-minute extra class period.**
- 2. Whole school adoption of either Level One or Two by utilizing existing time allocated for homeroom or activities periods.**
- 3. Utilizing the Highway to Success program to address problems associated with the transition from either the elementary to the middle school or from the middle school to the high school.**
- 4. Utilizing Highway to Success in a Learning Support program.**
- 5. Integrating Highway to Success into an existing Study Skills class. (Middle school level)**
- 6. Incorporating Highway to Success into a 4-year senior portfolio program. (High school level)**
- 7. Using the Highway to Success program as a supplement in an existing guidance or alternative education program.**

In each setting, students, will have the opportunity to set goals, plan, monitor their own behavior, and inhibit inappropriate behavior, the very skills that are an outcome of and will support the growth of maturational development.

**Kathryn S. Atman, Ph. D.
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