

List of PD Options for Staff

Keynote presentations, motivational speaking, workshops, seminars, job-embedded coaching, student assemblies, and much more.

#1 – Virtual Keynote: ALL IN! – 7 Traits of a Teacher with a Purpose™

Research suggests that teachers are the single-most influential school-related factor to student achievement (Cawelti, 1999; Hattie, 2016; Stronge & Tucker, 2000). Therefore, this session seeks to inspire educators to embrace an "ALL IN!" mentality as it refers to doing what is best for students. JT encourages educators to embody traits that will contribute to a positive school culture while moving the academic needle for students in a virtual environment. This session focuses on understanding JT's "7 traits of a Teacher with a Purpose" while providing educators with practical strategies to reach students and their families. These traits include all of the following: 1. Understanding 2. Empathy 3. Forgiveness 4. Resilience 5. Encouragement 6. Hope, and 7. Relationship skills.

#2 - Culture Eats Strategy... - Daily adjustments to create a motivated school culture™

During this informative and leadership-shifting presentation, JT Taylor makes a case for developing the organizational leadership skills necessary to create a school culture that is conducive to academic success for all learners. Leaders will explore the impact of motivation on student achievement and educator production. Leaders will also be led in an activity aimed to "clarify vision" to shift the current school culture to the desired school culture. This presentation is personalized for leaders who are tasked with shaping the culture of the organization they are responsible for leading.

#3 - "Whatever It Takes" – (3) Facts that must shape your mindset™

During this motivational speech, JT Taylor uses his unique gift of storytelling to compel the audience to embrace a "Whatever It Takes" mindset. He uses compelling narratives to express how students can be reached and empowered to excel academically through the life-changing power of education. JT explains that educators must be willing to embrace (3) essential truths to make a difference in the lives of others (students and staff). JT also highlights the concept of specially designed instruction and coteaching as strategic interventions for students who need more help. Teachers will leave this presentation inspired and motivated to continue teaching with a sense of purpose!





#4 - "Are They on the Train – Increasing student achievement through relational teaching"™

This motivational PD aims to remind educators of the transformational power intrinsically connected to the rapport-building process. JT inspires attendees through his unique ability to communicate valuable lessons through inspiring narratives. Themes related to adverse childhood experiences, trauma, and poverty will be discussed. Attendees will also examine the latest research on social-emotional learning and learn practical strategies for cultivating the whole child in school. JT Taylor will persuade educators to not only teach but to "Reach Before You Teach." Every educator will leave this PD inspired to embrace a student-centered philosophy that has proven to increase student achievement.

#5 - "Is This Lesson for ME or for You? – Building a culturally responsive foundation to help all students achieve success"™

This thought-provoking presentation explores the latest research on culturally responsive education. It seeks to increase educator awareness of terms such as cultural competence, culturally responsive practices, and culturally responsive pedagogy. In this session, teachers will learn the what, the how, and the why of cultural responsiveness. Additionally, educators will receive tips and strategies to incorporate culturally responsive practices across content areas to meet the unique needs of diverse learners.

#6 - "Bridging the Gap: From poverty to purpose"™

This session is designed to increase educators' awareness of poverty's impact on students' socioemotional, academic, and behavioral performance. Educators will explore current research on brain development, neuroplasticity, and strategies that can help bridge the gap from poverty to purpose. Also, educators will receive practical strategies and tips for combatting poverty's adverse influence on student achievement.





#7 - "Why Do They Do That? – Understanding and diffusing behavior concerns"™

This vision-shifting PD aims to reduce disproportionality in school-wide discipline practices by challenging educators to view behavior through the lens of child development, motivational theory, and applied behavior analysis. This session leads educators through a job-embedded coaching exercise where they have to utilize applied behavioral analysis skills to identify the function of undesirable classroom behavior. Educators will leave this session with preventative tips and strategies for addressing behavioral concerns in school.

#8 - "Coteaching with a Purpose!" – SDI in the Gen. Ed. Setting™

This session aims to provide special education and general education teachers with a general overview of coteaching as a service delivery option for Specially Designed Instruction in the general education setting. Attendees will be led in a coaching conversation about the purpose of coteaching while exploring the (6) most popular models of coteaching. Also, attendees will have (3) interactive opportunities to collaborate and discuss "coteaching."

#9 - Equity Through SDI – Specially Designed Instruction that Reaches Students with Disabilities™

This session aims to provide special education teachers with a general overview of Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) as a component of IDEA law. It emphasizes SDI's role in ensuring students with disabilities receive equitable opportunities to be successful in school. Attendees will examine precedent-setting SPED cases and their implications for classroom practices. Also, attendees will receive practical strategies and tips for specially designed instruction in the general education setting. The goal of this PD is to enhance educator capacity to better serve students with disabilities in the general education setting.

#10 - "A Different Type of Teacher – Teacher with a Purpose!"™

This heart-touching and motivational PD aims to remind educators of their professional "WHY. Mr. Taylor also lays out a comprehensive definition of what it means to be a "Teacher with a Purpose"™. This PD will help educators identify the greatest threats to their professional growth and productivity. Attendees will also examine historical perspectives of educator burnout. Also, attendees will develop a concrete understanding of burnout, its causes, and strategies to overcome its influence on the education profession.





#11 - "Hip-Hop Pedagogy and Literacy!"™

This presentation seeks to increase educator awareness of terms such as "Cultural Competence," "Culturally Responsive Education," and "Hip-Hop Pedagogy." Attendees will be exposed to the latest research on hip-hop pedagogical approaches as an effective means to engage diverse students in literacy instruction in secondary schools. Also, attendees will receive practical tips for implementing hip-hop pedagogical approaches in the learning environment.

#12 - "Blind Spots: Racism, Bias, and Strategies to Move Toward Equity"™

This session serves as a foundational tool to help educators explore concepts such as unconscious bias and educational equity. In this session, "Blind Spots" refer to the racial and cultural biases that subconsciously influence educator interaction and behavior. Attendees will review research to grasp a more informed perspective of the role of racial and cultural bias in the field of education. Attendees will also be exposed to research that highlights the role of bias in school discipline, special education identification processes, gifted and talented placement, and hiring practices. By the end of this session, attendees will have gained five strategies for courageously addressing bias in the field of education to move toward educational equity.

Keynote Options for Students and Parents

#13 - "Writing the Next Chapter"™ (Secondary Students)

This inspiring presentation is rooted in Social Emotional Learning (SEL). The goal of "Writing the Next Chapter" is to inspire young people to utilize literacy as a tool to foster resilience by developing self-management and self-awareness skills. These concepts align with CASEL's framework for social-emotional learning and expose students to the power of literacy as a coping mechanism. Students will learn to use writing to accurately express their feelings and manage their emotional stress. This presentation includes several powerful and engaging spoken word performances. Students will leave inspired to view literacy from a practical and culturally relevant perspective.

#14 - "Developing a Leadership Mentality"™ (Secondary Students)

This inspirational presentation is designed to motivate and empower leaders of all ages. Students will be challenged to look beyond their current position and role to see the leader within themselves. JT will share his leadership journey and emphasize (7) invaluable principles he has learned along his journey. These (7) principles will serve as key takeaways for all attendees.





#15 - "Student with a Purpose"™ (Elementary Students)

This session aims to challenge students to become "Students with a Purpose." A "Student with a Purpose" is a student who is engaged in learning and determined to be successful in and out of school. This session will engage kinesthetic learners by encouraging music, dancing, and literacy. Students will be encouraged to participate in Mr. Taylor's Rap performances. Mr. Taylor will perform his hit songs, "Student with a Purpose" and "Good Day."

#16 - "Parent with a Purpose"™

This session aims to motivate and inspire parental involvement in the school community. Parents will have an opportunity to engage in an interactive think-pair-share discussion. This discussion is designed to identify key elements every child requires from parents/guardians. These key elements are referred to as "P.U.S.H. Principles." In addition to the "P.U.S.H. Principles," parents will also receive practical strategies for helping their child maximize their potential in and out of school. Lastly, parents will have an opportunity to provide administrators and educators with feedback on what parents need to create and maintain a sustainable partnership with the school.

