

List of PD Options for Staff

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

#1 - “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. Educators will 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.

#2 - “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. In addition, educators will receive tips and strategies to incorporate culturally responsive practices across content areas.

#3 - “Bridging the Gap: From Poverty to Purpose”™

This session is designed to increase educator 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. In addition, educators will receive practical strategies and tips for combatting poverty's adverse influence on student achievement.

#4 - “Why Do They Do That? – Understanding and Diffusing Behavior Concerns”™

This vision-shifting PD aims to reduce disproportionality in discipline by challenging educators to view behavior through the lens of child development, motivational theory, and applied behavioral analysis. During this session, educators will be coached to employ skills gained from this presentation to identify the function of undesirable classroom behavior. Educators will leave this session with preventative tips and strategies for diffusing disruptive behavior in the learning environment.





#5 - “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 co-teaching as a service delivery option for Specially Designed Instruction in the general education setting. Attendees will be led in a coaching conversation pertaining to the purpose of co-teaching, while exploring the (6) most popular models of co-teaching. In addition, attendees will have (3) interactive opportunities to collaborate and discuss “co-teaching” with their co-teacher.

#6 - 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. In addition, 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.

#7 - “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. In addition, attendees will develop a concrete understanding of burnout, its causes, and strategies to overcome its influence on the education profession.

Keynote Options for Students and Parents

#8 - “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 develop self-management and self-awareness. These concepts align with CASEL’s framework for social-emotional learning. Students will be exposed to the power of literacy as a coping mechanism to accurately express their feelings and manage their emotional stress. This presentation includes several powerful and engaging spoken word





performances. Students will be inspired to view literacy from a practical and culturally relevant perspective.

#9 – “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.

#10 - “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 and dancing. Students will be encouraged to participate during Mr. Taylor’s Rap performances. Mr. Taylor will perform his hit songs, “Student with a Purpose” and “Good Day.”

#11 - “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 parent/guardians. 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 pertaining to what parents feel they need to create a sustainable partnership with the school.

