

**Pre-K Professional Development Tracks
2018-2019 School Year**

Using Math Games to Build Minds and Motivation

This professional development track is designed to improve preschool teachers' capacity to facilitate and build children's mathematical knowledge and thinking. Each session will focus on learning a set of math games that are easy to play and highlight key math skills such as counting, operations, algebraic thinking, and geometry. Participants will learn how to implement math games, collect and interpret formative assessment data to track children's growth, integrate children's literature, and apply instructional approaches that build a growth mindset and persistence. We will draw from resources from the Young Mathematicians Series and Doug Clements *Learning Trajectories for Math*.

Audience: Teacher Assistants, Teachers, Supervisors

Dates: 10/1, 11/5, 12/3, 2/4, 3/4, 4/1 (First Monday)

Time: 3:30-5PM

Location: CELP, 535 Centerville Road, Warwick

Facilitator: Christina Silvi

Master Teachers

This professional development track is designed for teachers who want to "kick things up a notch" by engaging in a process to identify intentional teaching practices that have a direct impact on children's learning and development. Together with peers, teachers will examine effective teaching practices by using a cycle of inquiry that includes: posing a question; developing a hypothesis; collecting and interpreting data; and creating and implementing an action plan.

Audience: Teachers and Teacher Assistants with 3+ years of teaching experience who can commit to classroom-level research.

Dates: 11/28, 1/23, 2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22 (Fourth Wednesday)

Time: 3:30-5PM

Location: CHILD, Inc. - Centerville Road, 849 Centerville Road, Warwick

Facilitator: Deborah Morelle

Supporting Social and Emotional Competence in Children

This track focuses on strategies for addressing the social-emotional needs of children. The content includes evidence-based practices for building relationships and creating supportive environments, intentionally teaching social-emotional skills, understanding the meaning behind behavior, and supporting children's success.

Audience: Teacher Assistants, Teachers, Supervisors

Dates: 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 1/17, 3/21, 4/18 (Third Thursday)

Time: 3:30-5PM

Location: Children's Friend – Friendship, 350 Point Street, Providence

Facilitator: Ashleigh Bickerstaff (and others)

The Curriculum and Assessment Cycle

This track focuses on the continuous process of planning and observing, or *Intentional Teaching*. Teachers will consider how assessment information connects with the RIELDS and use it to inform continued planning. Together with peers, teaching teams will analyze documentation from selected *Intentional Teaching* activities and strategize next steps for supporting children's development. Note: Participants who select this track must have responsibility for planning and assessment, and come to each session with the requested documentation.

Audience: Teacher Assistants, Teachers

Dates: 10/15, 11/19, 1/28*, 3/18, 5/20 (Third Monday - *note exception)

Time: 3:30-5PM

Location: Children's Friend- Berkshire, 99 Berkshire Street, Providence

Facilitator: Lori Coletti

Implementing the BPS Curriculum

This track will focus on sharing implementation strategies and supports for teaching teams who are implementing the BPS curriculum with fidelity. Teaching staff will come together to share insights, resources and successes, ask questions, and troubleshoot challenges. In addition to the 90 minute “track meets,” participants will also attend two half-day training sessions with representatives from the Boston Public Schools to take a deeper dive into Units 3 and 4 (December 4th) and Units 5 and 6 (March 5th).

Audience: All Pre-K staff from programs who received supplemental funds to implement the BPS curriculum to fidelity

Dates: 9/19*, 10/10, 11/14, 12/4, 1/9, 2/13, 3/5, 4/10, 5/8 (Second Wednesday - *note exceptions)

Time: 3:30-5PM

Location: Woonsocket Head Start-Karen Bouchard Center, 204 Warwick Street, Woonsocket

Dates: *12/4, *3/5

Time: 1:00-4:00

Location: Center for Early Learning Professionals

Facilitator: Meghan Robles

Teaching Partners: Supporting Children throughout the Classroom

This track provides teaching teams with an understanding of the importance of building positive relationships with children, and intentionally planning high-quality interactions throughout the day. Participants will discuss and practice strategies for engaging children and extending their learning throughout the components of the day (e.g. read-alouds, center time, transitions, and routines). This track is best suited for new teachers and teacher assistants who are looking to expand their current role in the classroom and become more engaged and effective in their interactions with children.

Audience: Teacher Assistants, new Teachers

Dates: 10/16, 11/20, 12/18, 1/15, 3/19, 5/21 (Third Tuesdays)

Time: 3:30-5PM

Location: East Providence Public Schools - Martin Middle School Library, 111 Brown Street, East Providence

Facilitator: Brenda Potter

Pre-K Book Club

Part 1:

Big Questions

This track explores the book *Big Questions for Young Minds: Extending Children's Thinking* which offers a foundation for using high-level questions during daily routines, and throughout interest areas. It highlights the importance of asking rich, thoughtful questions that spark children’s curiosity and build insight. During this track we will share strategies and ideas for enhancing teaching practices, learning how to be more intentional, and scaffolding children’s learning to promote deeper understanding. Participants should purchase this book, which is available through NAEYC, prior to the first session.

Note: Participants who select this track must commit to all four sessions.

Audience: Teacher Assistants, Teachers, Supervisors

Dates: 10/17, 11/28*, 12/19, 1/16 (Third Wednesday)

Time: 3:30-5PM

Location: Imagine Preschool, 520 Hope Street, Providence

Facilitator: Lori Coletti

Part 2:

Mindfulness

This track will use several books and articles as a foundation for exploring the benefits of mindfulness-based practices on both teacher and child outcomes. Participants will explore the *Cycles of Inquiry*, and apply these practices within current systems of curriculum planning and assessment, with the goal of improving efficiency, quality, validity - and both child and teacher development. This track is open to classroom and supervisory staff. Note: Participants who select this track must commit to all four sessions.

Audience: Teacher Assistants, Teachers, Supervisors
Dates: 2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/22 (Third Wednesday)
Time: 3:30-5PM
Location: Imagine Preschool, 520 Hope Street, Providence
Facilitator: Meghan Robles

Pre-K Book Club (Education Coordinators)

Facilitative Leadership

This track, for education coordinators and administrators, will draw on the ideas presented in the book *Generative Leadership; Shaping New Futures for Today's Schools* by Karl Klimek. This resource examines the fundamental elements of leadership and provides tools to support organizational development and personal leadership growth. Participants will reflect on their own leadership styles and their school's organizational development goals and work collaboratively to create action plans towards reaching these goals. Participants should purchase the book prior to the first session.

Audience: Education Coordinators and Administrators
Dates: 12/18, 1/15, 3/19, 4/16, 5/21 (Third Tuesday)
Time: 9-11AM
Location: CELP, 535 Centerville Road, Warwick
Facilitator: Meghan Robles

New Education Coordinators Group

This track, for first and second year Education Coordinators, will delve into the roles and responsibilities of the education coordinator in state Pre-K. The session content will evolve based on the needs of the group but will include managing deliverables, and staff support and supervision relative to curriculum implementation and ongoing assessment.

Audience: Education Coordinators and interested Administrators
Dates: 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 1/17, 3/21, 5/16 (Third Thursday)
Time: 9-11AM
Location: CELP, 535 Centerville Road, Warwick
Facilitator Brenda Potter

Hot Topics/RIDE Update for Education Coordinators

This track, for Education Coordinators and interested Administrators, is an opportunity to collaborate and connect with colleagues, receive updates from RIDE staff, and discuss current trends and issues in the field.

Audience: Education Coordinators and interested Administrators
Dates: 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 1/10, 2/14, 4/11, 5/9 (Second Thursday)
Time: 9-11AM
Location: CELP, 535 Centerville Road, Warwick
Facilitator: Pre-K staff, RIDE staff

TSG Users' Group – Understanding and Navigating the Platform

These sessions are designed for new users but are open to all Pre-K staff who would like tips and strategies for navigating the TSG platform and getting the most out of the program. Bring your laptops/devices.

NOTE: These are "extra" sessions – they are not part of a track. Participants can go to one or both.

Audience: Teacher Assistants, Teachers, Education Coordinators and interested Administrators
Dates: 9/11 and 11/13
Time: 3:30-5PM
Location: CELP, 535 Centerville Road, Warwick

(* - Denotes change in schedule)