



# The Upstate Professional Development Resource Center

Serving all Regions North of NYC

## OCTOBER 2022 DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

### Fall is Here!

The weather is getting cooler and the leaves are starting to fall; sweater weather is upon us.



**Last month** we kicked off our Fall PD offerings with two sessions, *Turn Your Classroom into a Student-Centered Mathematical Playground* and *High-Impact Instruction: Lesson Coherence*. Both of these will be **available this week** as part of our On-Demand offerings at: <https://pdrc.talentlms.com/catalog>.

**This month** we have sessions on defining culture and equity in school contexts, student engagement, collaboration and co-teaching, formative assessment and math makeovers. We hope you can join us for one or more of these sessions.

If you have questions please feel free to reach out to us directly at [rshea@measinc.com](mailto:rshea@measinc.com).

*Rebecca Shea*  
Upstate PDRC Director

Check out our  
NEW Fall  
website page and  
register for  
sessions here!



### From Knowing to Doing: Defining Culture

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 4pm-5pm

In this introductory session, participants will ground their discussions in a common definition of culture through a review of Zaretta Hammond's Culture Tree and the work of Dr. Jeff Duncan Andrade. This session is intended for teachers or leaders who want to consider how culture is seen and experienced in their school and classroom contexts.

### High-Impact Instructional Leadership Institute: Student Engagement

Thursday, Oct. 13, 4pm-5pm



Student engagement goes well beyond counting the number of hands raised or eyes on the teacher. This session provides instructional leaders with an expanded set of classroom look-for's based on the work of Philip Schlechty, ways of seeing both attention and intellectual engagement in the classroom. This session is part of a three-part institute. Participants are invited to attend one or all of the institute sessions.



### Collaboration and Co-Teaching: Creating Inclusive Classrooms to Support All Learners

Thursday, Oct. 20, 4pm-5pm

Interested in learning how to maximize the impact of the adults in your classroom? This session takes you through the why, what, and how of collaboration and co-teaching. Learn some simple, efficient and effective ways to organize yourself and your co-teacher, your paraeducators, or any other adult in your classroom to create FUN and inclusive environments. Designed for K-12 teachers who are interested in getting started with co-teaching or anyone looking to improve their collaborative/co-teaching practices.



## From Knowing to Doing: Defining and Seeing Equity in Educational Contexts

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 4pm-5pm

In this session, participants will ground their discussions in common definitions and visuals used to discuss equity in educational contexts. Participants will engage in an activity to define equality, opportunity, access, and equity and will reflect on how these common terms are present or lacking within their school settings. This session is intended for teachers or leaders who want to deepen their understanding of these terms and reflect on the practices and policies which move toward equity and inclusion.

## Meaningful Makeovers: Making Math Problems/Questions More Engaging While Creating Access for All Types of Math Learners

Thursday, Oct. 27, 4pm-5pm

Have you noticed your students, or even yourself, sometimes getting confused by the problems in your math texts? Why exactly did Alex purchase 100 lemons, and how did Mathew become involved by giving away a 2:3 ratio of them to Harllow and Beck? In this session, I will share strategies of how to transform your math exercises from a given text into a meaningful problem solving experience.



## High-Impact Instructional Leadership Institute: Formative Assessment

Thursday, Oct. 27, 4pm-5pm

Formative assessment in the classroom must be well-planned and more than once in any given lesson. In this session, instructional leaders will unpack what formative assessment is, what it is not, and how to help teachers leverage this high-impact practice for greater results. This session is part of a three-part institute. Participants are invited to attend one or all of the institute sessions. Audience: district leaders, school leaders, teacher leaders, instructional coaches, and department chairs.

# Resources to Check Out

## 60 Second Assessments



## Focus the Learning



## Increase Participation



The New York State Office of Religious and Independent Schools  
**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
RESOURCE CENTER (PDRC)**

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Students Are at the Center of All We Do

# RISE 2022 Leadership Conference

Nov. 14 & 15, 2022  
Albany Marriott Hotel



The flyer features the logos for the NYS Coalition for Independent & Religious Schools and the Professional Development Resource Center (PDRC). It includes a QR code and the text: "REGISTER NOW! RISE 2022 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE REGISTER HERE: https://www.forimplus/form/4575549699391488 LIVE AND IN-PERSON! November 14 & 15, 2022 Albany Marriott Hotel 189 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY 38th Annual Conference for leaders of independent and religious schools. An engaging 2-day event filled with keynotes and professional development sessions." Logos for Catapult Learning, Fordham University, and MI Measurement Incorporated are also present.

Click **above** to view  
the flyer, and scan  
below to register.



## Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: Overview & Welcoming and Affirming Environment

Thursday, Nov. 3, 4pm-5pm

In this 3-part series, participants will explore NYSED's Culturally Responsive-Sustaining (CR-S) Education Framework. Each session will focus on key principles of the framework: Welcoming & Affirming Environment, Inclusive Curriculum & Assessment, High Expectations & Rigorous Instruction, and Ongoing Professional Learning and Support.



## Using Accountable Talk to Increase Learning and Engagement

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 4pm-5pm

We all know that discussion plays an important role in education, but we often do not understand how important it is, or the best way to structure the conversation in the classroom. This session will explore how using accountable talk can increase student engagement, retention, and the use of academic and content language. Participants will examine strategies to go beyond surface-level engagement to increase higher-order thinking (HOT) and student collaboration. Finally, participants will examine how accountable talk can be used as formative and summative assessments.



## Culturally Responsive Pedagogy: Inclusive Curriculum & Assessment

Thursday, Nov. 10, 4pm-5pm

In this 3-part series, participants will explore NYSED's Culturally Responsive-Sustaining (CR-S) Education Framework. Each session will focus on key principles of the framework: Welcoming & Affirming Environment, Inclusive Curriculum & Assessment, High Expectations & Rigorous Instruction, and Ongoing Professional Learning and Support.



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# New Courses Available

## New & Novice Teacher Academy Course 1: Classroom Climate and Managing the Learning Environment



Available Now

Presented by Diana Scarselletta Straut

Explore ways to plan, organize and maintain your classroom in order to create a climate that maximizes student learning. This is the first course in the Intensive Academy for New and Novice Teachers. The courses combine to help teachers create inclusive, high impact learning experiences for a wide range of learners. Each course provides a brief overview of theory and is packed with take-away strategies that teachers can implement in their classrooms.



## High-Impact Instructional Leadership: Lesson Coherence

Available Now

Presented by Nicole Scariano

Lesson coherence requires teacher clarity, planning, and preparation. This session provides instructional leaders with ways of seeing that go from design to high-impact delivery of the lesson. This session is part of a three-part institute. Participants are invited to attend one or all of the institute sessions.

## Onboarding New Staff: Systems, Culture, Curriculum, & Ongoing Support



Available Now

Presented by Rebecca Shea and Karen Martin

How can school leaders create a streamlined, informative, and welcoming onboarding process for teachers new to their school? This may be at the start of the year or anytime you have a new staff member join your team. The purpose of this series is to explore ways to create a sustainable and supportive culture for new staff. This series will guide leaders in establishing or refreshing an existing onboarding (mentoring) process for new-to-school staff.

## On-Demand Flyer View & Download



NYS Religious and Independent School teachers and leaders can now access **asynchronous, on-demand courses** from the Upstate PDRC.

Courses are free of charge and available to complete at your own pace.

Each course offers CTLE credits, and new courses are being uploaded all the time!

Visit our website [HERE](#) or scan below to learn more and register for classes.



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