

The Upstate Professional Development Resource Center

Serving all Regions North of NYC

June 2023 Digital Newsletter



Join Us This Summer!

Summer is almost here and the PDRC is here for you all summer! We are excited about our upcoming book studies and hope you will join us! Click on the flyer to the right and learn more about these great topics!

~ The Upstate PDRC Team

[Check Out Our Summer Webpage HERE](#)

INTRODUCING THE UPSTATE PDRC Summer Blended Book Series
The Upstate PDRC is excited to offer 4 Summer Book Studies for teachers, administrators, and support staff in religious and independent schools.

- How to Differentiate Instruction in the Academically Diverse Classroom**
by Carol Ann Tomlinson
Elevate your understanding of differentiation and come away with hands-on strategies for helping all students succeed with grade level curriculum.
Facilitated by: Diana Scarsella Strout
- Standards-Based Learning in Action: Moving from Theory to Practice**
By: T. Schimmer, G. Hillman, and M. Stalets
Learn how to overcome the knowing-doing gap in standards-based learning systems, and move toward unpacking the standards and learning targets your students need.
Facilitated by: Karen Martin & Chris Karle
- Lost At School**
By: Ross Greene
Expand your ability to respond to challenging behaviors. Unpack and understand challenging behaviors as the lagging skills they are and learn about the evidence based tools to do so.
Facilitated by: Aleece Behr
- Instructional Leadership: Creating Practice Out of Theory**
by Peter Dewitt
Explore instructional leadership through six areas: implementation, focus for learning, student engagement, instructional strategies, collective efficacy, and understanding impact through evidence.
Facilitated by: Rebecca Shea

Check our Summer Website Page [HERE](#)

Book studies will be blended with a combination of asynchronous reading & discussions using Google Classroom and synchronous discussions using Zoom. Book studies will offer up to 15 CTLE credits.

CHECK OUT THE PARTICIPANT GUIDE [HERE](#)

THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE CENTER (PDRC)

MI MEASUREMENT

Celebrate and Reflect

Congratulations on another year of inspiring young minds and making a difference. It's your turn now—celebrate your successes and reflect upon the lessons you've learned this year. Here are links to two simple templates to guide the reflection process. We hope you find time this summer to relax, enjoy, and fully appreciate the impact you have on students.

Reflections

School Year

- Oldest but Goodies**
These are a few things that I've used each year, but definitely want to keep next year.
- New Keepers**
Some new ideas that worked out really well and I definitely want to keep them the next year.
- Tried, but Tweak**
New things I tried, but didn't quite work out so easily. I want to use it next year, but will need to research some changes.
- Start from Scratch**
Things that I noticed throughout the year that really need to be revamped to be more successful.

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END OF SCHOOL YEAR REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- When did I feel most *alive* as a teacher this year?
 - What was I doing? What were we learning?
 - During which projects did I see a high level of *engagement* and *motivation*?
 - What *routines* or *procedures* made my classroom run more *smoothly* this year?
 - In what areas do I believe my *students* have made a lot of *growth* (think academically and socially)?
To what do I credit this growth?
 - What *new things* did I try this year that had me saying I *can't wait to do this again*?
 - What activities, events, and projects were most *memorable* (especially for my students)?
 - Considering my work this year, what am I *most proud* of?
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Students Are at the Center of All We Do



Differentiation Book Study

Facilitated by Diana Scarselletta Straut

Book	How to Differentiate Instruction in an Academically Diverse Classroom
Zoom Dates	July 17, 19, 21, 25, 27

Register HERE

Standards-Based Learning Book Study



Facilitated by Karen Martin & Chris Karle

Book	Standards-Based Learning in Action: Moving from Theory to Practice
Zoom Dates	August 8, 9, 10

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Lost At School Book Study



Facilitated by Aleece Behr

Book

Lost at School: Why Our Kids with Behavior Challenges are Falling Through the Cracks & How We Can Help Them

Zoom Dates

July 24, 26, 31, & August 2

Register HERE

Instructional Leadership Book Study



Facilitated by Rebecca Shea

Book

Instructional Leadership: Creating Practice Out of Theory

Zoom Dates

August 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP: CREATING PRACTICE OUT OF THEORY
BY PETER DEWITT
SUMMER BLENDED BOOK SERIES

Dr. Peter DeWitt's book provides practical tools for delivering lasting improvement through small, manageable changes over time.

Participants in this course will explore

- instructional leadership practices.
- strategies to bring leaders and teachers/staff together to focus on student learning & engagement.
- evidence collection from staff for effective, two-way feedback cycles.
- practical strategies and entry points based on where your school is now.

Register Now!

BOOK: Instructional Leadership
DATES: August 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18
Facilitated by: Rebecca Shea | rshea@measinc.com

Click Here for Course Syllabus

Book Study Details:

- Participants must obtain their own copy of the book - used, borrowed, digital, hard copy - whatever is best for you and your budget.
- This course will meet **synchronously via Zoom from 9:00am - 11:00am on August 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18.**
- An additional hour will be allotted for **asynchronous work of independent reading and postings.** See the course syllabus and Google Classroom for more information.
- Up to **15 CTE credits** will be awarded upon completion.

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Now

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Click on each title to learn more about each course!



For Leaders

The Hiring Process

Special Education

Recruitment & Retention of Teachers

For Teachers

Designing Checklists to Support Student Writing

Using Mentor Texts in Writing

Click HERE to check out ALL our On-Demand Courses!

Coming Soon!

New Teacher Academy

Part 4: Assessment

Part 5: Reflective Practice & Professional Growth

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End Of Year Reflection Ideas!



A Year in Review

Reflecting on the year is an important task for both you and your students. Discussing and reviewing the year can be a great way to understand your student's perspectives and gather their input. The following prompts and activities have been created to help generate conversation with students about the year. This is an easy way to show students that feedback can be fun while offering them a safe space to share their opinions. Feel free to modify any of the questions or activities in a way that meets your classrooms and students' needs, interests, etc.

Teacher Reflections

• What is one classroom management strategy that worked for me this year?	• How did I support my colleagues this year? How did they support me?
• What do I want to work on next year? Think about breaking this down into specific areas such as classroom management, relationship building, organization, etc.	• If I could go back and change one thing about this year, what would it be and why?
• What is one thing I need next year to be successful?	• What is one thing I have learned about myself as an educator this year?
• What was the most challenging aspect of this year?	• What was the most rewarding aspect of this year?
• Rate your ability to build relationships with students on a scale of 0-3. Why did you give yourself that score?	• What was one thing you did differently this year from last year? How did it go?

Student Reflections



Save the Date: RISE 2023

Leaders,
Mark your calendars for
our next RISE 2023
Leadership Conference.
November 15 - 16, 2023!
Albany Marriott
We hope to see you
there!

Click to
view and
download
the flyer!



SAVE THE DATE
RISE 2023
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Hosted by Professional Development Resource Centers of New York State in partnership with NYS Education Dept and NYS Coalition for Independent and Religious Schools

LIVE AND IN-PERSON!
Wednesday and Thursday | November 15 and 16, 2023

Albany Marriott Hotel | 189 Wolf Rd., Albany, NY

39th Annual Conference for independent and religious school leaders. An engaging 2-day event filled with keynotes and over 24 high-interest sessions.

Registration opens in August!

Catapult Learning | FORDHAM UNIVERSITY THE HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK | MI MEASUREMENT

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