

Charter School Specialists

Professional Development Catalog

2024-2025 Catalog



Charter School Specialists
www.charterschoolspec.com

Upcoming Opportunities

The 2025 Charter School Specialists and Schools Forward Literacy Convocation

The 2025 Charter School Specialists and Schools Forward Literacy Convocation (formerly known as Literacy Academy) will take place in June. The conference will feature many well-known speakers, several charter-specific breakout sessions, opportunities for networking and more! Some topics this year will be instructional coaching and leadership, implementation and monitoring, application of the Science of Reading knowledge, the role of dialect and language, motivation, writing, and navigating the barriers in changing practice. We look forward to hosting this event, and more information will be provided in the coming months.

Science of Reading Workshops Presenters: Jennifer Heyman and Dr. Dee Morgan (Available Upon Request)

The School Improvement Team at Charter School Specialists is offering workshops to schools on the Science of Reading and building common understandings and vocabulary for developing literacy for all learners. Prior to the workshops, a needs assessment is completed to allow for the workshop to be customized to the school's needs.

For more information, or to set up a time to meet in person or virtually, please reach out to the School Improvement Team.

Deconstructing Learning Standards Workshops Presenter: Jennifer Heyman (Available upon request)

A solid understanding of content standards is critical for student outcomes. This workshop focuses on deconstructing content standards and building common understandings and vocabulary. Prior to the workshop, a needs assessment is completed to allow for the workshop to be customized to the school's needs. For more information, or to set up a time to meet in person or virtually, please reach out to the School Improvement team.

Mission

Charter School Specialists will be a high-performing sponsor that employs a team of qualified customer service-oriented professionals dedicated to increasing access to high-performing schools by expanding educational opportunities, improving school performance and ultimately lifting student achievement.

Presenter Highlights

Andrea Dobbins

- Online Instruction
- Student Engagement
- Data-driven decision making

Barbara Murphy

- Teaming for results
- Urban education
- English learner students

Buddy Harris

- Community engagement, policy, and data
- Strategic planning
- Leadership development

Daniel Willenborg

- Leadership development
- School Improvement processes

Dr. Dee Morgan

- Standards and Deconstruction
- Evidence-based practices
- School Improvement
- Leadership development

Jennifer Heyman

- Leadership development
- Packing guides
- PBIS and Restorative Justice Plans
- OIP
- RTI and MTSS
- and more!

John Sorvillo

- College and Career Readiness and Dropout Recovery
- SEL
- Business Engagement

Nannette Sherman

- Federal programs and funding
- Co-teaching
- Special education
- EMIS
- CCIP

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Academic Vocabulary: An Essential Tool for Closing the Achievement Gap Presenter: Barbara Murphy (Available upon request)

Educational research clearly concludes that explicit academic vocabulary instruction is an imperative for closing the achievement gap. Students have expressed that their lack of vocabulary comprehension has been an impediment when testing. The workshop will provide teachers instructional strategies that will enhance vocabulary comprehension across disciplines and build student confidence and performance on high stakes tests.

Graduation Requirements Presenters: John Sorvillo and Andrea Dobbins (Available Upon Request)

The School Improvement Team at Charter School Specialists is offering workshops to Dropout Prevention Recovery schools on Ohio's graduation requirements. Participants will get an overview of the State of Ohio graduation requirements as well as examples of successfully implemented pathways and credentials for all schools to assist students in meeting requirements for graduation. For more information, or to set up a time to meet in person or virtually, please reach out to the School Improvement team.

DOPR/E-School: "Meet Me in the Virtual Staff Lounge" Presenters: John Sorvillo and Andrea Dobbins Dates: November 2024 February 2024

Changes continually happen in the DOPR and E-Schools space. Participants will have an opportunity to engage with CSS staff, network with each other and have time to answer questions relative to school needs. Topics of discussion may include but are not limited to: Student engagement, student attendance, staffing needs and issues, legislative updates /clarifications, 12-point ICO, CCP, workforce readiness etc. Participants: DOPR schools, DOPR E-Schools, Building Leaders, Academic Coaches, Counselors, CTE advisors, etc.

Leadership: Achieving Results by Team Problem Solving Presenters: Barbara Murphy and Daniel Willenborg January 21, 2025 Independence, OH. Location TBD

Historically schools have operated in silos that are compartmentalized and departmentalized. Teachers are not aware of the academic challenges they share in common across disciplines. Research suggests that cross curricular teams that make connections are very effective in solving academic issues. The teams are comprised of administrators, vertical teacher teams, academic coaches, SPED teachers and other staff members as applicable.

Leadership: Principal Shadow Presenter: Daniel Willenborg (Available Upon Request)

The Principal Shadow PD is intended to provide encouragement and support through an in-person shadowing visit by a CSS School Improvement Team member. It is not intended to be evaluative in any manner but will provide the school leader with another set of eyes and ears while navigating the many complexities of school leadership. The learning framework will emphasize respectful interactions, team-building, collaborative leadership, instructional focus, and personal reflection.

Upcoming P.D. Opportunities Continued

Leadership: Responsible for Everything; Dependent on Everyone: How to Survive and Thrive in a Results Driven Environment
Presenters: Daniel Willenborg and Barbara Murphy

School administrators are often overwhelmed with the scope of their responsibilities and often confuse successful school management with leadership. The challenge to serve as counselor, therapist, lawyer, security expert, financial accountant, judge, and communications director, let alone as an instructional leader, is a daunting task. During this workshop, we will review the many aspects of leadership with an emphasis on the work of the Ohio Leadership Advisory Council and the work of Mike Schmoker and his emphasis on simplicity, clarity, and priorities. Our goal will be to transition school managers into school leaders who are focused on results.

Long-Term Substitutes: Preparation for a Successful Teaching Experience
Presenter: Barbara Murphy
(Available upon request)

Long-term substitutes play a critical role in many of our schools. This training will help long-term substitutes have a successful teaching experience. We will explore how to connect with students, staff and parents to establish positive lines of communication. Topics such as classroom organization, procedures, establishing daily expectations and creating a class climate of order and respect will be addressed. Further, key staff members who can assist with the familiarization of standards, curriculum and lesson planning will be identified.

School Climate and Culture Workshops Presenter: Jennifer Heyman

The School Improvement Team is offering School Climate and Culture Workshops that can be tailored to the individual needs of schools. Prior to the workshops, a needs assessment is completed to allow for the workshop to be customized to the school's needs. Coaching sessions are also available at the School Leader/Dean level of support.

Strategies for Effective Online Learning
Presenter: Andrea Dobbins
(Available upon request)

In this webinar, you will learn about strategies and best practices to foster positive online learning environments for both students and teachers. Participants will engage in discussions regarding student engagement, communication, and effective instruction in an online delivery platform.

***CSS provides training for individual schools and networks upon request.**

Have a request for a Professional Development presentation that your school would like CSS to present? Click the icon to the right to complete a request form:

Looking for suggestions for additional resources for your school? Please reach out to the School Improvement team.

About Us:

Our team at Charter School Specialists is dedicated to providing high-quality professional development opportunities for our sponsored community schools. We thoughtfully design our offerings to meet the needs of our school leaders, teachers, and board members. We encourage you to reach out to us to request personalized trainings for your specific needs. We would be happy to provide web-based trainings, one-on-one support or in-person sessions.