



Charter School Specialists
www.charterschoolspec.com

2026-2027
Professional
Development
Catalog

Why Partner with Charter School Specialists?

Professional Development Designed for Ohio Charter Schools

At Charter School Specialists, we believe professional development should be more than a one-time training—it should be a **partnership**. Our experienced team works alongside Ohio charter schools to deliver **customized** professional learning that aligns with your school's goals, strengthens instructional practices, and supports lasting improvement.

Whether you're looking for a single workshop, leadership coaching, or schoolwide implementation support, we'll help design a professional learning experience that meets your team's unique needs.



WHAT SETS CSS APART



Customized for Your School

Sessions tailored to your improvement plan, goals, and staff needs.



Ohio Charter School Expertise

Professional development designed specifically for Ohio community schools.



Experienced Practitioners

Learn from former teachers, principals, instructional coaches, and charter school leaders.



Practical and Actionable

Leave with strategies, tools, and resources you can implement immediately.



Coaching & Implementation Support

Many offerings include follow-up coaching and implementation support to ensure lasting impact.



Flexible Delivery

Available in person, virtually, or as customized coaching and consultation.

FEATURED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AREAS



Literacy & Mathematics



Leadership Development



Special Education & IDEA Compliance



Digital Learning & AI



Federal Programs



School Improvement



College & Career Readiness



Customized Training



DON'T SEE WHAT YOU NEED?

The sessions in this catalog are just the beginning. Our team regularly designs customized professional development to address your school's specific goals, challenges, and improvement priorities.

Let's build a plan that works for your school.

Professional Development Access and Fee Structure Key

**Use the labels below to understand access
for each professional development
opportunity**

FREE TO CSS PARTNER SCHOOLS

CSS provides select professional development and training at no cost to partner schools, including sponsor-related compliance, operational, and school leadership topics.

FEE-FOR-SERVICE

Professional development, including specialized instructional, leadership, literacy, special education, digital learning, coaching, and customized training, is available for a fee. CSS partner schools may receive preferred pricing.

SCHEDULED

Professional development opportunities with dates and times already established. Simply register to attend.

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Schedule a session based on your school's needs and availability.

FEDERAL FUNDING

Many offerings may align with Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, or IDEA funding. Funding designations are a guide only; schools should consult their Federal Grants Coordinator to confirm allowability before using federal funds.



Meet the Vice President of School Improvement



Jennifer Heyman has been serving students and educators since 2008, holding roles as a teacher, assistant principal, and principal. She graduated cum laude from Bowling Green State University and began her career as a third-grade teacher in a rural Ohio school district. After two years, Jennifer followed her passion for working with urban students and moved to Columbus, Ohio, where she joined the charter school community as a fourth-grade teacher.

Jennifer later relocated to Cleveland, Ohio, where she taught third grade before advancing into school leadership as an assistant principal. She most recently served as principal at two Cleveland-area schools. Throughout her career, she has led and collaborated on initiatives involving curriculum development and pacing guides, PBIS and Restorative Justice implementation, the Ohio Improvement Process, Response to Intervention (RTI) and Multi-Tiered System of Supports (I-MTSS), special education service planning, staff recruitment and retention, and data-driven goal setting aligned with Ohio's Local Report Card.

Prior to becoming Vice President of School Improvement at Charter School Specialists, Jennifer served as the organization's Director of Literacy Development. In that role, she led CSS's implementation of Science of Reading initiatives across Ohio and played a key role in developing and launching the Charter School Specialists Schools Forward Literacy Consortium. As Vice President of School Improvement, Jennifer continues to advance these efforts while leading a team of experienced professionals dedicated to supporting Ohio's community schools. She is also spearheading the relaunch of the Charter School Specialists Literacy Consortium and the continued expansion of learning opportunities through the Charter School Specialists Professional Development Center.

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.



Upcoming Opportunities

Digital Learning Office Hours
Presenters: Andrea Dobbins

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Scheduled

**Available the first Tuesday of every month
from 9:00am-10:00am**

Charter School Specialists is pleased to introduce Digital Learning Office Hours— a monthly opportunity for collaboration and support in digital education. These informal sessions are open to building leaders, teachers, and management company representatives from e-schools, blended learning environments, or anyone interested in strengthening digital instruction. Join us to ask questions, share effective practices, network with peers, and hear the latest updates from the Department of Education and Workforce. To receive the meeting link, please contact Andrea Dobbins at adobbins@charterschoolspec.com.

**Monthly Professional Development
for Federal Programs & IDEA**
**Presenters: Dr. Erica McMillon and
Nannette Sherman**

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Scheduled

**Available the second Tuesday of every month
from 12:00pm-1:00pm**

Stay current on federal program and special education requirements with this year-long professional development series designed specifically for charter school leaders and educators. Each monthly session provides timely guidance on compliance, best practices, and implementation strategies aligned to the school year.

Topics include federal grants management, ESEA/ESSA requirements, fiscal compliance, parent and community engagement, special education compliance, defensible IEP development, progress monitoring, Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), secondary transition planning, evaluations and eligibility, behavior supports, Section 504, Extended School Year (ESY), and year-end planning. Participants will leave each session with practical tools, resources, and actionable strategies to strengthen compliance and improve outcomes for students.

For more information and to receive the meeting links, please contact Dr. Erica McMillon at emcmillon@charterschoolspec.com or Nannette Sherman at nsheerman@charterschoolspec.com.

Presenter Highlights



Andrea Dobbins

- Leadership Development
- Online Course/Program Development
- Online Instruction
- National Standards for Quality Online Learning (NQQL)
- Student Engagement
- Data-driven decision making



Bob Ross

- Career and CTE Pathways
- Differentiation for DOPR Schools
- Ohio Graduation Requirements
- Establishing School/Business Partnerships
- Career Connection Framework



Dr. Dee Morgan

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

College and Career Readiness Professional Development Opportunities

Career Technical Education Updates & Pathways

Presenter: Bob Ross

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Participants will learn how the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW), in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation (GOWT), is expanding opportunities for Ohio students to engage in Career-Technical Education (CTE) experiences that lead to strong postsecondary outcomes. This session will provide the latest updates from ODEW and explore practical strategies schools can use to expand access to industry-recognized credentials, work-based learning, and pre-apprenticeship pathways. Participants will leave with the knowledge and resources needed to help guide students toward achieving their own vision of a successful post-school "good life." For more information, please reach out to Bob Ross at bross@charterschoolspec.com.

Developing High-Quality Individual Graduation and Career Plans

Presenter: Bob Ross

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Assist every student in realizing their "Good Life" by developing meaningful Individual Graduation and Career Plans. Participants will learn how to create and implement data-informed plans tailored to each student's unique strengths, interests, and goals. This session will explore Ohio and national resources that support the development of effective plans, as well as best practices for promoting college and career readiness and preparing students for success beyond high school. For more information, please reach out to Bob Ross at bross@charterschoolspec.com.

Ohio Graduation Requirements

Presenter: Bob Ross

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

To earn an Ohio diploma, students must meet three key requirements: Course Completion, Demonstration of Competency, and Demonstration of Readiness. This session will provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the various customizable pathways available to students as they work toward meeting these graduation requirements. Participants will explore how these options not only lead to earning the Ohio diploma but also ensure that each student is well-prepared to achieve their individual postsecondary goals. For more information, please reach out to Bob Ross at bross@charterschoolspec.com.

Implementing the Ohio Career Connections Framework

Presenter: Bob Ross

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Participants will explore how Ohio's Career Connections Framework provides educators with turnkey resources to support developmentally appropriate career awareness, exploration, and preparation across the K-12 continuum. This session will highlight practical tools and instructional strategies that help ensure all students are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve successful post-school outcomes. For more information, please reach out to Bob Ross at bross@charterschoolspec.com.

Leadership: Achieving Results by Team Problem Solving

Presenters: Bob Ross

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

As the saying goes, "it takes a village." This professional development session will provide participants with ideas and resources to build meaningful partnerships with community and business organizations. Participants will learn how these collaborations can create work-based learning and career-technical education opportunities that not only benefit students but also address local and regional workforce needs in in-demand occupations. For more information, please reach out to Bob Ross at bross@charterschoolspec.com.

Instruction and Student Outcomes Professional Development Opportunities

Foundations of the Science of Reading

Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This three-session professional development series—offered in both virtual and in-person formats—is designed for K-5 teachers and literacy coaches seeking to strengthen foundational literacy instruction through the Science of Reading. Participants will take a deep dive into phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension while learning to evaluate their current practices and align daily instruction to the core pillars of the Science of Reading. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Explicit Instruction & Core Implementation

Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This professional development series, designed for all instructional staff, includes a full-day workshop followed by two coaching visits focused on the 16 elements of explicit instruction and how to embed them into daily lessons across content areas. Participants will redesign one unit to reflect the principles of explicit instruction, implement it in their classrooms, and receive targeted feedback to support mastery and long-term instructional improvement. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Instructional Leadership & Coaching

Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This six-month professional development series, designed for principals, instructional coaches, and ILT members, consists of monthly 90-minute virtual sessions focused on strengthening instructional leadership and coaching practices. Participants will build the capacity to monitor instructional fidelity, analyze walkthrough data, and lead effective improvement cycles while developing coaching plans, conducting observations, analyzing data, and facilitating ILT meetings to drive sustained schoolwide growth. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

I-MTSS, RTI & Data-Driven Instruction

Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This four-session series, designed for literacy and intervention coaches as well as leadership teams, provides a focused exploration of how RTI fits within an Integrated Multi-Tiered System of Supports (I-MTSS). Participants will learn to build data-driven intervention systems with effective fidelity monitoring, map their current structures, set meaningful benchmarks, and launch improved referral and progress-monitoring processes, supported by implementation guidance throughout the series. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Writing Across the Curriculum: Knowledge-Building & Vocabulary

Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This four-session series, designed for literacy and intervention coaches as well as leadership teams, provides a focused exploration of how RTI fits within an Integrated Multi-Tiered System of Supports (I-MTSS). Participants will learn to build data-driven intervention systems with effective fidelity monitoring, map their current structures, set meaningful benchmarks, and launch improved referral and progress-monitoring processes, supported by implementation guidance throughout the series. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Presenter Highlights Cont.



Dr. Erica McMillon & Stacey Swank

- SDI
- I-MTSS
- Differentiation
- Special Education Foundations and Compliance
- And more!



Lauren Shockley

- Math
- Change Management
- Restorative Practices



Nannette Sherman

- Federal programs and funding
- Co-teaching
- Special education
- CCIP/One Funding Application
- One Plan



Pharon Hranko

- Early Literacy
- Literacy
- Explicit Instruction
- Teacher Clarity
- Positive Culture Building
- Leadership Development

Instruction and Student Outcomes Professional Development Opportunities Cont.

School-Wide Literacy Implementation Boot Camp Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This School-Wide Literacy Implementation Boot Camp is designed for whole-school or grade-span teams and includes two full days of professional development, a half-day follow-up, and monthly check-ins. Participants will learn to facilitate the rollout of a literacy improvement plan, focusing on core fidelity, explicit instruction, and ILT coordination. Teams will develop actionable plans, begin implementation, and monitor early results to drive meaningful schoolwide literacy growth. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Early Literacy Pre-Season: Using Diagnostic Data to Drive Fall Planning Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This hands-on working session supports K-3 teachers, literacy coaches, building leaders, and MTSS/RtI teams in using spring and early-fall diagnostic data (i-Ready, Acadience, STAR Early Literacy, etc.) to drive planning for Ohio's Early Literacy Report Card measure. Participants will learn how the Early Literacy calculation works, how to interpret "on track/off track" determinations, and how to analyze diagnostic data to identify student and grade-level risk patterns—including those in "urgent intervention" status. The session will guide educators in developing targeted small-group instructional plans aligned to decoding, language comprehension, and fluency needs, as well as designing tiered intervention plans that launch within the first week of school. Attendees will leave with progress-monitoring calendars, intervention rosters, and actionable next steps to accelerate reading proficiency ahead of the fall diagnostic window. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Change Management for School Leaders

Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This session provides school leaders, improvement teams, and instructional coaches with practical strategies for effectively guiding staff through instructional, cultural, and operational change. Grounded in adaptive leadership and implementation science, the training focuses on diagnosing root causes, communicating purpose and urgency, addressing resistance through transparency and shared problem-solving, and sequencing initiatives to maintain clarity and focus. Participants will learn how to implement a step-by-step change plan aligned to school priorities and monitor progress using clear data sources and feedback loops. Leaders will leave the session with a customized change roadmap tailored to their building's needs. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Restorative Practices: Building Relationships, Repairing Harm, and Strengthening School Culture Presenter: Lauren Shockley

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This session offers a practical introduction to restorative practices, equipping teachers, leaders, and support staff with strategies to build relationship-centered classrooms and strengthen school culture. Participants will learn the core principles of restorative practices, including proactive community-building circles, restorative language, conflict de-escalation, and approaches for repairing harm in ways that promote accountability and dignity. The training also demonstrates how to integrate restorative routines into daily classroom management as well as PBIS and MTSS behavioral systems to improve climate and reduce disruptions across the school. For more information, please reach out to Lauren Shockley at lshockley@charterschoolspec.com.

Digital Learning Professional Development Opportunities

Instructional Best Practices in Virtual Classrooms

Presenter: Andrea Dobbins

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This session explores practical, high-impact strategies to enhance student engagement and improve learning outcomes in online environments. Participants will examine proven instructional techniques and learn how to create interactive, student-centered virtual lessons that increase participation and support diverse learners. For more information, please reach out to Andrea Dobbins at adobbins@charterschoolspec.com.

AI: Your Students Are Using It, Why Aren't You?

Presenter: Andrea Dobbins

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

The debate over artificial intelligence has been ongoing, but AI is a technology that is here to stay. In this session, participants will explore current trends, practical classroom applications, and responsible use practices, empowering teachers to integrate AI in meaningful and instructionally sound ways. For more information, please reach out to Andrea Dobbins at adobbins@charterschoolspec.com.

Strategies for Effective Online Learning

Presenter: Andrea Dobbins

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

In this webinar, participants will explore strategies and best practices for creating positive online learning environments for both students and teachers. The session includes discussions on student engagement, effective communication, and instructional approaches that maximize learning in virtual settings. For more information, please reach out to Andrea Dobbins at adobbins@charterschoolspec.com.

Literacy and Professional Learning Professional Development Opportunities

Explicit Instruction: Opportunities to Respond & Specific Vocabulary Instruction

Presenter: Pharon Hranko

*Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon
Request/Federal Funding*

This interactive session equips K-12 educators with practical strategies for increasing student engagement and achievement through two high-impact components of explicit instruction: Opportunities to Respond (OTRs) and intentional vocabulary instruction. Participants will learn how to maximize student thinking and participation through effective questioning techniques, response routines, and structured engagement strategies while intentionally teaching academic vocabulary to deepen comprehension across all content areas. Teachers will leave with ready-to-implement instructional practices that increase active participation, improve language development, and strengthen student learning outcomes. For more information, please reach out to Pharon Hranko at phranko@charterschoolspec.com.

Teacher Clarity

Presenter: Pharon Hranko

*Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon
Request/Federal Funding*

Teacher clarity has one of the highest impacts on student achievement. In this session, educators will explore the essential components of teacher clarity, including establishing clear learning intentions, defining success criteria, delivering purposeful instruction, and providing meaningful feedback. Participants may examine classroom examples, refine existing lessons, and develop strategies that help students clearly understand what they are learning, why it matters, and what success looks like. Teachers will leave with practical tools to improve instructional effectiveness and increase student ownership of learning. For more information, please reach out to Pharon Hranko at phranko@charterschoolspec.com.

PBIS & Positive Culture Building

Presenter: Pharon Hranko

*Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon
Request/Federal Funding*

Creating a positive school culture requires intentional systems that promote belonging, consistency, and student success. This professional development session provides educators and school leaders with practical strategies for implementing and strengthening Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) while cultivating a culture of high expectations and strong relationships. Participants will learn how to establish behavior expectations, reinforce positive behaviors, use data to guide decision-making, and foster environments where students and staff thrive. Schools will leave with actionable strategies to strengthen climate, reduce behavioral disruptions, and improve student engagement. For more information, please reach out to Pharon Hranko at phranko@charterschoolspec.com.

Literacy and Professional Learning Professional Development Opportunities Cont.

Effective Mathematics Teaching Practices

Presenter: Pharon Hranko

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This session focuses on evidence-based instructional practices that strengthen mathematical thinking and improve student achievement. Participants will explore strategies that promote conceptual understanding, mathematical discourse, productive struggle, and purposeful use of manipulatives and representations. Grounded in Ohio's Learning Standards and research-based mathematics instruction, educators will examine lesson design, questioning techniques, and formative assessment practices that support deep learning and engagement for all students. Participants will leave with practical instructional tools they can immediately implement to increase student engagement and mathematical proficiency. For more information, please reach out to Pharon Hranko at phranko@charterschoolspec.com.

Instructional Leadership Through Servant Leadership

Presenter: Pharon Hranko

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Exceptional schools are built by leaders who serve others while maintaining an unwavering focus on high-quality instruction. Designed for principals, instructional coaches, and leadership teams, this professional development session explores how servant leadership principles can strengthen instructional leadership by building trust, empowering teachers, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. Participants will learn practical strategies for conducting meaningful classroom observations, providing actionable feedback, leading collaborative Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), analyzing instructional data, and developing teachers through coaching conversations grounded in empathy, accountability, and shared purpose. Leaders will leave with practical systems to build leadership capacity, improve instructional effectiveness, and cultivate a positive school culture where educators and students thrive. For more information, please reach out to Pharon Hranko at phranko@charterschoolspec.com.

Effective Classroom Management in a K-5 Classroom

Presenter: Pharon Hranko

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Effective classroom management creates the conditions for meaningful teaching and learning. Designed specifically for elementary educators, this session provides practical, proactive strategies for establishing routines, building positive classroom communities, preventing disruptive behaviors, and maximizing instructional time. Participants will explore relationship-centered management practices, behavior supports, effective transitions, and student engagement techniques that foster independence and responsibility. Teachers will leave with actionable classroom management systems that promote a safe, predictable, and productive learning environment where all students can succeed. For more information, please reach out to Pharon Hranko at phranko@charterschoolspec.com.

Special Education Professional Development Opportunities

Specially Designed Instruction
Presenters: Dr. Erica McMillon and Stacey Swank

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This session provides educators with a clear understanding of Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) and how to implement it with fidelity in both general and special education settings. Participants will learn to translate IEP goals into targeted, measurable instructional practices, adapt content and delivery to meet diverse student needs, and document SDI effectively to ensure compliance and support improved student outcomes. For more information, please reach out to Dr. Erica McMillon at emcmillon@charterschoolspec.com and Stacey Swank at sswank@charterschoolspec.com.

Differentiation

Presenters: Dr. Erica McMillon and Stacey Swank

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This session equips teachers with evidence-based strategies for differentiating instruction to meet the diverse learning needs of students within a single classroom. Participants will learn how to adjust content, process, product, and learning environment based on student readiness, interests, and learning profiles, and will leave with practical techniques to increase engagement and ensure equitable access to grade-level learning. For more information, please reach out to Dr. Erica McMillon at emcmillon@charterschoolspec.com and Stacey Swank at sswank@charterschoolspec.com.

Integrated Multi-Tiered System of Supports
Presenters: Dr. Erica McMillon and Stacey Swank

Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

This session provides a comprehensive introduction to Ohio's Integrated MTSS (I-MTSS) framework, covering all seven essential components. Participants will learn to implement universal screening, progress monitoring, and data-based decision making within a system of tiered academic, behavioral, and social-emotional supports. The training also emphasizes the adult implementation side of I-MTSS, including shared leadership structures, collaborative problem-solving routines, and strategies for building professional capacity across teams. Educators will leave with practical tools to strengthen communication, improve fidelity, and create a cohesive system that supports every learner. For more information, please reach out to Dr. Erica McMillon at emcmillon@charterschoolspec.com and Stacey Swank at sswank@charterschoolspec.com.

Additional Special Education Professional Development Opportunities Available by Request

All Sessions Listed: Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Presenter: Dr. Erica McMillon

For more information, please reach out to Dr. Erica McMillon at emcmillon@charterschoolspec.com

Topic Area: Special Education and Instructional Practice

Special Education Foundations & Compliance

This session provides an overview of IDEA requirements, Child Find obligations, service delivery expectations, and staff responsibilities. Educators will gain clarity on compliance, timelines, documentation, and how to collaboratively support students with disabilities.

Additional Special Education Professional Development Opportunities Available by Request Cont.

All Sessions Listed: Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Presenter: Dr. Erica McMillon

For more information, please reach out to Dr. Erica McMillon at emcmillon@charterschoolspec.com

Topic Area: Special Education and Instructional Practice Cont.

IEP Development

Participants learn how to write compliant, high-quality IEPs that include measurable goals, clear service minutes, aligned accommodations, and data-driven present levels. The session emphasizes alignment to standards, progress monitoring, and meaningful family engagement.

Serving Students with Extensive Needs (DODD/Multiple Disabilities/Cross-Categorical)

Participants learn how to design functional, individualized instruction for students with significant disabilities. The session includes communication supports, adaptive skill development, assistive technology, and strategies for maximizing independence and engagement.

Behavior Modification and Replacement Skills

This training provides practical behavior-analytic strategies for identifying function, reducing challenging behaviors, and teaching replacement behaviors. Educators learn to implement FBAs, create effective BIPs, and build classroom routines that promote positive behavior.

Section 504

Staff learn the legal foundations of Section 504, eligibility determination, plan development, implementation expectations, and documentation requirements. The session clarifies differences between IDEA and 504 and ensures accommodations are implemented with fidelity.

Progress Monitoring & Data-Informed Decision Making

This training equips educators with evidence-based tools to collect, graph, and interpret student progress data. Participants learn how to make instructional decisions, identify non-responsiveness, implement DBI, and document growth for IEPs, MTSS, and parent communication.

Inclusive Practices & Co-Teaching

Educators explore instructional models and strategies that ensure access to grade-level content for all learners. The session covers co-teaching structures, universal design, scaffolding, differentiation, and creating classroom environments that support diverse learning needs.

Post-Secondary Transition Planning

This session focuses on developing compliant and meaningful transition plans, identifying post-school goals, aligning services, and coordinating community supports. Participants learn how to use data and age-appropriate assessments to guide decision-making for college, career, and independent living.

Topic Area: Safety, Security and Crisis Response

Emergency Standard Response Protocols (SRP)

Participants receive training on the "I Love U Guys" SRP framework, including protocols for lockdown, secure, shelter, evacuation, and hold. The session emphasizes communication clarity and staff readiness during emergencies.

Active Threat Response

This session provides evidence-based strategies for responding to active threats, enhancing situational awareness, and protecting students during high-risk scenarios. Training focuses on decision-making, coordination with first responders, and trauma-informed recovery.

School-Based Safety & Security

Educators learn best practices for physical and procedural security, including visitor protocols, supervision, emergency planning, and staff responsibilities. The training emphasizes prevention and risk mitigation.

Additional Special Education Professional Development Opportunities Available by Request Cont.

All Sessions Listed: Free to CSS Partner Schools/Fee-For-Service/Available Upon Request/Federal Funding

Topic Area: Safety, Security and Crisis Response Cont.

School Behavioral Threat Assessment

Participants learn how to identify, assess, and respond to concerning behaviors using a multidisciplinary threat assessment model. The session provides tools for documentation, intervention planning, and ongoing monitoring.

Substance Abuse & Synthetic Opioids

This training provides current information on youth substance use trends, synthetic opioid risks, recognition of overdose indicators, and response protocols. Educators learn how to support prevention and connect students to appropriate resources.

Crisis Response: Physical and Psychological Safety

Participants explore strategies for supporting student and staff safety during and after a crisis event. The session includes trauma-informed practices, reunification protocols, de-escalation, and mental health recovery supports.

Safe & Supportive Schools/Positive School Climate

This training focuses on building environments where students feel physically, emotionally, and psychologically safe. Topics include PBIS, relationship-building, cultural responsiveness, SEL, and collaborative schoolwide systems.

Situational Awareness and Recognizing Concerning Behaviors

Educators learn how to identify early warning signs of aggression, self-harm, or violence. The session strengthens observational skills and reporting procedures to prevent escalation.

Topic Area: Language Development

Emergent Bilingual Students: Content-Based Instruction

Participants learn how to support bilingual learners through sheltered instruction, scaffolding techniques, vocabulary development, and language objectives integrated into content lessons.

Spanish Instruction & Second Language Acquisition

This session explores principles of language acquisition and practical strategies for teaching Spanish. Educators learn how to build proficiency through communicative, immersive, and culturally relevant practices.

***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 on the icon below to complete a request form:

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

The image shows a screenshot of a web-based form titled "CSS Professional Development Request Form". The form includes fields for "User Name", "Email Address", "Phone Number", and "School Name". Below these fields, there is a section titled "Please select one or more Professional Development topics to be presented by CSS:" with a list of topics and checkboxes. The topics listed are: "Social-Emotional Learning", "Cultural Competency and Responsiveness", "Language Development", "Mathematics", "Reading", "Writing", "Science", "Technology", "Art", "Music", "Physical Education", "Health", "Career", and "Other". At the bottom of the form, there is a section for "Comments" and a "Submit" button.

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.