

Regional Education Service Agencies

Professional Learning Communities

Schools & School Districts

Career Tech Programs

All PreK-12 Educators

Parents

Businesses

Teachers & Leaders for Faith-Based Organizations,  
Youth Organizations, & Museum Educations Programs



## *Training and Coaching for Professional Growth*



CATALOG  
— OF —  
SERVICES



# ■ TRAINING TOPICS

## EDUCATION



The list provided here is a sampling of topics. All presentations will be tailored to meet the needs and grade levels of the particular audience. In addition to the topics listed, custom-designed sessions are available. Schools, districts or regional service agencies may request an in-service to meet identified needs. Topics available include content-specific sessions.

### ■ TOPICS FOR EDUCATORS

- Great Expectations® Overview
- Basics of Presenting
- Boost Achievement in State Standards with Great Expectations®
- Brain-Compatible Teaching
- Brain-Friendly Language Arts
- Brain Gems
- 8 Building Blocks for Class Meetings
- Building Learning Environments
- Building Relationships
- Building Student Leadership (Secondary)
- Checking for Understanding: Formative Assessments
- Classroom Management
- Climate of Mutual Respect
- Communication
- Cooperative Learning
- Critical Thinking
- Cultivating Excellence
- Curriculum Differentiation
- Developing Capable Young People
- Education Today
- Elements of Discovery Learning
- 4 Elements of Self-Esteem
- Exploring Ways to Maximize Student Potential
- Faculty Teammanship
- From Words to Wisdom
- Fun with Words
- GEt in the Game
- How Poverty Affects the Brain
- Journey of the Past
- 7 Keys to Great Expectations® Discipline Philosophy
- Making Class Time Pay Off (Secondary)
- Math Skills Going Up! (Elementary)
- Movement
- Multicultural Training
- Networking
- Not So Trivial Pursuit
- Poetry in Motion (Secondary)
- P Stands for Procedure
- Questioning Techniques
- Rise and Shine: Its Different Faces
- Strategies for Memory and Recall
- Stepping to Success with Student Choice
- Student Buy-In (Secondary)
- Student Engagement
- Student Motivation
- Team Building and Integration Strategies (Upper Elementary)
- Teacher Attitude
- Vision
- Vocabulary Basics
- The Way You Say It Makes a Difference

### ■ TOPICS FOR PRINCIPALS

- Building Great Staff Relationships
- Data Driven Decisions
- Professional Learning Communities
- Reach Higher: Strategic Planning for Enriched Implementation of GE Practices (Principals and Teacher Representatives)

### ■ TOPICS FOR SUPPORT PERSONNEL

- Administrative Assistant: Nerve Center of the School
- Attitude for Success
- A Cup of Kindness
- GEt on the Bus
- Journey to Success

# ■ TRAINING TOPICS FOR EDUCATORS



EDUCATION

## **Great Expectations® Overview**

This half-day overview is a sampler of some of the information dispensed in Great Expectations® Methodology classes. The intense, stimulating 4-day Methodology course on the tenets of Great Expectations® is offered in versions for all different grade levels and is packed with classroom-ready strategies for making your teaching more academically rigorous and for fostering self-discipline, character values, and interpersonal skills in students. During this brief overview session, you will be able to survey the GE Practices and have an opportunity to ask questions about GE.

## **Basics of Presenting**

Derive the benefits of using the most effective presenter techniques as you work with the young people in your classes. This session outlines expert advice on state changes, how to give instructions, building rapport with your “audience,” and open loops.

## **Boost Achievement in State Standards with Great Expectations®**

Helping students achieve academic success, raising test scores, attaining adequate yearly progress - these are significant concerns for all educators. You have already taken many measures: aligning curriculum, listing standards in your lesson plans, selecting standards based texts. What else can you do? This session is designed to give you clear-cut, effective strategies for helping your students climb upward toward “knowing and being able to do” each State Standard Objective for your subject area. Reference: From *Standards to Success* written by Mark O’Shea

## **Brain-Compatible Teaching**

“When students are provided with a learning environment that is optimal for learning, graduation rates increase, learning difficulties and discipline problems decrease and a love of learning flourishes.” - Eric Jensen. Check out this session for ways to create the best possible learning environment for your students academically, emotionally, and socially. The latest brain research information from Learning Brain Expo will be incorporated.

## **Brain-Friendly Language Arts**

Here are challenging, novel activities that get students out of their seats to gather brain benefits and enjoy literature. Workshop participants will practice specific activities adaptable to many literary works and leave with handouts to guide them in strengthening the emotional, physical, and cognitive abilities of their students.

## **Brain Gems**

This class, which is suitable for any grade level, provides valuable gems of insight into how the brain develops and learns. The session supplies significant guidelines for creating a nourishing and stimulating learning environment for students at home and at school; it also warns of ways an environment may actually be a hindrance to learning.

## **8 Building Blocks for Class Meetings**

Research confirms the powerful benefits of utilizing class meetings for handling discipline in a positive manner and for empowering students to take responsibility for their own education. Before you and your students can hold successful class meetings, you must teach your students the 8 Building Blocks for Class Meetings. This session provides a clear guide for how to master each step with your students.

# TRAINING TOPICS FOR EDUCATORS

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## **Building Learning Environments**

The youngest students and preschoolers benefit from Great Expectations® practices. Choose this session for applicable how to's.

## **Building Relationships**

Create a climate of mutual respect and diminish behavior problems by building relationships with your students. This highly practical session guides you in eight ways to make deposits in the emotional bank accounts of your students. This class has clear-cut applications in every setting.

## **Building Student Leadership (Secondary)**

Give students life skills sought by employers, such as using communication skills, taking initiative, handling dilemmas, working as a team member, and demonstrating personal values. Your students will be better prepared for their futures, and their leadership competence will be a tremendous asset in your classroom.

## **Checking for Understanding: Formative Assessments**

Checking for students' understanding of ideas and concepts helps you gauge what students grasp and what they need to work on more. It also provides feedback to help you plan ways to better meet your students' needs. Research has shown that asking "Do you understand?" proves to be a very poor way to judge students' comprehension. This session offers some effective strategies for learning whether or not your students are gaining a meaningful understanding of the topic you are teaching.

## **Classroom Management**

In creating a positive and caring school environment, classroom management is a vital key. This session will help you establish the Expectations for Living, foster a Climate of Mutual Respect and tweak procedures so that days run smoothly for you and your students.

## **Climate of Mutual Respect**

What if a "Climate of Mutual Respect" came in aerosol cans so that you could give your classroom a spritz in the morning and have students who appropriately respected you and one another all day? How many cases of this product would you order? This session will give you ways to "buy" a steady supply of Mutual Respect for your students so you can erase student conflict and instead create esprit de corp.

## **Communication**

Have you ever had a breakdown in relations with the parent of one of your students? Can you recall misunderstandings with colleagues that led to hard feelings? Do students ever respond to your directives in a negative manner? This session guides you in the magic use of proper and positive communication.

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## **Cooperative Learning**

Enhance the cooperative learning in your classroom. Attend this session for structures which will build positive interdependence among class members, promote individual accountability, foster interpersonal skills, and lead to effective face-to-face interaction and processing. Instead of being the sole dispenser of information yourself, you can learn to place your students in the center of class activity where they will research, discuss and teach one another. You'll be able to watch their independence and capabilities grow.

## **Critical Thinking**

Even though acquiring and retaining information has lost its place as a first priority for your students because virtually any fact or figure needed is a mere mouse click away, higher order thinking skills and problem-solving are still needed in every venue of life. Attend this session for some guidelines on how you can systematically cultivate excellence in thought.

## **Cultivating Excellence**

Take this class to refine your implementation of the tenets and practices of Great Expectations® through positive interaction with students, preparation for instruction, management in the learning community, and professional growth.

## **Curriculum Differentiation**

Students arrive in your classroom with varied learning needs. You can maximize the possibilities for meeting each need if you create appropriately different learning experiences for different students. This session will help you to capitalize on teaching to the Multiple Intelligences and to facilitate students' becoming more self-reliant learners.

## **Developing Capable Young People**

Here are blueprints for ways you can encourage young people to develop the perceptions and skills they need to be truly capable individuals. These valuable insights are needed by teachers, parents, and other adults who can influence young people. This topic can be offered as a single short session or expanded for a powerful series of lessons.

## **Education Today**

The world has changed. The population of China is 1.3 billion; the U.S. population is only 300 million. This means China has more honor students than the U.S. has total students. Today's average student will have at least 10 careers in his lifetime, and he lives in a world of instant information, communication, entertainment, collaboration, and multi-media. Your students need to be able to compete in a global work arena. Are you teaching the new skills, higher order thinking, and creativity that the new world of your students demands?

## **Elements of Discovery Learning**

This enjoyable, interactive session features specific classroom-ready techniques for "hooking" every student on learning. Recommendations from brain researchers Eric Jensen and Martha Kaufeldt are featured. Participants will also experience several new activities which can be adapted for their own classrooms.



# ■ TRAINING TOPICS FOR EDUCATORS



## **4 Elements of Self-Esteem**

Learn the clues evident in student attitude and actions which indicate weaknesses in each of the four conditions of self-esteem, and then gather a toolbox full of tactics to overcome any of the diagnosed weaknesses. This session will help you place students in a position to succeed in school and in life. Content of this class is drawn from the writings and research of Chick Moorman.

## **Exploring Ways to Maximize Student Potential**

Do you have students who have a habit of landing on the failing list or consistently settle for mediocrity and substandard performance when they have the latent ability to do much better? This session offers the means for helping students raise their expectations of themselves and empowering them to rise to their potential. Plan to be a part of this day of reflection that can impact every other day of your school year.

## **Faculty Teamsmanship**

Teamsmanship is the art of being the best teammate you can be. Many faculties operate in autonomous realms and rarely speak with one another much less collaborate or cooperate. They miss out on the synergistic power of being players on the same team and the opportunity to provide students with a beautiful model of how people can and should work together. The session is based on applying the 8 Expectations for Living to members of the faculty and school staff.

## **From Words to Wisdom**

Why should you as a teacher have vocabulary development as an objective for your work with students? What can you do to incorporate enriched vocabulary into daily lessons? This activity-based workshop provides multiple beneficial illustrations of strategies such as word studies, visualizations, and workouts for reading, speaking and writing with erudite terminology.

## **Fun with Words**

Latch onto the effectiveness of lexicons and interactive word walls. Collect tools you'll want to use for building students' mental glossaries and examine "worn-out words" and "Wordles." Come get in on the merrymaking possible with vocabulary studies.

## **GEt in the Game**

Coaches and physical education teachers play a significant role in the lives of their students. This session is for coaches and all those conducting athletic programs or PE classes. Time will be spent focusing on WHY and HOW TO incorporate the GE 17 Practices and the 8 Expectations for Living into work on ball courts and practice fields and ultimately into the lives of the athletes. Any grade level.

## **How Poverty Affects the Brain**

Children of poverty have significantly different brains than children of middle class or affluent backgrounds. The good news is that their brains can change for the better. This session gets to the important information of how educators can help effect that crucial change for good.

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## **Journey of the Past**

Introduce your students to models of virtue and develop students' capacity to know and understand facts, ideas, relationships, and people. Cultivate wisdom and character values in your students. "How do I do all that?" you ask; choose this session for tips on tapping into the rich benefits of using wisdom literature and quotations in every content area.

## **7 Keys to Great Expectations® Discipline Philosophy**

When your class is inhabited by a misbehaving student (and who has escaped that experience?) then discipline becomes a top priority issue. Here is a careful overview of the Great Expectations® approach to handling behavior difficulties. These seven keys will unlock the door to a well-disciplined classroom, free of resistant, rebellious, and misbehaving students.

## **Making Class Time Pay Off (Secondary)**

Sadly, time spent teaching does not necessarily equal time spent learning for all students in a class. How can you make class time pay off with high quality learning as a result of each day's classes? This session will examine a collection of innovative teaching strategies designed to ignite student interest and involvement, to empower and excite students, as well as to improve cognition and reduce discipline issues.

## **Math Skills Going Up! (Elementary)**

Use Great Expectations® practices to increase math proficiency. Here is a training unit which models how to employ the components of lexicons, critical thinking challenges, and delegating responsibilities to students in order to raise math test scores.

## **Movement**

In his book, *Learning with the Body in Mind*, Eric Jensen points out significant links between movement and learning. Additionally, clinical and classroom research for engaging students at all levels shows that educators ought to be purposeful about integrating movement activities into everyday learning. This session includes much more than hands-on activities and is applicable in every content area. This training module will give you a compendium of ready-to-use strategies to benefit your students' learning.

## **Multicultural Training**

Relationships are key to creating a school community where the highest level of learning can occur in a climate of warmth and trust. This session will outline how to examine the cultures within a school and classroom and then will offer strategies for building cross-cultural acceptance and collaboration as well as ways for finding individual student strengths.

## **Networking**

Teaching is an incredibly challenging and demanding career. As a teacher, you can draw strength from the backup resources around you. Consider this session's suggestions of how to gain power by networking with other teachers at your school, with other teachers outside of your school, and with parents. Boost your power by tapping into these sources of support.

# TRAINING TOPICS FOR EDUCATORS

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## **Not So Trivial Pursuit**

The novelty and challenge of the popular Trivial Pursuit game enhance this session's consideration of the vital GE Practice which states: "A non-threatening environment, conducive to risk-taking, is evident." Discussion covers teambuilding, acknowledgements, giving feedback, and focusing on potential successes.

## **Poetry in Motion (Secondary)**

This class will guide you in genuinely cultivating the understanding and use of enriched vocabulary as your students read, write, and speak. GE Practice 7 and Practice 8 are spotlighted in this training unit.

## **"P" Stands for Procedure**

We follow procedures in life so that people can function in society knowing the acceptable and efficient way to do things. Classroom procedures oil the smooth operation of life in the classroom. This session offers recommendations on establishing procedures and an action plan to follow when a procedure is not working properly.

## **Questioning Techniques**

Questions can be powerful tools for generating and promoting learning. They can also give us insights as to what direction our instruction should take. However, like any tool, if they are used incorrectly, they can do more harm than good. When questions expose or embarrass students as wrong or lacking knowledge, they can actually undermine the learning process. This training component looks at asking questions that promote learning, provide ongoing classroom assessment, and integrate smoothly with your instruction.

## **Rise and Shine: Its Different Faces**

What is a Rise and Shine? How can it fit into the setting of your school or classroom? You can make this pause in the school day a compelling call to excellence and a reminder of the school's mission for teachers, students, staff, and parents. Use this training opportunity to evaluate all the objectives that can be met through a Rise and Shine assembly or with an opening during the first five minutes of class in a classroom. This important facet of Great Expectations® should be part of your day; attend this session for suggestions to make your student gathering superlative!

## **Strategies for Memory and Recall**

Teaching and learning are two distinctly different phenomena. Historically, the focus of educators has been directed toward teaching with minimal emphasis on what happens in the minds of students as they learn. In this session, you will learn about the fundamental skills involving subjective processes that enhance the learning capability of students. This session references *Enhance the Learning Capability of Every Student* by Paul Brown.

## **Stepping to Success with Student Choice**

Build student engagement, motivation, and self-esteem by offering an array of choices in your classroom and in students' spheres of responsibility. Discover how providing student choice will help you avoid the pitfalls of pupil misbehavior, resistance, and rebellion.



# ■ TRAINING TOPICS FOR EDUCATORS



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## **Student Buy-In (Secondary)**

Implementing Great Expectations® Practices will, without a doubt, help your students. This session will give you a plan for engaging students so they realize the benefits. Once students understand “What’s in it for me,” they will be your strongest allies in implementing GE.

## **Student Engagement**

If you were a locomotive, it wouldn’t matter how far or how fast you could travel, if the rest of the train cars were disengaged and sitting on a side track. In a similar manner, students must be tuned in, turned on, and connected to the lesson before they can move forward in mastering material. You’ll enjoy this session with five useable steps to achieve solid student engagement.

## **Student Motivation**

Students who possess their own personal motivation enter your classroom ready to learn. This session details ways you as a teacher can create an environment in which healthy student motivation will grow. Take home strategies for producing a classroom of motivated students; reap the benefits of raised test scores, lower absenteeism, enhanced student involvement, and diminished discipline problems. Session based on research by Richard Sagor and Eric Jensen.

## **Team Building and Integration Strategies (Upper Elementary)**

Here is a lively session with a fully developed example of integrating lessons and optimizing class time through teamwork. You’ll enjoy the math, geography, quote of day from John F. Kennedy, 6-on-6 basketball trivia, and more.

## **Teacher Attitude**

Who leads the work in your classroom, sets the climate, models the desired behaviors and attitudes, and exerts the greatest influence on student achievement? You do! This session will bolster your resolve in forming the right teacher attitude toward yourself, your students and your colleagues. This is a class for heroes.

## **Vision**

“If you don’t know where you’re going, you may end up somewhere else.” These words of Yogi Berra, though somewhat paradoxical, hold an important truth. It is essential that you begin your work with an end in mind so that you can plan doable steps to achieve your goals. This session also challenges you to give your students vision and help them eliminate EFWIC (Excuses for why I can’t.)

## **Vocabulary Basics**

Students’ reading comprehension and testing success improve when they know what the words mean. A robust vocabulary improves all areas of communication — listening, speaking, reading, and writing. When children and adolescents improve their vocabulary, their academic and social confidence and competence improve, too. Use this class for exploring ways to enrich vocabulary for your students.

## **The Way You Say It Makes a Difference**

Well beyond content, lesson plans, and organizational skills are the moment by moment word choices you make. This course is intended to aid you in seriously examining your speech patterns and word choice. There will also be aspects which you can convey to your students to their benefit.

# ■ TRAINING TOPICS FOR PRINCIPALS



## **Building Great Staff Relationships**

As an administrator, you must lead your faculty and staff members to work as an amiable, cohesive team. Come to this session and then take the steps that will lead you and your personnel to achieve this worthy goal. Reference: *If You Don't Feed the Teachers, They Eat the Students* by Neila A. Connors

## **Data Driven Decisions**

Testing, now an important part of our school year, produces a great deal of data. Typically, student achievement data is reported for whole populations, but it is not until the data is divided and considered for subgroups of students, that trends can be identified. For example, you may find areas of low or high test scores in groups divided by gender, socio-economic status, mobility, ethnicity, special education, English as a second language (ESL), etc. This session gives guidelines for examining such disaggregated data and then more importantly for planning ways to improve instruction based on the realities identified by these test results. Great Expectations practices should be an important part of your plan.

## **Professional Learning Communities**

If you and the teachers in your school wish to work together to enhance your effectiveness as professionals so that students benefit, then you have the bond you need to be a professional learning community. This training module will aid you in guiding your teachers to continuously seek and share learning and to make plans for improving instruction based upon what they've learned. Make your school a community of continuous inquiry and improvement and of high expectations.

## **Reach Higher: Strategic Planning for Enriched Implementation of GE Practices (Principals and Teacher Representatives)**

Every year presents schools with fresh challenges – whether those schools have attained great success in the past or they have had more than their share of struggles. Each challenge is an opportunity for principals to lead their teachers to reach higher. This session has focused discussion on strategies for leading school faculty and staff in potent use of the best practices in teaching. The session is designed for principals and their teacher representatives who are excited about Great Expectations and are willing to be part of the vanguard of GE leadership. Those attending can share successful school-tested strategies and bring questions on problematic issues. This is an opportunity to consider fresh and creative approaches for enriching implementation.

# TRAINING TOPICS

## SUPPORT PERSONNEL



EDUCATION

### **Administrative Assistant: Nerve Center of the School**

Not only can the principal's administrative assistant employ all of the Great Expectations® Practices within the daily routine, but also he or she is in an ideal position to facilitate and enhance all of the GE initiatives which the administrators and teachers are pursuing. If you are an administrative assistant, attend this session to discover how you can be the keystone of GE implementation at your school.

### **Attitude for Success**

Though there are many circumstances in our lives over which we have no control, we do have control over the attitude we choose. The attitudes adopted by support staff members can define their own health, job satisfaction, and competence. At the same time, their attitudes permeate and underlie a school's climate. All school support staff workers will enjoy and appreciate this constructive training.

### **A Cup of Kindness**

Cafeteria workers provide nourishment daily for all the school family. At the same time they are dishing out delicious soup and warm cinnamon rolls, they are also nourishing students' mindset on how people are to behave. Mark Twain said, "I can live for two months on a good compliment," and students are certain to "live on" the examples of life principles they have seen in action in the cafeteria. The lunch crew is to be honored, and they will find food for thought in this training on how they can use Great Expectations®.

### **GEt on the Bus**

This class for transportation personnel explains how important bus drivers are in the lives of students; they can influence students daily by implementing the 17 Practices, taking the 8 Expectations on the bus, and establishing procedures for all the student bus behaviors. A driver's demonstration of how to live according to the life principles provides the bus passengers with indelible character lessons.

### **Journey to Success**

Support Personnel do just that; they support the efforts of all the rest of the school team. This class is just for them and spells out ways they can develop their own vision and demonstrate leadership. Participants will also gain practical avenues to apply the 8 Expectations and Life Principles through their roles in the school.

For more information or to schedule training  
**Call 580-695-2788**

Check out our website at  
**[www.greatexpectationsok.org](http://www.greatexpectationsok.org)**



The mission of  
Great Expectations®  
is to motivate, inspire,  
and challenge individuals  
to achieve excellence  
in learning and living.



*Training and Coaching for Professional Growth*