

# Responsive Classroom Course Package for Middle School Educators

## Benefits:

- Research-based approach associated with higher academic achievement
- Reduction in problem behaviors
- Improvement in students' social skills
- More effective teaching through the use of practical and proven strategies



## Package Components:

### ► Four-day (28 hours) Responsive Classroom Course for Middle School Educators for up to 30 staff:

The *Responsive Classroom* Course for Middle School Educators is designed to empower educators to create a middle school experience that's responsive to the developmental strengths and needs of young adolescents, while helping students develop the academic, social, and emotional skills they need to be successful in and out of school. In this course you'll learn how to:

- Create a safe, positive, and inclusive community with the *Responsive Classroom* approach to discipline
- Design and deliver engaging and joyful instruction through practices such as active teaching, student practice, and the language of learning
- Use teacher language to speak in ways that encourage student engagement and help students become more responsible and respectful
- Challenge some of your own habits through applying new strategies that will help you more effectively manage your classroom
- Hold Responsive Advisory Meetings—a community-building core practice that nurtures students' feelings of belonging and significance
- Use teaching practices that are culturally, individually, and developmentally responsive to young adolescents

You will also have an opportunity to work closely with colleagues, experience *Responsive Classroom* strategies as an adult learner, and see *Responsive Classroom* teachers implementing the strategies with students.

### ► An array of *Responsive Classroom* resources:

*The Power of Our Words for Middle School: Teacher Language that Helps Students Learn* (30 copies), *Yardsticks: Child and Adolescent Development Ages 4-14* (30 copies)

### ► Consultant Observation and Feedback Visit

Educators bring what they've learned in the four-day course back to their classrooms and then, after the *Responsive Classroom* approach begins to take root in your school community—about 4-9 weeks post course completion—you'll use our Kaleidoscope tool to observe, evaluate progress, and interpret findings. Observations focus on a representative sample of teacher practice reflective of responsive, effective, engaging, and developmentally sound teaching practices that foster academic and social-emotional learning throughout the school day. In addition, you'll observe reflections of RC practice in action in non-classroom spaces like the cafeteria, halls, gym, and playground. Post-observation Kaleidoscope summaries identify areas for growth using easy to interpret data and offer specifically chosen resources relevant to supporting teacher practice in those areas. As teachers further develop their practice, school leaders can use Kaleidoscope twice more to observe and interpret mid- and end-of-year growth.

### ► 30-Pack of Quick Coaching Guides

Once growth areas have been identified using the Kaleidoscope tool, choose from a variety of topics to guide staff in their *Responsive Classroom* practice.



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