TCR Staff Devel

Our Philosophy

Beyond mere product training, the TCR Staff Development Institute is based upon research indicating that effective staff development must be active and collaborative. Rather than simply focusing on the features of a software application, TCR workshops actively involve teachers in constructing their own resource-based instructional units.

These unique programs are designed to:

- support interaction and collaboration
- build upon teachers' own expertise
- be "needs-based," practical and relevant
- give flexibility and "just-on-time" support
- create an improved learning experience for all students

Featuring *The Big6™*

Developed by Michael Eisenberg and Robert Berkowitz, *The Big6™* is a practical, systematic, and proven approach to developing both information technology and problem-solving skills in the context of subject-area content.

Professional Services

Designed to meet the needs of your school or district

On-site Workshops

Interactive, hands-on, collaborative workshops conducted in your school, each led by a TCR Staff Development Specialist.

On-line Workshops

Unique, self-paced workshops conducted via the Internet, accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Classroom Modeling

A TCR Curriculum Specialist (certified teacher) models effective orientation and research activities by leading a real class of students. For added convenience, these sessions can be held during your regularly scheduled faculty meetings.

Customized Correlation Services

Provides your teachers with a formal alignment to your district/state curriculum standards or textbooks, including suggested topics, keywords, sources, activity plans, and assessment options.

CorrelationBank

A powerful, on-line staff development tool that enables teachers to design resource-based instruction supporting national and state curriculum standards. Features:

- instant on-line access - anytime, anywhere
- links from state curriculum objectives to useful keywords, sources, lesson plans, and student activities (graphic organizers, performance assessments)
- a bank of lesson plans created by resource-based teachers across the country

Customized Workshops

TCR specializes in tailoring our workshops to support your own district/school staff development program. We focus on:

- local or state curriculum goals
- targeted subject areas
- other instructional initiatives (e.g. multiple intelligences, alternative assessment methods)

Florida State University's Center for Professional Development and School of Information are our professional development partners. Teachers may earn continuing educations units (CEU's) for TCR workshops through FSU.

On-site Workshops

1 Introduction to On-line Resources

(45-90 minutes)

This practical, hands-on workshop introduces teachers to the power of on-line search strategies used to locate cross-curricular, primary source information. Designed for all levels of computer proficiency, this is a **prerequisite mini-course** for other Professional Development courses.

2 Information Literacy Skills Across the Curriculum

(3-6 hours)

In our information age, what skills are more important than the ability to access, evaluate, organize and apply information to solve problems? This workshop shares practical models that integrate information literacy skills in support of *state/local curriculum standards*—in all subject areas.

Elementary & Secondary

3 SCANS

(3-6 hours)

Learn to build stronger school-to-career connections by incorporating SCANS employability and information problem-solving skills across the curriculum. Designed for both academic and vocational teachers, uses primary-source information to connect classroom learning to the real world. Learn to develop units of instruction using both topics and learning activities that support both *academic and vocational success.*

4 Problem-based Learning

(3-6 hours)

Prepare students for life by teaching them to solve real-world problems. Learn to create challenging and *authentic problem-solving activities* in interdisciplinary settings. Includes practical methods for coaching and assessment.

Elementary & Secondary

5 ESL in the Content Areas

(3-6 hours)

Develop integrated units based on research findings that suggest effective ESL instruction *challenges student linguistic, academic and cognitive development.* Raise student expectations, achievement and motivation by using real-world issues and content. Includes an optional module on Spanish-language content instruction.

6 Performance Assessment

(3-6 hours)

Improve critical thinking by challenging students to solve problems that meet specific performance outcomes. This workshop gives you a roadmap and ready-to-use tools such as student portfolios to *measure the process, not just the product,* of student learning.

Elementary & Secondary

7 Content-area Reading Strategies for Improved Achievement

(3-6 hours)

Beyond drill-and-practice of isolated skills, learn new techniques for *applying specific reading strategies* in the context of *meaningful real-world content.* Social studies, science, mathematics and current events are covered.

Elementary & Secondary

8 Real-World Projects for Motivating At-risk Students

(3-6 hours)

Ideal for alternative schools, this workshop harnesses primary source information to help teachers create a higher-quality learning experience for at-risk students. Design activities that use real-world topics that not only capture your students' attention, but that also challenge them to *apply skills* and *think critically.*

9 Adult Education & GED

(3-6 hours)

Translate adult learning theory into practice by creating a learning environment that is problem-centered and focused on high-interest topics. Design activities in which learners apply new skills in the context of adult basic education and GED objectives.

10 Train-the-Trainer

(12 hours)

Become a certified "TCR Staff Development Specialist" in your school or district. Gain an in-depth understanding of TCR curriculum resources and learn to apply the latest techniques in adult learning to facilitate your own workshops.

11 Brain-based Learning

(3-6 hours)

Apply research on the brain to the challenge of using technology effectively in the curriculum. Topics include: transferring from sensory to long-term memory, current research, and implications for on-line learning.

12 Technology in the Science, Social Studies, Language Arts or Math Classroom (3-6 hours)

Select an individual subject-area focus, then develop integrated units based on local standards, as well as those set forth by the NCSS, NSTA, NCTM, AND NCTE. Use primary source information to connect classroom topics to the real world, while challenging critical thinking/problem solving in the context of a targeted subject area.