



LL2

LEARNERS LAB
EDUCATION SOLUTIONS

• Supporting Teachers & School Administrators •



OVERVIEW

We are a team of four experienced educators who have achieved success in urban education as teachers and administrators for 35-plus years. There is a teacher shortage crisis impacting our nation. In addition, teachers are not returning to the classroom and educators are experiencing burn-out at an alarming rate. In addition, enrollment in teacher preparation programs is declining. While teachers have expressed several factors leading to their departure from the profession, the predominant issue cited is the absence of immediate support and challenges in classroom management.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide support for educators within the zero to five-year experience range, both teachers and administrators. Our goal is to build highly effective skills, slow down teacher turnover, and offer the essential assistance necessary for bridging the gap towards improved teacher retention. Leveraging our collective experience as a team of educational mentors, we are committed to offering an intensified and accelerated approach to teaching and learning, utilizing researched methods.



THE SUPPORT WE OFFER NEW & BEGINNING TEACHERS:

METHOD 1: DEVELOP RIGOROUS CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT/PROTOCOLS

- Classroom management strategies
- Non-traditional approaches
- De-escalating classroom behaviors
- Great Morning Starters to sustain learning
- Relationship Building with your students
- Implementing procedures vs rules

METHOD 2: INSTRUCTIONAL PLANNING

- Strategic Reading/Literacy Instruction
- Effective Lesson Planning
- Improving Instruction
- Impactful teaching tools
- Non-traditional approaches
- Remediation ideas and strategies
- Creative ways to involve parents in student learning
- How to involve and engage students in the learning process
- Engaging students in tracking and monitoring their individual progress
- Goal setting, rewards and recognition

THE SUPPORT WE OFFER **NEW & BEGINNING TEACHERS:**

METHOD 3: **TEACHER & STUDENT DATA** **ANALYSIS PROTOCOLS**

- Interpreting Summative and Formative assessments
- Using data to drive student-learning
- Creating data tracking (student self-efficacy)
- Designing classroom environment data information systems
- Designing hallway data displays

METHOD 4: **COMMUNICATION**

- Establishing a high-leverage communication system
- Integration of communication technology

METHOD 5: **BUILDING CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS** **THAT SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING**

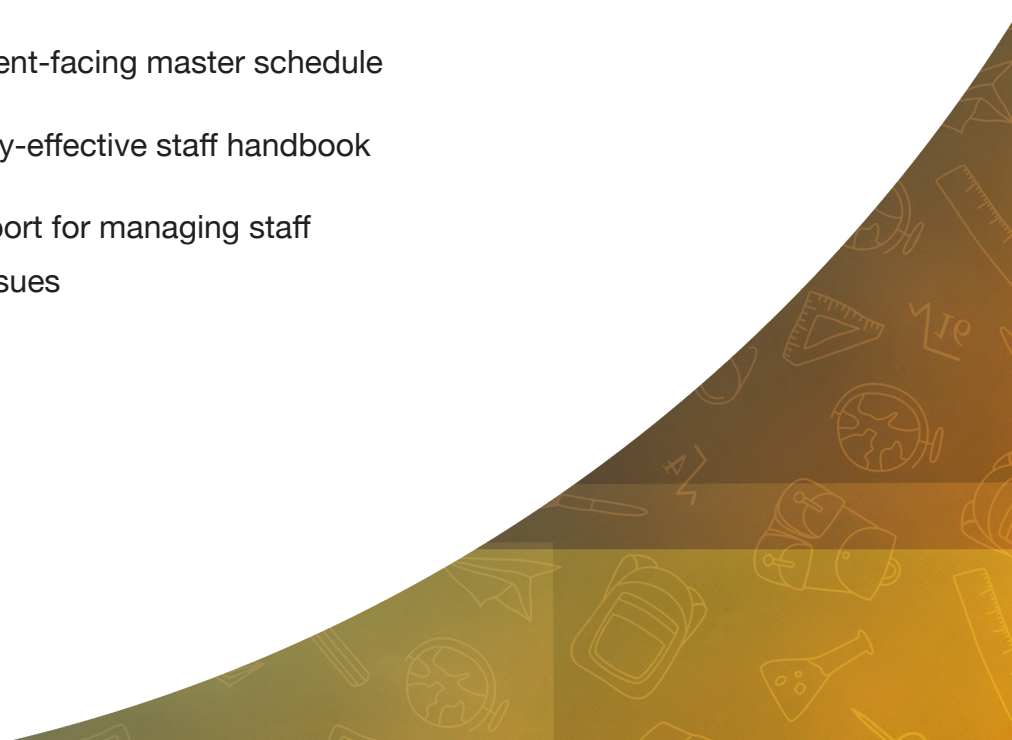
- Strategic classroom design and set-up
- Build classroom libraries that inspire a love for reading
- Creating hallway displays that showcase student learning
- Diversity and acceptance for the classroom community
- Create a positive learning environment that fosters learning

THE SUPPORT WE OFFER NEW AND BEGINNING ADMINISTRATORS

METHOD 1: TEACHING & LEARNING

- Multi Tier Systems of Support (MTSS) Design
- Strategies for addressing students' behavior
- Multiple Data Collection and Analysis
- Designing and Implementing Effective Walkthroughs
- Leading Administrative Teams (School Improvement (SIP) and Grade Level Meetings)

METHOD 2: OPERATIONS

- Safe Arrival and Dismissal procedures
 - Create a student-facing master schedule
 - Create a highly-effective staff handbook
 - Effective support for managing staff disciplinary issues
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THE SUPPORT WE OFFER NEW AND BEGINNING ADMINISTRATORS


METHOD 3: COMMUNICATION

- Staff Bulletins
- Design impactful staff meetings
- Social Media Protocols

METHOD 4: STAFF EVALUATION

- Effective Walkthroughs
- Formal Staff Evaluation Process and Procedures

METHOD 5: PARENT & COMMUNITY

- Design and implement home and school communication (formal and informal)
 - Procedures for conducting effective parent meetings.
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WHAT SETS US APART FROM OTHER PROGRAMS?

Over thirty-five years of teaching and administrative experience.

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Knowledge of how to achieve success in urban and suburban classrooms with a documented success rate.

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Our approach is a “Learning Lab” where participants will design a tangible and individualized solution-focused plan.

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All designs are embedded in research-based methods.

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CHERYL BATTEAST

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Cheryl is a dedicated professional with a rich educational background and a distinguished career in education. She earned her Early Childhood Degree from Purdue University, laying the foundation for her lifelong commitment to teaching and guidance. Her passion for education led her to complete her teacher certification at Indiana University at South Bend, followed by the attainment of a Master's Degree in School Counseling/ Guidance and K-8 Building Administration.

Throughout her career, she continuously honed skills and expertise. She became a certified Coaching for Results practitioner, delving into Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and Adaptive Schools methodologies. For 19 years, she held the role of Elementary Principal, making history as the first Black Montessori trained Principal. Her dedication was recognized as she was named Teacher of the Year for two consecutive years.

As an educational leader, she implemented transformational methods that revitalized three failing schools within two years. Drawing from my training at Harvard University in Data Wise, I brought data-driven insights into the education realm. Cheryl has also authored two educational references: A student guide on Creative Writing and a Parent Guide on optimizing meetings with classroom teachers and principals.

In addition, she developed innovative strategies for effective classroom walkthroughs and excelled in building classroom management techniques, both traditional and non-traditional. Her commitment to education, coupled with her diverse expertise, has made Cheryl a respected figure in the field, leaving an enduring legacy of excellence in public education.



FRANCES BEARD

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Frances Beard is a distinguished educator who has made an enduring impact on the field of education. A graduate from Goshen College and Indiana University with a Masters Degree in Education, she possesses a strong academic foundation that has been instrumental in her remarkable career.

Starting as a Fourth through Sixth Grade Teacher, Frances's passion for teaching and her commitment to her students were evident. Her exceptional dedication and teaching prowess were recognized when she was nominated twice for Building Teacher of the Year, a testament to her outstanding contributions to education. Her leadership journey culminated in her roles as Principal and Assistant Principal, where she steered educational institutions towards success, implementing transformative strategies and providing strong leadership. Frances's passion for education extended to teacher recruitment, serving as a Corporation Teacher Recruiter, ensuring that South Bend Community School Corporation continued to attract top-tier talent.

Frances's dedication to literacy education led her to become a Reading Specialist, where she played a pivotal role in nurturing young minds and promoting literacy. Her influence extended beyond the classroom as she assumed roles such as Curriculum Developer and Response To Intervention (RTI) Literacy Design and Implementation specialist, where she contributed to shaping curriculum and ensuring students received the support they needed. Her commitment to data-driven decision-making was underscored by her training at Harvard University in Data Wise, making her proficient in leveraging data for educational improvement.

Furthermore, Frances generously shared her knowledge as an Adjunct Professor, teaching Reading in the Content Areas at St. Mary's College, Indiana University at South Bend, and Bethel College, shaping the future educators of tomorrow.



KARLA D. LEE

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Is a dedicated school leader whose unwavering commitment to equitable education has left an indelible mark on her community. With 30 years of experience in the realm of public education, Karla's passion for fostering positive change is evident to parents, students, and the diverse population she serves.

Karla's educational journey has been characterized by a multifaceted career within the South Bend School Corporation. Her expertise extends beyond the classroom as she has also contributed as an adjunct professor at esteemed higher education institutions such as St. Mary's College, Indiana University of South Bend, and the TRIO/Upward Bound Program at The University of Notre Dame. Her leadership roles encompass curriculum design, instructional coaching, professional development facilitation, and teacher and administrator evaluation design, among others.

With a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Bethel College and a Master's Degree in Education with K-12 Administration License from Indiana University of South Bend. Currently, she is pursuing her Doctoral Degree in Educational Leadership and Superintendency at Indiana State University.

Karla's mission is unrelenting: to ensure that every child has equitable access to high-quality public education. Her journey is characterized by leadership, advocacy, and a deep-rooted commitment to being a voice for all children, embodying the values of compassion, dedication, and excellence.



DARICE AUSTIN-PHILLIPS

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With over three decades of dedicated service to the field of education, Darice Austin-Phillips stands as an exemplar of a seasoned educator. Darice perfected her craft and swiftly ascended the ranks, emerging as a true “Master Teacher, Administrator, and Mentor.”

One of her standout achievements was serving as the Director of Federal Funded programs, a role that demonstrated her acumen in handling budgets and delivering results. Annually managing over twenty-four million dollars in federal and professional development grants, Darice brought about tangible improvements in educational resources and opportunities for public and non-public schools.

Darice played a crucial role in advancing her district, SBCSC, through her integral involvement in shaping the district’s reading and language arts curriculum. The inclusion of the Harvard/Data Wise program has provided vital support to the district, empowering administrators, principals, and teachers to gain a comprehensive grasp of the essential elements of data analysis, thereby facilitating improvements in student learning.

Darice’s dedication to education wasn’t confined to the school premises; she was an effective Parent Advocate, bridging the gap between home and school, fostering stronger connections within the community. Working with the University of Notre Dame to support parents and spearheaded two district wide parent programs - No Parent Left Behind and Parent University.

Beyond administration and grant work, Darice was known for her transformative impact as an Educational Coach and Trainer. She shared her wisdom and expertise, nurturing educators to become their best selves, ultimately enhancing the learning experiences of countless students.

Throughout her journey, Darice Austin-Phillips has remained unwavering in her dedication to the betterment of education. Her legacy is one of transformative leadership, tireless advocacy, and a relentless pursuit of excellence.

Let's Connect, We Can Help!

CONTACT US

info@ll2solutions.com



WWW.LL2SOLUTIONS.COM