

Organization: Learning Forward



Program Name

Mentor Teacher Academy

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<https://services.learningforward.org/services/mentor-teacher-academy/>

Mentor Training Description

Learning Forward's Mentor Teacher Academy is a virtual learning experience that prepares experienced teachers to step into their role as mentors ready to inspire, model, and coach beginning teachers towards highly accelerated effectiveness and sustained professional growth. The Academy is designed around a Mentoring Cycle of diagnosing beginning teacher needs, providing coaching support, and monitoring progress to measure growth and evaluate impact. Within this cycle framework, mentors develop skills to build strong relationships and effectively communicate with beginning teachers; understand and apply new teacher mindset and adult learning theory to their mentoring role; diagnose and prioritize new teacher strengths and areas for growth in the areas of classroom management, instruction, and content-specific pedagogy; design and implement a mentoring support plan; and support new teachers to understand the unique needs of the students and families they serve. The Mentor Teacher Academy includes eight live, virtual sessions as well as additional asynchronous learning and collaboration.

Long-Term Partnership

Continued support for mentor teachers beyond the initial Academy is focused on sustained growth of both the mentor and the beginning teachers they support. Years 2 and 3 of the Academy support mentors in developing strategies for looking at student artifacts with their mentees for timely instructional adjustments and reteach; ensuring that each and every child is learning by helping mentees reach *all* children in the classroom; owning outcomes for struggling learners; helping mentees understand how to meaningfully collaborate with their grade or subject level team; supporting the switch from mentoring towards self-directed inquiry and growth; reflecting on the mentor's own growth as a teacher; and strategies for avoiding burnout and supporting wellness for the mentor and the mentee.