## **Teachers in Leadership**



### Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect. Through a close examination of teacher leadership strategies, educators are empowered to get actively involved in transformative student learning practices. The approaches presented in this course allow teachers to build professional learning communities, enhance school improvement, and prioritize student learning.

The first section discusses action research, which is used in real educational situations. Action research focuses on solving educational problems to bring about quick and holistic change.

Taking this forward, teachers are shown how they can get actively involved in the school improvement process. The second is where teachers learn how to plan and implement organized and inclusive school-wide initiatives.





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### Course Outline

#### SECTION A: Action Research for School Improvement

#### LESSON 1: Introducing Action Research

- Understanding action research by reviewing key definitions and its history
- What are the key features of action research?
- Identifying the benefits of action research in the context of education
- Exploring the teacher's role in action research
- Considering the various types of action research

#### LESSON 2: Focus Area

- How to select the right area of focus for the action research project
- Looking at possible focus areas in education

#### LESSON 3: Key Pre-planning Questions

- Questions to ask yourself before getting started
- Developing the research agenda
- Identifying the project team that will work with you on the project
- Defining the various types of data that are available and data collection techniques
- Explaining how to use a Structured Action Research Model
- Identifying the right sample for your research
- How to analyze data, draw conclusions, and sharing findings

#### **LESSON 4: Data Collection Phases**

- How to use an Action Research Matrix as a guide to identify the student learning goal
- The process of collecting data keeping a checklist in mind
- How to organize & display data in a way that's easy to retrieve and analyze
- Analyzing and interpreting data
- Using the help of professional literature in your research project
- Arriving at short and long-term plans
- A reminder on the ethics of practicing action research



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### Course Outline

#### SECTION B: Building School-wide Initiatives

#### LESSON 1: Overview of Building School-wide Initiatives

- Meaning and characteristics of School-wide Initiatives
- Benefits of initiating school-wide programs
- Understanding role of teachers
- What can we learn from examples of School-wide Initiatives

#### LESSON 2: Planning an Effective Initiative

- The key to an effective plan
- Creating a comprehensive plan and getting started
- How to make relevant contribution as teachers
- Engaging colleagues, parents, and students in the initiative

#### LESSON 3: Implementation of the Initiative

- The process of assessing needs of the school
- Forming strategies and action plan
- Setting eyes on defined goals and timelines
- Monitoring the plan

#### **LESSON 4: Review and Resources**

- The need for a thorough review
- Grouping collected information
- Activities that help in evaluation process
- Resources for reference



