

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SCHOOL AND DISTRICT LEADERS

Empower leaders to raise achievement with management capacity





Empower district leaders to address your most pressing challenges

As public school districts face increasingly complex challenges, superintendents are recognizing the need to develop their school and district leadership team's management capacity and educational best practices knowledge. The most effective leaders break out of departmentally-constrained thinking and work effectively together to address system-wide issues and deliver progress. DMGroup's professional development enables leaders to assimilate best practices and develop a broader understanding of integrated approaches to improving student outcomes.

In this business, you have to be a lifelong learner. Things change and you have to change and grow. I think this is some of the best professional development that I'm involved with.

> – J. Alvin Wilbanks CEO/Superintendent, Gwinnett County Public Schools (GA)

By participating in DMGroup Professional Development, district leaders aspiring to deliver systemic, transformational impact can accelerate their growth and complement their instructional and administrative leadership skills. Across a range of cross-functional topics, DMGroup Professional Development is focused on empowering leaders to manage effectively and innovatively while balancing the diverse interests of staff, student and community stakeholders. Participants emerge with strategic insight, as well as the confidence and know-how to tackle the complex challenges they face.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

- Instructors and facilitators with deep topic expertise and a systems-thinking perspective
- **Best practices insight** about what really works to improve student outcomes derived from DMGroup research, data analysis and experience working with hundreds of school districts
- **Interactive** software-based simulation activities and group exercises to enhance learning
- **Pre-planning session** to ensure professional development is aligned to the district's goals
- Pre-reading and session **preparation guidelines** designed to enhance learning
- **On-site workshop** designed to meet the district's needs and goals
- **Post-workshop** call session for follow-up advising and feedback

BENEFITS FOR YOUR TEAM

- New ideas, approaches and momentum for addressing district challenges
- Enhanced collective leadership capacity for **effective management**
- Knowledge of systems and best practices that **improve student outcomes**
- Perspective among leaders for **balancing and prioritizing** district needs
- Professional growth for aspiring district leaders
- **Team-building** opportunities for leadership cohesion



DMGroup offers both standardized and customized PD programs to meet your district's needs

One-Day Workshops

DMGroup workshops are one-day professional development, programs on key strategic topics. Delivered in-district, they are designed for up to 20 participants with one instructor.

Topics include:

- Elementary Scheduling that Supports Equity and Achievement
- Strengthening Special Education Supports and Services
- Best Practices for Successfully Implementing RTI and MTSS
- Introduction to Academic Return on Investment (A-ROI)
- Expanding and Improving Social, Emotional and Behavioral Supports
- ✓ Building Budgets Strategically

Two-Day Leadership Academy

Strengthening Leadership Capacity and Coherence

DMGroup's Leadership Academy delivers a two-day intensive program that brings together a district leadership team to build collective leadership capacity. This program is well-suited to larger groups of up to 30 participants and works well as a leadership retreat.

Day One:

- Assessing Performance and Conducting Systemic Problem Solving
- Developing a Coherent Approach to Building Leadership Capacity

Day Two:

- Building Budgets Strategically
- Leveraging Small-Scale Wins to Build Performance with the Breakthrough Approach

Customized Professional Development tailored to your district's unique needs and goals



One-Day Workshops

Professional learning for school and district leaders to manage precious resources, most effectively, for greatest impact



Choose the workshop topic that's right for your school and district leaders. Each DMGroup Workshop is a one-day program, for a maximum of 20 participants. Delivered in-district, each workshop is designed to run six hours plus 30 minutes for a lunch break.

Your DMGroup workshop instructor will be a subject-matter expert who will also engage with the district organizer in a pre-planning call, as well as a post-workshop coaching and advisory call to help you get the most out of the learning experience.

Elementary Scheduling that Supports Equity and Achievement

Learn how a comprehensive, best practice-based approach to strengthen scheduling, the use of student and staff time, and overall management in your elementary schools will help achieve and implement best practices for teaching and learning.

Strengthening Special Education Supports and Services

Improving special education is challenging, but there is reason to be hopeful. A best practices approach to improving special education can yield dramatic gains in achievement and inclusion while expanding services for students with and without IEPs – within tight budgets.

Best Practices for Successfully Implementing RTI and MTSS

Learn intervention strategies that work best for struggling students and the systems districts should have in place to ensure equity of academic opportunity for all students.

Introduction to Academic Return on Investment (A-ROI)

Managing district resources is complex and requires accurate, real-time information. This workshop introduces the Academic Return on Investment (A-ROI) conceptual framework that leads to better decisions, better budgets, and better student outcomes.

Expanding and Improving Social, Emotional and Behavioral Supports

Over the past ten years, the number of students needing social, emotional, and behavioral support has exploded. Learn what district leaders need to know about the changing nature of the students in our schools, the impact on staff, and the best practices for effective response.

Building Budgets Strategically

In this highly popular session, participants practice strategic budgeting concepts through a simulation exercise, negotiating tradeoffs and building a deeper understanding of what it means to budget strategically.

Two-Day Leadership Academy

Bring together an extended team of school and district leaders to build collective leadership capacity, cross-functional skills and strategic insights



Strengthening Leadership Capacity and Coherence

Participants in DMGroup's Leadership Academy gain new perspectives to drive meaningful change and innovation that serves district priorities.

Assessing Performance and Conducting Systemic Problem Solving

Through guided case method discussion, explore the inter-related dynamics of systems, processes, resources and organizational culture in real world circumstances where leaders are faced with complex challenges and an imperative for performance improvement.

Developing a Coherent Approach to Building Leadership Capacity

Participants will explore two key questions. First, how does a district achieve excellent performance in every school and every classroom? And second, how does a school district transform common practice into best practice?

Building Budgets Strategically

In this highly popular session, participants have the opportunity to practice strategic budgeting concepts through a simulation exercise that is genuinely fun while also bringing clarity to what it means to be strategic with budgeting – saying yes to some things and no to others.

Leveraging Small-Scale Wins to Build Performance with the Breakthrough Approach

When targeting specific performance improvements with limited resources, effective rapid-cycle techniques can get change moving better than anything else. In this session, you'll learn when and how to use the Breakthrough Approach, how to break down big strategic goals into achievable and targeted performance objectives, and how to activate and motivate teams to pursue and achieve important improvements.

Customized Professional Development

Tailor professional development for school and district leaders to the unique needs of your district



Expand or combine topics from our standard workshops to better suit your needs, or we can partner with you to develop unique programs suited to our expertise.

Programs incorporate best practices research, facilitated case studies, and collaborative team exercises to build knowledge and skills needed to tackle district challenges.

Options include:

- Stand-alone single day session tailored to your needs
- Multi-session series, with coaching
- Multi-session "training camp" that combines PD with district-specific data a great way to achieve a measurable result!

District Management Group is my personal and professional artery for learning, for becoming aware of what's going on around the country, for provoking my own thinking.

> – Howard Thiery Superintendent, Regional School District 17 (CT)



District Management Group was founded in 2004 on the belief that management techniques combined with educational best practices are key to addressing the challenges facing American public schools. Our focus is on partnering with school districts to achieve measurable and sustainable improvement in student outcomes, operational efficiency, and resource allocation to help schools and students to thrive.

