

ACADEMIES

GROWING LEADERS

Houston A+ Challenge

2017-2018

DISTRICT LEADERS

Houston A+ Challenge presents a leadership academy customized to meet any district's need, whether it is executive leadership, district management, or aspiring district leaders.

Possible topics for study include:

- Mission, vision, values, and goals
- Effective communication
- Building professional relationships
- Managing people and processes
- Change leadership and leadership courage

Participants will gain professional skills in:

- developing collective commitments
- using protocols to improve team effectiveness
- establishing collaboration
- learning how to give feedback
- understanding the relationship between why, what and how
- organizational leadership
- communication
- relationship building
- talent management
- professional interviewing

This academy is designed to be a stand-alone or as part of an already existing district leadership academy.

Houston A+ Challenge is available for small group or individual coaching for those leaders enrolled in the ISD Leadership Academy. Small group/individual coaching begins with identifying leadership intentions, building action plans based on those intentions, and focusing on results connected with the leader's intentions.

"Houston A+ Challenge has been a wonderful partner with Humble ISD in our efforts to establish strong leadership skills in our New Leaders Academy. Together A+ and Humble ISD have created a challenging learning environment with a common language, understanding and vision for future district leaders. I value the support and guidance we have received from A+ throughout our journey."

*~Dr. Tommy Price
Chief Academic Officer
Deputy Superintendent,
Humble ISD*

CAMPUS LEARNING LEADERS

PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Grounded in effective leadership practices, participants will learn how to navigate between and across both Management AND Leadership responsibilities. Campus administrators will learn and practice how to prioritize and execute on keeping the advancement of student learning as their primary focus and ultimate purpose.

These academies are tailored to participants' goals and afford time to assess, strategize and regroup as needed. Principal and assistant principal academies are driven by you and your work, and provide the flexible support you need.

HOUSTON **A+** CHALLENGE

For more information, contact Tom Monaghan at tmonaghan@houstonaplus.org

"Honestly we had another organization and it was not as effective as Houston A+. The staff and knowledge that they have in our content does wonders for us as a teacher and the staff makes us feel as though we are colleagues and not customers. I look forward to working with you all next year."

~Erin McDaniel

*Teacher, Math Specialist
Alief ISD*

HOW TO PERSONALIZE YOUR CAMPUS

The need to move to a learner-centric model of education is more pervasive today than ever. Transform your campus by learning how imperatives like growth, relationships, empowerment, anytime/anywhere access, and technology combine to build powerful self-directed learners. Academy sessions include:

- Growth (academic, social, and emotional) outcomes and actions (using data) needed to arrive at those desired outcomes
- Building relationships between adults and kids, between adults and adults, and between kids and kids
- Empowering learners to have responsibility for accessing their own learning resources and directing their own pathways toward standards
- Figuring out anytime/anywhere learning and what protocols and agreements must be in place to see success
- Understanding and utilizing technology in order to help learning move toward desired outcome standards

COACHING | SPECIALISTS | TEACHER LEADERS

COACHING FOR PERFORMANCE

Everybody needs a coach. Come engage in peer networking, problem-solving and real-world action research with other coaches across the city. During this academy we will collectively share expertise in effective instructional strategies for increasing access and equity, assessment for learning, engaging in crucial conversations and coaching cycles. Participants will find fresh ways to look at various aspects of their jobs and gather different perspectives from others across the city.

"In addition to teaching me the "what", Houston A+ also afforded me opportunities to authentically practice the "how" of instructional coaching."

~Candace Fleming

*Skills Specialist
Aldine ISD*

NEW TEACHERS

LEADING A CLASSROOM OF STUDENTS

First year teachers face many exciting challenges. This academy will allow teachers to build a community of support and make connections with other new teachers in the same and surrounding districts. A myriad of learning opportunities will be offered such as effective classroom management strategies, how to access and make sense of state standards, ways to reference and effectively use curriculum documents and ideas for effectively implementing instructional practices. New teachers will be equipped with resources and strategies that will allow them to provide quality instruction for all students and have a successful year.

"Torrey has been such a huge asset to me and our campus by providing us with resources and much needed information on how to engage and teach our students. She has helped me tremendously by being an amazing example of an educator who loves what she does."

~Thanh Nguyen

*1st year teacher
Alief ISD*