

Connecting Through Change

REBUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AMID TURNOVER

Inspired Teaching has partnered with a preK-8 school in the Midwest. School leadership initiated the partnership after coming out of COVID with an unsuccessful leadership transition that led to an unusually high departure of employees in one year. The school became divided over the change and people were not speaking to each other because of the division. At the start of the partnership, teachers ate lunch in their cars, knew few of their colleagues' names, and were afraid to share concerns and feedback with school leadership.

Inspired Teaching's relationship-based approach, which engages every adult in the school building in active, rejuvenating professional development, served to jumpstart a schoolwide reset. In addition to providing space for colleagues to reconnect with one another and their practice, this process also presented an opportunity to reinforce the mission, vision, and values of the school.

Inspired Teaching engaged the school in a year-long partnership, consisting of:

- needs assessment, goal-setting, and ongoing analysis of progress with school leadership
- multiple in-person full-day workshops where participants took part in an array of interactive, hands-on professional development exercises
- small group meetings held virtually throughout the year with department leads during which participants shared progress, asked questions, and were given additional tools and strategies to address continuing issues
- personalized coaching for school leadership

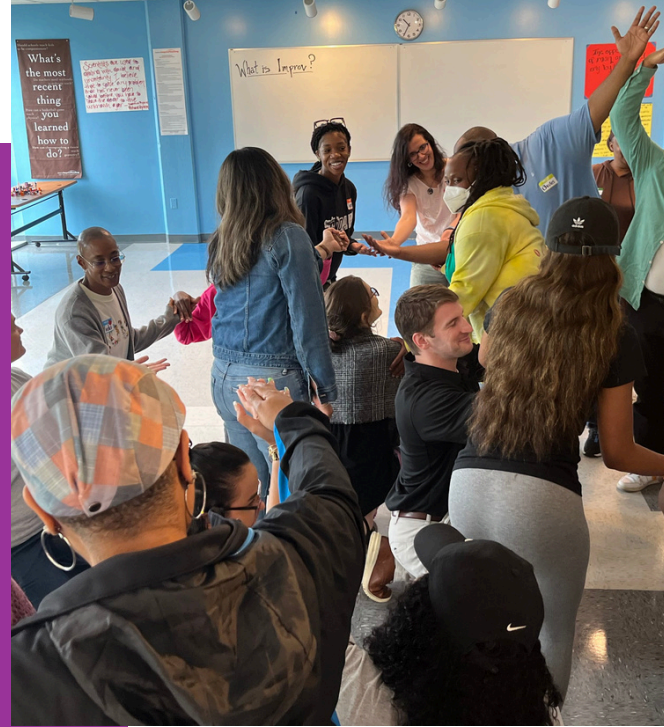
Results

After the first in-person workshop at the beginning of the school year:

- Respondents said they knew **61%** of their colleagues' names, as compared to **48%** just two days earlier;
- **97%** of participants rated the workshop 'very useful' or 'useful' to their work, and **97%** rated it 'engaging' or 'very engaging.'

Mid-way through the school year:

- **90%** of teachers were able to describe a specific positive shift in school connectedness they could directly attribute to Inspired Teaching's work



WHAT TEACHERS SAY:

"[T]here is a sense of willingness to listen that did not exist last year."

"Huge improvements were made this year, and those are directly connected to our August workshop"

"Amazing. I feel like we've grown closer as a community."

"This, out of all the PDs I have participated in my 3 years here, has been the most engaging and more fun."

"Thanks for bringing joy....we can look in each other's eyes again."

THE INSPIRED TEACHING *Approach*

100% ENGAGING



Intellectually

There are no rote powerpoints in an Inspired Teaching professional development workshop! Each activity and exercise is designed to challenge and engage.



Emotionally

Rediscover your “why” and reconnect with your purpose. Inspired Teaching professional development participants report feeling a renewed sense of motivation and excitement for their work.



Physically

We teach teachers the way humans learn best -- with their whole selves. Inspired Teaching professional development is hands-on, interactive, and joyful.



Contact Director of Teaching & Learning Jenna Fournel to bring the Inspired Teaching Approach to your school community! jenna@inspiredteaching.org