

The 2020-2021 Illinois SMART School Academy

Build Your District Capacity



Does your district ...

- ✓ Have a system of goal management that aligns school, team and classroom improvement efforts Pre-K–12?
- ✓ Have a collaborative, data-driven methodology that guides teachers' instructional decision making for improved student learning?
- ✓ Use job-embedded professional learning as an ongoing strategy to close achievement gaps?
- ✓ Have the internal capacity to monitor student progress on a continuous basis and make adjustments to professional practice based on current, relevant data?

The SMART School Academy is an opportunity for districts to build internal capacity to create and support a system of goal setting, progress monitoring and continuous improvement. Participants leave the Academy with the knowledge, tools and support they need to: train internal teams; coach implementation of the SMART School Improvement Process - the methodology that brings coherence and focus to school and system improvement; and support principals and teachers as they develop their effectiveness goals for professional and student growth.

Successful participants are trained, coached, and certified to bring this methodology to their districts. Participants receive a participant manual, style inventory, PowerPoint slides, My SMART Journal, and two books. They are also taught coaching techniques that extend and enhance the work of teams in the implementation of the Process. This combination of training and targeted coaching aimed specifically at implementation heightens both the impact and the speed of the improvements that come from the systematic use of the SMART School Improvement Process.

By certifying a team of two or more SMART School Coaches, your district or organization reduces its dependence on external sources and builds strength and capacity for continuous support of improvement efforts. In addition, internal coaches can provide immediate and customized support on an ongoing basis, reducing cycle time for new learning and action. The Illinois SMART School Academy is a high-leverage, cost-effective investment for creating long-term and sustainable capacity for continuous improvement.