



EMPOWER

EDUCATION CONNECTIONS

in person + virtual

coaching | professional development | products

“

When children
are the priority
and change
is the reality—
*collaboration is the
only strategy.*

Judith Billings

”



What we do

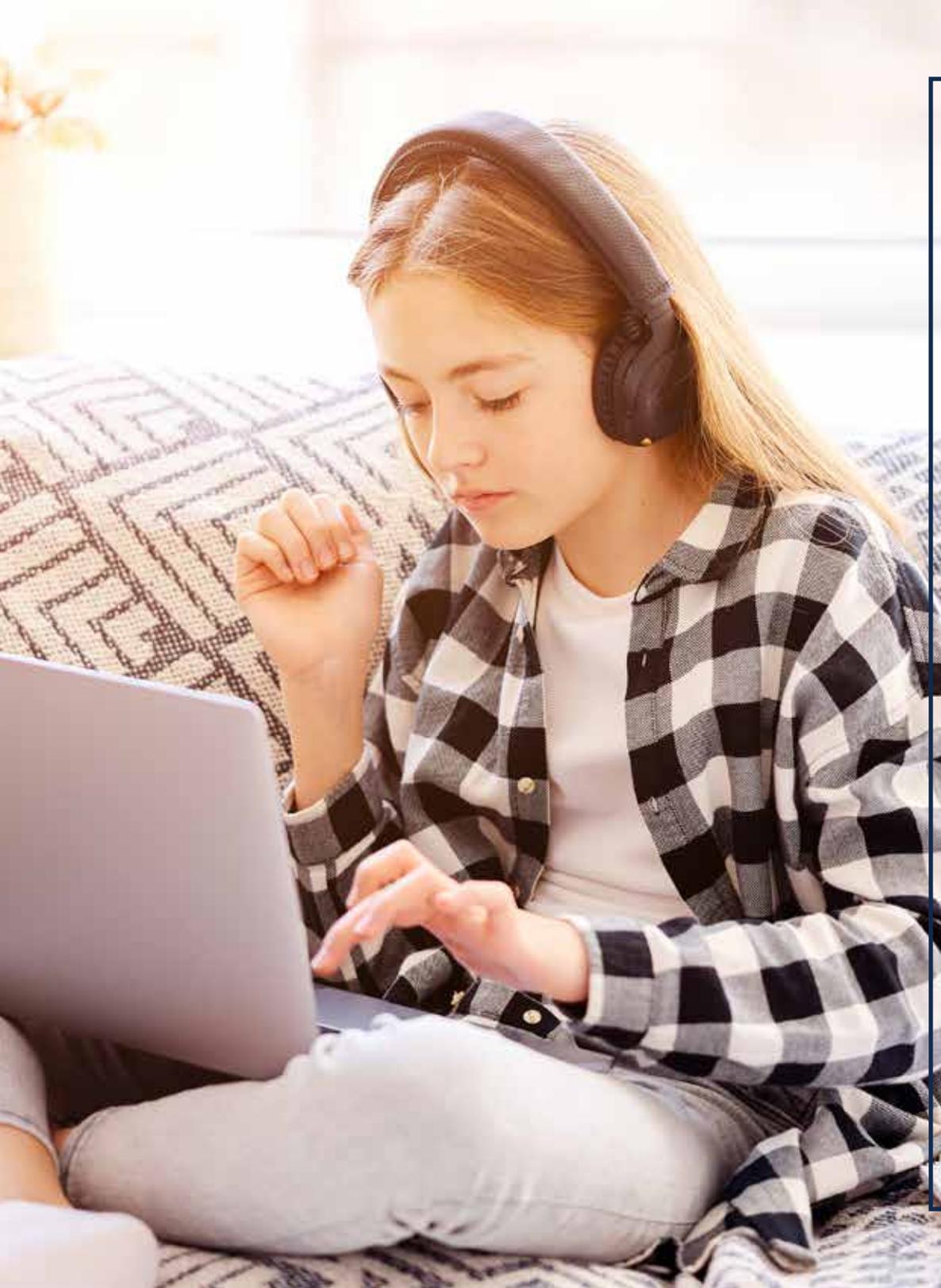
As you are adapting to our ever-changing educational landscape, we are adapting as well. The Empower team has been collaborating, training, and researching how to best implement instructional models needed in this new reality. We are ready to support you and your students, teachers, and community with our prescriptive and results-oriented approach. Let us help you navigate your preparation for the school year!



Professional Development

Get a successful start this fall

virtual • in class • hybrid



7 steps to success this fall

- 1 | Learning Management System (LMS)**
- 2 | Plan for Instructional Progression**
- 3 | Effective Online Communication and Instruction**
- 4 | Flipped Classrooms**
- 5 | Meaningful Online Discussions**
- 6 | Blended Learning**
- 7 | Social & Emotional Learning**

Our Virtual Summer & Fall Learning Academy

**Get ready
to meet the
challenges
of the 20/21
school year.**

Blended Classroom

In this training we will answer all of your questions about using a blended learning model where students learn partially in person and partially in a virtual setting. Even some you didn't know you have! You will gain a better understanding of what you and your students can do to continue to learn and grow together. This training can be provided at the beginning of a remote learning school year to provide insight into transitions to modified in-person learning experiences, or immediately before you begin to phase back into face-to-face instruction.

Screencasting

An introduction to Screencastify, Screencast-O-Matic, and Loom as tools for creating screencasting videos to use in a distance learning setting. We will show you how you can use these tools to be in two places at once—the present and the future! With these tools you can create a live video that will automatically become a recorded video to provide future online guidance. The training can be tailored to focus more on one service than another based on the needs of your school or organization.

Flipgrid

This class is an introduction to Flipgrid! Flipgrid is a website that allows teachers to create “grids” to facilitate video discussions. Each grid is like a message board where teachers can pose questions, called “topics,” and their students can post video responses that appear in a tiled grid display. The trainer will share all of the tips and tricks you need to be able to confidently integrate Flipgrid into your teaching routine!

Microsoft Teams 101

An introduction to Office 365's Teams as a Learning Management System. This training explores the many ways you can use Office 365 Teams to make your job easier. We will cover the following topics: how to access Teams, creating courses in the LMS, designing and creating assignments, how to set up the gradebook and post grades, how to use, sync, creating events in the calendar, and how to add resources to each team (course).

Microsoft Teams 102

This is a follow up to Microsoft Teams 101. In this session, we will introduce the more advanced features of Teams, including the applications that can be used through Office 365 such as class notebook, Kaizala, stream, and whiteboard. You will work to begin developing your own teams (courses) within the LMS so they you feeling ready to independently build on what you have learned.

Online Communication Tools

This training focuses extensively on video conferencing for individual, small group, and whole group instruction. We will explore multiple services for communicating with students in remote learning settings, including Zoom, Google Meet, Skype, Microsoft Teams, and WebEx. The training can be tailored to focus on one service more in depth than another based on the needs of your school or organization.

Online Resources

An introduction to purposefully selected online resources you can use virtually to support student learning. The trainer will guide you in exploring apps and websites to support the following areas:

- Teaching
- Sharing academic content
- Student engagement
- Checking for understanding
- Feedback/conferencing

As part of the training, you will have the opportunity to create logins and explore the content of many of the apps and websites.

Virtual Flipped Classroom

This training looks at the flipped classroom instructional strategy from a remote learning perspective. We will explore how you can use the flipped classroom instructional strategy to focus on student engagement and active learning in a remote setting. In addition, we will examine how this model allows for differentiated and scaffolded learning experiences in individual and small group settings.

Learning Resources and Instructional Planning 101, 102, and 103

In this series of training sessions, you will be asked to consider how you can use the knowledge you have gained in other sessions to shift your mindset about instruction to support virtual student learning. The discussion will cover the following topics: chunking information, using elements of a flipped classroom, video or screencasting mini-lessons, sharing resources (documents, PDFs, videos, etc.) and providing activities for practice. In some school communities, one major concern is getting engaging materials to students with no Internet or device that will support instruction and learning. Students with devices but no Internet can be provided information and videos via a flash drive, which is an option trainers can address. In addition to focusing on these concerns, Empower consultants will model a lesson via remote learning technology.

Digital Citizenship and Online Community Building

This training session will explore how online teaching has necessitated an agreement in Digital Citizenship. Digital citizenship is more than just avoiding harms online. It is the intentional way teachers, students, and parents interact online. Both youth and adults need to work together to consider and create more ideas around how technology can be used for good— to facilitate collaboration, creation, communication, and positive contributions to family and civic life. In this class we will derive a plan that is beneficial to all stakeholders.

Social Skills/Emotional Skills

This training session takes a closer look at Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). Social and Emotional Learning has become a buzzword lately, for good reason. Students are experiencing situations we could never completely prepare them for. Using the great work by CASEL.org, you will learn how to create a classroom environment where students can learn to understand and control emotions, create and complete positive goals, show empathy, build relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Self Care

This session gives you that little bit of self care that most of us let go. Get your blood pumping, oxygen flowing, and invigorate your body and mind. We will stretch, move, and discuss nutrition and self care. All fitness levels are encouraged, as the workout is all your own. Please wear comfortable workout shoes and attire you can move in (athletic/yoga gear). Come and grow together. Treat Yourself!

Using Direct Instruction with Gradual Release in Remote Learning

This class is a review of the high-yield instructional strategy of direct instruction (with gradual release). You will be asked to consider how to implement direct instruction in various remote learning situations (i.e., students with Internet and students without Internet) using a variety of tools and resources. There will be time provided for you to brainstorm and practice implementing the strategy with one of your own lessons (with support as needed).

Elevated Collaborative Parent Communication is Our Way of Being

Transparency cannot exist without trust. Now, more than ever, we need to be as transparent as possible with families through consistent communication. This training

emphasizes the importance of collaborative communication and explores what is needed to elevate it. We will ask, “What does this look like to you?” and help you find the answers. Together, we will establish a template of sorts to show an example of what this could look like with you and your students’ families.

Formative Assessment in a Digital World

Knowing students might not have an adult watching them and keeping them on task, how do you know if a student has been actively engaged in their learning or has learned and understood the objective? Using assessments to drive instruction is needed even more when you are not face-to-face with your students. This class will address how important it is to continually assess your students, especially in remote learning environments, and will introduce multiple resources for doing so.

Grading in a Virtual Learning Environment

This course addresses the “new norm” of grading as a result of both formative and informative student assessment(s). As grading should be reflective of student performance, we will identify and explore various avenues and practices to assign grading per best practices in this new norm. Additionally, in an attempt to remain as objective as possible, we will discuss opportunities for rubrics within the three avenues of instruction in a virtual learning environment.

Providing Feedback Virtually

Providing information to students regarding their performance and progress is essential. As teachers, it is an important part of identifying students’ next steps and guiding them in their learning. This class will take an overall view at what effective feedback is, and you will discuss and model ways to provide effective feedback using various tools and resources virtually.

Empathetic Classroom Management

We are learning together in our new venture of virtual learning! Learning in a virtual environment is a privilege, and no one deserves to have it taken from them due to the behaviors of others who do not meet the expectations of our new environment. In this session we will discuss how norms of expectations should be collaboratively established by the staff in teams with the support of their administration. Together, we will explore how to revisit the current student handbook and current classroom behavior expectations to identify where these practices can be modified to a virtual learning environment.

Number Talks

This class will explore the research on number talks and introduce ways to help students improve their mathematical mindset. We will look at how you can excite students to think outside the box and to share their ideas while they are in a virtual or regular classroom. Math strategies and math talks will be explored.

Fluency Games

The best way to increase fluency is to offer opportunities for your students to repeat their reading, math, or writing facts. This session explores how learning games can be used to encourage strategic mathematical thinking, provide fun reading and writing practice, and deepen understanding. Including fun learning games is a great way to support your students' development, increase fluency, and make them excited to learn!

Teaching Writing Virtually

Come and discover the art and science behind teaching writing. Getting students to write can sometimes be overwhelming, but this workshop will give you tips to make

it easy! You will learn how to teach writing effectively online and in person, and play within the fabulous structure of Writer's Workshop. Join us and learn how to make words come to life!

Physical Literacy: PE for All

This isn't your father's PE program! In this session, you will learn how to create a fun-filled and purposeful PE program for students at home or at school. Discover how to change your mindset about PE and help your students become physically literate! Students who are athletic, no-so-much athletic, injured, overweight, nervous, or have special needs all have a place in this system and in your classrooms. Come and explore this exciting way to teach PE to your students— they will *love* PE for life!

Brain Breaks

Who doesn't need a brain break? No matter what you are teaching, where, or when, Brain Breaks are an integral part of learning. In this session we will explore the 3 types of brain breaks and how and when you should use them! This course is highly interactive, and you will leave with many brain breaks to use in virtual and in-person classrooms immediately.

Engaging Special Education Students Online

When teaching special education students, engagement is key to success. Increasing interaction and a deeper understanding of materials can be a challenge unique to each student, especially when teaching students with a wide range of learning disabilities or disorders. This session explores how creativity can help bring fun and success into the classroom and improve outcomes for all students. Come and play with us in this interactive course!

Virtual Read Alouds and Comprehension

What are the most effective comprehension strategies to teach students to help them understand what they are reading? How do you teach these strategies explicitly and get students to use them? What does a read aloud look like online? In this workshop you will learn how to teach your students the most effective strategies to increase their comprehension. You will be given practical examples for in-person and virtual classrooms that your students can begin using immediately.

Word Problems in Math— Virtual

In your math class, how many times have you heard, “When am I ever going to need this”? And now, to add to their phobia of math, students need to learn virtually! In this class you will learn proven ways to involve your students in solving math problems in the virtual classroom. For many students who struggle with mathematics, word problems are just a jumble of words and numbers. Join us and discover how you can teach your students problem-solving processes to help them make sense of these problems.

ELL and Dual Language Immersion

New year, new SEI models. Are you ready to implement Principle II: Integrated Instruction in Disciplinary Language and Content? We are taking a proficiency learning approach to help ELL students develop language skills in all modes of communication. In this session you will learn how to write measurable can-do statements that integrate language functions and content. Join us and discover how to create interpersonal communication performance tasks to engage students in authentic conversations, even at Pre-Emergent/Emergent level or Novice level.

Dual Language Immersion

Practice makes *permanent*! This session explores how daily routines to engage students in meaningful conversations and discussions in their target language have the power to develop language skills. You will learn how to effectively integrate these 5 to 10 minute daily routines in a remote or in-person setting.

**Contact us
for custom
professional
development
workshops.**

Coaching

Modeling instruction and co-teaching

virtual • in person



Virtual Instructional Coaching

At Empower, we understand how essential it is to develop relationships with teachers that result in productive working partnerships. And during these unsettling times, we know these partnerships are more important than ever! Our student-centered coaching begins by first asking the teacher what they need to be successful in helping their students learn and thrive. We then look at what the students are learning to determine how to move the teacher forward in their instructional practice.

How we work

meet the teacher where they are

Identify where support
is needed.

01

lesson & unit planning

Identify learning targets—
*pinpoint what is essential
for students to know in each
instruction session.*

Establish a standards-based
teaching and learning
progression.

Develop engagement and
assessment strategies.

02

co-teaching online

Pre-lesson meeting to discuss
intended learning outcomes.

Post-lesson meeting to
discuss student-learning
outcomes and effectiveness
of instructional strategies.

03

assessment creation

Work together to create
summative assessments,
then analyze all assessments
to inform instruction.

04



What makes us different

- ✓ A blend of professional development group trainings, small group coaching, and one-on-one coaching.
- ✓ Support in understanding standards, learning targets, and progression for teaching.
- ✓ Instruction strategies modeled in helpful mini-lesson videos.
- ✓ Constructive feedback on virtual instruction strategies.
- ✓ In-person or online classroom visits to provide support, model, and/or co-teach.



Back to class

Whether your students will be returning to school virtually, in person, or using a hybrid model, we are here to help!

Empower consultants will provide flexible solutions to help teachers incorporate writing into daily lessons, use small groups to teach at each student's level, improve student engagement, and track student growth. Working together, we can build your schools into strong learning communities!



Products

More support for teachers & students

print • online



Activity & Lesson Kits

StridePE Adaptive Physical Literacy Kit (K-12)

The StridePE Physical Literacy Kit contains over 160 lessons to help students develop the knowledge, coordination, and strength to participate in physical and everyday activities with confidence.

Illuminated Writing (K-12)

Designed to help you navigate the complexities of teaching writing to students of all ages using Writer's Workshop, this collection of strong, relevant mini-lessons targets writing skills in the 3 types of writing as well as Response to Text.

LiteBox Literacy Kit (K-12)

The fun and engaging standards-based activities in this kit make it easy to provide daily practice with little to no prep and without boring repetition! Every activity within LiteBox has explicit student-friendly objectives and directions, visual step-by-step procedures and outcomes, and built-in accountability. *Available in English and Spanish.*

Hello Math! Kit (K-12)

These exciting math fluency activities and centers make it easy to implement daily math practice without any boring repetition! The kit includes standards-based games and activities for quick recall, relational thinking, and conceptual understanding of basic fluencies. *Available in English and Spanish.*

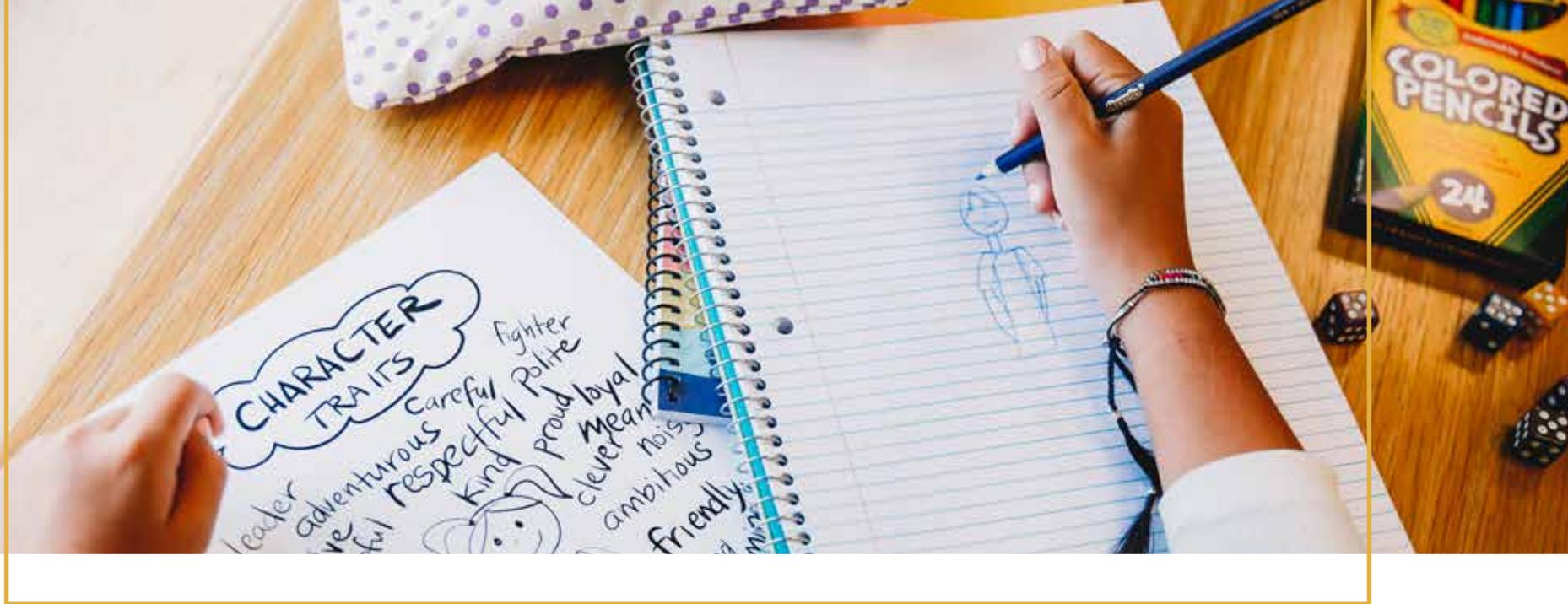
Spark Math (K-3)

Spark Math is a fun and engaging way to do math at home! The activities in Spark Math have clear, easy-to-follow directions, and include user-friendly vocabulary and explanations of strategies-- perfect for kids to understand, and exactly what adults need to be comfortable with today's math!

One-A-Day Packs (K-8)

Each One-A-Day Pack comes with 10 standards-aligned reading, writing, and math activities and games. Every game is flexible, engaging, and easy-to-use, so it's the perfect at-home learning solution. *Available in English and Spanish.*

There's more! Contact us today.



Teacher Resources

Math Strategy Quick Guide (K-5)

The MSQG is a practical guide to common mathematical strategies for each operation, from single-digit addition to multi-digit division. It moves from the concrete to the abstract to help you connect and synthesize lessons, methods, and strategies seen in a variety of resources (textbooks, Internet, and professional readings).

Differentiated Reading Small Group Instruction Routines (K-3)

These small group routine cards are designed to help you plan powerful, targeted small group lessons quickly and easily! The cards give you an easy-to-follow 5-15 minute routine you can use to teach the phonics, fluency, comprehension, and phonemic awareness skills your students need to practice.



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Let's work together!