



**BOSTON COLLEGE**  
Lynch School of Education  
and Human Development

PROFESSIONAL AND  
CONTINUING EDUCATION

# Navigating New Realities: Customized Professional Learning for Schools



At Boston College, we are changing the way we partner with schools. We want our offerings to be responsive to the specific and “just in time” needs of our school partners. The Professional and Continuing Education team at the Lynch School of Education and Human Development will partner with you to build customized, student-focused professional learning experiences aligned with your school goals and strategic priorities.

## Professional Learning Opportunities

### Teaching Writing

- Narrative writing
- Report and explanation writing
- Argument and procedure writing

### Bilingual Education

- Foundations of bilingual and dual-language education
- Bilingualism, second language, and literacy development
- Bilingual literacy and literature

### Special Education

- Engaging autistic students in general education classrooms
- Neurodiversity
- Executive function

### Anti-Racism

- Raising students’ critical consciousness of race and racism
- Disrupting the narrative: anti-bias tools for texts
- We can develop opportunities based on your individual needs

## Consultation and Partnership

### Provisions from Professional and Continuing Education (PCE)

#### Consultation

- Consultation from a Boston College professor/researcher in the field

#### Professional Learning

- Planning sessions with a PCE/BC instructor to customize the professional learning
- Customized professional learning sessions that can include both content learning and curriculum development/modification

#### Implementation Support

- Guidance from a PCE consultant with school and/or coaching experience to support and guide the implementation of the work in classrooms

#### Resources

- Text set recommendations for staff
- Customized student materials recommendations

#### Reflection and Planning

- Collaboration of PCE providers to reflect and plan next steps with the school

### Conditions for Success from School and/or District

#### Consultation

- Identified time for the leader and/or leadership team to meet with the Boston College professor/researcher

#### Professional Learning

- Identified hours for planning and professional learning sessions

#### Implementation Support

- Guidance from a PCE consultant with school and/or coaching experience to support and guide the implementation of the work in classrooms

#### Resources

- Funds earmarked for materials to support the work

#### Reflection and Planning

- Identified time for reflection and planning



# Sample Customized Professional Development Plan

## Instructional Goal

Our goal as a school community is to initiate or enhance existing work on Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) pedagogy to provide explicit writing instruction that specifically focuses on language and builds robust content knowledge.

### Provisions from Professional and Continuing Education (PCE)

#### Consultation

- Two 60 minute consultation sessions with Dr. Maria Brisk to review the school's goal, data and current curriculum to make recommendations for a customized learning plan

#### Professional Learning

- One two hour professional learning session, "Introduction to SFL" with Dr. Maria Brisk
- Customized professional learning of one of the teaching writing courses
  - weekly 90 minutes of SFL content development via asynchronous course material
  - weekly 60 minute synchronous sessions for review and clarification of course material
  - weekly feedback and support from course instructor on unit development
  - one 60 - 90 minute looking at student work session to calibrate scoring of genre specific rubrics

#### Implementation Guidance

- Guidance from an SFL consultant who supports and guides the implementation of the work in classrooms
  - mentoring of school-based coaches
  - peer observations to calibrate "SFL look fors"
  - availability to answer questions and provide resources

#### Resources

- A list of professional readings on SFL pedagogy
- A list of mentor texts by genre and grade level bands

#### Reflection and Planning

- One 60 minute end of the school year meeting with all PCE providers to reflect and plan next steps with the school for the upcoming year

### Conditions for Success from School and/or District

#### Consultation

- Two 60 minute meeting times identified for the leader and/or leadership team to meet with Dr. Maria Brisk to discuss the school's goal, data and current curriculum

#### Professional Learning

- Identification of staff members who will be engaged in the work year 1
- One two-hour professional learning time identified for those staff members who will be engaged in the SFL writing work
- Identification of the following:
  - genres to hone in on year 1
  - time for participants to engage in asynchronous course material
  - time for participants to engage in synchronous sessions
  - time for a looking at work session for participants

*Note that the time may include contractual professional development hours, grade level or department team meetings, leadership team meetings, etc.*

#### Implementation Guidance

- Identified coach or teacher leader who will support the implementation of the work in classrooms
- Time and coverage for peer observations

#### Resources

- Funds earmarked for materials to support the work

#### Reflection and Planning

- One 60 minute end of the school year identified time for PCE providers and school leaders and staff to reflect and plan next steps for the upcoming year

Pricing based on size of staff and extent of services





We are here to answer any questions or to discuss a preliminary plan and budget.

Contact Ashana Hurd, Assistant Dean of Urban Outreach and Professional Development for more information: [lynchschoollpce@bc.edu](mailto:lynchschoollpce@bc.edu)

