UP for Learning presents

MASTERMIND GUIDES

FOR 9TH GRADE STUDENTS 2019/20



"Research suggests that many incoming high school students are underprepared for the quantity of school work, struggle to meet the academic expectations set by their high school teachers, and are not used to taking responsibility for their schooling."

—C. Ellerbrock, Association for Middle Level Education, 2012

Fostering a successful transition to high school with M3: Mindset, Metacognition & Motivation

What is the opportunity?

The Mastermind Guides 9th grade initiative helps equip students with knowledge of the key components of learning to foster their motivation and academic success. During advisory sessions, youth facilitators teach their peers how, why and when our brains learns. Knowing how to drive their own learning instills confidence and competence as high school students.

Teachers simultaneously engage in a professional learning community, taking a deeper dive into these concepts and relating them to their classroom practices. The goal is to foster students' successful transition to high school.

Why does it matter?

Developing fluency in the language of learning — mindset, metacognition and motivation — ensures that all students are able to optimize their learning (Dweck, 2006; Hattie, 2012; Mitra, 2001). It creates a bridge between learners and teachers, fosters shared responsibility for learning and increases student ownership. Research has shown that although all students benefit from mindset and metacognitive skill development, those students challenged by poverty are most positively impacted. An effective 9th grade transition is a pivotal factor in students' long term success. M3 enables and empowers each and every individual to reach their greatest potential.

Initiative components

Mastermind Guides begins with in-service time (a minimum of 6 hours) where faculty are introduced to the concepts of M3, and how they are reinforced in learning.

Youth and adults will form a Mastermind Guides team. **Students from upper grades (10-12) are recruited** (2 youth facilitators per advisory). **The team participates in 2 days of training** to provide the core knowledge and skills needed to implement approximately 10 advisory sessions. **The team will facilitate a faculty meeting midway through** to help reinforce M3 concepts and practices. They will also **meet with the faculty at the conclusion of the sessions** to identify next steps to further embed M3 in their learning experiences.

The Mastermind Guides team will participate in 2 days of training to provide the core knowledge and skills needed to implement approximately 10 advisory sessions. The team will also facilitate faculty meetings midway through advisory sessions to help reinforce M3 concepts and practices, and at the conclusion of their sessions to identify actions that will carry M3 forward.

The Mastermind Guides team commitment

- Meet weekly to plan and implement all aspects of this initiative, including regular check-ins with facilitator pairs to ensure their confidence and competence.
- Assist the advisory faculty in understanding their roles and responsibilities in partnering with the youth facilitators.
- Offer youth facilitators credit and/or evidence of proficiency in transferable skills toward graduation. (Learning targets linked to transferable skills are available.)
- Communicate regularly with UP faculty and provide written documentation as requested.

UP for Learning will provide

- Faculty in-service training
- Training for the Mastermind Guides team
- On- and off-site coaching throughout the initiative
- Graduate course or professional development hours for adult lead partners and advisory faculty.

Costs

$2,000 for each participating school. All lead adult partners (minimum of 2 per school) will be enrolled in either the graduate course (3 credits; $1,992) or the Professional Development hours (45; $1,656) option. Advisory faculty have the option to pursue one graduate credit ($664) or 15 Professional Development hours ($552).

For more information

Please contact Bruce Perlow at bruce@upforlearning.org.



UP for Learning

Unleashing the Power of Partnership for Learning

Note: this initiative is generously co-sponsored by the Vermont Department of Health. Participating schools may be eligible for School-based Substance Abuse Services (SBSAS) grant funding consideration.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH