



Winter Course Offerings 2021

Nyack Professional Academy

All book clubs are 15 hours, 1 inservice credit and are a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning.

To Register: Go to MLP. Search for “NPA”.

NPA 2021 – 08

Book club: Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain

This book club will explore implicit bias, the effects of bias in the classroom and levels of culture. Participants will leave with a classroom equity plan including climate surveys, access to the IAT implicit bias test, suggested readings, and tools for creating a culturally responsive structured classroom.

Audience: K – 12 All staff

Approved for 60+

Time: 4:30 - 6:45, last class 4:30 - 6:00

Dates: Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 2021

NPA 2021- 09

Book club: Equity and Excellence in Teaching

The vision for equity in schools requires transformation at every level of the education system but we also have to recognize staff members are at varying levels of awareness. The PLC will focus on a series of articles from the Tools for Learning Journal, which explore concepts of teaching and learning. The articles are designed to promote self-reflection and increased knowledge of best practices. Participants will engage in discussions and develop personal plans of action based on the series of readings.

Audience: K – 5 All staff

Dates: Alternating Friday and Saturday sessions *not both days each week - Jan 8, 16, 22, 30, Feb 5, 13, 19, 27, 2021

Times: Friday weeks: 3:40 - 5:40 Saturday weeks: 8:30 - 10:30 am

NPA 2021-10 Book club: Uniquely Human (Book one of a Book Club Bundle)

The goal for teachers and staff is to become more aware of students with special needs and students who learn differently. Through this account, we can foster discussions and reflections on

past experiences, methodology, and ways this impacts our instruction and handling of behaviors. This point of view should also help in conversations with parents, about their youngsters. A specific focus will be on communication and thinking (processing), as well as creativity and ingenuity.

Audience: K – 12 All staff

Approved for 60+

Dates: January 19, 21, 26, 28, February 2, 4, 9, 11, 23, 25, March 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 2021

Times: 3:45- 5:45

NPA 2021-11

Book club: The Pattern Seekers (Book two of a Book Club Bundle)

A groundbreaking argument about the link between autism and ingenuity.

Audience: K – 12 All staff

Approved for 60+

Dates: January 19, 21, 26, 28, February 2, 4, 9, 11, 23, 25, March 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 2021

Times: 3:45-5:45

(NPA 2021-10 and 2021-11 are taken together for 2 inservice credits and 30 hours)

NPA 2021-12

Book club: Mindfulness Practices for Students and Teachers

For teachers, mindfulness helps teachers maintain a calm presence in the classroom, allowing them to really listen to students, to be present to possibilities and to seek peaceful solutions to challenges. Teachers will learn practices for self - enhancing their own mindfulness as teachers interacting with their students and managing a classroom. Teachers will learn practices to use with children, and how to use these practices to teach children executive functioning skills.

Audience: K – 5 staff

Dates: January 12, 19, 26, February 2, 9, 23,

Time: 4:30 - 6:45

NPA 2021-13

Book club: Morning Meeting: How to Implement Social and Emotional Learning

The Morning Meeting Book completely explains how to incorporate various aspects of social and emotional learning into the classroom.

Audience: K – 5 classroom teachers

Dates: March 2, 9, 16, 23, April 6, 13

Time: 4:30-6:45

NPA 2021-14 Course: Confronting Racism in Education (45 hour, 3 inservice credit course)

This course will encourage participants to use an equity lens to allow them to recognize and have “courageous conversations” about the importance of breaking institutional practices and barriers, and to help develop an awareness of their own teaching practices. This connects with Nyack’s initiatives because we’re working to change the inequities to achieve district-wide success of ALL students.

Audience: K – 12 general and special education staff

Approved for 60 +

Dates: January 14, 21, 28, February 4, 11, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6,

Time: 4:00 - 7:00