

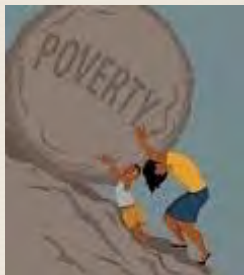
Susan Ciminelli's expertise is a rare combination of instructional-design experience, data-driven inquiry, and research savvy. Susan's been an educator since 1977, working as a public school teacher, an instructional designer, trainer, technology coordinator, school principal, data manager and analyst, and consultant.

Susan has received extensive training from a leading expert in brain-based instruction and educating children who live in poverty. Susan brings depth, practicality, and a human touch to her work that makes the connections required to achieve positive change.



“School-age children who live in poverty are now our largest demographic group of failing public school students in nearly every state in our country.

By using brain research in classroom instruction, teachers can engage these students and help them succeed.”



As a result, struggling students and their teachers go from “I can't” to “I can!”



RESEARCH & RESULTS



Staff are trained to understand recent research findings that reveal why the brains of children in poverty are adversely affected. The amazing good news is that teachers can be highly influential in closing the achievement gap when they incorporate brain-based techniques into daily classroom instruction and routines.

White Waves Education Consulting

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IMPROVING INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS IN POVERTY



White Waves Education Consulting

“One in five children live in poverty. More than 2.3 million children live with a long-term unemployed parent – triple the number just five years ago. The average American household made less in 2012 than it did in 1989. For our nation's educators, these ‘statistics’ are all too often the students they strive to help each day.”



CONSULTING SERVICES

The consulting services outlined below are designed to not only implement immediate and visible instructional improvements with results in student data but to sustain continual improvement in classroom and school performance.



Helping low-performing schools address the obstacles that impede learning for poverty students

WORKSHOPS ARE:

- based on validated research and focus on practical learning-design decisions.
- tailored to the specific needs of the school and its teachers.
- designed to encourage learners to think and discuss, question and apply, and plan for putting ideas into practice.
- backed by the world's best research, it's a perspective you can trust---not just another fad-driven exhortation.

WORKSHOP BENEFITS:

- give your teachers a richly rewarding developmental opportunity.
- challenges staff with new perspectives on learning and performance, enabling instructional transformation.
- energizes your team to implement new instructional practices.

INTRODUCTORY TRAINING:

Improving instruction begins with a one-on-one training with the building principal reviewing existing school data, and developing a data and implementation plan to seamlessly sustain instructional improvements. Teachers receive a half-day workshop which not only presents the research-based findings, but models the techniques that improve working memory, engagement, focus and positive behavioral changes in students.



Preliminary consulting with school administration



Highly-engaging and purposeful workshops for teachers

INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING:

One-on-one classroom consultations with teachers (up to 6) that result in an individualized implementation plan using the strategies selected by the teacher from the workshop training. This scaffolded support is NOT used for teacher evaluation but is solely coaching. In addition to classroom techniques, coaching includes how to easily incorporate formative assessment and non-graded progress monitoring into daily lesson design.



Followup implementation of new practices supporting individual teachers



Showing teachers how to use formative assessment and data effectively

FOLLOW-UP TRAINING & SUPPORT:

Sustainable improvements in classroom and school-wide practices are addressed through 2 hrs of strategic planning with the school improvement team, a followup workshop on progress monitoring, functional assessments and data planning. Additionally, a comprehensive report summarizing the data findings and plans for sustaining the improvement plan is provided to the superintendent.



Sustainable classroom practices for higher student achievement



Strategic planning for continuous improvement