




The Ron Clark Academy Experience

Revolutionary Professional Development for Educators

The Ron Clark Academy is a model school and accepts visitors from all over the world. Our innovative and energetic approaches yield results, and we enjoy sharing our methods for instilling a passion for learning and helping all children achieve great levels of success.

Each week, educators visit the Ron Clark Academy to witness our dynamic and research-based teaching methods. Through classroom observations and workshops, participants in our training program learn ways to increase student engagement, ensure academic rigor, and create a climate and culture that leads to success.

Join the thousands of educators, principals, and superintendents who have already engaged in this powerful and transformative professional development experience. Be a part of the revolution!

SCHEDULE

DAY 1

8:15-8:30am	Educator Check-in
8:30-9:00am	Welcome
9:00-12:00pm	Classroom Observations & Workshops
12:00-1:30pm	Lunch (provided)
1:30-2:30pm	Workshops
2:30-3:00pm	Q&A
3:00-4:00pm	Slide Certific tion

DAY 2

8:15-9:00am	Keynote
9:00-12:00pm	Classroom Observations & Workshops
12:00-1:30pm	Lunch (provided)
1:30-2:30pm	School Tour
2:30-3:00pm	Wrap-Up
3:00-4:00pm	House Cheers & Closing Ceremony

Participants will rotate through active classrooms and staff development workshops taught by Ron Clark, Kim Bearden,and other members of the RCA faculty. All workshops take place at the Academy, and guests will have the opportunity to observe Ron Clark and other teachers in their classrooms, take atour of the school, and get “slide certified!

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During the Ron Clark Academy Educator Training, participants learn ways to increase student engagement, ensure academic rigor, and create a climate and culture that leads to success.

Climate and Culture

The climate and culture of a school should ignite a passion for learning, provide support and encouragement, reflect high expectations for student behavior, promote parental involvement, and ensure a safe, secure environment for all.

The climate and culture of a school is something that one can feel upon entering the building, and participants in *The RCA Experience* are able to witness it firsthand in a very tangible way. Some of the programs/methods that are taught and observed include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Techniques for promoting discipline and respect, such as *The Essential 55*
- Methods for creating a sense of urgency and a standard of high expectations
- Strategies for engaging parents in the learning process
- Ways to begin the school year, from the Meet and Greet to the first days of school
- Techniques for building student confidence, respect, and enthusiasm
- Ideas for instilling a sense of tradition
- Ways to engage students with members of the community
- Tips for building a sense of school spirit and pride, such as through our house system

Rigor

A rigorous classroom is one that teaches students to understand, analyze, and synthesize complex and challenging content. Academic rigor is essential for promoting student success, and through *The RCA Experience*, educators are able to watch lessons that exemplify rigor in a variety of subjects and through a variety of methods, such as:

- Strategies for higher order questioning
- Techniques for maximizing academic learning time
- Ways to set high expectations for all learners
- Varied methods for monitoring student progress
- Methods for engaging students in academic discussions and collaboration
- Lessons that require creativity, curiosity, and problem-solving

Student Engagement

Students must be actively engaged for authentic learning to take place, and at the Ron Clark Academy, the level of student engagement is exceptionally high. Educators who participate in *The RCA Experience* are able to get a clear picture of what student engagement looks like and sounds like when they observe our classes in session. Some of the methods that promote student engagement include the following:

- Techniques for effective teacher movement
- Methods for teaching students to track the teacher and one another
- Ways to integrating music and the arts into the curriculum
- Techniques for infusing energy and passion into lesson planning and delivery
- Ideas for teaching the content creatively
- Methods for adding movement into any classroom
- Ideas for interactive, cooperative games that promote student engagement
- Techniques for keeping all students on task
- Ways to celebrate student success

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